

TAMIL DEVELOPMENT AND INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE 2023- 2024

Tamil Development Department

- The 'Tamil Official Language Act' was enacted on 27.12.1956 in the state of Tamil Nadu, adopting Tamil as the official language of the state.

Tamil Poets' Day Celebration

- The Tamil Nadu Government celebrates the birth anniversary of the revolutionary poet Pavendar Bharathidasan as Tamil Poet's Day on 29th April every year

Tamil Nadu Day Celebration (18th July)

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu announced on 31.10.2021 that the 18th July, will be celebrated as "Tamil Nadu Day" every year, in commemoration of the day (18.07.1967) when a resolution for renaming the Madras Province as Tamil Nadu was passed by Perarignar Anna.
- Accordingly, on 18.07.2022, Tamil Nadu Day was celebrated by the Government of Tamil Nadu at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai.

Award

Paventhara Bharathidasan Award

- This award is given to an outstanding poet following the tradition to honour the legacy of the revolutionary poet "Paventhara" Bharathidasan. This award carries a cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign gold medal, citation and shawl. Paventhara Bharathidasan Award for the year 2022 was given to Thiru. Valaja Vallavan. So far 86 scholars have received this amount.

Tamil Thendral Thiru.Vi.Ka Award

- This award is presented to the eminent personality writer for the service rendered Tamil language. This award carries a cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign gold medal, citation and shawl. Thiru.Vi.Ka. Award was given to Namakkal Thiru. Po. Velsamy for the year 2022.

Thiruvalluvar Award

- Thiruvalluvar Award is being given on Thiruvalluvar Day to one of the greatest personalities who is indulged in spreading the ethics of Thirukkural through various activities, in order to make the world aware of the pride of Thiruvalluvar. This award carries a cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign gold medal, citation and shawl.
- Thiruvalluvar Award was given to Iranian Na. Ku. Ponnusamy for the year 2023. This award has been given to 38 scholars so far.

Muthamizh Kaavalar Ke.Aa.Pe.Viswanatham Award

- ❖ This award is presented annually to the best Tamil scholar who serves continuously for the cause of Tamil, following the footprints of “Muthamizh Kaavalar”. This award carries a cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign gold medal, citation and shawl. Muthamizh Kaavalar Ke.Aa.Pe.Vishwanathan Award was presented to Dr.Muhammed Metha for the year 2022. So far, 21 scholars have been honoured with this award

Perarignar Anna Award

- Perarignar Anna worked day in and day out ceaselessly to uplift Tamilnadu and dreamt throughout his life that Tamil Society should grow and prosper in every walk of their life. This award is given to a social worker who has been working with the people for the betterment of the society by imbibing his thoughts and actions whole heartedly. This award carries cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. Perarignar Anna award was presented to Mr. Ubayadullah for the year 2022.

Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Award

- This award is presented every year to a person who has been serving for the people of Tamilnadu by following the footsteps of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar. This award carries cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Award was presented to Thiru.E.V.K.S.Elangovan for the year 2022. So far, 17 scholars have been honored with this award.

Kabilar Award

- In honour of the Sanga Tamil Poet Kabilar who is admired as „Kurinjikkor Kabilar“, Kabilar Award is presented every year to an outstanding Tamil Scholar who adds glory to Tamil, duly putting light on the antiquity, history, civilization and tradition of Tamil with his traditional and modern poems. This award carries cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. Kabilar Award was presented to Pavalar Karumalai Thamilan @ K.Narendran for the year 2021. So far, 10 scholars have been honored with this award

U.Ve.Sa. Award

- ❖ Every year, U.Ve.Sa Award is presented to those Scholars who follow the footprints of U.Ve.Sa and create books on the rare inscriptions, archaeological excavations and palm leaf manuscripts that add to the rich heritage of the Tamil Language. This award carries

cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. U.Ve.Sa. Award was presented to Dr.R.Kalaikovan for the year 2021.

