

BACKWARD CLASSES, MOST BACKWARD CLASSES AND MINORITIES

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

DEMAND NO.9

POLICY NOTE 2007-2008

INTRODUCTION

The State of Tamil Nadu is a forerunner in the country in formulating and implementing schemes for the advancement of socially, economically and educationally disadvantaged Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities on par with other sections of the society and in upholding their prime issue of Social Justice. The Department of Backward Classes was started in the year 1969 and the Department of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities in 1989 by this Government only, to effectively implement the schemes for them, who comprise majority section in the society. This Government is determined to protect the 69% reservation now in existence for Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities, Adidraavidars and Scheduled Tribes in educational and employment opportunities. This Government played a major role in the legislation of the Government of India, providing for 27% reservation for Other Backward Classes in higher learning educational institutions under the control of Government of India. By knowing well that majority of the employment opportunities are now available in the private sector, this Government is urging the Government of India to bring suitable amendment to the Constitution to provide reservation for the above categories in the private sector also.

Since, this Government strongly believes that education alone can bring about a social change, 80% of the total allocation of funds for this department is earmarked for the educational

advancement of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities. The schemes such as scholarships, free education in professional courses / degree courses, supply of free bicycles, incentives to rural Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities girl students etc. are implemented for the welfare of the students of these classes. Hostels are also maintained by this department providing free boarding and lodging for these community students. This Government has decided to construct hostel buildings with modern facilities to the hostels that are presently not functioning in own buildings. Kallar Reclamation Schools are run for the development of educationally backward Piramalai Kallar Community. In Kallar Reclamation Higher Secondary and High Schools, computers are provided to impart computer education. Loans are provided by Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation (TABCEDCO) and Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation (TAMCO) for Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities to start self employment trade or business. A sum of Rs. 25.00 crores has been provided during the current year for implementation of grant cum loan scheme through Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation (TABCEDCO) for providing irrigation facilities to small and medium farmers. To enable these sections of people to improve their employability, various Job Oriented Training Programmes are conducted. Further iron boxes and sewing machines are given free to poorer sections of these people. The scheme of granting free house site pattas will continue to be implemented.

RESERVATION

The policy of reservation is acting as a tool in developing the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities on par with other Communities in the society in their social, educational and economical status. The State of Tamil Nadu is a forerunner to other States in the implementation of policy of reservation since 1921. As per the existing policy of reservation 69% reservation is provided in Educational and Employment opportunities as detailed below:-

Backward Classes	30%
Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities	20%
Scheduled Castes	18%
Scheduled Tribes	1%
Total	69%

This Government is determined to safeguard the Tamil Nadu Act 45/1994 which has been enacted to maintain the reservation at 69% and continuous action is taken firmly in this regard.

This Government has been urging the Union Government continuously to bring in an amendment to the constitution empowering the States to determine the quantum of reservation according to their needs.

As announced in the Governor's Address 2006, the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of seats in Private Educational Institutions) Bill, 2006 providing reservation of seats in Private Educational Institutions in the State for the Backward Classes of Citizens and for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State of Tamil Nadu has been introduced and passed in the Assembly on 31.5.2006. The Bill became an Act on 06.06.2006 and this Act came into force on 21.10.2006.

A resolution urging the Government of India to go ahead with the 27% reservation for Other Backward Classes in all the educational institutions controlled and financed by the Government of India has been introduced and unanimously passed in the Assembly on 31.5.2006. The resolution has been transmitted to the **Hon'ble Prime Minister of India** from **Hon'ble Chief Minister** on 8.6.2006. As a result of the dedicated efforts taken by our **Hon'ble Chief Minister** in the matter, the Bill for providing 27% reservation for Other Backward Classes in the higher educational institutions under the control of Government of India has been passed recently in both Houses of Parliament and **His Excellency the President of India** has given assent to the above Bill.

As promised in the Election Manifesto, the **Hon'ble Chief Minister** addressed the **Hon'ble Prime Minister** of India by a D.O letter to move the Government of India to bring in an amendment to Article 16(4) of the Constitution to provide reservation in private sector also.

EDUCATION

Since educational advancement alone can permanently remove the Social and Economic backwardness of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, this Government is giving priority to education sector by providing educational facilities to these people and encouraging girls education in particular. Since the literacy rate is low and the dropout ratio is high particularly amongst the rural population, this department is running free hostels, providing scholarships, uniforms and awards for meritorious students for the welfare of the students of these communities. For the upliftment of the Piramalai Kallar Community, Kallar Reclamation Schools are run by this department. Special coaching for the aspirants of All India Civil Services Examinations is also given to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities.

