

Minutes of the State Level High Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting chaired by the Honourable Chief Minister

Date: 21.06.2022
Time: 630 p.m.

Place: Namakkal Kavignar Maligai,
10th Floor, Meeting Hall

The State Level High Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting was held on 12.04.2022 at 6.30 p.m. under the chairmanship of the Honourable Chief Minister at the Meeting Hall of the Tenth Floor of Namakkal Kavignar Maligai, Secretariat. The details of the members and government officials who attended the meeting are attached to it.

After delivering the welcome address, the Principal Secretary to Government elaborated on the following topics through a PowerPoint presentation.

- 1) The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, and the progress of cases registered as per the law.
- 2) Functions of Special Courts.
- 3) Details of relief and rehabilitation provided to the victims of abuse.
- 4) Activities of the police of Social Justice and Human Rights Division.
- 5) Meetings of District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees.
- 6) Regarding the basic facilities being undertaken in the villages where the atrocity took place
- 7) Regarding awareness campaigns.

Honourable Chief Minister's Keynote Address

Presiding over the meeting, the Honourable Chief Minister said, "I assure you that this government will always support the livelihood and economic development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. He also made the following comments:

- Untouchability imposed by the dominant forces as laid down in the Constitution of India should not exist in society in any form. It is, therefore, our foremost duty to work for the people. All individuals should keep the upkeep of equality in their minds as their way of life

As per the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and Rule 16 of 1995, the State Level High Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee has been reconstituted, and its first meeting was held on 19-08-2021. Based on the demands made by the members who participated in it, some announcements were made in the first budget session itself.

- The State Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Commission has been constituted and is presently functioning in the Head Office building of TAHDCO. Depending upon the nature of the case, the amount of compensation paid to the victims of the atrocities from Rs.85,000 to Rs.8.25 lakh has now been enhanced to a minimum of Rs.1.00 lakh and a maximum of Rs.12.00 lakhs through state funds.
- In order to complete the investigation in the cases within 60 days, the law and order review meetings chaired by the Chief Secretary are reviewed, and appropriate instructions are issued.
- A government order has been issued for imparting training to police and revenue officers on the topic of "Let us see equality" and the training will be started shortly.
- In addition to the existing special courts, steps are being taken to set up additional courts in Salem, Krishnagiri, Madurai, and Tirunelveli districts where cases are pending.

- An incentive of Rs 10 lakh is being given to the hamlets which are role models for others in ensuring that there should be no divisions in the final burial journey as well. Three villages each have been selected in 10 districts, and a sum of Rs.3 crore has been released at the rate of Rs.30 lakhs per district.
- During the financial year 2022–2023, a sum of Rs. 16,442 crore has been allocated under the Adi Dravidar Sub Plan and Rs. 1589 crore has been allocated under the Tribal Sub Plan, which was known as the Special Component Plan, and various welfare schemes are to be implemented. Out of the total outlay of Rs.4231 crore for the year 20222023, Rs.3571 crore has been allocated for educational programmes.

Moreover, many special announcements have been made in the budget.

- A sum of Rs.30.00 crores will be provided as financial assistance to the Tamil Nadu Start-up and Innovative Mission (TANSIM) to assist the industrial units started by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- Out of the divisible purchases made by the government and government agencies, 5% will be earmarked for the products produced by the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs from Tamil Nadu.
- A high-level committee will be constituted to review the functioning of all government hostels and make necessary recommendations to restructure their infrastructure, health, educational environment, food quality, safety and monitoring.
- A hostel with modern amenities and 6 floors will be constructed on an area of about 75,000 square feet on the presently vacant land within the hostel premises in the name of the Honourable M.C. Raja at a cost of Rs.40 crore.
- Further, on the basis of the group-wise report received from all the departments, the shortfalls in government services for Scheduled Castes have been calculated and steps are being taken to issue government orders.
- Samabandhi Bhojanam (equality in guests at table), which has been held so far on important days, will henceforth be renamed as Samapandhi Virunthu (equality feast).

The government will remove the sufferings of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and overwhelm the injustices and atrocities committed against them with an iron hand.

On the one hand, Samathuvapuram! On the other hand, "everyone in society is equal." This is the ideology that is being implemented through legal means and awareness campaigns, I proudly register that the 'Dravidian model' that guides India today is the work of our government.