Kambar Award

- Kambar Award is presented every year to a great Tamil scholar who carries out critical analysis and research work on Kambar and his works and also pens epics in the highly unique classical Tamil in tune with Kavichakaravarthy Kambar. This award carries the cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. Kambar Award was presented to Tirumathi.Bharathi Baskar for the year 2021

Sollin Selvar Award

- Sollin Selvar Award is presented to a person who with his/her inimitable oratory skill delivers lectures on the civilization, culture and glory of Tamils among the people and wins their heart. This award carries cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. Sollin Selvar Award was presented to Thiru. Surya Xavier for the year 2021.

Chief Minister's Computer Tamil Award

- As an inspiration and appreciation of innovation, Computer Tamil Award is presented to those who develop software for the development of Tamil in computer technology with the aim of making Tamil as a medium of expression across the globe. This award carries cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. Chief Minister's Computer Tamil Award was presented to Dr. V.Dhanalakshmi for the year 2020.

Umarupulavar Award

- This award is presented to a Tamil scholar who contributes to Tamil literature duly following the principles and values of Umarupulavar of „Seerapuranam“ the best epic of Tamil. This award carries the cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. Umarupulavar Award was presented to Thiru.N.Mammad for the year 2021,

G.U.Pope Award

- ❖ G. U. Pope, a foreign scholar, learned Tamil language, was inspired by the noble principles of Thirukkural and translated it into English language and dedicated himself for Tamil language. In recognition of his work in Tamil, the award is given to the best Tamil translator who translates Tamil literature into foreign languages. This award carries the cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. G.U.Pope Award was presented to Thiru.A.S. Paneer Selvan for the year 2021

Elangovadigal Award

- langovadigal award is presented to the Best Scholar who takes the merits of Tamil literature to all parts of the world following the footprints of Elangovadigal. The Epic 'Silappathikaram' is considered to be the most important of five Epics of Tamil literature.
- This award carries the cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. Elangovadigal Award was presented to Thiru. Nellai Kannan for the year 2021.

Tamil Semmal Award

- "Tamil Semmal" Award is presented every year to honor the Tamil scholars who strive hard for Tamil individually or by creating Tamil associations in 38 Districts. Each person from a district will be honored with „Tamil Semmal“ Award with the cash prize of Rs.25,000, citation and a shawl

Sindhanai Sirpi“ Singara velar Award

- This award is given to the author of science related books and those who raise their voice for social development, equality and labour welfare, following the footsteps of Singaravelar who dedicated his life for the oppressed and poor people of the society. This award carries the cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign Gold medal, citation and a shawl. Singaravelar Award was presented to the poet Madhukur Ramalingam for the year 2021.

Maraimalaiadigalar Award

- In the wake of number works on pure Tamil getting dwindled, Maraimalaiadigalar Award is given every year to a Tamil scholar, in order to encourage the creators of pure Tamil works. The award carries cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign gold medal, citation and a shawl. Maraimalaiadikalar Award was given to Thiru. Suki.Sivam for the year 2021.

Arutperunjothi“ Vallalar Awar

- Arutperunjothi“ Vallalar Award is given annually to a person who is a spiritual philanthropist with the principles of reconciliation. The award carries cash prize of Rs.2.00 lakh, one sovereign gold medal, citation and a shawl. Aruthperunjothi Vallalar Award was given to Dr. R. Sanjeevirayar for the year 2021.

Tamilar Thanthai“ Si.Pa. Adithanar Award

- Magazine Awards in the name of „Tamilar Thanthai“ Si.Pa. Adithanar Newspaper Award', „Tamilar Thanthai“ Si.Pa. Adithanar Weekly Magazine Award', and „Tamilar Thanthai“ Si.Pa. Adithanar Monthly Newspaper Award' are presented by selecting one magazine each from daily, weekly and monthly magazines respectively that hails the civilization and culture.

