



ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTS DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Budget Demand No. 15



ANNOUNCEMENTS 2025 - 2026

THANGAM THENNARASU

MINISTER FOR FINANCE AND ENVIRONMENT CLIMATE CHANGE



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I am delighted to announce 14 new announcements on behalf of Environment and Climate Change Department under the guidance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

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8) Strengthening Coastal Sustainability through Discarded Fishnet Collection and Recycling

Along the Coastline of Tamil Nadu, discarded fishnets and marine plastic waste pose a severe threat to marine ecosystems. Based on which, a pilot project called the Tamil Nadu Fishnet Initiatives (TNFI) was launched at Kasimedu on August 14, 2024, by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. This first of its kind in India, involves collecting and recycling discarded fishnets involving the local community. Till date, 13,510 kg of discarded fishnets have been collected from the fishermen and recycled for useful products.

Tamil Nadu Fishnet initiatives (TNFI) to all 14 coastal Districts will be implemented at a total cost of Rs.1.75 Crores funded through the World Bank Project, TN-SHORE.

Tackling Plastic Pollution in Estuaries and Rivers in Tamil Nadu (TN TAPER)

Rivers are known to play a crucial role in transporting land-based plastic waste to the world's oceans, but riverine ecosystems are also directly affected by plastic pollution.

Pioneering this initiative for the first time under the World Bank Project, TN SHORE, deploying interceptors in the riverine, conducting regular waste retrieval and recycling operations will be undertaken in Chennai riverline in a pilot scale at a cost of Rs.4.00 Crores during 2025 2026.

10) Establishment of Material Recovery Facilities to Prevent Ocean bound Plastic Waste

Most of the plastic in the oceans comes from land-based sources (70 to 80%), while an additional 20 to 30% comes from marine sources such as fishing and other sources.

Therefore, to strengthen recycling efforts in coastal areas and prevent plastic waste from entering the ocean, Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) will be established in the coastal districts of Chennai, Ramanathapuram, and Thoothukudi. These facilities will efficiently streamline the segregation of plastic waste, recycling through community participation and partnerships with authorised recyclers in the selected coastal areas at a total budget of Rs. 1 crore, funded through the World Bank Project, TN-SHORE.

11) Tamil Nadu Climate Smart Markets (TNCSM)

In line with the vision to achieve Net Zero in Tamil Nadu before 2050, a successful pilot project, first of its kind, where a Detailed Project Report (DPR) was prepared by IIT Madras to make Koyambedu market, one of Asia's largest vegetable, fruits and flower market carbon-neutral.

This project carried out detailed studies for addressing the Waste Management, Water Supply & Sanitation, Stormwater & Rainwater Management, Building Structure & Engineering for Sustainability, Energy Utilization & Carbon Footprint, and Traffic & Transportation.

Following the successful completion of the DPR for Koyambedu Market by IIT Madras, the initiative will now be extended to markets in Madurai, Trichy and Coimbatore at a cost of Rs.1.5 Crores from TNPCB fund.

12) Monitoring our environment in real-time through mobile vans equipped with state-of-the-art analyzers

The First of its kind, integrated Environmental Monitoring Studio (IEMS) was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 14.08.2024. To take this further and to immediately respond to disasters like gas leaks, oil spills, fires & foaming swiftly attend to public complaints, a pioneering initiative, will be launched by deploying a mobile monitoring van with state-of-the-art analyzers to continuously track air, water, and noise quality in real-time in Chennai at a cost of Rs. 1 Crore.

The initiative aims to provide real-time data and supports decision making regarding monitoring our environment & measures to curb and improvement of disaster response & preparedness.

13) Remote Monitoring of Emissions from On-Road Vehicles

Motor vehicle emissions on roads are a significant source of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, impacting both air quality and human health. Toll plazas contribute significantly to vehicular pollution due to traffic congestion, idling and frequent changes in speed.

To improve on-road emission monitoring and create a better understanding of emission patterns, during 2025 – 2026, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board shall initially implement a remote vehicle emission surveillance system at a designated toll plaza on a pilot basis at a cost of Rs. 15 Lakhs from TNPCB funds.

14) Strengthening emergency response through the formation of Flying squads in the State

Flying squads in TNPCB play a crucial role in pollution control by acting as a rapid response force for monitoring, enforcement, and compliance with environmental regulations. They conduct surprise inspections, prepare daily reports, and coordinate with relevant authorities to address pollution issues.

Flying squads at Madurai, Trichy, Cuddalore, Coimbatore and Tirunelveli at a cost of Rs.2.35 Crores from TNPCB fund will be established for effective, efficient and prompt response to such incidents.

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