KALLAR RECLAMATION SCHOOLS

As the Government felt that the educational standards attained by Piramalai Kallar Community is poor as compared with other communities, the Department of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities is running 260 Kallar Reclamation schools in Madurai, Theni and Dindigul districts where Piramalai Kallar community population is dense . (Higher Secondary Schools 16, High Schools 23, Middle Schools 31, Primary Schools 190, Total 260) About 48000 students are studying in these schools every year.

During 2006-07, for the students studying in V to VIII Standards in these schools have been provided with four seater benches at a cost of Rs.269.00 lakhs. Further 31 High Schools

and Higher Secondary Schools have been provided with Computers with accessories at a cost of Rs.48.50 lakhs.

For the year 2007-2008 for the maintenance of these schools **Rs. 2858.05 lakhs** has been allotted.

AWARD OF PRIZES TO KALLAR RECLAMATION SCHOOL STUDENTS

In order to encourage the students studying in 10th and 12th Classes in Kallar Reclamation High schools / Higher secondary schools of Madurai, Theni and Dindigul Districts, a scheme of award of prizes is being implemented for the students who secure high marks in 10th std and 12th std public examinations. Accordingly, students are awarded a prize of Rs.3000/- who secure 1st place, Rs.2000/- who secure 2nd place and Rs.1000/- to 3 students (Boys or girls) who secure 3rd place in 10th std / 12th std public examinations.

SUPPLY OF FREE SLATES, NOTE BOOKS AND TEXTBOOKS IN KALLAR RECLAMATION SCHOOLS

SUPPLY OF SLATES

The students studying from 1st to 3rd std in Kallar Reclamation Schools are supplied with free slates.

SUPPLY OF NOTE BOOKS

Notebooks are supplied free of cost to the students studying from 3rd to 10th std in Kallar Reclamation schools.

SUPPLY OF TEXT BOOKS

Free textbooks are supplied to students studying from 1st to 12th standard.

For the year 2007-2008 for the scheme of supply of Slates, Note Books and Text Books a sum of **Rs. 45.00 lakhs** has been allotted.

SUPPLY OF UNIFORMS

TO THE STUDENTS OF KALLAR RECLAMATION SCHOOLS

Each year, 2 sets of poly cotton uniforms are provided to students studying from 1st standard to 8th standard in Kallar Reclamation Schools. The uniforms are provided to students at the beginning of the academic year after summer vacation.

TO HOSTEL BOARDERS

The boarders of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities hostels studying up to 10th std are provided with two sets of poly cotton uniforms.

For the year 2007-2008 a sum of **Rs.155.25 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

Scholarship Schemes such as, Prematric Scholarship, Postmatric Scholarships, Free Education for Degree, Polytechnic and Professional Courses are implemented for the educational upliftment of students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities with an annual parental income limit of Rs.50,000/-. The scheme for the provision of free education to students belonging to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities from 10th standard to Degree level is implemented without restriction on parental annual income.

PREMATRIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

SPECIAL FEES REIMBURSEMENT

Special fees at the prescribed rates in the Scholarship Notification of this department are reimbursed to the students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying in Government and Government Aided Schools as follows:

DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES

Special Fees at the prescribed rates in the Scholarship Notification of this Department are reimbursed to Denotified Communities students studying from 6th standard to 8th standard.

BACKWARD CLASSES, MOST BACKWARD CLASSES AND DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES

Special Fees at the prescribed rates in the Scholarship Notification of this Department are reimbursed to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students studying 9th standard.

MOST BACKWARD CLASSES AND DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES

Special Fees reimbursement is given in full to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students studying in 10th standard without any condition.

BACKWARD CLASSES

Special Fees reimbursement is given to Backward Classes students in full studying 10th standard with certain conditions (income limit / first graduate) under free education scheme.

FREE SUPPLY OF TEXTBOOKS

All Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students studying from 1st std to 12th std in Government and Government-aided schools are supplied with free textbooks. The expenditure incurred under the scheme by school education department for the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students are reimbursed to Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation Ltd., by this Department.

