

5.21 TAMIL NADU

5.21.1 COMMITTEES

DISTRICT LEVEL VIGILANCE AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

The District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the District Collectors, to review implementation of the Act.

5.21.2 STATE LEVEL SC AND ST PROTECTION CELL

The Act is enforced through 35 Social Justice and Human Rights Units located at each of 35 district headquarters. Further there are mobile squads, which work for prevention and detection of cases of atrocity. For collection of Statistical information under the Act, a Statistical Unit consisting of one Statistical Inspector is attached to each Unit. The Inspector (Statistics) is assisted by the Staff of Social Justice and Human Rights Units. The Inspector General of Police, Social Justice & Human Rights Chennai monitors the implementation of the Act and also supervises the functioning of the Social Justice and Human Rights Units. The Director General of Police, Social Justice and Human Rights has been provided with necessary back up staff including the post of one Economist and one Sociologist (for research and analysis) 2 Superintendents, 6 Assistants, 3 Typists, 6 Office Assistants, 2 Drive Head Constables, 11 Supervisory Squads, each headed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police at Chennai, Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Vellore, Salem, Coimbatore, Trichy, Thenjavur, Madurai, Ramanathapuram and Thirunelveli.

5.21.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER

INVESTIGATING OFFICER

All respective Sub-Divisional Deputy Superintendent of Police have been appointed as Investigating Officer.

5.21.4 IDENTIFICATION OF ATROCITY PRONE AREAS

The Social Justice and Human Rights Wing in Tamil Nadu have identified atrocity prone villages. The following norms are in force to identify the atrocity prone areas: -

- a) A Village is considered atrocity prone , if in a mother village or its hamlet 3 or more cases are reported within a period of 3 successive calendar years;
- b) A village is also considered atrocity prone, if even one case of heinous offence/caste oriented tension/clash is reported;
- c) Identified atrocity prone villages are declared 'highly sensitive in nature, even if one case involving heinous offence such as murder, rape, arson or grievous hurt is reported;
- d) Atrocity prone villages are kept in the active list for a period of 2 years from the last reported case and then transferred to the dormant list for further period of 3 years. During the dormant period, if any case is reported it is brought back to the list of atrocity prone villages.

239 villages have been identified as ' atrocity prone' and 180 as dormant atrocity prone villages. In these villages, every year survey is conducted to check availability of basic amenities like:-

- a) Link Road
- b) Street lights
- c) Pathway to burial grounds / Burial grounds
- d) Drinking Water

5.21.5 SPECIAL COURTS

Four Exclusive Special Courts for speedy disposal of cases registered under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 are functioning at the following District Headquarters.

S. No.	Name of the head quarters	Jurisdiction over the Districts
1.	Trichy	Trichy Commissionerate, Trichy, and Pudukottai.
2.	Thanjavur	Thanjavur, Nagapattinam and Thiruvarur.
3.	Madurai	Madurai Commissionerate, Madurai Dindigul, Theni, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai and Virudhunagar.
4.	Thirunelveli	Thirunelveli Commissionerate, Thirunelveli, Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari.

In the remaining districts the existing Sessions Courts are designated as Special Courts to try the cases under the Act.

5.21.6 PUBLIC PROSECUTOR

There are 19 Special Public Prosecutor in Tamil Nadu for conducting trial of cases under the Act in Special Courts and designated Courts.

5.21.7 PUBLICITY AND AWARENESS GENERATION

A sum of Rs. 70.0 lakhs was sanctioned for conducting Mass Awareness Campaign throughout the State. The Inspector General of Police, Social Justice & Human Rights has been authorized to implement this programme. The Scheme was implemented from 3.7.2008 in all police districts in the State. In first phase, a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs had been released to all the districts. As on 23.8.2008, the Mass Awareness campaign, Social Justice Tea Parties have been conducted in 6,667 villages across the State. There are 31,187 villages to be covered out of 37,854 villages proposed. The message of the Mass Awareness Campaign reached directly to about 2 lakh people so far. This is the very first time that Social Justice Tea Party under the Mass Awareness Campaign is conducted to eliminate all types of social disparities and discrimination between social groups from the villages to the urban centers. Similarly the campaigns were also organized in 167 schools and colleges in Chennai, Salem, Coimbatore, Erode, Trichirapalli, Thanjavur, Dindigul, Theni, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi and Kanniyakumari districts about 1,80,000 students participated.

A sum of Rs. 1.70 lakhs was also sanctioned for conducting 29 seminars to create awareness among the officials. 145 awareness camps were conducted in each Taluk throughout the State.

5.21.8 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REHABILITATION

- Under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995, compensation to the victims of atrocities was paid in cash or kind or both. A sum of Rs. 2.0 lakhs was paid as compensation to one member of the family of the deceased person on loss of life in riots, besides offering employment to one of the members of family of the deceased person or pension to widow or provision of agricultural land or houses.

During 2008-09, Rs. 225.0 lakhs was provided as relief to the victims of communal clash, of which 154.28 lakhs was spent for 944 beneficiaries of atrocities.