**RESEARCH AND REFERENCES:**

**RESEARCH HALL:-**

The records preserved in Tamil Nadu Archives are primary sources for historical research. In the year 1930, the Archival records were permitted to be consulted by the bonafide researchers. The number of scholars who made use of this Archives in 1930 were only three and the number gradually increased year after year and around 320 scholars are granted permission to consult records in this Archives every year. The research scholars who consult this Archives not only belong to the Universities in Tamil Nadu but also from other States of India and Foreign countries. Records of more than 30 years old alone are open for research. There is a set of rules governing access to records in Tamil Nadu archives.

**Rules:-**

Research Scholars wishing to examine the records should apply in writing to the Principal Commissioner /Commissioner of Archives, Historical Research in the form prescribed for the purpose. An Enrolment fee of Rs.200/- and Security deposit of Rs.500/- (Rupees five hundred) will be collected from the Scholars before permission granted. The deposit amount will be refunded in full after one copy of the work is deposited by the Researchers.

**Usage Details:-**

In 2005, 257 research scholars were enrolled for research. In 2006-223, 2007-312, 2008-261, 2009-256, 2010-206, 2011-246, 2012-331, 2013-303, 2014-564, 2015-215, 2016-226, 2017-209, 2018-517, 2019-317, 2020-083 and 2021(up to November)-110 scholars were enrolled . In the years 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021(up to November), number of records issued for research were 6350, 6520, 1745 and 5250 respectively. So far thousands of doctoral and post-doctoral theses have been written by using archival sources and doctorate degree have been conferred by various universities of India and abroad accepting them. Hundreds of masterpieces were published by historians world over by using records preserved in Tamil Nadu Archives.