EXAMINATION FEES

The Public Examination fees payable by the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities who are studying 10th standard are directly reimbursed by this Department to the Department of Government Examinations.

TUITION FEES FOR ENGLISH MEDIUM OF EDUCATION

The Backward Class students studying from 6th to 10th standard in Government and Government aided schools in English Medium of education, are reimbursed with tuition fees as per Notification, subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/- and no one should be a graduate in the family. However, the students belonging to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities are reimbursed with tuition fees without any such conditions.

For the year 2007-2008 a sum of **Rs.2209.72 lakhs** has been allotted for prematric scholarship scheme.

POSTMATRIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

BACKWARD CLASSES

The Backward Class students studying Higher Secondary classes, Graduate Degree courses, Post-Graduate Degree courses, Polytechnic courses, Industrial Training courses and pursuing Research studies are reimbursed with tuition fees, special fees and book fees at prescribed rates in the Scholarship Notification, and the examination fees are reimbursed in full subject to the condition that the parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/-.

MOST BACKWARD CLASSES & DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES

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As free education is provided to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students studying from 11th standard to 3 year Degree courses without the condition of annual income limit, the students studying in other courses such as Post Graduate courses, Polytechnic courses, Industrial Training courses and Research studies are reimbursed with tuition fees, special fees and book fees as prescribed in the Scholarship Notification, and the examination fees are reimbursed in full subject to the condition that, the parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/-.

EXAMINATION FEES

The Public Examination fees payable by the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying 12th standard is directly reimbursed by this Department to the Department of Government Examinations.

TUITION FEES FOR ENGLISH MEDIUM OF EDUCATION

The Backward Class students studying 11th and 12th standards in Government and Government-aided schools in English Medium of education are reimbursed with tuition fees at prescribed rates subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/- and there are no graduates in the family. However, the students belonging to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities are reimbursed with the tuition fees without any such conditions.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs.3353.59 lakhs** has been allotted for Postmatric Scholarship Scheme.

FREE EDUCATION (DEGREE COURSES)

The students belonging to Backward Classes studying from 10th standard to 3 years Degree courses are provided with Free Education subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000 /- and the beneficiary is the first Graduate in the family. Under this scheme, course fees, special fees, examination fees and other non-refundable fees are reimbursed. For the Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students these conditions do not apply.

During the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs.1790.25 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

FREE EDUCATION (PROFESSIONAL COURSES)

The students belonging to Backward Classes , Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities studying Professional courses such as Medicine, Engineering, Law, Agriculture, Veterinary Science are provided with Free Education, subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50, 000/- and the beneficiary is the first Graduate in the family. Under this scheme, tuition fees, special fees, examination fees and other non-refundable compulsorily payable fees, as prescribed by the Government, are reimbursed.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs. 1618.77 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

FREE EDUCATION (POLYTECHNIC COURSES)

The students belonging to Backward Classes , Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities studying three year Diploma Courses in Polytechnics are provided with Free Education, subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/- and the beneficiary is the first Graduate in the family. Under this scheme tuition fees, special fees, examination fees and other non-refundable compulsorily payable fees, as prescribed by the Government, are reimbursed.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs.934.28 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

SCHEME FOR MERITORIOUS STUDENTS TO PURSUE STUDIES IN BEST SCHOOLS

A new scheme will be implemented to encourage meritorious students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities to pursue studies in the best schools. Under this scheme, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities students of Government schools who have secured highest marks in class X in each district will be selected and their admission for class XI will be arranged in the best schools of the State as per their choice so as to encourage quality education for them. The Government will bear their expenses by way of tuition fees and hostel fees. For this scheme a sum of **Rs.84.00 lakhs** has been provided.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

PREMATRIC SCHOLARSHIP

In order to improve the educational standard of the Other Backward Classes students of Tamil Nadu studying in schools, the Government of India Prematric Scholarship Scheme on 50:50 basis between the State and the Centre is being implemented from the year 2003-04. Under this scheme the parental annual income limit should not exceed Rs.44,500/-.

POSTMATRIC SCHOLARSHIP

In order to improve the educational standard of the Other Backward Classes students of Tamil Nadu studying in Higher Secondary Schools, College Degree courses, Polytechnic Diploma courses and Professional Degree Courses, the Government of India Postmatric Scholarship Scheme on 100% financial assistance from the Government of India is being implemented from the year 2003-04. Under this scheme the parental annual income limit should not exceed Rs.44,500/-.