This model, the voice of the suppressed, oppressed, and deceived people, the voice that secures their rights, the voice that protects them, the government of Tamil Nadu, will always stand by them for the economic development of their lives!

On the basis of one on behalf of each party, the following members expressed their views.

1. Mr. M. Jaganmurthy, Keelvaithinankuppam Legislative Assembly Member (Puratchi Bharatham)

- 1) It is learnt that the Government of Tamil Nadu has directed the State Adi Dravidar Welfare Commission not to look into the cases pending with the State Adi Dravidar Welfare Commission when they are taken up with the National Commission for Scheduled Castes. Therefore, the State Adi Dravidar Welfare Commission should make the necessary amendments to conduct an inquiry to prevent the State Adi Dravidar Welfare Commission from returning the cases pending with the State Adi Dravidar Welfare Commission when they are taken up by the National Commission for Scheduled Castes.
- 2) Judgments in cases of State Scheduled Welfare should be published in a manual or computer. The details of the verdict should be put into view so that the public can know about it.
- 3) Steps should be taken to appoint 50 per cent of the members of the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee from the public.
- 4) District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meetings should be held once every 3 months without fail. Its resolutions should be placed in the public domain. Moreover, the results should be submitted to the State High Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee.
- 5) Cases that are dismissed should be re-investigated.
- 6) The details of most of the complaints and FIRs should be subjected to district-wise scrutiny. Concluding on a comment as an error should be examined.
- 7) How the Scheduled Castes have benefitted from the schemes implemented in the last 10 years should be examined.
- 8) A grievance redressal meeting should be convened on behalf of private institutions, private college teachers and staff. Reservations in private institutions should be implemented.
- 9) The government should appeal to the judgments of important cases like Udumalai Sankar in 2021. Moreover, government police officers who have erred in it should be punished.
- 10) At Ambedkar Manimandapam, the half-sized statue should be replaced with a full-sized bronze statue. A statue of Buddha should also be installed.
- 11) April 14, the birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar, and December 6, the death anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar, should be treated as government functions.

2. Thiru T.Sadhan Thirumalai Kumar, Vasudevanallur MLA (MDMK)

- 1) 20 per cent of the jobs in the Public Works Department and Highways Department should be reserved for scheduled castes.
- 2) 20% should be reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to bid on commercial complexes in municipalities and corporations.
- 3) District Collectors should conduct District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meetings regularly.

3. Mr. Ma. Chinnadurai, Gandharvakottai MLA (CPI(M))

- 1) Thank you for issuing a government order for many of the demands made in the meeting held after 7 years under Rule 110.

- 2) A separate law should be enacted to prevent honour killings.
- 3) It was argued that the state government should take an appropriate decision if the sentence awarded by the court in the Shaktivakini case is not enough as stated by the state government in the 7th Schedule. Accordingly, the state government should examine it.
- 4) Create a new app for inter-caste marriage.
- 5) Employment and other welfare schemes are not being provided even after the court verdict in various cases.
- 6) Caste names in villages should be removed.
- 7) Appropriate action should be taken against double tumbler usages, refusal to draw water from public wells, refusal to draw water from a public well, refusal to use the public crematorium route, refusing to go to the temple and worship, denying permission to pull the chariot, entering their streets and damaging their belongings, forcing them to bury them in case of the death of a goat or a cow.
- 8) Pattas should be issued to 185 Arunthiyar people in Pudukottai and Erode districts.
- 9) Steps should be taken to remove the untouchability wall which has been encroached upon on government land in Gummidipoondi, Arambakkam and Thokkanur Panchayats in Thiruvallur District to create an egalitarian life.

4. Thiru M. Selvaraj, Member of Parliament, Nagapattinam (Communist Party India)

- 1) He also thanked the government for enhancing the atrocities relief assistance and sanctioned a sum of Rs.6.00 lakhs in the first phase on the basis of the enhanced relief assistance in the Subhashini case in Nagapattinam district.
- 2) Many educated students from Scheduled Castes who do not know how to find work must compete for lower-level jobs. Therefore, placement training camps should be conducted for educated students.
- 3) Community halls should be built for the people of the scheduled castes in the delta districts in times of disaster. Furthermore, first-grade community halls should be built so that residents have more opportunities to hold weddings and community functions in their neighbourhoods.
- 4) Cases should be investigated by the superintendent level by changing the status of the Deputy Superintendent of inquiry.
- 5) Pa. Pa. Mohan, who brought to book the accused in the Gokulraj case should be honoured on behalf of the government and he should be appointed as the public prosecutor.
- 6) The 10-year plan should be reviewed and submitted to the state committee as a report.
- 7) A large number of electric crematoriums should be set up in each district. An additional 3 villages should be selected for the district where there are no caste-wise burial grounds.