“Ilakiya Mamani” Award

- The Hon'ble Chief Minister, on the occasion of the 97th birth anniversary of Muthamil Arignar Kalaignar, has announced the „Ilakiya Mamani Award“ to encourage and honour Tamil writers; and that, the award will be given to three writers who contribute to Tamil literature every year. The award carries cash prize of of Rs.5.00 lakh, one soveriegn Gold Medal, citation and a Certificate of Appreciation. „Ilakiya Mamani“ Awards for the year 2021 were given to Thiru. Ku. Chinnappa Bharathi, Prof. Kaliaperumal, Thiru. Konangi, during the Tamil Nadu Day celebrations held on 18.07.2022.

Karaikkal Ammaiyar Award

- Karaikal Ammaiyar Award is given annually to a woman who serves for the cause of Tamil following the footsteps of Karaikkal Ammaiyar. The award carries cash prize of Rs. 2.00 Lakh, one sovereign Gold Medal, citation and a shawl. Karaikal Ammaiyar Award was given to Dr. R. Tilakavathi Shanmugasundaram for the year 2021.

EXCLUSIVE AWARD HONOURING LITERARY ORGANIZATION

Tamil Thai Award

- Tamil Thai Award is an award given to the organization established Tamil associations in Tamil Nadu and the other parts of India to promote the antique of Tamil language, tradition and civilization. The Award carries cash prize of Rs.5 lakh and a shield with citation. Tamil Thai Award was presented to the Malaysian Tamil Writers Association in Malaysia for the year 2021.

Schemes implemented by Tamil Development Department

Eternal love towards Thirukkural

- Under the scheme of „Eternal love towards Thirukkural“, „Kuraloviyam“ – Drawing Competition was conducted with the aim of putting more light on Thirukkural. Best Drawing was selected and published as a Calendar

Kural Award

- The Scheme of awarding „KuralParisu“ to all students who recite 1330 couplets of Thirukkural, was initiated by Muthamilarignar Kalaignar in the year 2000

Financial Assistance to the Anthology of Thanthai Periyar“s Thought

- An Administrative Sanction for Rs.5,00,00,000/- (Rupees Five Crores only) has been given to publish the Anthology of Thanthai Periyar's thoughts in both Printed and E-Book formats in Tamil and 21 Indian Languages as well as World Languages through Tamil Nadu Text Books and Educational Services Corporation.

- Workshop at the Centre for Development of Tamil in Engineering and Technology of Anna University
- Language Lab has been set up at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi

DIRECTORATE OF ETYMOLOGICAL DICTIONARY PROJECT

- Muthamizh Arignar Kalaigunar played a prominent role in Tamil, a language that lives young forever with all its literary merits and richness of grammar, attaining the status of classical language. Consequently the Directorate of Tamil Etymological Dictionary project was established in the year 1974.

Tamil Dictionary Day celebration

- Every year, 8th November is celebrated as „Tamil Dictionary day“ and two days international seminar is also conducted, in commemoration of the service rendered by Veeramamunivar, the Father of Tamil lexicography. Recurring expenditure of Rs.10 lakh has been allotted for this purpose. „Thooya Tamil Patralar“ (Pure Tamil Aficionado) certificate with the cash prize of Rs.5,000/- each is distributed to three persons who speak pure Tamil.
- State level Coinage of Terms and Drawing competitions are conducted for school children and cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- and Rs. 5,000/- are awarded for first and second prize respectively. „Agarathi Aaivu Malar“, a souvenir of research articles is published and distributed at free cost. The Directorate presents awards on 5 different categories to 43 persons during the celebration

Award

Devaneyya Pavanar Award:

- Devaneyya Pavanar Award is presented to befitting Indian scholar on lexicography. The award carries the cash prize of Rs.2.00 Lakh, one sovereign Gold Medal and a Citation. The award was presented to Dr. R. Mathivanan by the Hon“ble Chief Minister of Tamilnadu on 16.01.2023 for the year 2022.”

