

**REVENUE DEPARTMENT**

**POLICY NOTE**

**2007-2008**

## **CHAPTER – I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Revenue Department is a vital executive arm of the Government. It has the legacy and pride of being the oldest department in the administrative set-up. The Revenue Department continues to be the backbone of administration and it has contributed a lot for an orderly social development and growth. The Revenue Department is the foremost Department attending on the people who are suffering during the natural calamities like Flood, Cyclone, Tsunami and Drought.

The Government is implementing a number of Welfare Schemes in the interest of the people. The distribution of free Colour Television set Scheme, The scheme of distribution of 2 acres of waste land to the families of landless poor agriculturists, Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers and Farmers Social Security Welfare Scheme, Pension Schemes for the Old Aged, Destitute Widows, Deserted Wives, Physically Handicapped and Destitute Agricultural Labourers are implemented to raise the standard of living of the people and to uplift the weaker sections.

Since, it is only the Revenue Department, which enjoys a state wide network, the above said schemes of other departments, are being implemented by Revenue Department.

The prime functions of the Revenue Department may be classified as follows:

**Revenue Functions :**

The levy and collection of land revenue, cess, lease rent and execution of Revenue Recovery Act.

**Magisterial Functions:**

It is the first to rush to the people whenever Law and Order erupts in any area, for its maintenance, and also responsible for the issue of licences under the Arms Act and the Explosives Act.

**Socio-Developmental Functions:**

Issue of various certificates, sanction of pension for Old Age People, Physically Handicapped, Destitute Widows, Deserted Wives and Destitute Agricultural Labourers, implementation of Family Distress Relief Scheme & Accident Relief Scheme. The Revenue Department is the custodian of Government lands in the State which is the authority effecting transfer of lands for industrial purposes by way of assignment, lease, alienation, etc. by means of which it contributes more for the provision of employment opportunities to the youth and for the industrial development of the State.

**Disaster Management Functions:**

At times of natural disasters like Drought, Cyclone, Flood etc, the Revenue department alerts the public in advance and undertakes relief measures. The Revenue department plays a vital role in shifting the affected people to places of safety and provides them with food, shelter, essential commodities and financial assistance.

**Election- Related Functions:**

Functions like conduct of Elections to the Lok Sabha, Legislative Assembly and preparation of Electoral Rolls are assigned to the Revenue Department only.

The multifarious functions of the Revenue Department are executed in the Districts through the District Collectors under the overall supervision of the Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration. They are assisted by a wide hierarchy of officers such as District Revenue Officers, Deputy Collectors, Tahsildars, Revenue Inspectors, Village Administrative Officers and Village Assistants.

The Revenue Administration is monitored by the Government through the Revenue Department in Secretariat which is headed by the Secretary to Government and he is supported by Additional Secretary, Joint Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Staff.



**CHAPTER – II**  
**REVENUE ADMINISTRATION, DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND**  
**MITIGATION DEPARTMENT**

**Structure of Administration**

The State is divided into 30 Districts. The Districts are further subdivided into 73 Revenue Divisions, 206 Taluks, 1120 Firkas and 16563 Villages.

The Government have provided both infrastructure facilities and additional staff in order to make this Department function effectively in the day to day functioning and for speedy and effective implementation of the new schemes like distribution of colour Televisions, distribution of Government waste lands to landless agriculturists, constitution of agricultural labour welfare board etc.

In the G.O.(Ms.) No.634, Revenue(Ser-10(2) Dept, dated 22-09-2006 Government have ordered exempting the Revenue department from the operation of the G.O. Ms. No. 212, P& AR Dept, dated 29-11-2001 and Government Lr. No.67770/P/01-1, Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department, dated 19-12-2001 and ordered to work out the estimate of vacancies taking into account the vacancies that may arise due to unexpected contingencies.

Accordingly, 437 vacancies for the drawal of list of Tahsildars and 682 vacancies for the drawal of list of Deputy

Tahsildars for 2006 have been approved. This has helped in providing better service to the people.

## **2.2 Filling up of Vacant Posts in Revenue Department**

In view of the Government ban orders on filling up of vacancies in Government Departments by direct recruitment, for the past 5 years, the vacant posts of Assistants, Junior Assistants, Typists, Steno-Typists coming under the ministerial service and other posts such as Drivers, Office Assistants, Watchmen, Telephone Operators were not filled up in this Department also. Due to a large number of vacancies in the Revenue Department, it was difficult to carry out important works including the implementation of the welfare schemes of the Government. Taking into consideration the necessity to fill up the vacancies in Revenue Department, orders were issued in G.O. Ms. No. 697, Revenue Department, dated 20.10.2006, and G.O.Ms.No.62, Rev. Dept., dated 1.2.07 to fill up 3173 posts from the category of Assistants to Watchmen during 2006-2007. Subsequent to the orders, all the District Collectors have sent requisition to the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission to fill up by direct recruitment 224 posts of Assistants, 486 Junior Assistant posts, 561 Typists and 62 Steno-Typists. Steps have also been taken to fill up 773 vacant posts in the above categories by promotion. Besides, action has been initiated by the Collectors to give appointments to 467 legal heirs of deceased Government servants under compassionate ground appointment scheme. As per the orders issued by the

Government in G.O. (Ms). No. 123, Labour & Employment Department, dated 8.9.2006 to give priority in giving compassionate ground appointment to the legal heirs of Government servants who died during the strike period in July 2003, appointments were given to one person each in Kancheepuram and Coimbatore districts. Further, steps are taken to fill up 600 vacancies in the categories of Record Clerks, Drivers, Telephone Operators, Office Assistants, Watchmen by promotion, through Employment Exchange, and by regularizing the services of employees who are already working on daily wages for more than 10 years.

### **2.3 Village Administration**

Village Administration has been and continues to be the mainstay and axle of the District Revenue Administration.

Based on the proposals sent by the Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration, the TNPSC has been authorised to fillup the 2500 vacancies of Village Administrative Officers, in the G.O (D) No.23, Revenue Department, dated 12.1.2006. The Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission has since notified 2500 vacancies in the cadre of Village Administrative Officers through dailies on 30.12.2006.

#### **ii) Village Assistants**

In G.O (Ms.) No. 625, Revenue Department, dated 6.7.1995 the Government made the part time Village Servants as full time Government servants from 1.6.1995.

To strengthen the Village Administration, in their Order Ms.No.787, Revenue Service 7(1) Dept, dated 6.12.2006, the Government have issued orders for filling up 3674 Village Assistants posts in the Revenue Villages which do not have even a single Village Assistant, through Employment Exchange.

## **2.4 Social Welfare Schemes implemented by the Revenue Department**

The Old Age Pension Scheme (OAP) is being implemented by the State Government with a view to give social security to old age persons who have no means of subsistence and have no relatives to support, covering 5 categories – Old Age Pension (Normal) Scheme, Physically Handicapped Pension Scheme, Destitute Widows Pension Scheme, Destitute Agricultural Labourers Pension Scheme and Deserted Wives Pension Scheme. As per G.O.Ms.No.98, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meals Programme Department (SW 6), dt.5.9.2006, the pension amount has been enhanced from Rs.200/- to Rs.400/- with effect from August 2006. In addition, the female pensioners are supplied with one saree and the male pensioners are supplied with one dhoti free, twice a year during Pongal and Deepavali Festival seasons. Those who take meals in the Nutritious Meal Programme Centers are given free supply of 2Kg of rice per month and 4Kg to those who do not take meals. Under these schemes 12,52,822 persons have benefited as on 31.3.2007 and a sum of Rs.479.80 crores has been spent so far.

### **i) Distribution of Free Sarees and Dhoties**

The Government ordered for this year also to continue the scheme of “Free distribution of Sarees and Dhoties for Pongal 2007” and to distribute to the eligible beneficiaries fixing the family income criteria as Rs.2,000/- p.m. and below:

A record of highest number of 155.41 lakhs of Sarees and 155.27 lakhs of Dhoties have been distributed for Pongal 2007 in the State when compared to previous 5 years are as follows :-

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>ISSUED TO THE BENEFICIARIES ( in lakhs)</b>	
	<b>SAREES</b>	<b>DHOTIES</b>
2002	Nil	
2003		
2004	105.47	104.39
2005	109.75	109.08
2006	100.60	84.56
2007	155.41	155.27

### **ii) Distress Relief Scheme**

The scheme was introduced as per G.O.Ms.470, Finance(CMPRF), dated 23.05.1989. Now, cash assistance of Rs.10,000/- is being paid with effect from 01.08.1998 to the family of the deceased who is the bread winner of the family either male or female. For the financial year 2006-2007, a sum of Rs.50.94 crores and Rs.5.71 crores under Special Component

Plan has been allotted for the above scheme. As on 31.03.2007 a sum of Rs.50.11 crores has been spent.

### **iii) Accident Relief Scheme**

The scheme was introduced as per G.O.Ms.471, Finance (CMPRF) Department, dated 23.05.1989. Now a cash assistance of Rs.15,000/- is being paid with effect from 01.08.1998 to the families of artisans in Villages including workers engaged in 44 categories of notified employment who died or were injured due to accidents. For the financial year 2006-2007, a sum of Rs.1.33 crore has been allotted for the above scheme. As on 31.03.2007 a sum of Rs.1.13 crore has been spent.

