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Tamil Nadu Expands No-Fare Bus Travel via Vettri Payanam Thittam

The Tamil Nadu government expanded the women's zero-fare bus travel scheme through the launch of Vettri Payanam Thittam.

Vettri Payanam Thittam is an expanded welfare initiative by the Tamil Nadu government providing free bus travel for women, building upon the existing Vidiyal Payanam scheme.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- Vettri Payanam Thittam was launched on **Gandhi Jayanti** as an extension of the existing women's zero-fare bus scheme, **Vidiyal Payanam**.
- The expanded scheme is expected to cost an additional **₹1,600 crore** a year, bringing the total estimated cost to **₹6,000 crore**.
- The State government expects around **84 lakh women** to benefit from the Vettri Payanam Thittam every day.

DID YOU KNOW..!?

Vidiyal Payanam, the free bus travel scheme for women in Tamil Nadu, was launched in **May 2021** by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Article 41 of the Indian Constitution directs the State to secure public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness, and disablement within the limits of its economic capacity.

Social Return on Investment (SROI) is a principles-based method for measuring extra-financial value relative to costs invested.

Tamil Nadu operates state transport undertakings providing extensive connectivity across urban and rural sectors, supported by budgetary allocations.

State welfare schemes aimed at **women empowerment** contribute towards improving female labor force participation and reducing household expenditure.

Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) under Part IV of the Indian Constitution outline the socio-economic welfare goals for the nation.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Vettri Payanam Thittam is Tamil Nadu's expanded no-fare bus travel scheme for women, building upon Vidiyal Payanam.

Syllabus Relevance: Highly relevant for TNPSC Unit 9 (Tamil Nadu Development Administration) and Unit 6 (Welfare Schemes and Economic Impact).

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