

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1920
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 11.12.2025

ZERO DEFECT ZERO EFFECT IN TAMIL NADU

1920. THIRU ARUN NEHRU:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to State:

- (a) the details of MSMEs certified under the Zero Defect Zero Effect (ZED) manufacturing programme in Tamil Nadu, since the programme's inception, district-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the measures undertaken by the Government to promote ZED standards among small and micro enterprises in the State, including the financial and technical assistance extended to ensure compliance;
- (c) the assessment of the impact of ZED adoption on product quality, environmental sustainability and export competitiveness of MSMEs in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) the challenges faced in implementing the ZED programme and the steps proposed to overcome these issues to enhance effectiveness in the State?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a): The MSME Sustainable (ZED) Certification Scheme was launched on 28th April, 2022. Since the launch of the Scheme, as on 5th December, 2025, a total of 15,798 MSMEs have been certified under the Scheme in the State of Tamil Nadu, which includes 14,924 Bronze, 402 Silver and 472 Gold. The district-wise and year-wise breakup of MSMEs certified in Tamil Nadu may please be seen at Annexure-I.

(b): The Government has undertaken several measures to promote ZED standard among micro, small and medium enterprises across the country, including the State of Tamil Nadu. These initiatives include nationwide awareness programmes, outreach through television commercials, radio campaigns, print media, digital and social media platforms. Further, under the ZED Scheme, financial assistance/subsidies are provided to MSMEs for ZED certification fees, cost of testing/system/product certification, and technology upgradation for zero effect solutions. Additionally, for technical assistance, handholding is provided to guide MSMEs to achieve higher certification levels.

(c): The third-party evaluation of the scheme is now under process for continuation of the Scheme during the next XVI Financial Cycle (FY2026-27 to FY2030-31). However, the scheme provides support for product quality, environmental sustainability and export competitiveness of MSMEs across the country including the State of Tamil Nadu and monitors it through assessments and surveillance mechanisms, thereby reflecting positive response towards adoption of ZED practices.

(d) The key challenges faced in implementing the ZED programme include limited technical skill capacity within MSMEs, financial and technical constraints for upgradation, resistance from enterprises to shift from traditional practices, and the need for stronger demand generation for ZED adoption from larger industry players. To address these challenges, steps have been taken to maximise outreach to MSMEs and enhance their technical capability through awareness and handholding support. Financial incentives such as subsidies on the cost of ZED Certification, testing/system/product certification, and technology upgradation for Zero Effect solutions are being provided.

Details of ZED Certification(Year-wise & District-wise) in the State of Tamil Nadu

S. No.	District	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 (till 5 th Dec 2025)	Total Certification
1	Ariyalur	4	15	1	2	22
2	Chengalpattu	14	64	15	25	118
3	Chennai	58	377	685	656	1776
4	Coimbatore	154	1088	261	991	2494
5	Cuddalore	13	393	17	55	478
6	Dharmapuri	3	419	5	33	460
7	Dindigul	21	267	23	60	371
8	Erode	18	428	55	313	814
9	Kallakurichi	0	10	2	2	14
10	Kanchipuram	54	259	133	232	678
11	Kanniyakumari	3	6	70	37	116
12	Karur	18	130	40	310	498
13	Krishnagiri	191	99	29	84	403
14	Madurai	55	1468	183	185	1891
15	Mayiladuthurai	0	20	2	5	27
16	Nagapattinam	0	29	1	54	84
17	Namakkal	4	58	5	51	118
18	Perambalur	2	94	0	2	98
19	Pudukkottai	8	13	5	18	44
20	Ramanathapuram	0	0	0	5	5
21	Ranipet	0	18	7	35	60
22	Salem	14	67	171	241	493
23	Sivaganga	5	222	6	26	259
24	Tenkasi	0	47	31	146	224
25	Thanjavur	2	153	13	176	344
26	The Nilgirish	2	13	9	13	37
27	Theni	8	104	101	19	232
28	Thiruvallur	57	459	394	296	1206
29	Thiruvarur	3	19	1	38	61
30	Tiruchirappalli	11	58	60	76	205
31	Tirunelveli	1	18	7	52	78
32	Tirupathur	1	2	2	3	8
33	Tirupattu	1	0	0	0	1
34	Tiruppur	42	818	168	343	1371
35	Tiruvannamalai	3	14	5	55	77
36	Tuticorin	2	37	10	27	76
37	Vellore	10	33	8	87	138
38	Villupuram	7	176	18	50	251
39	Virudhunagar	4	64	19	81	168
	Grand Total	793	7,559	2,562	4,884	15,798