RURAL INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR MOST BACKWARD CLASSES AND DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES GIRL STUDENTS

With an objective of preventing dropouts among rural Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities girls at primary education, a scheme of providing incentive of Rs.500/- each, for girls studying from 3rd standard to 5th standard and Rs.1000/-each, to students studying 6th standard in Government / Government Aided Schools in rural areas are given. This scheme was introduced by the present Government in 1999-2000 and continuously implemented till date. Under this scheme 90,000 girl students are benefited every year.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs.600.00 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

AWARD OF PRIZES

STATE LEVEL PRIZES

Under this scheme, two first prizes (1 each for boy and girl student) are awarded to the students who score first mark in 10th and 12th standard Public Examinations. If Backward class student attains first mark in 12th standard Public examination, he is awarded with a cash prize of Rs.3000/- whereas, the Most Backward Class/Denotified Communities student gets Rs.5000/- as cash prize. In case of 10th standard Public Examination, if a backward class student attains first mark, he is awarded with Rs.1500/- as cash award, whereas the Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities student is awarded with Rs.3000/- as cash award.

DISTRICT LEVEL PRIZES

Two first prizes (one boy and one girl) are awarded to students who secure highest mark in the 12th Standard Public Examination at the District Level. In the case of Backward Class student Rs.1500/- and in the cases of Most Backward Class/Denotified Community

student Rs.3000/- is awarded as cash prize. Similarly two first prizes, two second prizes and two third prizes (one boy and one girl student) are awarded to students who secure highest marks in the 10th standard Public Examination at the District Level. In the case of Backward Classes student Rs.500/-, Rs.250/- and Rs.150/- are awarded as first, second and third prizes respectively. In the case of Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities student Rs.1000/-, Rs.500/- and Rs.300/- are awarded as first, second and third prizes respectively.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs.2.35 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

PERARIGNAR ANNA MEMORIAL AWARD

A cash prize of Rs.3000/- each is awarded as Perarignar Anna Memorial Award in a year, for two boys and two girls belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, who secure the highest and the next highest marks in the 12th standard Public Examination at the District Level and joining professional courses. The Cash prize is awarded to them for four/five years.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs. 15.00 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

THANTHAI PERIYAR MEMORIAL AWARD

A cash prize of Rs.3000/- each is awarded, as Thanthai Periyar Memorial Award, per annum for two boys and two girls belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, admitted in Polytechnic courses in each district who have the highest and the next highest marks in the 10th standard Public Examination. The Cash prize is awarded to them for three years.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs.10.02 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

DISTRIBUTION OF FREE BI-CYCLE

Free Bi-cycles are distributed to students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities who study in Higher Secondary classes in Government, Government aided and partly Government aided schools. From the year 2006-2007 the scheme was extended by this Government to students availing free bus passes also.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs. 7293.45 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

HOSTELS

1131 hostels are functioning under the control of this Department for the welfare of poor students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities. Free boarding and lodging are provided to students in these hostels annually to benefit 62900 students.

Students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.50,000/- and selected by the selection committee are admitted into these hostels.

Out of these 1131 hostels, 568 hostels are functioning in Government buildings. Further, 395 hostels are under various stages of construction. As announced in the election manifesto, new buildings with modern facilities will be provided to the remaining 168 hostels functioning in rented buildings in a phased manner.

The facilities such as Wet Grinders, Colour Televisions (College Hostels only), Play materials and Libraries have been provided for the welfare of the boarders of these hostels.

In order to develop the General Knowledge and newspaper reading habit among the boarders, Library facilities and daily News papers (One in English and two in Tamil languages) are provided to all the hostels.

In order to encourage the boarders to score higher marks in the 10th and 12th Standard Public Examinations special guides for all the subjects are provided.

Woollen sweaters are provided once in two years to the boarders of the hostels situated in hill areas.

To monitor the proper functioning of hostels a management committee has been formed which is headed by the respective Revenue Divisional Officers.

To provide safe drinking water to hostel boarders, water purifiers are being provided to the hostels. During 2006-2007 400 hostels have been provided with water purifiers at a cost of Rs. 44.00 lakhs. During 2006-2007, hostel boarders have been provided with bed sheets at a cost of Rs. 16.00 lakhs.