## **2.5 Mass Contact Programme**

Mass contact Programme was started from the year 1969 and implemented thereon. The programme redresses the grievances of the people at their doorsteps on the date of Mass Contact Programme itself. The Special feature of the Mass contact Programme, is that the Collectors, District Revenue Officers, Revenue Divisional Officers and Deputy Collectors along with the officials of various Government Departments visit each Village, under their jurisdiction by rotation every month to redress grievances of the public in the Villages on the spot. Mass contact Programme is conducted once in a month on the second Wednesday of every month. The Scheme is implemented on rotation basis in such a way that all the Villages are covered within 3 years.

No. of petitions disposed off up to 31.3.2007 are 2,08,239.

## **2.6 Public Grievance Day**

The Grievance Day Programme is being observed on every Monday in all the Districts Since 1986. The Collectors meet the public in person and higher officials of all departments are present at the Collectorate on Monday to hear the grievance and solve the problem of public in person. The grievances received through the Honourable Chief Minister's Special Cell are also redressed, within 15 days and reply sent to the petitions accordingly.

No. of petitions disposed off up to 31.03.2007 is 5,17,938.

## **2.7 Petitions received by Hon'ble Ministers, M.Ps. and M.L.As**

Hon'ble Ministers, M.Ps and M.L.As receive petitions during their visits to their constituencies. These petitions are sent to the Collectors for taking necessary action. All such petitions sent to the Collectors are entered in the register maintained Assembly Constituency / Parliament Constituency wise and action is taken on the petitions and replies are sent to the petitioners.

No. of petitions disposed off up to 31.3.2007 are 94,017.

## **2.8 Certificates**

The Revenue Officers are there in the society and are very easily approachable by the people for immediate redressal of their grievances. Whatever happens in the Society, that will be immediately be attended by the Revenue Officials. Since, the Revenue Officials are closely connected with the people in their day to day life and moreover the Revenue Department is the only

department having the network of the State for the mass contact, they are being vested with the powers of issuing certificates which are needed by the people.

The following certificates are being issued by the Revenue Department to the Public on request.

1. Community Certificate
2. Nativity /Residential certificate
3. Income Certificate
4. Nationality Certificate
5. Legal Heirship Certificate
6. Solvency Certificate
7. Birth and Death Certificate
8. Certificate for Destitute Children
9. Destitute Widow Certificate
10. Inter-Caste Marriage Certificate
11. Certificate for the loss of School Certificate
12. Deserted Women Certificates
13. Consolidated Certificates issued for getting Government Assistance by unemployed persons.
14. No Graduate in the family certificate.
15. The family is in indigent condition certificate.

### **i) Community Certificates**

In the year 1988, the system of issuing permanent Community Certificate was introduced for the reduction of unnecessary hardship to persons who seek Community Certificates and also to lessen the work load of the revenue machinery. This certificate is valid for securing admission in all educational institutions and also for getting employment.

On completion of School Education, students require Community Certificate, Income Certificate and Nativity Certificate for pursuing higher studies and for getting employment.

With a view to avoid delay in obtaining these certificates by the students in the Taluk Office, a new system of issue of certificates through schools itself has been introduced vide G.O.Ms.No.165, Revenue. dated 1.4.99. According to this system, completed applications for these certificates are obtained from the students by the Headmasters of the Schools concerned while they are studying in X std or XII std and sent to the Tahsildars concerned with their attestation. The certificates are then prepared after due enquiry by the Revenue officials and dispatched to the concerned schools. These certificates are handed over to the students on completion of their studies along with the Transfer Certificates.

In the year 2006-2007, 6,09,797 backward class certificates, 2,88,710 most backward class certificates, 62,477 denotified class certificates, 3,63,393 scheduled community certificates and 13,184 scheduled tribe certificates have been issued.

This system was not effectively implemented during 2001-2006. This system has since been renewed by this Government and instructions have been issued to the Commissioner of Revenue Administration and Director of School Education to follow the system. The Commissioner of Revenue Administration and Director of School Education have in turn

issued instructions to the Collectors and District Education Officers respectively to follow this system.

### **ii) Nativity / Residential Certificates**

Nativity / Residential certificates are furnished to enable the students to secure admission in the School and for getting priority in employment opportunities.

Residential certificates are issued if one lives in a particular place for more than three years. Persons living above the poverty line should remit Rs.10 to get this certificate.

### **iii) Income Certificates**

This is required for obtaining scholarship in Schools and Colleges and for getting admission in the hostels etc. Persons living above the poverty line should remit Rs.10/- to get this certificate.

### **iv) Nationality Certificate**

Nationality means the status of a citizen of the nation. On a report from the Revenue Inspector, after proper enquiry this certificate is issued to a citizen for getting passport, visa, etc.,

### **v) Consolidated Certificate for getting assistance by unemployed persons**

Apart from the issue of the above certificates, the Government in their G.O.Ms.No.72, Labour and Employment (R2) Department dated 25.8.2006 introduced "Unemployment

Assistance Scheme” for the benefit of registrants of Employment Exchanges in Tamil Nadu, with educational qualifications SSLC, HSC, Graduates and post Graduates. Under this scheme, Government have ordered to issue Rs.150/- to the persons who had completed 10th std.,Rs.200/- to the persons completed Higher Secondary, Rs.300/- to the Graduates as assistance. Under this scheme, a consolidated certificate should be submitted by the applicants regarding Income, unemployment status completion of their studies in Tamil Nadu only, residence of parents, guardians or husband in Tamil Nadu certificates are being issued by the Revenue Department.

## **2.9 Revenue Buildings**

Revenue Department plays a very important role for the effective functioning of the District Administration. Hence necessary office buildings, infrastructure facilities and vehicles are being provided for the Revenue Department on priority. The office and residential buildings of the Collectors, District Revenue Officers, Revenue Divisional Officers, Tahsildars, Revenue inspectors, Village Administrative Officers, Cattle pounds and village chavadis are under the control of the Revenue Department. Funds are provided every year to cater to the needs of the District Administration by construction of the required office and the residential buildings, for providing infrastructure facilities and for the maintenance and repair of revenue buildings.

## **i) Office Buildings**

### **a. Collectorate Buildings.**

Out of the 30 Districts in the State, 29 Collectorates are functioning in Permanent Government buildings. The Collectorate Building at Krishnagiri Master Plan Complex will be completed within two months. A sum of Rs.25 crores has been allocated for construction of Salem Collectorate and offices of various departments which are functioning in the Collectorate now.

### **b. Revenue Divisional offices.**

All the 73 Revenue Divisional offices in the State are functioning in Government buildings.

### **c. Taluk offices.**

Out of 206 Taluk offices in the State, 188 Taluk Offices are functioning in Government buildings. The Construction of three Taluk Offices sanctioned by the Government under the Part II Scheme 2005-06 are nearing completion. Out of the balance 15 Taluk offices, the construction of 7 Taluk Offices have been sanctioned by the Government under the Part-II Scheme of 2006-07. For the construction of remaining 8 Taluk Offices, a sum of Rs.11.40 crores has been allocated. Thus it will be ensured there is no taluk office without own building in Tamil Nadu.

### **d. Buildings for Village Administrative Officers :**

There are 12,506 Village Administrative Officers in the State. 226 Village Administrative Officers have been provided with office-cum-residence 12074 Village Administrative Officers have been

provided with Office Buildings . The Construction of buildings for the remaining 206 Village Administrative Officers will be taken up soon.

## **ii) Residential Buildings for Revenue Officials**

The following Revenue Officials have been provided with residential buildings :-

i)	Collectors	27
ii)	District Revenue Officers	25
iii)	Revenue Divisional Officers	66
iv)	Tahsildars	179
v)	Revenue Inspectors	1,084

The construction of residential buildings to the remaining officials will be taken up in due course.

## **2.10 Land Revenue (Fasli 1416)**

The Basic Assessment is fixed with reference to classification of soil, sort and source of irrigation. Based on the basic assessment so fixed, the other components viz., Local Cess, Local Cess Surcharge, Additional Surcharge, Additional Assessment, Water Cess and Additional Water Cess are levied.

Land Revenue is being collected from the Pattadars without taking any coercive action.

In G.O.Ms.No.539, Revenue, dt.22.8.2006, the Government have granted remission of Land Revenue, Water Cess, Local Cess, Local Cess Surcharge, Additional Assessment, Additional Water Cess, Additional Surcharge to the ryots in 22 districts for the Fasli 1415 in view of the damages caused by flood due to

unprecedented rainfall during North East Monsoon in 2005. A sum of Rs.11.52 crores of Local Cess, Local Cess Surcharge, Additional Surcharge, Additional Assessment, Water Cess and Additional Water Cess were fully waived for the flood affected areas of 4,92,722 hectares during the year 2006.

In Fasli 1416, (01.07.2006 to 30.06.2007) out of total arrears land revenue collectable balance of Rs.46.56 crores, a sum of Rs.8.83 crores have been collected upto 31.03.2007. For the Fasli 1416, the current land revenue provisional demand of Rs.52.89 crores, a sum of Rs.34.32 crores have been collected upto 31.3.2007.

