

Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) Initiatives under

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.M.K.Stalin

Achievements of Dravidian Model Governance

Master plan Renovation/Construction works in 19 temples at a cost of ₹1,770 crore

**Kumbabishekam (consecration ceremonies) conducted in 2,967 temples
1,800 Marriages conducted by temples along with gifts worth Rs.60000/- per couple**

**Temple lands worth ₹7,671 crore recovered from encroachments
Free meals (Annadhanam) provided throughout the day in 13 temples**

One-time kala puja conducted daily in 18,000 temples

Renovation works in 10,000 temples situated in Adi Dravidar/tribal areas and villages

Renovation/Restoration of 274 temples which are more than 1,000 years old

Rope cars and electric lifts for hill temples at a cost of ₹210 crore

When the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.M.K.Stalin, assumed office, he was determined to ensure that temple-related works were carried out in an organized and exemplary manner. To achieve this, he appointed Thiru.P.K.Sekarbabu, a devout and dedicated and hardworking individual, as the Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE). Under his leadership, temple renovation and development works have been executed more efficiently and effectively than ever before.

Major Renovation Projects

- Master Plan Development: Renovation and infrastructure development in 19 major temples including Tiruchendur, Palani, Tiruttani, Samayapuram, and Rameswaram with an allocation of ₹1,770 crore.

Kumbabishekam (Consecration Ceremonies)

- Since CM Thiru.M.K.Stalin assumed office, 2,967 temples have been consecrated.
- Including 119 temples which were not consecrated in over 20–400 years.
- The 3,000th kumbabishekam is scheduled for June 5th at Thirupugalur Agneeswarar Temple in Nagapattinam District.

Ongoing Renovation Works

- 25,813 renovation works valued at ₹5,970.26 crore are underway.
- 10,610 works with donations from public worth ₹1,350.78 crore fast-tracked.
- 12,104 temples got approval for Renovation/Restoration from the State Level Expert Committee.

Temple Marriages for Economically Backward Families

- 1,800 couple marriage by temples with gifts worth ₹60,000 per couple, including a 4g gold 'thali', silk saree, and dhoti.

Recovery of Temple Lands

- 7,560.05 acres of temple land worth ₹7,671.23 crore retrieved from encroachment.
- 201,097.42 acres surveyed; 123,851 boundary stones laid.
- ₹1,054.40 crore revenue generated from the temple's immovable properties.

Digital Archiving

- Around 24 lakh pages of documents in Commissioner's office and from temple offices digitized through ELCOT.

SKOCH Award

The SKOCH Group, based in New Delhi, presented the SKOCH Gold Award for 2025 to the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) Department for its Integrated Temple Management System, a digital service benefiting public welfare. The award was presented at a ceremony held in New Delhi on 29.03.2025.

Annadhanam (Free Meals)

- 13 major temples offer meals throughout the day; 764 temples offer mid-day meals for devotees.
- Over 3.5 crore devotees benefit annually.
- 523 temples have received FSSAI certification for food quality and hygiene.

Spiritual Pilgrimage Support

- Subsidized pilgrimages to Mansarovar and Muktinath.
- 2,000 elderly devotees (60–70 years) were taken to 'Arupadai Veedu' temples at government expense.

- Spiritual tours to Kashi and Rameswaram, and other trips for over 2,000 devotees during religious months of aadi and purattasi.

International MutthamizhMurugan Conference

- Held in Palani (Aug 24–25, 2024) with over 5 lakh attendees, 1,003 research papers submitted.
- Participants from 17 countries attended, including Hon'ble Ministers and Justices of the High Court.
- VR displays, 3D musical shows and photo exhibitions featured.

Equal Opportunity for trained Hindu Priests from all Castes

- Law enabling all castes to become priests passed in 1972 by Kalaignar Karunanidhi is now implemented.
- 29 trained priests appointed; 94 (including 3 women) completed training and received certificates.
- 45 Odhuvars (saivites who recite Thevarams), including 11 women, appointed.

“Oru-kala Puja” Scheme for Temples with no income

- For 12,959 temples, ₹1 lakh per temple was deposited to fund one kala puja daily.
- Later this fund increased to ₹2 lakh and now further increased ₹2.5 lakh, benefiting 18,000 temples.
- Monthly stipend of ₹1,000 granted for priests of these temples.
- ₹10,000 educational aid for 900 children of priests from these temples.

Renovation of Temples situated in Tribal/Adi-Dravida areas & Villages

- 3,750 temples situate in AdiDravidar/Tribal areas and Villages renovated with ₹2 lakh each between 2021–2024.
- For 2024–25, the grant increased to ₹2.5 lakh for 1,250 temples.

Renovation of Ancient Temples (Over 1,000 Years Old)

- ₹300 crore sanctioned across three years.
- Renovation of **274 temples** at a cost of ₹429.67 crore; **53 temples** have completed consecration.

UNESCO Award

- Restoration of the Abathsagayeswarar Temple in Kumbakonam, Thanjavur, using traditional architecture and scientific conservation techniques, won the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Award for Cultural Heritage Conservation.

Rope Cars and Cable Lifts for Hill Temples

- Cable Cars/Lifts installed or in progress at:
 - Palani- Idumban hills rope car Project (₹90 crore)
 - Ayyarmalai (₹9.1 crore)
 - Sholingur (₹20.3 crore)
 - Tiruneermalai (₹19.6 crore)
 - Tirupparankundram (₹32.18 crore)
 - Tirukalukundram (₹30.50 crore)
 - Swamimalai Lift (₹3.55 crore)
 - Marudhamalai Lift (₹5.2 crore)

Worship in Tamil

- Tamil prayers initiated in 48 temples, now expanded to 294 temples.
- Priests get 60% share of the archana fee for archana in Tamil.
- 14 devotional books published to promote this initiative.

Saint Vallalar - Grand Celebration

- 200th birth anniversary of Saint Vallalar, along with 156th anniversary of Dharmasala and 152nd Jyoti Darshan celebrated across 52 weeks.
- A Vallalar International Center worth ₹99.90 crore announced.

Thiruvalluvar Temple Renovation

- "The Kalaigal laid the foundation in 1973 and completed the renovation work of Thiruvalluvar Temple. Now, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has undertaken the renovation work to convert the temple into a stone structure at a cost of ₹19.17 crore.

"Avvaiyar Manimandapam

- At Tulasiapattinam, Vedarnyam Taluk, Nagapattinam District, Avvaiyar Manimandapam worth ₹18.95 crore being built at Arulmigu Avvaiyar Temple.

Temple Gold Investment Scheme

- 1,074 kg of unused temple gold purified and invested in SBI yielding annual interest of ₹17.81 crore.

Prasadam Throughout the Day

- 25 temples now provide prasadam throughout the day to devotees.

Temple Health Centers

- 19 major/hill temples now have allopathic medical clinics, benefitting 6.88 lakh devotees.

Republication of Old rare religious books

- 516 old rare religious books were republished and to make the books available to devotees, 203 book stalls have been setup in temples.

These initiatives under the Dravidian Model of Governance led by Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin are praised for reviving Tamil cultural heritage, ensuring inclusivity, and delivering temple-related services efficiently, with an emphasis on transparency, heritage preservation, and spiritual welfare.

Issued By: - DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai – 9

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