FOOD CHARGES

Food charges at Rs.300/- each to a school student per mensem and Rs.400/- each to a college student per mensem are prescribed to the boarders of these hostels, for providing quality food.

A sum of **Rs. 7380.81 lakhs** has been provided for the administration and maintenance of these hostels including food charges for the boarders for the year 2007-08.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW MODERN BUILDINGS TO 50 HOSTELS

During the current year for 50 hostels, new buildings with modern facilities like adequate number of Toilets, Bathrooms, Library, Safe drinking water facility will be constructed. For this a provision of **Rs.32.50 crores** has been made.

BOARDING GRANTS TO GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED PRIVATE HOSTELS

39 private hostels have been recognised by the Government for the benefit of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students for admission in these hostels. Boarding grant of Rs.200/- p.m. per student for 10 months is provided to the boarders of these hostels whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.50,000/-.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs.38.56 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

For the economic upliftment of the socially backward people belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, schemes like distribution of free Sewing Machines, free Iron Boxes and Job Oriented Training Schemes are provided by this Department. The economic standards of these people have been improving on account of these schemes.

DISTRIBUTION OF SEWING MACHINES

For the economic advancement of poor Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, sewing machines are provided free of cost. The annual income limit for this scheme is Rs.16,000/- in respect of rural areas and Rs.24,000/- in respect of urban areas.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs. 31.00 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

DISTRIBUTION OF IRON BOXES

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Iron-boxes are distributed free of cost for those engaged in the occupation of laundering for improving their economic conditions. The annual income limit for this scheme is Rs.16,000/- in respect of rural areas and Rs.24,000/- in respect of urban areas.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs.85.00 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES

SPECIAL TRAINING INSTITUTES FOR ALL INDIA SERVICES

To enable aspirants of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities who are socially backward to come out successfully in the All India Civil Service Examination, this Government started a Special Training Institute in 1971 itself. In this institute, 100 candidates are offered special coaching annually. The aspirants belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities are admitted to these institutes without any income criteria. However, the admission to hostels attached to these institutes are offered only to the aspirants whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.50,000/-. The boarders of these hostels are provided with Rs.500/- as food charges per month.

A similar institute was functioning at Chennai for the aspirants belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. However, based on the principle of Samathuvapuram that social solidarity and cohesion could be achieved only through living together of various communities, this Government merged both the institutes during the year 1999-2000 and the integrated institute is now functioning efficiently under the control of Anna Institute of Management, Chennai.

For the year 2007-08, a sum of **Rs.37.83 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

JOB ORIENTED TRAINING COURSES

To enable the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities who are economically backward, to get gainful Job opportunity or self employment for their economic amelioration, Job Oriented Training courses are conducted. The entire training fee is borne by the Government itself.

During 2006-07, 42 types of Job Oriented Training schemes were implemented to the youth belonging to Backward classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities out of the allocation of Rs.10.00 crores. These courses covered the fields of Plastics Processing Machine Operator, Footwear & leather Goods Production, Apparel & garment manufacturing, designing, weaving, Heavy Vehicle Driver training, Nursing Assistant, Hotel management & Catering Technology, Cosmetology, Computer aided designing, Computer courses, Cell Phone servicing, Radio & T.V. mechanism etc.,

A sum of **Rs. 969.99 lakhs** has been allocated for the implementation of these schemes during the year 2007-08.

ISSUE OF FREE HOUSE SITE PATTAS

The landless poor belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities are given free house sites to an extent of 3 cents each.

This scheme was suspended during the period from 2001-02 to 2005-06. Taking into account the necessity to implement the scheme, this scheme was revived by the present Government from 2006-07 onwards by providing Rs.500.00 lakhs . 15 units of Special Tahsildars with staff that were functioning prior to the suspension of this scheme have again been revived and staff will be appointed during the current year.

A sum of **Rs. 525.00 lakhs** has been allocated for this scheme for the year 2007-08.

PROVISION OF BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE EXISTING FREE HOUSE SITE HABITATIONS

Besides the scheme of issue of free house site pattas, in order to encourage the beneficiaries who have already received pattas under this scheme, to build houses in the habitation, infrastructural facilities viz., formation of streets, provision of street lights, drinking water facility, sanitation and other such basic amenities are being provided.

