

TAMILNADU TOWARDS ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Edited by
Dr. DHULASI BIRUNDHA VARADARAJAN



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Chapter - 9

Outcome of Remarkable Public Policies on Water and Sanitation in Tamilnadu: An Economic Analysis

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Abstract

Sustained availability of clean water and maintaining a good sanitation are the significant targets of a developing state like Tamilnadu. Welfare policies on water and sanitation are a notable matter that describes the well-being of mankind and to free from them water scarcity and bad sanitation. Tamilnadu state has attained maximum improvement in this regard and allocates sufficient budgets to make the state prosper. The study has emphasized the achievements of state government in provision of clean water and sanitation and forecasted statistical report on water access and budget allocated for the welfare programmes. It has covered secondary data from 2015-16 to 2021-22, collected from published official documents, reports and journals. Data have been analyzed and forecasted from 2022-23 to 2029-30 and given in the form of tabulation, graphs and charts showing trend data. Moreover, the study has used the theoretical analysis observed from 'Rawl's Concept of Social Justice and Welfare Criterion". Finally, it concludes with effective policy recommendations for the welfare of the public.

Keywords: Public Policies, Welfare, Sanitation, Tamilnadu, Programmes

1. Introduction

Positive and negative public opinion is the key drive to the introduction of new public policy for the welfare of a society. Every public policy has enormous future to provide amenities to the weaker section of the developing countries. India is one among the developing country governed by both central and state governments with enforced planning. For the wealth and welfare of society, contribution of state governments is horizon. Public policy can be divided into three types namely, restrictive, regulatory and facilitating. Among the three policies, facilitating policy is characterized looking for the welfare of people in utilizing various infrastructural facilities to maximize public satisfaction. (<https://www.toppr.com/guides/commercial-knowledge/government-policies-for-business-growth/nature-and-public-policy-process/>). Hence, as a facilitating policy on clean water and sanitation is meant a significant concept in developing countries including India. Clean water and sanitation itself has an important

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character for the sustainable environmental quality. It can be described as 'sanitation meant, free from open defecation, solid waste, sewage pollution, human illness and clean water meant that the water which we consumes for personal day to day life (cooking, cleaning, washing, drinking etc.). If we have sufficient availability and efficient management for water resources, we can empower the conditions of sanitation or if we have efficiency in management of sanitation we can empower the sufficient availability and efficient management of water resources. Therefore, clean water can make a good sanitation and a 'sanitation can provide clean water'. But, where the public is keeping up unwashed habits do not attain efficient output of the facilitating policy on clean water sanitation. The reason is that there are different groups of people (educated, uneducated, economically rich and poor) who are unaware and are doing excessive consumption of clean water and efficiency in sanitation. Although, the extent of public facility in this regard of the developmental steps taken by state government is appreciable. In this term, the study aims to bring out a statistical report on the achievements of state government in provision of water and sanitation. Moreover, the study targets to forecast the yearly statistical report on water access and budget allocation as to the betterment of remarkable public policies.

2. Problems with Lack of Water and Sanitation

Human as a special characterized living creature has a right to access to clean water, good sanitation and hygiene. But, billions of people are still struggling to consume even the basic necessities for a day to day life. Around 1.8 billion people consumes contaminated water as to drinking purpose while 780 million do not have access to drinking water regularly and 2.4 billion lack access to toilets or latrine. While 40 percent of global population lack access to drinking water, 80 percent of waste water from human activities is discharged itself into ponds, rivers and streams which causing water pollution (Sustainable Development Goals). Lack of availability and inefficiency of management on water, sanitation and hygiene are the ever green issues which should be recovered. Because, everyone needs clean water to drink, a safe place to pee and poop and have to clean them. Contaminated water, sanitation and hygiene are the constant sources of various physical challenges in a person's life which is directly correlated with poverty for billion (Joe McCarthy, 2016). Lack of access to basic necessities is a major cause for various health diseases which lead to death even among the children under five years. Due to poor hygiene, more than 800 children dies every day by diarrhea diseases. Hence, efficiency in water resource management is promptly needed to achieve better food production which also develops energy and economic conditions (Sustainable Development Goals).

