

Disbursal of pension using smart cards to be extended

The disbursement of monthly pension under the various social security schemes of the Tamil Nadu government through banks using biometric smart cards will be extended to various other parts of the State in phases.

At present, the facility is being implemented in Kattumannarkoil, Manapparai and Thovalai taluks in Cuddalore, Tiruchirappalli and Kanyakumari districts from September last year. Encouraged by the good reception to the arrangement, the government has decided to extend coverage to other parts also in three phases. In the first stage, it is proposed to cover 4385 villages that have a population of more than 2000 as per the 2001 census, by June this year. Later, villages with a population between 1000 and 2000 will be benefited. In the third phase, those drawing the pension in other villages and towns would be benefited, according to an official release.