## **2.11 Distribution Of Free Colour Television Sets Scheme**

In order to improve General Knowledge and for the entertainment to Women, the Government have decided to implement the Scheme of Distribution of Free Colour Television Sets, to the families who were not having Colour Television sets. An Advisory Committee was formed including All-party MLAs for the successful implementation of the scheme. To ensure transparency in the selection of beneficiaries, Committees were also be constituted locally to select the beneficiaries at the level of Village Panchayats / Corporations / Municipal Corporations and Special Grade Village Panchayats and also a Technical Expert Committee was formed for procurement of Colour Television sets.

In pursuance, the Government have ordered in the first phase to distribute 30,000 Colour Television sets in all the

districts on 15.9.2006, birthday of Arignar Anna at all the Periyar Memorial Samathuvapurams where all caste people are living together, and to all the scheduled tribe families living in The Nilgiris district and also to the people living in Slum Clearance Board Tenements one each in South and North Chennai and this scheme has been implemented successfully.

The second phase was launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister on 15.02.2007. 3,23,323 Colour Television sets have been distributed to the qualified beneficiaries till 31.03.2007 in all districts.

## **2.12 Natural Calamities**

Calamities can be sub-divided into two viz., i) Natural Calamities and ii) Manmade Calamities and accidents. The Natural Calamities comprise cyclone, flood, drought, earthquake, landslide, tsunami etc., Disasters like fire accident, bomb blast, rail accidents, boat capsizes, chemical leakages from the factories and Oil spill into the sea belong to the second category.

The State of Tamil Nadu receives an annual rainfall of 977 mm. Approximately 33% of this is from the Southwest Monsoon and 48% from the North East Monsoon.

### **i) Pre-Monsoon Preparedness Measures**

The mitigation of various natural disasters by way of taking precautionary measures and relief and rehabilitation measures for the people affected is the primary responsibility of the Government. Revenue Department is responsible for the

implementation of the various precautionary measures and relief and rehabilitation measures taken up by the Government and also the management of natural disasters. Since Revenue Department plays a pivotal role in disaster management, the Revenue Administration Department has been renamed as “Revenue Administration, Disaster Management and Mitigation Department.”

The Disaster Management activities in the State are carried out under the direct supervision of the Honourable Chief Minister, Revenue Minister, Chief Secretary, Secretary, Revenue and State Relief Commissioner.

The relief measures are implemented and monitored at the State Level by the Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration in his capacity as ‘State Relief Commissioner’. These relief measures are implemented in the office of the Revenue Administration, Disaster Management and Mitigation Department by the Joint Commissioner (Land Revenue) and in the districts by the Collectors concerned.

In order to tackle the situation arising out of floods / cyclones in Tamil Nadu during the period of North East Monsoon a Pre-monsoon preparedness review meeting is being held in the month of August every year before the onset of North East Monsoon under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government to assess the state of preparedness and to evolve effective coordination with line departments, defence services, NGOs, etc. and suitable instructions / orders are issued to the line departments and Collectors.

On the same analogy, in each district a District Coordination Committee Meeting is being held under the Chairmanship of Collector with the line departments. Further, on the basis of the experience gained in handling floods / cyclones, in the previous years and also the suggestions and feedbacks received during the District Coordination Meeting, a District Disaster Management Plan is prepared by the Collectors of all the Districts. Regular protective and preventive steps are initiated well ahead of the onset of the monsoon season by way of conducting Mock drill by the Collectors concerned with the help of uniformed personnel to familiarize the line departments, elected representatives, NGOs., Voluntary Organisations, general public about the response mechanism.

## **ii) Training on Disaster Management**

Before the onset of North East Monsoon, training is imparted to the officials of revenue, police, fire services, irrigation, highways and other professional bodies, local bodies and line departments at the State Level Training Institutions viz., Anna Institute of Management and State Institute of Rural Development and further the above officials are deputed to the training workshops on various aspects of disaster management held in various States for successful execution of Disaster Management activities. A sizeable allocation of funds is made by the Government from the Calamity Relief Fund for conducting Training Programme in the State Level Training Institution.

### **iii) Control Rooms**

In order to monitor the natural disasters round the clock, a Permanent Control Room is established in the Office of the Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration / State Relief Commissioner with all the necessary infrastructure facilities including computers, direct permanent telephone no. 2859 3990, VHF / HF facilities, fax and Hotline Telephones between India Meteorological Department and State Control Room to contact 13 coastal districts. A toll free public utility services telephone no.1070 has been installed in the Office of the State Relief Commissioner for receiving and communicating information on various disaster related incidents by the general public.

The Control Room in the district functions under the control of the Collector under the overall supervision of Personal Assistant (General) to the Collector. . Similarly, a control room is established in each of the districts with a telephone and a toll free public utility services telephone no.1077 for receiving and communicating information on various disaster related incidents by the general public. The State Control Room functions under the direct control of the Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration / State Relief Commissioner and under the overall supervision of the Joint Commissioner (Land Revenue). The control room acts as a fulcrum in the matters related to preparedness and relief measures based on the communication received from the IMD,

Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs and from the general public.

#### **iv) Two Way Communication of VHF / HF**

There are 13 coastal districts in the State of Tamil Nadu. They are:

- 1) Chennai, 2) Kancheepuram 3) Tiruvallur 4) Viluppuram
- 5) Cuddalore 6) Nagapattinam 7) Tiruvarur
- 8) Thanjavur 9) Pudukkottai 10) Ramanathapuram,
- 11) Thoothukkudi 12) Tirunelveli and 13) Kanniyakumari.

In order to communicate and disseminate information on natural disasters, law and order etc., VHF and HF systems have been installed in the headquarters of the districts and also in the Office of the Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration. Similarly, in the Revenue Divisions and Taluks VHF system have been installed.

#### **v) India Meteorological Department**

The India Meteorological Department communicates information on the activities relating to trough of low pressure / depressions / deep depressions and cyclonic storms through fax and hot line to the office of the Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration. Based on the information received from the IMD, instructions are sent from the office of the Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration to the Collectors. In addition to the above, the information received from the IMD are also

disseminated to Government and Government of India. Further, during the period of flood and cyclone, if the impact of natural disasters is going to be severe in nature the information is sent by India Meteorological Department directly to the State Government, Ministry of Home Affairs and to the district Collectors through hotline telephone and fax.

#### **vi) Daily Situation Report**

Tamil Nadu has 378 rain gauge stations. Rainfall details are collected throughout the year in Tamil Nadu. The Collectors are collecting the daily rainfall data from the Tahsildars. The district rainfall details thus collected are sent to State Relief Commissioner's Office. The Office of the State Relief Commissioner sends the details on rainfall to IMD and Government every day. The State Relief Commissioner monitors the relief and rehabilitation measures every day on the basis of Daily Situation Report.

#### **vii) Cyclone Shelters**

There are 124 cyclone shelters in the State of Tamil Nadu. 114 Cyclone Shelters located in the State have been repaired and reconstructed at a cost of Rs.251.05 lakhs.

#### **viii) Calamity Relief Fund**

A Calamity Relief Fund has been setup for each State for meeting the expenditure on relief measures in times of Natural Calamities like cyclone, floods, drought, fire, etc., with a State Level Committee to manage the fund.

### ix) 12th Finance Commission

The period of 12th Finance Commission is from 2005 – 2010 (1.4.2005 to 31.3.2010). For the above period the allocation made to Calamity Relief Fund is as follows:-

Financial Year	Amount allocated (in crores)	State Government's Share (25%)	Central Government's Share (75%)
2005 – 2006	209.08	52.27	156.81
2006 – 2007	219.53	54.88	164.65
2007 – 2008	230.51	57.63	172.88
2008 – 2009	242.03	60.51	181.52
2009 – 2010	254.13	63.53	190.60
Total	1155.28	288.82	866.46

### x) National Calamity Contingency Fund

During the periods of natural disasters like cyclone, flood, earthquake, hailstorm, landslide, drought and fire accidents if the damages occurred are of very severe in nature and that if the damages could not be restored or relief / rehabilitation measures cannot be met from the funds available under Calamity Relief Fund, the Government of India will sanction funds from the National Calamity Contingency Fund for taking up relief / rehabilitation and restoration measures. This fund is exclusively administered by Ministry of Finance and Expenditure, Government of India.

**xi) State Level Committee on Calamity Relief Fund**

The State Level Committee on Calamity Relief Fund to administer the Calamity Relief Fund constituted in 1997 was re-constituted in the year 2000 with the Chief Secretary to Government as Chairman, Secretary to Government, Revenue Department as Member-Secretary, the Secretaries of Finance, Public Works, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries, Highways, Municipal Administration and Water Supply, Rural Development, Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Revenue Administration, Director of Anna Institute of Management as Members. The functions of the State Level Committee are as follows:-

- ❖ The Committee will decide on all matters connected with the financing of the relief expenditure
- ❖ The Committee will arrange to obtain the contributions from the concerned Government and administer the Fund and invest the accretions to the Fund in accordance with the pattern of the Investment as approved by the Government of India from time to time.
- ❖ The Committee shall also be responsible to oversee that the money drawn from the Calamity Relief Fund is utilized for the purposes for which the Fund has been set up.
- ❖ The responsibility for the administration of the Calamity Relief Fund rests with the State Level Committee. The State Level Committee will have other functions as may be assigned from time to time based on the instructions of

Government of India for the smooth functioning of the Calamity Relief Fund Scheme.