A sum of **Rs. 128.00 lakhs** has been allocated for this scheme for the year 2007-08.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PERFORMING FUNERAL RITES

The Government is implementing the scheme of providing Rs.500/- to the family as financial assistance for performing funeral rites for the people of Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities who are living below poverty line.

A sum of **Rs.100.00 lakhs** has been allocated for this scheme for the year 2007-08.

THANTHAI PERIYAR AWARD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

To honour those who have struggled for Social Justice, the Thanthai Periyar Award for Social Justice is awarded by the Government. The Award consists of 1 Sovereign Gold Medal and Rs.1.00 lakh cash is presented to the Awardees in special Government function. The award for the year 2006 has been given to Inamurasu Thiru Sathyaraj.

A sum of **Rs.1.25 lakhs** has been allocated for this scheme for the year 2007-08.

TAMILNADU BACKWARD CLASSES COMMISSION

In pursuance of the directions of the Supreme Court in the Mandal Commission case, the Government has constituted a Permanent Commission in 1993 called "The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission". The work of this Commission is to examine and to recommend the claims and requests relating to inclusion and exclusion of communities from the list of Backward Classes/Most Backward Classes. Periodic revision of list of Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes is also entrusted to the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission. The Commission is now conducting enquiries on the representations received from various community organizations and individuals for inclusion of their communities in the list of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes.

TAMIL NADU BACKWARD CLASSES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation (TABCEDCO) a State Government undertaking commenced its business on 22.5.1982. The main object of TABEDCO is to provide loans for the economically and financially viable scheme, trade or project to the individuals, groups, societies belonging to the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities at low rate of interest for their economic upliftment. TABCEDCO is also acting as State Channelising Agency for National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation

The following institutions have been authorized by Government to act as Sub Channelising Agencies for the disbursement and recovery of loan.

1. Tamil Nadu Industrial Co-operative Bank,
2. Tamil Nadu Handloom Development Corporation,
3. Co-operative Banks,
4. Private and Nationalized Banks and
5. Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers Federation (Aavin)

From 1993-94 onwards TABCEDCO has so far received term loan to the extent of Rs.8165.54 lakhs from National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi and utilized in full.

Further for disbursement of loan to minorities, TABCEDCO has received term loan to the tune of Rs.464 lakhs from National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, New Delhi and a sum of Rs.143.30 lakhs has been disbursed as term loan by TABCEDCO prior to the commencement of business by Tamilnadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation (TAMCO) and the balance amount transferred to TAMCO for utilisation.

So far, this Corporation has released a sum of Rs. 5418.26 lakhs to 45232 beneficiaries under General Term Loan in respect of Industrial Co-operative Societies, Members of District Co-operative Milk Producers Union and Individual loans including loans for improvement of basic amenities for the Government Hostels functioning in Private Buildings.

TABCEDCO is implementing the Micro Credit Scheme and disbursing loan to the members of Self Help Group (women) at Rs.2000/- each through Co-operative Banks to carry out petty trades, small business etc. Now the loan amount has been increased to Rs.10,000/- per beneficiary. Under this scheme TABCEDCO has so far disbursed loans to 131050 beneficiaries involving a sum of Rs.3702.01 lakhs with the financial assistance received from NBCFDC, New Delhi.

GRANT CUM LOAN SCHEME FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM FARMERS BELONGING TO BACKWARD CLASSES, MOST BACKWARD CLASSES AND DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES

The Government with a view to provide irrigational facilities to small and medium farmers belonging to the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities, has introduced a new grant cum loan scheme of financial assistance upto Rs.1.00 lakh during

the current year through TABCEDCO. This scheme will comprise of a bank loan and a matching 50% grant by the Government, subject to a maximum of Rs.50,000/- per beneficiary.

A sum of **Rs.25.00 crores** has been provided for this scheme during 2007-08.

LOAN ASSISTANCE TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME TRAINED WOMEN (EDP)

TABCEDCO is implementing loan scheme in respect of Entrepreneurship Development Programme trained women belonging to the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and disbursing loan to the maximum project cost of Rs.10,000/- each. Under this scheme loans have so far been disbursed to 315 women beneficiaries involving a sum of Rs.30.58 lakhs.

SETTING UP OF MOBLIE LAUNDRY

The Government have issued orders to provide subsidised loan amount of Rs.5000/- (Subsidy Rs.2000/- + Loan Rs.3000/-) to 1000 persons belonging Backward Classes/ Most Backward Classes Denotified Communities for setting up of Mobile Laundry through TABCEDCO under the terms and conditions of General Term Loan. The loan amount of Rs.3000/- should be repaid in 2 years at 6% interest.