5. Mr.Thol Thirumavalavan, Member of Parliament, Chidambaram (Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi)

- 1) Equality feasts should be held in such a way that people of all castes participate. If they are not held like that, they can be avoided.
- 2) In Tamil Nadu, only 10 to 11 per cent of the punishments are awarded in cases of rape. It turns out that not enough attention has been paid to this on the prosecution side. Therefore, it should be examined.

- 3) The government should provide all other facilities like transport charges to the special prosecutors appearing in cases of atrocities. The fees to be paid under the Prevention of Atrocities Act should be paid to them.
- 4) In the absence of any progress in the investigation and court proceedings, it is imperative to take preventive measures to prevent atrocities so as to foresee the possibility of a crime in various cases. Therefore, a separate intelligence unit should be set up for this purpose.
- 5) The inclusion of 16 categories of scheduled tribes in Tamil Nadu in the list of scheduled castes makes it very difficult for them to get government benefits. Therefore, a separate commission (anthropologists) should be constituted to look into their characteristics and study and include them in the list of scheduled tribes.
- 6) The quality of Adi Dravidar welfare schools should be upgraded on the lines of model schools in New Delhi. Moreover, the Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools should be renamed as Social Justice Schools.
- 7) Appropriate action should be taken to issue a caste certificate by replacing the "n" in the caste name with the "r" category.
- 8) It should be monitored and examined whether the Adi Dravidar Sub-Plan is reaching out properly. Appropriate action should be taken against the erring officials.
- 9) In order to ensure that the land pattas issued to the Scheduled Castes reach them properly, they should be monitored so that they get land and plot pattas.
- 10) Special training should be imparted to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students to benefit from the reservation given to government school students in medical courses.
- 11) The delay in setting up community halls should be given up immediately and the construction should be completed immediately.
- 12) The Union Government should be urged to increase the ceiling for scholarships for higher education students from Rs.2.5 lakhs to Rs.8 lakhs.
- 13) The number of houses to be constructed in Samathuvapuram should be increased to 150 or 200 instead of 100. Moreover, steps should be taken to increase the area of such houses to 400 square feet instead of being constructed on 250 square feet.
- 14) It should be ensured in the villages that the Scheduled Castes get 100 days of work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.
- 15) Dr. Ambedkar's birth anniversary should be documented to be declared as a day of equality. The Government of Canada celebrates the birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar as Equality Day.

6. Dr. K. Jayakumar, Thiruvallur MP (Indian National Congress)

- 1) Given that the Union Government is cutting funding for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the State Government should take steps to increase funding.
- 2) The Union government should be urged to implement reservation in private sector jobs.
- 3) As the verdict in the Kannagi Murugesan case has now come out, and their relatives have not been given adequate security. The government should help them go to their native village and continue their lives.
- 4) Caste violence is maintained at the National Institute of Fashion Technology. The police do not take any action even after filing a complaint.

7. Thiru.S.Ravi, Arakkonam MLA (AIADMK).

- 1) In high court cases, the opportunity is not given on the basis of reservation in the appointment of advocates. Appropriate action should be taken in this regard.
- 2) Of the total 205 advocates in Madurai, only 6 are from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Also, not a single one of the 11 additional advocate generals belongs to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There are no women, and this situation needs to be changed.
- 3) In order to encourage young lawyers, the scholarship should be increased from Rs 3,100 to Rs 10,000.
- 4) Advocates who have worked for more than a decade should be allotted houses by the government at a nominal rent in the Tamil Nadu Housing Board quarters.
- 5) In cases registered under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Act, the Chief Secretary shall take steps to dispose of the cases which are concluded as errors in consideration after obtaining their permission.
- 6) A 15% reservation should be provided in AYUSH medical courses, as provided in allopathic medical courses.
- 7) A NEET Training Centre should be established for students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- 8) Separate surveyors should be appointed for the Adi Dravidar Welfare Department.
- 9) TAHDCO Bank should be established in such a way that TAHDCO itself can directly disburse loans to avoid any irregularities in providing bank guarantees for loans availed by TAHDCO.
- 10) The government should renovate the mangalur tiled cluster houses.
- 11) The road in the forest that goes to the tribal-dominated area of Harur constituency should be converted into a tar road.
- 12) The Education Department should take steps to keep Adi Dravidar schools open.
- 13) Steps should be taken to reclaim the Panchami lands and hand them over to the concerned people.
- 14) The seniority list of lecturers working in government-aided colleges should be properly prepared, and funds should be reduced for educational institutions which have not promoted them.

