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Over Rs 21-cr worth taxes waived

[Express News Service](#)

CHENNAI: The State Cabinet on Monday decided to waive land tax, water tax, local cess and allied taxes to the tune of Rs 21.34 crore for about nine lakh hectares in 11 districts which were affected due to heavy rains in 2008.

The districts are Ariyalur, Cuddalore, Kancheepuram, Nagapattinam, Perambalur, Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Tiruchy, Tiruvallur, Tiruvarur and Karur.

The Cabinet also decided to waive the due on Central Sales Tax and the penalty on it for the inter-State sale of watery coconuts during the period April 1, 2002 and September 5, 2006. The total due stood at Rs 90.60 crore.

The Cabinet also reviewed in detail prevailing prices of essential commodities and the efforts being taken by the government to contain the prices. During the meeting, it was decided to continue the sale of essential commodities at

concessional rates through ration shops.

Besides, the Cabinet also decided to form a task force for evolving strategies to increase the production of paddy, pulses and oilseeds and other important crops in the State.