- ❖ The Scheme for constitution and Administration of the Calamity Relief Fund and Investment there from communicated by the Government of India is fully adopted and followed by the State Level Committee.

### **xii) North East Monsoon 2006**

The normal date of onset of North East Monsoon is 20th October. During the year 2006, the North East Monsoon had set in on 19.10.2006. The State of Tamil Nadu received an actual rainfall of 522.45 mm against the normal rainfall of 459.22 mm, which is 14% excess when compared to normal rainfall. During the North East Monsoon 2006, there was excess rain in most of the districts in the State. This resulted in severe damages in southern districts as well as delta districts. The districts of Karur, Krishnagiri, Perambalur and Thanjavur, Vellore recorded deficit rainfall. The Government machinery is being prepared ready to tackle the scarcity of drinking water and other problems if any, consequent to deficit rainfall in the above 5 districts. The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs.28.37 crores to tackle the drinking water crisis for Krishnagiri, Perambalur and Vellore Districts.

### **xiii) Relief to the affected farmers**

The Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 21,94,988/- in G.O.Ms.No. 826, Revenue, dated 18.12.06 towards relief

assistance to the damaged kuruvai crops at the rate of Rs.7500/- per hectare in the districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam districts due to heavy rains and floods during North East Monsoon 2006. The Government have sanctioned the above relief to the affected farmers at a rate which is more than three times as against the norms of relief allowed under the CRF/ NCCF guidelines during severe floods in the year 2006.

A relief amount of Rs.15,000/- was sanctioned to the families of the deceased due to natural calamities like cyclone, flood, lightning and thunder and fire. Further, an additional amount of Rs.35,000/- was given as relief to the affected relief on the recommendation of the concerned Collector to Office of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. Due to this, relief amount is disbursed to the affected family after a short gap. In order to avoid such delay in disbursement of relief to the affected families, the Government in their orders G.O.Ms.No. 714, Revenue, dated 30.10.06 have enhanced this relief amount to Rs.50,000/-. Further, the Government have authorised the Collectors to draw and disburse the amount to the affected family.

During North East Monsoon 2006 period, due to natural calamities, 106 persons lost their lives. A sum of Rs.53.00 lakhs has been sanctioned as relief to the families of the deceased at the rate of Rs.50,000/- per family of the deceased due to natural calamities. A sum of Rs.4,35,000/- has been sanctioned as relief to the cattle owners for the 119 cattle loss and a sum of Rs.64,94,000/- has been sanctioned during October to December 2006 as relief to the 5,318 damaged fully and partly

huts due to heavy rains / floods during North East Monsoon 2006.

A sum of Rs.10.89 crores will be sanctioned to the 6 district Collectors, viz., Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli and Erode for restoration of damages caused to infrastructure in these districts. Further, based on the announcement made by Hon'ble Chief Minister, a sum of Rs.25.00 crores will be sanctioned for the restoration of damages caused to Corporation, Municipalities and Town Panchayat roads, due to heavy rain / floods during North East Monsoon 2006.

#### **xiv) National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP)**

The Government of India with the assistance of World Bank has proposed to implement the Project called "National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project" in the Coastal States of India. These Coastal States of India have been sub-divided into two categories viz., Category I – High Vulnerability and Category II – Low Vulnerability. The State of Tamil Nadu was classified under Category I. The 75% share of Union Government is Rs.176.00 crores and 25% share of State Government is Rs.58.66 crores, totalling an amount of Rs.234.66 crores for implementation of this project spread over a period of 4 years from 2006-07 to 2009-10. The proposals of line departments are compiled in two parts that is for Rs.235.06 crores as priority-I and Rs.106.34 crores as priority-II, totalling Rs.341.40 crores and the same has been sent to Government of India with a request to consider

them and substitute any scheme under priority-II wherever any scheme under priority-I is not covered by the norms prescribed therefor for implementation of the above Project in the State of Tamil Nadu.

### **2.13 Tsunami Relief and Rehabilitation**

The tsunami of 2004 was one of the worst calamities to strike the state of Tamil Nadu. Relief and Rehabilitation measures were taken to bring the Fisheries, Agriculture and other sectors affected by tsunami to normalcy. One of the main programmes of reconstruction related to the construction of houses which were damaged partly or fully by tsunami. As soon as this Government took charge, a review was taken up by the Hon'ble Chief Minister with all the coastal District Collectors and Departmental officials. Important decisions taken in the meeting are as follows :-

- ❖ The reconstruction of houses by the Non-governmental Organisations should be speeded up and completed quickly with all the amenities.
- ❖ Wherever the Non-governmental Organisations backed out of the construction of houses, the same shall be constructed with Government funding.
- ❖ Additional assistance by way of boats, nets, life jackets, handy rechargeable lanterns and heavy duty bicycles should be given to the fishermen who had already been

assisted by Government or by Non-governmental Organisations.

- ❖ The concession given for tuition fees and special fees to the students from tsunami affected families must be extended for one more academic year.
- ❖ The Collectors should undertake a survey in all the coastal areas to ascertain the number of thatched houses and poorly constructed houses. It was decided that each house will be reconstructed.

### **i) Housing**

At the time of review of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 24.06.2006, the number of houses completed was 8406. As on 19.3.2007, 22,420 permanent houses have been constructed. Till 31.03.2007, the number of houses completed has gone up to 26,125. Out of this 20,779 houses have been completed by Non-Governmental Organisations and 5,346 houses by Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board.

For provision of amenities to the housing habitations, Government has so far sanctioned Rs. 110.71 crore. The amenities to be provided include water supply, street lights, access roads, internal roads, sanitation and electricity connection to the individual houses. In addition, Government has sanctioned Rs.63 crore for taking up the construction of 3,000 houses where the Non-Governmental Organisations had backed out. Besides this, the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board will build 16,302

houses in and around Chennai by way of multi-storeyed tenements.

## **ii) Reconstruction of houses in vulnerable coastal areas**

For providing strong, disaster resistant houses to the families living in thatched houses and houses in dilapidated condition as instructed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the District Collectors undertook a household survey and identified about 52,000 houses. Government has sanctioned a sum of Rs.30.12 crores for undertaking survey of these houses and for acquiring lands wherever necessary. Government has also sanctioned Rs. 552 crores for taking up the construction of about 22,000 houses with the assistance of Government of India in 11 districts.

These houses will be built by the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department in the rural areas and by the TNSCB in the urban areas. In addition it is proposed to construct about 30,000 houses with the finance of World Bank.

## **iii) Land Acquisition for construction of Houses in Tsunami affected areas**

To provide lands to the tsunami affected people on a war footing for their immediate rehabilitation, Government empowered the District level negotiation Committee as a special case to purchase lands through private negotiation up to a maximum 200% of the market value or guideline value whichever is lower without any monetary ceiling limit. The above order is

applicable only for land acquisition cases for tsunami purposes. Previously, the District level Committee was conferred with powers for approval of negotiated price up to Rs.20 lakhs if the land value is equal to or less than 150% of market value or guideline value whichever is lower.

With a view to acquire lands for constructing new houses in lieu of tsunami affected houses in coastal areas and the houses in the coastal areas vulnerable to natural calamity, a total sum of Rs.79.43 crores including Rs.30 crores sanctioned in G.O.Ms.No.708, Revenue Dept, dt.28.10.2006 has been sanctioned.

#### **iv) Fisheries**

An additional assistance of Rs.2.29 crores has been given in the year 2006-2007, to 784 fishermen who were not given assistance earlier. The Government have further sanctioned Rs.110.36 crores for the provision of additional nets, life jackets, handy rechargeable lanterns, heavy duty bicycles and insulated ice-boxes and these will be supplied to the fishermen during the current year.

#### **v) Other Infrastructure Works**

The other infrastructure works like provision of infrastructure to Cuddalore and Nagapattinam minor ports damaged due to tsunami, construction of five high level bridges across rivers in Cuddalore (2 nos.), Nagapattinam (2 Nos.) and Tiruvallur (1 No.) districts and 21 km of coastal road in Cuddalore district, and

desilting, widening and strengthening of canals and banks in Nagapattinam district have been taken up for implementation. Further, repairs and reconstruction of 28 fully damaged veterinary centres / hospitals / dispensaries in Nagapattinam, Cuddalore, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur districts, repairs and reconstruction of 20 Hospitals and 51 Public Health Centres, repairs, reconstruction and renovation of 114 cyclone shelters, 5 Government buildings and two memorials and repair and reconstruction of 33 Government High / Higher Secondary / Elementary School buildings have been taken up in the tsunami affected districts, purchase of equipments, furniture etc. for damaged Veterinary Institutions and fodder banks, restoration of infrastructure facilities such as roads and drainages, provision of water supply and sanitation, raising shelterbelt and mangrove plantations are the other schemes taken up by the concerned departments. The total cost of the above works amounted to Rs.422.19 crores.