Veeramamunivar Award

- Veeramamunivar Award is presented to a competent lexicographer who doesn“t have Tamil as his/her mother tongue; is a foreigner by birth; and has been contributing to the field of lexicography. The award carries the cash prize of Rs.2.00 Lakh, one sovereign Gold Medal and a Citation.

“Thooya Tamil Patralar“ Award

- Every year, a person, who speaks pure Tamil in his/her routine life, is selected from each districts of Tamil Nadu for „Thooya Tamil Patralar“ award. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 20,000/- and a certificate of appreciation

“Thooya Tamil Oodagam” Award:

- pure Tamil Media Award is presented to a visual media and a printing media, in order to encourage them use pure Tamil. Each award carries the cash prize of Rs.50,000/-, a gold medal and a certificate of appreciation

“Natramizh Pavalar Award”

- **Every year, a poet who excels in traditional poetry and a poet who excels in modern poetry are selected** from the poets who use pure Tamil words and new technical terms without adulteration of words from other languages in their poems and honoured with „Natramizh Pavalar Award“. The award carries the cash prize Rs. 50,000/-, a gold medal and a certificate of appreciation

SOLVAYAL” MONTHLY E-MAGAZINE

- Solvayal monthly e-magazine has been published in the www.sorkuvai.com by the Directorate since the month of June, 2020.

Panmozhi Agaradhi” -Tamil Tutor ApP

- Making of an efficient app for easy learning of Tamil through Dravadian languages

International Institute of Tamil Studie

Genesis

- Hon“ble Former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Perarignar Anna expressed his wish at the Second World Tamil Conference held at Chennai during January 1968 to establish an exclusive Institute for Tamil Higher Studies on par with French Academy. Accordingly, International Institute of Tamil Studies was established in the year 1970 by the then Hon“ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Muthamizh Arignar Kalaingar under Societies Registration Act.

Objective

- Creating a conducive environment for Research work
- Imparting training to Researchers as per the need of the hour
- Sharing Information related to Tamil studies with Foreign Tamil Aficionados.
- Carrying out the work of Tamil Higher researches in association with other educational institutions, Government organizations, Foreign Associations, Private institutions and individuals who satisfy the objectives of the International Institute of Tamil Studies
- Upgrading the Library of Higher Studies and utilizing the same optimally

Governing Council

- Chairman- Hon“ble Minister for Tamil Official Language and Tamil Culture

Tirukkural Art Gallery

- Tirukkural Art Gallery at an extent of 2500 sq.ft has been established at the premises of International Institute of Tamil Studies by the Government of Tamil Nadu.
- A Centre for Preserving Palm Leave Manuscripts.

Ancient Tamil Art Gallery

- Ancient Tamil Art Gallery has been set up in the International Institute of Tamil Studies.

Tamilology

- Xavior Thaninayagam Adigal, the great scholar, was the pioneer for the emergence of International Institute for Tamil Studies. He was the one who started the English journal called Journal of Tamil Studies (JOTS). This bilingual (Tamil & English) journal is now published quarterly as „Tamizhiyal“. The journal has 50- years of legacy with the current 115th issue.

Tamil University, Thanjavur

Origin

The Tamil University was established in the year 1981, on the 15th of September, the birth anniversary of Perarignar Anna, the luminary who named the state inhabited by the Tamils as „Tamil Nadu“.

Objectives

- To make other language speakers aware of the antiquity of Tamil.
- To compare and study Tamil language with other languages.
- Documenting our ancient cultural traditions that are endangered
- Retrieving the signature art forms of the Tamils and imparting training
- Transmission of traditional medicine and culture to the next generation without compromise.
- Discovery of archaeological remains
- Preservation of our ancient literature by digitalization of palm leaf manuscripts.

Functioning of Yoga Training Centrer

- A Yoga Training Center has been functioning through the Department of Philosophy, Tamil University.

