

WOMEN DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN TAMIL NADU UNDER D.M.K ADMINISTRATION

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Abstract

Under the DMK (Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam) administration, Tamil Nadu has various women development schemes to promote gender equality and empowerment. The schemes including the Free Education for Women, that voter educational cost at all levels, and the Marriage Assistance to Daughters of Poor Widow which provide financial support for marriage expense. The government supports and provides Maternity Benefits collectively aiming to enhance women's socio-economic status.

Keywords: Free Education for Women, Gender Equality, Financial Assistance, Maternity Benefits, Economic Empowerment, Social Justice.

Introduction

The administration of DMK (Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam) in Tamil Nadu has pursued a comprehensive approach to women's development through a range of progressive schemes designed to address the diverse challenges faced by women and it's also promote gender equality, enhancing economic opportunists and improving the overall well-being of women. These initiatives reflect a commitment to addressing social and economic challenges faced by women. They have included the Free Education for Women initiative that eliminates financial barriers to education. The Marriage Assistance to Daughters of Poor Widows Scheme provides financial support for marriage expenses, while the Puthumai Penn Scheme offers aid for higher education. The Government provide Maternity Benefits, collectively aiming to empower women and promote their socio-economic development.

EVR Nagammaiyar Memorial Free Education Scheme

EVR Nagammayar Ninaivu Free Education Scheme was introduced during the DMK rule in 1989 and is named in honour of E.V.Ramasamy (Periyar) and his wife Nagammaiyar, both of whom were prominent social reformers advocating for women rights and education. Under the scheme, eligible female students receive tuition fee waivers and other necessary support to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate courses in various disciplines across state run educational institutions. Enhancing access to higher education for girls from marginalized communities and promoting social justice and gender equality by empowering women through education.

30 Percent of Reservation

It was a new scheme introduced by M. Karunanidhi during the DMK regime. In order to uplift the condition of the women in different sectors 33 percent of reservation was introduced by him. The women entered in local bodies, which saw a couple of Dalit women becoming mayors. The women who belong to lower section were mostly benefitted by this scheme and it became a light to politics.

Dr. Dharmambal Ammaiyar Ninaivu Widow Remarriage Assistance Scheme

It is one of the important schemes introduced during the DMK regime in 1975. Under this scheme, on the marriage of a widow a sum of Rs. 5000 is given in the form of 6-year National Savings Certificates in the joint name of husband and wife. 312 couples were benefitted during this tenure. Rs.15.60 lakhs were sanctioned for this scheme. The widow who was ill-treated in the society were more benefitted by this scheme.

Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme

Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme was introduced on 3rd June 1989. Under this scheme, a grand of Rs. 5000 is given on the marriage occasion of the girls from poor households, who have passed 8th Standard and above. The girls should have attained the age of 18 years at the time of marriage. During DMK regime 26,547 girls were benefitted and Rs. 13.27 crores was allocated for this scheme.

Marriage Assistance to Daughters of Poor Widows

The Marriage Assistance to Daughter of poor Widows was introduced by the Tamil Nadu Government in 1989 to provide the financial support to economically disadvantages

families, particularly those headed by widows. This scheme aims to alleviate the financial burden that marriage expenses can impose, especially on single parent families. This scheme aimed to ensure that, the daughters of poor widows can have a dignified marriage. This scheme offers gold typically around four grams intended for making the *Thali* (Mangalsutra), a culturally significant item in Tamil Weddings. This provision not only eases the financial strain but also respects and uphold traditional customs.

Sivagami Ammaiyar Ninaivu Girl Child Protection Scheme

The Sivagami Ammaiyar Ninaivu Girl Child Protection Scheme was introduced in April 1992 by the Tamil Nadu Government. This scheme also ensures equal opportunity in education for girl children equal with male children. In 1997, the DMK Government modified the scheme and the amount must deposit in Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructural Development Corporation Limited, in the name of the girl child. Through re-establishing this scheme, the DMK Government reduced the burden of parents about their girl children and their education and marriage expenses.

Conclusion

The DMK Government's take efforts in women development to highlights a progressive approach. It has seen a strong commitment to advancing women empowerment through a range of innovative schemes. The Government has focused on economic independence, social security, education and overall, well being for women across the state.

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