TAMIL NADU WAKF BOARD

Tamil Nadu Wakf Board was constituted in 1997 with 13 members, based on the provisions contained in the Wakf Act, 1995, (Central Act, 43 of 1995). In order to solve the disputes relating to Wakf properties in Tamil Nadu, 23 Wakf Tribunals having jurisdiction over 30 Districts have been formed as per the Wakf Act.

Tamil Nadu Wakf Board is being reconstituted once in five years as per Wakf Act, 1995 (Central Act, 43 of 1995). Out of 13 Members of the Board, 9 members have been appointed by the Government on 17.11.2006 and 2 Members each from the categories of State Bar Council Members and Muthawallis have been appointed by conducting election effectively on 28.2.2007.

During the year 2006 – 2007, Government has sanctioned Rs.45.00 lakhs to the Tamil Nadu Wakf Board as administrative grant. Further, the Government has sanctioned Rs.10.00 lakhs during the year 2006-2007 to the needy wakf institutions to carry out repairs and renovation of Mosques and Darghas, construction of compound wall / Barbed wire fencing around Muslim burial grounds (Kabarastans). The M.S.S. Wakf Board College, at Madurai is being administered by the Tamil Nadu Wakf Board.

MAJOR REPAIRS AND RENOVATION WORKS

The Government has allocated **Rs.52.00 lakhs** as grant to the Tamil Nadu Wakf Board to carry out Major repairs and renovation of Mosques and Darghas for the year 2007 - 2008.

MINOR REPAIRS AND RENOVATION WORKS

The Government has also allocated **Rs.10.00 lakhs** as grant to the Tamil Nadu Wakf Board to carry out minor repairs and renovation of Mosques and Darghas / Barbed wire fencing around Muslim burial grounds (Kabarastans) for the year 2007 - 2008.

ULEMA PENSION SCHEME

Ulema Pensions at the rate of Rs.750/- per month is being paid to the Ulemas, those who have attained 60 years of age and served in Wakf Institutions for a period of 20 years. Beneficiaries under this scheme are 2122. Government has allocated **Rs.1.18 crores** for the year 2007-2008 for the above scheme.

TAMIL NADU STATE HAJJ COMMITTEE

The Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee was constituted in the year 1958 under the Hajj Committee Act, 1958. This Committee has been reconstituted once in three years by the Government.

The Government of India notified the new Hajj Committee Act, 2002 on 12-6-2002, which provides for constituting Central and State level Hajj Committees as statutory bodies, to attend to arrangements relating to Hajj pilgrimage. Based on this, the Government of Tamil Nadu reconstituted the Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee with 16 members including the Member - Executive officer (Ex-officio) on 20.11.2006.

The Government has been providing grant to Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee for various purposes connected with Hajj pilgrimage. A grant of Rs.10.00 lakhs is sanctioned by the Government every year to the Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee to meet the administrative expenses. A sum of **Rs.10.00 lakhs** has been provided for this purpose for the year 2007-08.

SANCTION OF GRANT FOR DEPUTATION OF HAJJ VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBER(S) IN BUILDING SELECTION TEAM

The Government also sanctions grants to the Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee to meet the expenditure of Hajj volunteers who have been deputed to Saudi Arabia to look after the welfare of the pilgrims and also to the representatives to visit Saudi Arabia for selection of suitable buildings to accommodate the pilgrims. The Government has allocated a sum of **Rs.8.33 lakhs** for this purpose for the year 2007-2008.

MUSLIM WOMEN AID SOCIETY

The Collector of Chennai is the President of the Muslim Women Aid Society. The Society helps destitute Muslim Women by providing monthly financial assistance. The Society collected Rs.1,92,277/- as donations during the year 2005 – 2006. During the year 2006 – 2007, the Government sanctioned a matching grant to the said society. A sum of **Rs.1.00 lakh** has been allotted for the year 2007-2008.

It is also proposed to form Muslim Women Aid Societies in all the other 30 Districts (including the proposed Ariyalur District).

