

Creating Awareness about Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme

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ABSTRACT

The Tamil Nadu Village Habitation Improvement Scheme is a comprehensive rural development program aimed at enhancing the quality of life in villages across the state of Tamil Nadu, India. This initiative focuses on improving critical infrastructure, including roads, water supply, sanitation, and healthcare facilities, in order to uplift the socio- economic status of rural communities. By addressing these fundamental needs, the scheme seeks to promote inclusive growth, empower rural residents, and bridge the urban-rural divide. This abstract highlights the scheme's commitment to sustainable development and its potential to bring about positive transformation in the lives of those residing in Tamil Nadu's villages.

Keywords: Prosperity, Rurality's, Facilities, Habitations, Implementation

CHAPTER-I INTRODUCTION

The Government has introduced the flagship program called Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme from 2011-12 onwards to overcome the bottlenecks in the uneven distribution of resources and to provide minimum basic infrastructure facilities to all the habitation. Tamil Nadu is the only State focusing on 'Habitation' as the unit of development and no other State in the Country is implementing such an innovative scheme. There are about 6 habitations on an average for each Village Panchayat in Tamil Nadu with 79,394 habitations in 12,524 Village Panchayats.

Figure 1



OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY:

Schemes Components:

Works under THAI Scheme are categorized into three as tabulated below.

Sl. No	Minimum Basic Requirements	Additional Requirements	Other Works
1.	Water Supply	Anganwadi Centers	Another permitted works
2.	Street Lights	Public Distribution System Shops	
3.	Roads	SHG Buildings	
4.	Burial Grounds	Threshing Floor	
5.	Pathway to Burial Grounds	Play Ground	

Minimum Basic Requirements:

Water supply:

Drinking water supply works like provision of power pump, extension of pipeline, augmentation of existing source shall be taken up depending upon the requirement. **Streetlight:**

New streetlights will be provided in the new habitations, extension areas, Adi- Dravidar & Tribal habitations and IAY housing colonies, based on the actual needs. Additional street lights, including solar powered lights will be provided in the areas where the existing coverage is felt inadequate.

CementConcreteRoad:

Pavements with residential units on sides, streets or lanes prone to water logging, part of the uncovered portion where a portion of the street has already been covered with cement concrete, will be taken up on priority.

Link Roads:

Link roads will cover bus-plying roads, upgradation of WBM roads to BT roads connecting two or more habitations in the same Panchayat and upgradation of earthen/gravel roads.

Cremation / Burial Grounds:

Each burial ground / cremation ground will be provided with approach road, compound wall, cremation shed, water facility and lights.

Pathway to Burial Ground:

Wherever the pathway is already available, improvement of the existing pathway will be taken up and wherever pathway is not available, top priority will be given to provide approach road or pathway.

The additional requirements and other permitted works will be taken up based on the need and necessity. Apart from THAI, the scheme will be implemented by dovetailing funds, from various schemes of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department and schemes of other Departments.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THAI SCHEME:

The Welfare and development of the people living in rural areas are the driving force which propel this Government (Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, India) in formulating socio-economic policies and designing various Rural Development programs towards fulfilment of these policies. Poverty eradication through creation of sustainable livelihood opportunities and provision of basic infrastructure and services in rural areas are the prime objectives of various Rural Development programs. This Government has introduced the flagship program called Tamil Nadu Village Habitation Improvement (THAI) Scheme from 2011-12 onwards to overcome the bottlenecks in the uneven distribution of resources and to provide minimum basic infrastructure facilities to all the habitations. Tamil Nadu is the only State focusing on „Habitation“ as the unit of development and no other State in the Country is implementing such an innovative scheme.³Tamil Nadu Village Habitation Improvement (THAI) Scheme

THAI – I

There are 12,524 Village Panchayats and 79,394 Habitations in Tamil Nadu. However, the number of habitations vary from District to District. Uniform allocation of funds to all the Village Panchayats having varied number of habitations will lead to disparity in development, disproportionate distribution of assets and uneven progress. Hence, to remove the above lacunae,

the Government have introduced the Tamil Nadu Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme from the year 2011-12 onwards taking habitation as the basic unit of implementation with an annual allocation of Rs.750 crores from state fund.⁴

The scheme was implemented in five phases from 2011-12 to 2015-16 with a total allocation of Rs. 3,680 Crore. Under THAI scheme, minimum basic requirements like water Report of Rural development and panchayat raj department, government of tamilnadu supply, street lights, Roads, Improvements to burial grounds, pathway to burial grounds, additional requirements like Anganwadi centers, Public distribution shops, SHG Buildings, threshing floor, Playground and other needy works were taken up. Totally 2,31,807 works were taken up and completed. So, Tamil Nadu is the only state focusing on “Habitation” as the unit of development with such innovation.

THAI - II

With the aim of providing / upgrading certain essential infrastructure facilities in rural areas, the THAI Scheme was extended during 2016-17 as THAI- II.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- The main objective of the Study is to Create Awareness About THAI Scheme in Particular area.
- The Study Aims to ensure comprehensive rehabilitation under the control of panchayat union.
- The Study focus on identifying the critical gaps on providing basic infrastructures

CHAPTER II

ABOUT THE SOCIAL ISSUES

The Village Habitation Improvement Scheme aims to enhance the quality of life in rural areas, including improving road infrastructure. However, several issues can be encountered in the context of road development in such schemes

- **Quality of Construction:** In some cases, roads may be poorly constructed due to corruption or lack of oversight, resulting in roads that become impassable after few seasons.
- **Lack of Maintenance:** Even well-constructed roads require ongoing maintenance. Neglecting this aspect can lead to premature deterioration and increased repair costs.
- **Technological Gaps:** Many rural areas may not have access to the latest road construction technologies, resulting in less durable infrastructure.
- **Safety Concerns:** Inadequate road design and maintenance can lead to safety issues, including accidents and increased travel times.
- **Water Quality:** Besides ensuring quantity, the quality of water supplied is paramount. Regular testing and treatment of water sources are necessary to prevent waterborne diseases.
- **Electricity Supply:** Ensuring a reliable electricity supply for street lights can be an issue, particularly in areas prone to power outages.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Outdated or inefficient lighting technologies can result in high energy consumption and increased costs for rural communities.

CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The analytical research methodology. The information is already available and analyzed those facts to make a critical evaluation of the material. Analytical research analysis is a quantitative method of review.

SOURCE OF DATA:

Secondary data is used for the study. Secondary data has been collected from articles, magazines, books, newspaper.

SAMPLE SIZE:

Group of 35 in an area Annur.

CHAPTER IV

OBSERVATION:

- One notable observation is the significant improvement in rural infrastructure like Roads, bridges, and drainage systems have been upgraded.
- Making transportation and accessibility more efficient for villagers.
- New bore wells and water supply systems have been installed, reducing water scarcity issues.
- Sanitation facilities have been upgraded like toilets and community sanitation units.

SUGGESTION:

- Improve road connectivity to ensure accessibility to all parts of the village.
- Upgrade and maintain water supply systems, ensuring clean and reliable water sources.
- Develop and maintain a reliable power supply network.
- Construct and maintain proper drainage and sanitation facilities

CONCLUSION:

Rural development has traditionally centered on the exploitation of land-intensive natural resources such as agriculture and forestry. However, changes in global production networks and increased urbanization have changed the character of rural areas. The researchers conclude that there is no proper Implementation of the scheme and there is no effective implementation of THAI Scheme and There is no significant change in the implementation program.

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