#### **vi) Livelihood**

A massive thrust was made for providing assistance under livelihood activities after this Government took charge and in the last eight months, 29,593 self-help groups have been assisted with revolving fund of Rs.77.84 crores, economic assistance of Rs.18.59 crores and training and other activities amounting to Rs.1.97 crores. A special programme for assistance to handicapped persons in the tsunami affected areas was

launched under which 26,400 persons have been assisted with Rs.26.40 crores.

## **2.14 Financial Aid For Tsunami Rehabilitation And Construction**

### **i) Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Programme**

A sum of Rs. 2347.19 crore has been sanctioned under Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Programme for providing immediate relief under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, SGRY Rural Area Employment Scheme, subsidy to fishermen, bank loans, fishing harbour grant and construction of houses to the families of those affected by the tsunami. A sum of Rs.966.885 crore has been released to Govt. of Tamil Nadu by Government of India and Rs. 1057.628 crore has been spent upto March 2007. The details are furnished below:-

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Amount sanctioned</b>	<b>Amount Released by Govt. of India</b>	<b>Expenditure Incurred</b>
		<b>(Rs.in Crores)</b>		
1	Relief and Responses (CRF / NCCF)	617.20	617.20	486.42
2	Accelerated Rural Water Supply Project (ARWSP)	8.50	8.50	6.49 (upto 31.3.2007)

3	Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar (SGRY) Yojana	54.00 54.000 M.T. Rice	52.76 52.760 M.T. Rice	52.76
4	Fishermen Subsidy	356.54 + 84.54(*)	179.668	185.918
5	Bank Loans	566.47		62.39(**)
6	Fishing Harbour Grant	9.94	9.94	11.26
7	Housing	650.00	98.817	252.39
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2347.19</b>	<b>966.885</b>	<b>1057.628</b>

(\*) Additional Subsidy

(\*\*) Loan amount directly given to the beneficiaries by the banks

The remaining works are in progress in order to utilise the grant in full.

## ii) World Bank - Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project (ETRP)

The World Bank has agreed to sanction a sum of Rs.1852.74 crores (US\$ 423 million ) for the following activities (G.O.Ms.No.384 Revenue (NC-4(1) Dept, Dated: 01.07.2005) :-

- ❖ To build transit shelters for tsunami affected families for providing temporary accommodation until completion of construction / reconstruction of permanent houses and upgradation of services in the existing temporary shelter sites and resettlement of tsunami affected families through, inter alia, construction of new houses and provision of related facilities and amenities at cost of Rs 1551.39 crore.

- ❖ To carry out a programme to revitalize the livelihoods of tsunami affected families engaged in fishing, agriculture, horticulture and livestock, restoration of damaged fisheries, infrastructure and re-establishment of safety-at-sea systems and services, reclamation of damaged agricultural and horticultural lands and repair and reconstruction of damaged infrastructure and upgradation of veterinary care centres at a cost of Rs 122.202 crore.
- ❖ For repair, reconstruction and upgradation of damaged hospitals, primary health centers / health sub-centers, educational institutions, cyclone shelters and other public buildings, monuments and public works in the tsunami affected areas and also restoration of damaged river and drain banks, and plantation / replantation of mangrove and shelter belts along the coast line at a cost of Rs 85.410 crore.
- ❖ To strengthen the institutional capacity of the State Government and other entities involved in the implementation of the Project, by providing technical assistance and capacity building for housing reconstruction in the Tsunami affected areas and livelihood restoration at a cost of Rs.41.172 crore.
- ❖ To assist the State Government in project management and supervision through, inter alia, undertaking technical and financial audits, quality assurance, appointment of specialists, provision of staff, office equipment, furniture

and vehicles in implementing the Project at a cost of Rs 52.56 crore.

An agreement for the implementation of the Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project was signed between Government of Tamil Nadu, Government of India and the World Bank on 12th May, 2005. The project is operational from 09.08.2005. The project period is up to 30th April 2008. It is an interest free assistance. However, a service charge of 0.75% is to be borne by the Government. The amount will have to be repaid in 25 years beginning from 2015 in half yearly instalments up to 2040.

Out of Rs.436.49 crores sanctioned for various departments for implementation of the project, a sum of Rs.220.45 crores, including Rs.138.10 crore released to Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, has been spent till 31.03.2007.

### **iii) Asian Development Bank - Tsunami Emergency Assistance Project (TEAP)**

An agreement between Asian Development Bank and Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu for implementation of Tsunami Emergency Assistance Project (TEAP) was signed on 12th May 2005. The ADB has agreed to sanction a sum of Rs.629.64 crore for the following schemes. (G.O. Ms.No.379 Revenue (NC-4(1) Dept, Dated : 27.06.2005).

- ❖ Rs. 218.96 crores to provide livelihood to the tsunami affected families.

- ❖ Rehabilitation and restoration of roads, drainage structures and bridges affected by tsunami at the cost of Rs 39.86 crores and providing infrastructure facilities to Nagapattinam and Cuddalore minor ports and 12 other fishing harbours in the coastal districts at a cost of Rs.77.53 crores.
- ❖ Restoration of damaged water supply and drainage systems and upgrading of affected water supply systems into multi-village systems with more reliable source development at a cost of Rs 100.74 crores; Restoration and upgradation of Municipal infrastructure such as roads, public buildings, sanitation, etc., at a cost of Rs.35.04 crores; Restoration and upgradation of Rural infrastructure such as roads, public buildings, sanitation, etc., at a cost of Rs.143.45 crores; Design and Construction Supervision and technical support consultancy at cost of Rs.9.68 crores and incremental support at a cost of Rs.4.38 crores; totalling to Rs.629.64 crores.
- ❖ Financial assistance will be provided to the members of 90,000 families for imparting livelihood training and formation of livelihood institutions under TEAP. The products will be insured for 3,90,000 beneficiaries.

Out of the amount totalling Rs. 629.64 crores given by ADB, interest will be charged for Rs 295.88 crores and

Rs.333.76 crores will be a grant. The amount will have to be repaid from the year 2013 to 2037.

Out of Rs.592.90 crores sanctioned to the various departments Rs. 209.29 crores has been spent up to March 2007. The project period is up to April 2008.

#### **iv) International Fund For Agricultural Development (IFAD)**

For rehabilitation works in tsunami affected areas, a sum of Rs.67.50 crores has been granted by the International Fund for Agricultural Development. This scheme will be implemented in 6 coastal districts, namely, Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Thiruvallur and Kanniyakumari through the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. The service charges for this scheme will be 0.75 % only. The project will be implemented in 8 years. The agreement in this regard was signed on 11.11.2005. This amount will be repaid in the period between Oct.15, 2015 to Apr.15, 2045.

#### **v) Japan Fund For Poverty Reduction Released by Asian Development Bank**

It has been proposed to implement a scheme with a financial assistance from Japan Government to an extent of Rs.16.70 crores through Asian Development Bank for restoration and diversification of livelihoods of tsunami affected poor and marginalised people in the State. The project period for

implementation is 4 years till October 2010. An agreement has been signed by the Government of Tamil Nadu for this purpose on 27.9.2006. The Government of India has also signed the agreement on 4.10.2006. Administrative sanction for the project has been given in G.O. (Ms.) No.118, Revenue Department, dt.8.3.2007.

### **2.15 Disaster Risk Management Programme sponsored by Government of India and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).**

With a view to reducing the vulnerability of communities to natural disasters, in identified multi hazard prone areas, the Government of India and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are implementing the Disaster Risk Management Programme in a number of States. In Tamil Nadu, this programme is being implemented in the districts of Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Kanniyakumari and The Nilgiris Districts. The goal of the programme is sustainable reduction in natural disaster risks in these districts. The thematic focus will be on awareness generation and education, training and capacity building for mitigation and better preparedness in terms of disaster risk management and recovery at community, district and state levels. This programme is entirely funded by the UNDP and the total outlay is Rs.6.71 crores (14,75,022 US \$).

Under this programme, Government officials, members of Panchayat Raj Institutions and Non-Governmental Organisations have been sensitized. Their number is about 27,000.

Additionally, another 51,000 village volunteers have also been given training. 4100 teachers and 37,200 NSS volunteers have also been trained. 5393 disaster management plans have been prepared at the Panchayat and village levels. Disaster Management Plans have also been prepared in all the 6 districts at the district level and in 52 blocks at the block level.

Emergency Operation Centre has been constructed in Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam and Kanniyakumari and construction has reached advanced stage in Nilgiris District and also at State Level.

The Government of India and United Nations Development Programme have decided to include the coastal Districts of Villupuram, Thiruvarur, Thanjavur, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi under the Disaster Risk Management Programme.

## **CHAPTER - III**

### **LAND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT**

The Revenue Department administers all the Government lands including those vested with the various Departments of the state Government.

Land Administration Department deals with various important Revenue subjects such as Assignment (cultivable land / house site), Lease, Transfer of land, Alienation, Acquisition, Estate / Inam Abolition Acts, Cinematograph Act, Eviction of encroachments in Government lands, Irrigation etc.,

Government lands are allotted to private Individuals, Government Departments and Quasi Government Organisations by way of Lease, Transfer, Alienation, Land Acquisition and Assignment.

### **3.2 Assignment**

Lands are assigned both for house site and agriculture purposes.