8. Thiru A. Raja, Member of Parliament from The Nilgiris (DMK)

- 1) The National Commission for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes has been constituted by the Constitution of India and the State Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Commission has been constituted by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. Therefore, it is a practice for the State Adi Dravidar Welfare Commission to withdraw the cases in the conflicts arising when the National Commission for Scheduled Castes takes up the cases in the State Commission.
- 2) Court rulings reveal that there are various deficiencies in the investigation and court proceedings. Therefore, it should be examined by the Chief Secretary, The Advocate General, and other legal experts, and appropriate action should be taken to resolve the issue.
- 3) If the investigating officer makes mistakes, they should be punished appropriately, and the officer who conducted the investigation effectively should be rewarded. This is likely to lead to an increase in the percentage of those convicted.

- 4) Action should be taken to pay compensation on the basis of market valuation while acquiring Adi Dravidar lands like the Highways Department.
- 5) It should be ensured that the bodies are buried with due respect in all crematoriums.
- 6) Just as books on Thanthai Periyar are being distributed all over India, at least 10 key books out of the 36 books related to Dr. Ambedkar should be properly translated into Tamil and efforts should be made to take Ambedkar all over Tamil Nadu.

The Honourable Chief Minister's Reply

The issues and demands raised in the meeting will be examined and considered for issuing notices in possible areas during the demand for grants of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Department.

The Chief Secretary's Vote of Thanks

The Chief Secretary briefly listed the demands raised at the meeting. He said the file was pending to change the "n" to "r" in the Scheduled Castes and steps would be taken to send more details as requested by the Union Government at the earliest. The meeting concluded after the Chief Secretary thanked the Honourable Chief Minister and all those who attended the meeting.

K.Manivasan,
Principal Secretary to Government.

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(Signed)
Examination Level Divisional Officer.

APPENDIX

S.No.	Respected	Chairman/ Member
01	Honourable Chief Minister	Chairman
02	Honourable Minister of Finance and Human Resource Management	Member
03	Honourable Adi Dravidar Minister of Health	Member
04	Honourable Minister of Labour Welfare- Skill Development	Member
05	Honourable Minister of Tourism,	Member
06	Dr. K. Jayakumar, (Congress) Member of Parliament, Thiruvallur Constituency	Member
07	Mr. G. Selvam, (DMK) Member of Parliament, Kanchipuram Constituency	Member
08	Mr. T. Ravikumar, (VC) Member of Parliament, Villupuram Constituency	Member
09	Mr. A. Raja, (DMK) Member of Parliament, Nilgiris Constituency	Member
10	Mr. Thol Thirumavalavan, (Visika) Member of Parliament, Chidambaram Constituency	Member
11	Mr. M. Selvaraj, CPI) Member of Parliament, Nagapattinam Constituency	Member
12	Mr. Dhanush M. Kumar (DMK) Member of Parliament, Tenkasi Constituency	Member
13	Mr.S. Ambedkumar, (DMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Vandavasi Constituency	Member
14	Mrs. V. Amulu (DMK), Member of Legislative Assembly, Kudiatham Constituency	Member