Tamil Scholar Robert Caldwell Chair

- In the project of Tamil Scholar Robert Caldwell Chair, a retired Professor of Linguistics, has been appointed as a research scholar and research works are being carried out on the topic "Comparative Studies of Dravidian Languages after Robert Caldwell"

World Tamil Sangam, Madurai

Genesis

- Pavalareru Perunchithirananar hails Tamil as "Tamil is a living classical language that has the origin of the Universe". The World Tamil Sangam was established in 1986 and with the noble aim of uniting the Tamils living in various countries of the world with the Tamil organizations under one roof.
- World Tamil Sangam has been effectively functioning towards achieving the aim mentioned above. Madurai city is known as 'Nanmadakudal', 'Thoonga Nagaram, Koyil Nagaram, 'Alavaai', 'Vizhaamali Moothur', 'ManaMadurai', 'Kadambavanam', 'Koodal Managar, and 'Athens of the East'.
- World Tamil Sangam adds more glory to Madurai. The World Tamil Sangam, a skyscraper, has an art gallery, Conference halls, Administration section, Research Section, Library, Classrooms, Seminar hall, Conference hall, Guest house etc. The front compound wall bears 1330 kurals of Aiyar Valluvan.

Objective

- Registering all the Tamil organizations under one banner, integrate them, form a federation and help the development of Tamil language.
- To spread the information on Tamil literature, culture and Tamil language in all countries of the world. Compilation of the life style and literary work of Tamils living in other countries.
- To prepare and publish a repository of World Tamils. To provide opportunities for Tamils in foreign countries to learn about Tamil literature and cultural identities
- Taking steps through the World Tamil Sangam to set up Research centers on Tamil language in universities around the world.

"Sangam Tamil Art Gallery" which signifies the greatness of the Tamils of the Sangam Age

Tamil Koodal, a Confluence of Tamil

- The confluence of two rivers is called Koodal. In the World Tamil Sangam, an event called 'Tamil Koodal' is being held every week to bring together Tamil scholars with Tamil Aficionados. Here occurs the confluence of literatures from Sangam literature to

contemporary literature. An amount of Rs.3,50,000/- has been sanctioned for this scheme for the year 2022-202

“Tamizhal Mudiyum” - Training program

- A training program called “Tamizhal Mudiyum” was conducted to guide young Tamils.

National Seminar in honor of “Cheras”

- A national conference on „SenTamilum CheraNadum“ was organized in collaboration with Thiruvananthapuram Tamil Sangam, Kerala, and the same was published as a book in commemoration of the works and contributions of Cheras to literature.

Founder’s Day

- Founder's Day is celebrated every year on 17th January, the birth anniversary of Hon’ble Former Chief Minister M.G.Ramachandran, who with a noble aim has paved way for the establishment of the World Tamil Sangam

Foreign Tamil Book Park

- A special unit named 'Foreign Tamil Book Park' has been set up exclusively for the works of the Foreign Tamils.

Ulagathamil' - An international e-journal

- As a tool to connect the Tamils all over the world, the international e-journal 'Ulagathamil' is being published quarterly by the World Tamil Sangam

Central Institute of Classical Tamil, Chennai

- Central Institute of Classical Tamil is an autonomous institute functioning towards the development of Tamil under the Languages section of the Ministry of Education. This institute was established on 12.10.2004, after the central government has declared Tamil as a classical language

Awards of Central Institute of Classical Tamil

- ❖ Tholkappiyar Award is given to an Indian scholar with a prize money of Rs 5 lakh.
- ❖ Kural Peeda” awards are given to a foreigner and an NRI with a prize money of Rs 5 lakh.
- ❖ “Young Tamil” award carries a cash prize of Rs.1 lakh

Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Research Endowment

- ❖ Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi Classical Tamil Research Endowment was established in the year 2008 by Muthamizharinagar Kalaignar in the Central Institute of Classical Tamil with a deposit of Rs 1 crore.

