

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.M.K.Stalin under his Dravidian Model Governance, implementing exceptional educational schemes to advance the welfare of Adi Dravidar and tribal communities. As a result of these special initiatives, the pass percentage of Adi Dravidar and tribal students in higher secondary schools has reached an unprecedented 96% in sixty years!

Through the "**Naan Mudhalvan**" scheme, students are now enrolling in prestigious institutions such as IITs and NITs, achieving new milestones. Since Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin took office, the Dravidian Model Government has been rolling out innovative schemes with the aim that everyone should have access to everything. In particular, there is focused attention on the advancement of Adi Dravidar and tribal communities with key initiatives for their educational progress.

There are orders to establish well-equipped educational centres, hostels, and village knowledge hubs in areas where members of these communities reside. In alignment with this, at a cost of 108.50 crore, 480 new classrooms and 15 science laboratories have been constructed in 154 Adi Dravidar welfare schools. Additionally, in 107 Adi Dravidar and tribal welfare schools, 256 classrooms, 42 toilets, 21 higher secondary schools, and laboratories in 65 high schools are being constructed for 125.00 crore.

To support quality education, smart classrooms have been created in 119 Adi Dravidar welfare schools, smart boards in 174 schools and advanced technology laboratories in 206 schools. Equipment worth 3.15 crore has been provided for science laboratories in 126 Adi Dravidar and tribal higher secondary schools.

Coaching for entrance exams to higher educational institutions is being given to tribal students studying in residential schools, covering JEE, NEET, CLAT, NIFT, and CUET. So far, 2 tribal students have entered medical college, 3 students in NIT Trichy, 1 student in Trichy National Law University, 4 students in NIFT Chennai (Taramani), and 6 students in Gandhigram Central University, Dindigul-a total of 16 students-are pursuing studies with government educational assistance grants.

Under the educational tour scheme to higher education institutions, the Dravidian Model Government has provided 25,000 to each school to foster interest in higher studies, offer guidance, and help students make informed decisions by visiting these institutions.

Special training workshops have been organized for school teachers. The innovative "**Puthiyathor Ulagu Sei**" training was delivered through the State Council of Educational Research and Training and relevant institutions to all teachers, along with orientation on higher education guidance for students.

Internship Grant for Law Students

For students from Adi Dravidar, Tribal, and converted Christian Adi Dravidar communities in their final year (either 3-years or 5-years courses) in Government Law Colleges, a grant of 10,000 is being given for internships as per curriculum. In 2023-2024, 78.90 lakh was provided to 789 students; for those interning with judges, 10,000 each was given to 15 students, totaling 1.50 lakh. Further, in the fiscal year 2024-2025, a grant of 77.40 lakh has been allotted to 774 students for internships.

Annal Ambedkar Overseas Higher Education

The scheme for Adi Dravidar and tribal students to pursue education abroad has been restructured, increasing the parental income ceiling from 3 lakh to 12 lakh. Students pursuing postgraduate or research programmes in fields such as arts, science, commerce, law, engineering, and medicine in foreign countries are given up to 36 lakh per year as assistance, while only 9 students benefited in 2021-2022, due to the encouragement of Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru M.K. Stalin, 176 students are currently benefiting. The allocation for this scheme has increased from 5.31 crore in 2021-2022 to 60.33 crore in 2024-2025 under Dravidian Model governance.

Scholarship for Doctoral Studies

The doctoral scholarship amount has been increased from 50,000 to 1,00,000, and the number of beneficiaries raised from 1,600 to 2,000. From 2021 onwards, the family annual income limit has been enhanced to 8 lakh.

Tholkudi Research Fellowship Scheme

To encourage young scholars pursuing undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, or post-doctoral research, on tribal "Tholkudi Research Fellowship Scheme" is being implemented by the Dravidian Model government at a cost of 1.50 crore.

High-Skill Incentive Scheme

For students securing 60% marks or above in degree, postgraduate, and technical courses, a skill training grant worth 25,000 is given to enhance their employability.

Hostel Development Initiatives - Infrastructure Upgrades

Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru M.K. Stalin inaugurated a 10-storey state-of-the-art student hostel built at a cost of 45 crore at the M.C. Raja Hostel campus in Saidapet, Chennai. More than 60 new hostels for Adi Dravidar and tribal students are being built at a cost of 300 crore, alongside renovation of old hostels across Tamil Nadu.

An allocation of 100 crore has been made for upgrading facilities in 535 Adi Dravidar and tribal hostels. For the fiscal year 2025-26, 125 crore has been earmarked for new hostels and maintenance.

Learning Rooms

In 22 hostels across 17 districts, modern learning rooms with facilities worth 10 crore are being set up to benefit 2,197 students.

Biometric Attendance

To maintain orderly hostel operations and a conducive learning environment, a hostel management system with CCTV surveillance and biometric attendance is being installed in 1,383 hostels at a cost of 27.15 crore.

Increase in Food Allowance

Food allowance for hostel students has been raised-school students now receive 1,400 (up from 1,000) and college students 1,500 (up from 1,100).

Centralized Kitchen Scheme

To provide nutritious and tasty meals for hostel students, a centralized kitchen system modelled after the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme has been introduced in Chennai and is being expanded to Trichy, Coimbatore, and Madurai.

Online Libraries

Digital libraries have been established in 50 Adi Dravidar and tribal college hostels at a cost of 70 lakh.

Thanks to these progressive schemes of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Adi Dravidar and tribal youth are achieving unprecedented progress in education. The pass percentage for Adi Dravidar and tribal students in the Class 10 public exam rose from 78% in 2021-2022 to 92% in 2023-2024. Similarly, in the Class 12 public exam, the pass rate increased from 84% in 2021-2022 to 96% in 2024-2025, setting new records.

As a result, for the first time in sixty years, students like Rohini and Suganya from the tribal community passed the JEE in 2024 and joined NIT Trichy, achieving great milestones. Both L. Suganya and R. Rohini studied at the Government Tribal Girls' Higher Secondary Residential School in Salem District. They attributed their success in entering NIT Trichy after clearing the JEE to the "**Naan Mudhalvan**" scheme and expressed their gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

C. Parthasarathi, a student from Sundararajapuram Adi Dravidar welfare school, Virudhunagar district, proudly shared that his dream came true by securing admission in Aerospace Design at IIT Madras. He said it was only because of the "**Naan Mudhalvan**" scheme, the dream initiative of Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin, that he got this opportunity despite studying in Adi Dravidar welfare schools.

Students from Adi Dravidar and tribal communities stated with happiness that the schemes under the Dravidian Model Governance of Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin has paved the way for their entry and success in premier higher education institutions.

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