15	Mr. T.K. Amul Kandasamy, AIADMK Assembly Member, Valparai Constituency	Member
6	Mr. M. P. Giri, (DMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Sengam Constituency	Member
17	Mr. A. Krishna Samy, (DMK) Assembly Member, Poontamalli Constituency	Member
18	Mr. M. Chakrabani (A.I.A.D.M.K.) Member of Legislative Assembly, Vanur Constituency	Member
19	Mr. M.C.Shanmugaiah, (DMK) Assembly Member, Ottapidaram	Member
20	Dr. Sadhan Thirumalikumar, (MDMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Vasudevanallur	Member
21	Constituency Mr. Durai Chandrasekhar, (CPI) Member of Legislative Assembly, Ponneri Constituency	Member
22	Mr. V. Sampathkumar, (AIADMK) Assembly Member, Arur Constituency	Member
23	Mr. K.S. Saravanakumar, (DMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Periyakulam Constituency	Member
24	Mrs. K. Chitra, Assembly Member, Yercaud Constituency	Member
25	Mr. M. Chantiva Selvan, (V.C.K.) Member of Legislative Assembly, Kattumannar Kovil Constituency	Member
26	Mrs. K. Sivakamasundari, (DMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Krishnarayapuram Constituency	Member
27	Mr. P. Sivakumar (A) Thayakam Kavi, (DMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, VOC Nagar Constituency	Member
28	Mr. Ma Chinna Durai, (CPM) Member of Legislative Assembly, Gandharvakkottai Constituency	Member
29	Dr. Kovi Chezhiyan, (DMK) Chief Whip, Assembly Member, Thiruvaidaimarudur Constituency	Member
30	Mr. K. Selvaperundagai, (Congress) Member of Legislative Assembly, Sriperumbudur Constituency	Member
31	Mr. T.M. Tamil Selvam (A.I.A.D.M.K.) Assembly Member, Uthankarai Constituency	Member
32	Mrs. A. Tamilarasi (DMK) was a member of the assembly. Manamadurai Block	Member
33	Mr. VP Nagaimali, (CPM) Member of Legislative Assembly, Kilvellur Constituency	Member
34	Mr. Ayannari, (AIADMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Bhavanisagar	Member
35	Mr. e. Paranthaman, (DMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Egmore Constituency	Member
36	Mr. M. Panneer Selvam, (DMK) Assembly Member, Sirkazhi Constituency	Member
37	Mr. Mu. Babu, (V.C.K.) Member of Legislative Assembly, Seiyur Constituency	Member
38	Mr. M. Prabhakaran, (DMK) Assembly Member, Perambalur Constituency	Member
39	Mr. K. Ponnusamy, (DMK) Assembly Member, Senthamangalam Constituency	Member
40	Mrs. Marakatham Kumaravel (A.E.A.D.M.K.) Member of Legislative Assembly, Madhuranthakam Constituency	Member
41	Mr. K. Marimuthu, (CPI) Member of Legislative Assembly, Thirutharapoondi Constituency	Member
42	Mr. Imamraj (AIADMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Srivilliputhur Constituency	Member
43	Mr. S. Murugesan, (DMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Paramakkudy Constituency	Member
44	Mr. Su. Ravi (A.D.M.K.) Member of Legislative Assembly, Arakkonam Constituency	Member

45	Mr. E. Raja, (DMK Member of Legislative Assembly, Sankarankovil Constituency)	Member
46	Mr. A. Venkatesan, (DMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Cholavanthan Constituency	Member
47	Mr. M. Jagan Murthy, (Puratsi Bharat) Member of Legislative Assembly, Kilavaithinankuppam Constituency	Member
48	Mr. Pon.Jayaseelan, (ADMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Kudalur Constituency	Member
49	Mr.C.Stalin Kumar, (DMK) Member of Legislative Assembly, Dharayur Constituency	Member
50	Mr. Ve.Irayanpu, I.A.S. Chief Secretary	Member
51	Mr. C. Shailendrababu, ICBA., Director General of Police	Member
52	Thirusa Krishnan, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department	Special Invitee
53	Mr. S.K. Prabhakar, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary, Home	Member
54	Dr. K. Manivasan, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Adi Dravidian and Tribal Welfare	Organizer
55	Dr. D. Jaganathan. I.A.S. Public Sector Secretary	Special Invitee
56	Mr. N.K.Shenthamaraikanna, Igaya, Additional Director of Police, Social Justice and Human Rights	Special Invitee
57	Dr. G. Sunilkumar Babu is the Director of National Adhi Dravida Commission	Member
58	Mr. V. Ashokvardhan Assistant Director National Tribal Commission	Member
59	Mrs. So. Madhumati, I.A.S. Commissioner, Adi Dravidian Welfare	
60	Mr. S. Palanisamy, IAS Additional Secretary, Department of Adi Dravidian and Tribal Welfare	
61	Thiruke Vivekanandan, I.A.S., Managing Director, TAHDCO	
62	Mr. S. Annadurai, IRS, Director, Tribal Welfare	
63	Mr. S. Lister, Master Investigator, State Office of National Adi Dravidian Commission	
64	Mr. P. Ramasamy, Adviser, State Office of National Adi Dravidar Commission	