#### **i) Assignment of House sites:**

To uplift the weaker sections of the society, provision of house site to the houseless poor persons is the consistent policy of the Government. Free House sites are assigned to landless people having family annual income below Rs.16,000/- in rural areas and Rs.24,000/- in urban areas. By way of empowering

women, house sites are assigned in favour of the wife of the head of family or women members of families. Three cents in villages, one and a half cents in Municipal areas and one cent in Corporation areas are assigned as per the Revenue Standing Order 21.

The assignees are permitted to mortgage the house site with the Nationalised Banks as well for availing credit under Credit – Cum – Subsidy scheme of the Rural Housing Schemes viz., Indira Awaas Yojana and Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana to construct houses in the assigned lands.

**a) House site is assigned in the following order of preference:**

- (i) Families of defence personnel, including Border Security Force, Territorial Army Personnel etc., killed or disabled in action.
- (ii) Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes;
- (iii) Released Bonded Labourers;
- (iv) Ex-Servicemen;
- (v) Landless Poor.

In order to ensure the benefit reaching the eligible persons quickly, the following Revenue Officers are delegated with powers of monetary limits in the assignment of house sites :-

Sl.No	OFFICERS	MONETARY LIMIT
1	Tahsildar	Rs.10,000/-
2	Revenue Divisional Officer	Rs.20,000/-
3	District Revenue Officer	Rs.50,000/-
4	District Collector	Rs.2,00,000/-
5	Commissioner of Land Administration	Rs.2,50,000/-
6	Government	Above Rs.2,50,000/-

During 2006-2007, a target of 60,000 house site pattas was fixed for the State as a whole. Against this, 76,622 house-site pattas have been issued up to 31.3.2007, as given below:

**Grant of House – Site pattas during  
the year 2006-2007 up to 31.3.2007**

Category	Beneficiaries
Scheduled Caste	23900
Scheduled Tribes	2488
Most Backward Classes	23452
Backward Classes	25197
Others	1585
<b>Total</b>	<b>76622</b>

**ii) Regularisation of Encroachment of Houses**

The Government have issued orders in G.O. (Ms) No.854, Revenue, Dated:31.12.2006, Empowering the District Collectors to issue house site pattas to those who live in Government poramboke lands encroached by construction of houses for more than ten years and producing proper evidence for it after site inspection by a committee headed by him, by relaxing relevant ban orders of assignment in this case only, to eligible persons within a period of six months from January 2007.

If necessary, the time limit will be extended till the full coverage is achieved.

### **iii) Assignment of Cultivable Lands**

To alleviate rural poverty and to improve the standard of living of the poor and down trodden community, the Government is granting assignment to the landless rural poor. Lands for agriculture are assigned under the provisions contained in the Revenue Standing Order 15. Free assignment is given to those whose family's annual income is below Rs.16,000/- in rural areas and Rs.24,000/- in urban areas irrespective of the size of the family. The order of preference and the monetary limit for assignment of land for agriculture is the same as in the case of house site assignment.

### **3.3 THE SCHEME OF DISTRIBUTION OF 2 ACRES WASTE LANDS TO THE FAMILIES OF LANDLESS POOR AGRICULTURISTS (G.O.MS.NO.555, REVENUE DEPT, DT.26.8.2006) :**

The scheme for distribution of Government waste lands to landless poor agricultural families covers the following three categories :-

- i) Assignment of Government Poramboke lands free from encroachment,
- ii) Assignment of Government Poramboke lands encroached upon by landless, marginal and small farmers, and
- iii) Development / Reclamation of patta waste lands owned by small and marginal farmers.

Modalities and procedures for selection of beneficiaries in an open and transparent manner by the Village Committees and

the Grama Sabhas were evolved. This apart, the land is distributed to the landless only after necessary land development and reclamation wherever required, dovetailing with various schemes being executed by the Agriculture and Rural Development Departments.

This scheme was inaugurated by the Honourable Chief Minister on 17.9.2006 at Thiruvallur and by the other Ministers in the districts. The second phase of distribution was inaugurated by the Honourable Chief Minister on 17.12.2006 at Villupuram. The third phase of distribution was inaugurated on 17.3.2007 at Thiruvannamalai. The details of free distribution of land under this scheme is as follows :-

<i>Phase</i>	<i>Beneficiaries</i>	<i>Land Distributed (in Acres)</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> Phase (17.9.2006)	23,440	24,271.14
(Madurai) 11.11.2006	918	1,010.97
2 <sup>nd</sup> Phase (17.12.2006)	26,749	25,805.53
3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase (17.3.2007)	20,648	26,029.61
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71,755</b>	<b>77,117.25</b>

During the last 5 years (2001-2006), 29,074 acres of lands was distributed to 51,509 landless poor agriculturalists. But during the last 10 months, 77,117 acres of land has been distributed to 71,755 landless poor agriculturalists.

### 3.4 Land Lease

Lands at the disposal of the Government are granted on lease basis for non-Agriculture purposes in favour of individuals, private bodies, companies or Associations and local bodies for a specified period; minimum 3 years maximum 30 years under Revenue Standing Order 24-A.

Depending on the nature of request, lease rent per annum is fixed commercial and non-commercial basis on the land cost.

The rates of lease rent in force in respect of land falls within the jurisdiction of Panchayat and Panchayat union areas are as follows:

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Lease Rent on land cost p.a.</b>	<b>Local Cess</b>	<b>Local Cess Surcharge</b>	<b>Total</b>
Non-Commercial	1%	1%	5%	7% p.a.
Commercial	2%	2%	10%	14% p.a.

In the areas within the jurisdiction of the Corporations and Municipalities, the rates of lease rent per annum in force are follows:-

for Non-commercial purpose ---- 7% p.a. on the land cost  
(Including additional surcharge)  
for Commercial purpose ---- 14% p.a. on the land cost  
(Including additional surcharge)

The lease rent per annum fixed is subject to the condition that it is revisable once in 3 years.

Besides, in special cases, nominal rates of lease rent per annum is also fixed by the Government .

In case of violation of lease conditions, contained in the lease deed, the land is resumed.

### **3.5 Transfer Of Land**

As per the Revenue Standing order 23, Government poramboke lands are allotted to Government Departments by way of transfer usually on collection of market value. While free allotment of land was made for Phase I of the Mass Rapid System Project at Chennai, entire land for phase II was leased out for a rent of Rs.1000/- per year.

For non-commercial purposes like School buildings, Hospitals, Primary Health Centres etc., allotment of land is made free of cost and for Commercial purposes land value is collected before allotment under R.S.O. 23(A).

Powers are delegated to the District Collectors to transfer small extent of unobjectionable poramboke lands at free of cost to the Departments like Transport, Health, Education and Police. When the lands allotted to the departments are not fully utilised for the purpose for which they were transferred, such lands are resumed and re-allotted to other needy departments.

### **3.6 Alienation of Land**

Government poramboke lands are alienated in various districts for development of Information Technology

parks/Industrial Estates which leads to industrial development, increase employment opportunities and in turn leads to the growth of the economy of the State

Government poramboke lands are alienated to the Government undertakings, local bodies, universities, Information Technology parks, Industrial Establishments etc. under Revenue Standing Order 24 subject to certain conditions. For the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, lands are alienated free of cost of construction of tenements. If the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board requires lands for other purposes, land is allotted after collecting a nominal value of Rs.5,000/- per ground. Lands are alienated free of cost to the Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board and also to Tamil Nadu Housing Board for constructing Government rental quarters. In respect of other requisitioning bodies and for other purposes, lands are alienated on collection of single market value of more. Lands are alienated to the Transport Corporations for establishment of Bus Terminals and passenger Bus Stands on collection of 50% of the market value. Alienated lands are liable to be resumed without compensation by the Government, if conditions of alienation are violated.

### **3.7 Eviction Of Encroachment**

The Revenue Department is the custodian of all Government lands and the availability of Government Lands are very scarce.

The Government Policy is to protect the lands from the land grabbers and to ensure them free from Encroachments. Also, to make the available land to the best use like assignments to eligible poor and for other development schemes and public purposes. Encroachments on Government lands which are not earmarked for specific public purposes may be treated as unobjectionable and they are eligible for regularisation depending upon the nature of encroachments in the order of priority.

To protect the valuable Government lands free from encroachments, the Tamil Nadu Land Encroachment Act 1905 empowers the various departments. Encroachments in poramboke lands like water sources/ courses, grazing grounds, temple lands, Kalam etc., are considered as highly objectionable and have to be evicted. The authorities of the Revenue, Public Works, Highways Departments and local bodies like Municipalities and Corporations have been empowered to evict unauthorised encroachments after giving due notice under the Tamil Nadu Land Encroachment Act, 1905.

Detailed instructions were given in G.O.Ms.No.2021, Rev. Dept, dt. 25.9.1976, empowering the officials of Public Works, Highways and Rural Development Departments under Section 7 of the Tamil Nadu Land Encroachment Act, 1905.

A District Level Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the District Collector, for taking action to evict the encroachments within a specified period.