3. Availability of Water Resource in Tamilnadu

Demand for water in Tamilnadu is increasing fast due to increasing population and per capita which is reflected in the economic development. The state entirely depends on monsoon rains for water consumption. Though, availability of water resources for per capita is about 900 cubic meters, agriculture consumes 75 percent of water resources as the largest consumer. Average rainfall of 23, February, 2021 is about 1254 mm (Tamilnadu Weatherman) but monsoon failure

in Tamilnadu may lead to severe drought. The potential of surface water is about 24864 M cum and the state has 17 major river basins with 61 reservoirs and 41948 tanks. About 46540 million cubic meters is measured as annual potentials. Through the major, medium and minor schemes, 90 percent of surface water has been used to irrigate 24 lakh hectares. Current level of groundwater utilization is about 13558 m cum which accounts 60 percent while 8875 m cum accounts 40 percent is available for balance use thus, the total of 22433 m cum is usable groundwater. Among the total of 17 river basins, Cauvery is the only major basin while 13 are medium and 3 are minor river basins (Water Resources, 2020 updated). Below the table.3.1 Statistical data shows the availability of ground water as district wise in Tamilnadu as on march, 2021.

Figure.3.1. District wise Availability of Ground Water in Tamilnadu

Average-Ground Water Level Status - Tamil Nadu as on March 2021							
S.No.	Well Type	Name of the District	Average Water Level In mts below Ground Level				Remarks
			Previous Year (March 2020) In m	Current Year (March 2021) In m	Rise	Fall	
1	Observation Wells	Thiruvallur	4.81	3.09	1.72		
2	Observation Wells	Kanchipuram	2.86	1.92	0.94		
3	Observation Wells	Thiruvannamalai	5.83	3.61	2.22		
4	Observation Wells	Vellore	9.70	7.47	2.23		
5	Observation Wells	Dharmapuri	11.50	10.01	1.49		
6	Observation Wells	Krishnagiri	8.36	8.59		0.23	
7	Observation Wells	Cuddalore	5.39	3.73	1.66		
8	Observation Wells	Villupuram	3.91	3.10	0.81		
9	Observation Wells	Thanjavur	3.14	2.70	0.44		
10	Observation Wells	Thiruvavur	3.18	2.04	1.14		
11	Observation Wells	Nagapattinam	2.83	2.51	0.32		
12	Observation Wells	Trichy	8.50	6.56	1.94		
13	Observation Wells	Karur	6.35	3.98	2.37		
14	Observation Wells	Perambalur	8.21	5.15	3.06		
15	Observation Wells	Pudukkottai	5.75	3.49	2.26		
16	Observation Wells	Ariyalur	3.35	2.09	1.26		
17	Observation Wells	Salem	8.21	6.91	1.30		
18	Observation Wells	Namakkal	11.02	10.80	0.22		
19	Observation Wells	Erode	7.56	8.19		0.63	
20	Observation Wells	Coimbatore	11.72	11.16	0.56		
21	Observation Wells	Thiruppur	9.79	7.93	1.86		
22	Observation Wells	Nilgiris	2.43	2.69		0.26	
23	Observation Wells	Dindigul	10.51	7.04	3.47		
24	Observation Wells	Madurai	7.10	4.80	2.30		
25	Observation Wells	Ramanathapuram	4.50	3.42	1.08		
26	Observation Wells	Sivagangal	5.17	3.20	1.97		
27	Observation Wells	Theni	8.84	7.65	1.19		
28	Observation Wells	Thoothukudi	3.43	2.71	0.72		
29	Observation Wells	Tirunelveli	4.46	3.69	0.77		
30	Observation Wells	Virudhunagar	8.39	6.31	2.08		
31	Observation Wells	Kanyakumari	6.02	6.26		0.24	
32	Observation Wells	Kallakurichi	6.94	3.81	3.13		
33	Observation Wells	Tenkasi	5.21	4.40	0.81		
34	Observation Wells	Chengalpattu	2.86	1.64	1.22		
35	Observation Wells	Ranipet	5.81	4.15	1.66		
36	Observation Wells	Thirupathur	8.93	7.19	1.74		

Source: State Ground and Surface Water Resources Data Centre, 2021



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