Economic Impact and SROI Analysis of TN's Vettri Payanam Scheme

An economic analysis highlighted the Social Return on Investment (SROI) and fiscal sustainability of Tamil Nadu's Vettri Payanam free bus travel scheme.

Vettri Payanam is a welfare scheme of Tamil Nadu offering free town bus travel for women to enhance mobility and female workforce participation.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The scheme facilitates approximately **84 lakh daily journeys** for women passengers across **Tamil Nadu** .
- The initiative incurs an additional annual financial burden of **₹1,600 crore** on the state exchequer.
- Total financial outlay committed towards the free travel scheme stands at nearly **₹6,000 crore**.
- The welfare cost is accommodated within Tamil Nadu's revenue spending framework of nearly **₹4 lakh crore**.
- The analysis evaluates **Social Return on Investment (SROI)** through measurable gains in female employment and household productivity.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

The zero-ticket free bus travel scheme for women in Tamil Nadu was launched in **May 2021**.

The scheme is implemented through state transport undertakings in **ordinary town buses** (white display boards).

Beneficiaries under the scheme include all women, **transgender individuals**, and **differently-abled persons** along with an escort.

Free public transport initiatives support UN Sustainable Development Goal 5 (**Gender Equality**).

Tamil Nadu leads major Indian states in **Female Labor Force Participation Rate (FLFPR)** in factories and urban workforce.

Social Return on Investment (**SROI**) is a methodology that measures broader social, environmental, and economic values generated by financial spending.

REVISION FLASHCARD

TN's Vettri Payanam scheme enables 84 lakh daily bus journeys for women with an annual budget allocation over ₹1,600 crore.

Syllabus Relevance: High relevance for Group 1/2/2A/4 under Tamil Nadu Development Schemes, SDG goals, and welfare budget allocation.

Free School Books
Read and study school textbooks for free on the Essaar Academy platform.
School Books: essaaracademy.in/school-books