The High Court of Madras, in their judgement dated:6.6.2002 in W.P.Nos. 15673/2002 to 15686/2002, dated: 6.6.2002 have ordered to constitute a High level Committee making local representatives responsible for illegal encroachments. As per the above decision, a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister (Revenue and Prison) with Official / Non-Official members was constituted to monitor and evict the objectionable encroachments in the State, vide G.O.Ms.No.771, Revenue Dept., dated:27.11.2006. The first meeting of the High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Honourable Minister (Revenue and Prison) was held on 16.2.2007.

Upto 28.2.2007 total number of 41,635 encroachments in Government Poramboke lands have been removed.

### **3.8 Tree Patta Scheme**

The Tree Patta Scheme known as 2C patta is under implementation in the State for several decades. Under this scheme, the right to use the leaves, fruits and other usufructs of the trees standing on the Government poramboke land are granted to the adjacent land owners or other eligible persons who can take care of the trees. But the rights over the trees as well as the land, however continue to vest with the Government. Women belonging to depressed classes are given preference under this Scheme.

Under the new Special Tree Development programme, the rural landless poor women below the poverty line are exclusively chosen as beneficiaries and issued tree planting permits for growing trees on earmarked lands belonging to Government or Panchayats, with the condition to plant trees within a period of two years. Depending upon the survival of plants and two years after the grant of permit and after verification, tree pattas are granted to the permit holders.

### **3.9 Land Acquisition**

The Government acquire lands under Land Acquisition Act, 1894, Tamil Nadu Highways Act 34/2002 and Industrial Purposes Act 10/99 for implementing various Welfare schemes and Projects.

Generally, lands are acquired for establishment of Industries, construction of irrigation tanks, dams, channels, construction of houses for the members of Backward class and Most Backward Class communities who do not have their own abode on account of their poverty and other factors. When lands are acquired for industrial purposes, the industries provide direct/indirect employment to educated unemployed youth/technocrats at the same time giving a boost to the all around growth in the areas. The procedure laid down to acquire the lands under the said Acts are scrupulously followed and compensation is paid to the land owners based on set procedures and guidelines.

### **i) Monetary limit for passing award**

#### **The Monetary limit for passing award in land acquisition cases are as follows:-**

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>Officers</b>	<b>Revised Monetary Limit</b>
1	Tahsildars / Special Tahsildars	Upto Rs. 2,50,000/- (Rupees Two lakhs and fifty thousand only)
2	Revenue Officers / Divisional Officers in the grade of Deputy Collectors	Above Rs. 2,50,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh and fifty thousand only) up to Rs. 7,50,000/- (Rupees Seven lakhs and fifty thousand only)
3	Collector / Additional Collector / District Revenue Officer	Above Rs. 7,50,000/- (Rupees Seven lakhs and fifty thousand only) Up to Rs. 20,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Lakhs only)
4	Commissioner of Land Administration	Above Rs. 20,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Lakhs only)

In order to accelerate the pace of progress in land acquisition work, Government also accorded sanction for appointment of special staff as per the norms set forth in G.O.Ms.No.285 Revenue dated 10.2.96, G.O.Ms.No.2556 Revenue, dated 10.12.75, G.O.Ms.No.205, Revenue, Dated 10.3.93.

The Government have also issued orders in G.O.Ms.No.885 Revenue, dated 21.9.95 and G.O.Ms.No.1246 Revenue, dated 22.11.96, constituting District and State Level

Committees to expedite the acquisition of land through private negotiation.

With a view to promote Industrial climate and establish major industries, the Government have enacted Industrial Purposes Act, 1997 (Act 10/99) under which lands are speedily acquired.

Apart from this, lands are also acquired for construction of bridges, widening of roads and for construction of road over bridges/Railunder bridges for facilitating smooth flow of traffic without any inconvenience to the public at large.

In order to redress the Project affected families, adoption of the National Rehabilitation Policy 2006, evolved by Government of India is under consideration of this Government in consultation with the Special Commissioner and Commissioner of Land Administration.



## CHAPTER - IV

### SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT

Tamil Nadu is one of the States in the country, which has an excellent land survey system and mapping technology. Survey and land records department undertakes cadastral survey and prepares land records and maps.

#### 4.2 Town survey scheme :

In Tamil Nadu, there are 6 Corporations and 152 Municipalities. Town survey work has been taken up in 85 Municipalities and 6 corporations. Total Area surveyed under Town Survey scheme: 1774 Sq. Km.

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Details of town survey</b>	<b>Municipalities</b>	<b>Corporations</b>
1.	Total No. of Towns/Corporations	152	6
2.	Taken up for survey	85	6
3.	Completed	82	5
4.	Progress	3*	1*
5.	To be taken up	67	-

\* Survey work is in progress using modern survey equipments like Global Positioning System and Total Station.

### **4.3 Computerization of Land Records Programme:**

(Funded by Central Government)

e.Governance is delivering services to the Citizen with speed and effectiveness: In order to make available permanent village records like Patta, Field Measurement Sketches, the Village Maps etc. to the Public, this department felt computerization is necessary. To strengthen administration and updating of Land Records, the Government has introduced the following computerization of Land Records Programme.

#### **(i) Computerization of alphanumeric data:**

The following permanent village records relating to rural areas in 201 taluks have been computerized:

“A” Register and (ii) 10(1) Chitta

Data entry of Adangal has been completed and is to be integrated with the above permanent village records after which jamabandhi will be automated.

Consequent on the ban on issue of manual land records extracts, 72.40 lakhs computerized land records extracts have been issued to the public.

Land records data can be easily accessed through Touch Screen Computer Kiosks provided in 127 taluk offices.

The terminals, installed at taluk offices, are being used by the existing staff without creation of additional manpower. Training in computer operations and TAMIL NILAM software is

being imparted to Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars through Anna Institute of Management, Chennai and for other Revenue and Survey staff through professional agencies at the district level.

**(ii) Computerization of Spatial data (Digitization of field measurement sketches) :**

The computerization of spatial data is necessary in order to go for a Geographical information system (GIS). This will make land information system effective by linking the non-spatial data with spatial data.

Digitization of Field measurement sketches (FMS) using '**COLLAB LAND**' software (developed by NIC ) has been completed in Perambalur and Pudukottai taluks on pilot basis. The Government has released Rs.866.86 lakhs for digitization of FMS and the work in the remaining taluks is to be outsourced through ELCOT. Once FMSs are digitized, it can be integrated with the existing alphanumeric data, which have a common field in terms of survey numbers. After integration of both alphanumeric data with spatial data, Records of Right (RoR) documents, which at present provides only alpha numeric data, will also carry the spatial details.

**(iii) Digital signature based Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and creation of Data warehouse:**

At present, accessing the land record information is restricted to a particular taluk concerned since land record data of a taluk reside only in the taluk server. It has been proposed to host a centralized Data warehouse (DWH) to facilitate seamless access of land record information. Then the people can access land record information pertaining to any village in any part of the state. Digital signature based PKI (Public Key Infrastructure) is most essential requirement in building up computerized data warehousing. This will take care of security of on-line transactions and facilitate issue of RoR through the web. For this, proposals have been sent to Government of India seeking funds to the tune of Rs.10.25 cores and orders are awaited.

**(iv) Perambalur Pilot Project:**

It has been proposed to create a network to interconnect taluk to village and district and sub-registrars' offices under this scheme. Interconnectivity between taluk office and sub-registrar office has been established in 2 taluks viz. Perambalur and Ariyalur. Village level connectivity from Elambalur village to Perambalur taluk has been established. Connectivity to few other villages is under consideration.

#### **4.4 Strengthening of Revenue Administration and updating of Land Records:**

(Funded by the central and state government at 50: 50 ratio)

##### **(i) Scanning of Village maps:**

Scanning of village maps of all the districts have been completed. Scanning of Survey and Settlement Records is to be taken up shortly by outsourcing through ELCOT.

##### **(ii) Survey Using Modern Equipments**

The Survey equipments and methods are more than a century old.

The need for modernization of survey technology was keenly felt. Hence, survey using GPS and Total station was undertaken on a pilot basis in Konathi village in Chengalpattu taluk, Kancheepuram district.

In the light of the experience gained in pilot project, Chennai Metropolitan City is being surveyed using Global Positioning System and Total Station.

The Government of India has also emphasized the need for taking up re-survey throughout the state and approved the proposal for the resurvey work of the entire state. An amount of Rs.400.00 lakhs has been sanctioned as first installment at the ratio of 50:50 for executing the resurvey work.

The re-survey work will be commenced in a phased manner.

Centre for Survey Training and Research (**C-STAR**) has been established in collaboration with Anna University with the objective of imparting extensive training to survey staff on modern survey equipments. This will be very useful for resurvey work.

#### **4.5 Inter-State Boundary Joint Verification:**

Consequent on the formation of linguistics states, joint verification of the newly formed boundaries between Tamil Nadu and the adjoining States is being done. Joint verification between Tamilnadu and the following States is in progress:

(1) Tamil Nadu – Kerala: (2) Tamil Nadu – Karnataka & (3) Tamil Nadu – Pondicherry:

Orders from the Government of Andhra Pradesh are awaited for taking up joint verification between Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh State boundaries.