NEW SCHEMES

During 2007-08, the following New Schemes will be implemented

Rs. in lakhs

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme	Total Cost	Cost for 2007-08
SECRETARIAT			
1	Purchase of photo-copier machine	1.00	1.00
2	Purchase of server, computers and accessories with networking facilities	7.36	7.36
Total for Secretariat		8.36	8.36
BACKWARD CLASSES			
1	Provision of 2 Nos of High Capacity Dot Matrix Printers to Directorate	1.00	1.00
2	Provision of 10 Steel Almirahs to Directorate for keeping Files & Documents safely	0.80	0.80
3	Provision of one more computer with accessories to 30 DBC&MWOs	13.50	13.50
4	Adherence of e- governance at all DBC&MW Offices by providing internet connection	10.05	10.05
5	Supply of Wet Grinders to 392 hostels	31.36	31.36
6	Supply of First Aid Box to the College & School Boys and Girls Hostels for BC Hostels	4.06	4.06
7	Supply of Inverters to the College Boys & Girls Hostels for 80 BC Hostels	12.00	12.00
8	Supply of Water Purifier to the College Boys & Girls Hostels for 200 BC Hostels	22.00	22.00
9	Minor repair works for 95 Backward Classes Hostels.	20.04	20.04
10	Supply of Reference books to College Hostel libraries	8.00	8.00
11	Creation of Awareness on implementation of Schemes by way of publicity.	5.00	5.00
Total for Backward Classes		127.81	127.81

MOST BACKWARD CLASSES AND DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES WELFARE			
1	Supply of 2 Steam Boilers to the KR hostels	25.00	25.00
2	Supply of First Aid Box to the College & School Boys and Girls Hostels for MBC /DNC Hostels .	3.23	3.23
3	Minor repair works for 68 MBC Hostels and 39 DNC Hostels	14.87	14.87
4	Supply of Inverter to 38 MBC College Hostels	5.70	5.70
5	Supply of Reference books to College Hostel libraries	3.80	3.80
6	Supply of Wet grinders to 205 MBC and 93 DNC Hostels @ rate of Rs.8000/- (298 Hostels)	23.84	23.84
7	Supply of Water Purifier to 150 MBC and 50 DNC Hostels	22.00	22.00
8	Construction of compound walls to 14 Government Kallar Schools in Madurai, Theni and Dindigul Districts	73.58	73.58
9	Land Acquisition - Provision of One Team of Staff in the Directorate	7.35	7.35
Total for Most Backward Classes		179.37	179.37
TAMIL NADU WAKF BOARD			
1	Provision of generator to Wakf Board	5.00	5.00
2	Provision of Telephone with EPABX facility to Wakf Board	2.00	2.00
3	Provision of server and 10 computers with internet facility to Wakf Board	6.00	6.00
4	Grant to Wakf Board for implementing Court orders on divorced Muslim Women maintenance cases.	1.00	1.00
5	Grant to Wakf Board for major repairs and renovation	52.00	52.00
6	Provision of telephone with fax facility to Wakf Board and 10 Zonal Offices	8.00	8.00
7	Provision of air-conditioners to Wakf Board Hall, Chairman's room and Computer room	5.00	5.00
8	Provision of almirahs to Wakf Board	1.50	1.50
9	Implementation of MIS in Wakf Board	2.00	2.00
Total for Wakf Board		82.50	82.50

TAMIL NADU HAJJ COMMITTEE			
1	Provision of generator to Hajj Committee.	0.60	0.60
2	Provision of digital copier to Hajj Committee.	1.40	1.40
Total for Hajj Committee		2.00	2.00
GRAND TOTAL		400.04	400.04

CONCLUSION

This Government consider that, it is the prime duty to protect and promote the welfare of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, and Denotified Communities and Minorities in the spheres of education, economic upliftment and improvement to increase their social status and therefore provide increased budgetary allocation every year to implement the welfare schemes . This Government thereby stands foremost among all other States in this regard.

**M.R.K. PANNEERSELVAM,
MINISTER FOR BACKWARD CLASSES.**

ANNEXURE**ALLOTMENT FOR 2007-08**

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Department	Revenue	Capital	Loan	Total
Secretariat	187.44	-	-	187.44
Wakf, Hajj and Muslim Women Aid Society	276.85	-	-	276.85
Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare	19561.85	1897.79	-	21459.64
Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities	15262.29	1349.93	-	16612.22
Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission	36.70	-	-	36.70
Tamil Nadu State Minorities Commission	27.19	-	-	27.19
Total	35352.32	3247.72	-	38600.04