#### **4.6 Settlement**

After independence, the government enacted various Settlement Acts with a view to bring large-scale agrarian reforms, abolished all intermediaries between the Government and the ryots and also introduced Ryotwari settlement in such estates. The introduction of Ryotwari settlement under all settlement acts have been completed except in certain villages which have been taken over under Tamil Nadu Acts, 26/1963, 30/1963 and 24/1969 as they are covered by court cases.

The settlement works in respect of 3 villages and survey works in respect of 3 villages are in progress, out of 16 pending

villages which have been taken over under the Tamil Nadu Acts, 26/1963 and 30/1963.

The introduction of settlement has been completed in respect of 146.18 Square Kilometer out of 324.10 Square Kilometer area of janmam lands taken over under the Tamil Nadu Act 24/1969. Certain janmies and leaseholders had filed civil appeals before the Supreme Court of India, New Delhi. As a few among them had withdrawn their appeal petitions, the Supreme Court of India, New Delhi, dismissed their appeals as withdrawn and directed the Government to pass necessary orders regarding their plea under section 9 or 17 of the Act. The Supreme Court has referred certain other civil appeals and a writ petition to a larger bench consisting of 9 judges to decide the constitutional validity of the inclusion of the Act in the 9th Schedule of the Constitution of India. Another writ petition in No.408/2003 filed by the Nilambur Kovilagam a janmi, was filed before the Supreme Court of India. The Nine Judges Bench in its judgement delivered in C.A. 1344-45 of 1976 dated 11.01.2007 has directed that the petitions / appeals are placed for hearing before a Three Judges Bench for decision in accordance with principles laid down therein. Settlement officer in the cadre of District Revenue Officer has been appointed at Udthagamandalam in order to perform the pending settlement work.

In villages, the lands set aside for house site have been surveyed as per orders issued in G.O.Ms.NO.1971, Revenue Dept, dt.14.10.1988 and issue of patta has also been taken up and the work is pending only in 10 taluks. The settlement work is being undertaken in 4 taluks viz., Agastheeswaram, Thoivalai, Kalkulam and

Vilavancode in Kanniyakumari District and work is pending in 6 taluks viz., Uthakamandalam, Coonoor, Kothagiri, Kundha, Gudaloor and Pandhalur in Nilgiris District.

The Revenue follow-up work in respect of 67 Hill villages has been commenced as per G.O.Ms.113, Revenue Department, dated 2.2.1995 and Government Letter NO.67864/S.S.II(1)/98-21 & 22 dated 5.2.2004 and the work have been completed in 58 villages. The work is in progress in 9 villages viz., Adukkam Puthukombai(Namakka), Chithoor Nadu (Namakka), Pelappadi(Namakka), Kundini Nadu (Namakka) and Alathur Nadu(Namakka), Pachai malai (Salem), Anamalai (Kovai), Elagiri(Vellore), Vannadu (Trichy).

A Policy decision has been taken and orders have been issued in G.O.Ms.No.1177, C.T.& R.E. Dept. dt. 30.10.1987 to undertake Revenue follow-up work in respect of 6 Corporations (except old Chennai city) and orders have been also been issued in G.O.(1D) No.103, Revenue Department dated 1-3-2007 for publication in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette.

The Survey of wakf properties is in progress.

## CHAPTER - V

### LAND REFORMS

The Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Act, 1961 (Tamil Nadu Act 58/61) was enacted to achieve the lofty ideal of reducing the disparities in the ownership of agricultural lands. This objective is expected to be realised by taking over the surplus lands and distributing them amongst the landless poor.

The land ceiling for a family consisting of 5 members was initially fixed at 30 standard acres. 5 standard acres in addition was allowed for every additional member with an overall ceiling of 60 standard acres, besides 10 acres of Stridhana land for each Female Member. The ceiling on land and also certain exemptions provided for in the original Act were rationalised over the years by bringing in major changes in the Act.

In the year 1970, through an amended Act 17/70 the ceiling for the family was reduced from 30 to 15 standard acres. The overall ceiling limit of 60 standard acres, as fixed under the Parent Act, 58/61 was also reduced to 40 standard acres through the Tamil Nadu Act No.20/72. This was further reduced to 30 standard acres through the Tamil Nadu Act No. 39/72. The present ceiling area is as follows:

1) For a family consisting of 5 members -	15 standard acres
i) Each additional Member -	5 standard acres
ii) Over all ceiling area -	30 standard acres

2) Charitable trusts which were in existence as on 1.3.1972	5 standard acres
3) All trusts are prohibited from acquiring agricultural lands after 1.3.72.	

Government of Tamil Nadu has assigned the surplus lands acquired under Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Fixation of Ceiling on Land) Act, 1961 and other amended Acts to eligible landless persons as per the provisions of the Tamil Nadu Land Reforms (Disposal of Surplus Land) Rules, 1965.

The details of lands declared surplus and assigned to beneficiaries along with the details of lands locked in the Court cases from the inception of the Act upto 31.3.2007 are shown below:

**Statement showing the details of total extent of lands declared surplus, assigned and number of beneficiaries during the period 1961 to 31.3.2007**

Sl.No.		Extent of land (In acres)
1	Total extent of land declared as surplus	2,08,006
2	Land distributed	1,99,245
3	Number of beneficiaries	1,49,559

**Statement showing the details of number of beneficiaries  
(as on 31.3.2007)**

<i>Categories of persons benefited</i>	<i>Number of persons</i>	<i>Extent assigned (In Acres)</i>
Scheduled Castes	66,104	70,999
Scheduled Tribes	236	320
Others	83,219	1,17,741
Total	1,49,559	1,89,060

**Statement showing the details of the balance extent to be assigned and also extent covered under court cases(As on 31.3.2007)**

<b>Sl.No</b>		<b>Extent (In Acres)</b>
1.	Extent notified as surplus	2,08,006
2.	Extent covered by stay granted by various courts (Supreme Court, High Court, Land Tribunal and Sub-Courts).	8,520
3.	Net area for distribution	1,99,486
4.	Area for which distribution is completed	1,99,245
	a) Reserved for Public purpose	10,185
	b) Distributed to eligible persons	1,89,060
5.	Balance	241

A target of 1000 acres of lands was fixed for the assignment of ceiling surplus lands to the eligible persons during the budget year 2006-2007. An extent of 1011 acres has been assigned to 773 persons upto 31.3.2007, which includes 301 Scheduled Caste beneficiaries covering an extent of 428 acres.

## **5.2 Tenancy Laws:**

### **i) The Tamil Nadu Cultivating Tenants Protection Act, 1955 (Tamil Nadu Act 25/55)**

This Act enacted to protect the interest of the cultivating tenants from eviction from the lands except for non-payment of lease rent or doing any act which is injurious to the land or crops thereon, failure to cultivate the land, using the land for any purpose other than

agricultural or horticultural purpose or denial of the title of the land owner to the land. In the case of adverse seasonal conditions such as drought and natural calamity like floods, the cultivating tenants were given relief from time to time by postponing the collection of lease by Special enactments.

**ii) The Tamil Nadu Cultivating Tenants (Payment of Fair Rent) Act, 1956 (Tamil Nadu Act 24/1956)**

This Act provides for the fixation of fair rent payable by the cultivating tenant to the landowners and Public trusts. At present, the fair rent is 25% of the normal gross produce. It may be either in cash or kind. The cultivating tenant bears the expenses of cultivation and the landowner pays the land revenue and other dues on lands.

**iii) The Tamil Nadu Public Trusts (Regulation and Administration of Agricultural Land) Act, 1961 (Tamil Nadu Act 57/61)**

Public Trusts are permitted under this Act to cultivate 20 standard acres under their personal cultivation and the remaining extent has to be let on lease.

**iv) The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers Fair Wages Act, 1969 (Tamil Nadu Act 19 of 69)**

Payment of fair wages was ensured under this Act to agricultural labourers of Nagapattinam and Tiruvarur Districts for various types of work in the agricultural sector ranging from Rs. 54/- to 100/- per day for men labourers for 6 hours of work and Rs. 45/- per day for women labourers for five hours of work.

**v) The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Lands (Record of Tenancy Rights) Act, 1969 (Tamil Nadu Act 10/1969)**

The rights of the cultivating tenants are protected under this Act by ensuring registration. The Taluk Tahsildar is the Record Officer for the purposes of this Act and he is assisted by Advisory Committee consisting of non-officials. 2,59,655 persons have been registered as tenants under this Act as on 31.3.2007.

**vi) The Tamilnadu Occupants of Kudiyiruppu (Conferment of Ownership) Act, 1971 (Tamilnadu Act 40/71) as amended**

This Act ensures the agricultural Labourers to get their homestead occupation assigned to them if they were occupying any Kudiyiruppu as on 19.6.1971. The Tamil Nadu Rural Artisans (Conferment of Ownership) Act, 1976 (Act 38/1976) extends such benefits to rural artisans also who were occupying the site as on 1.7.1975. The time limit was extended under both the Acts upto 1.4.1990 by Act 39/1990. The details of the total number of Kudiyiruppu owners who were conferred ownership rights over Kudiyiruppu as on 31.03.2007 are given below:-

**Statement showing details of the total number of Kudiyiruppu owners who were conferred ownership rights over Kudiyiruppu**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Act 40/71</b>	<b>Act 38/76</b>	<b>Act 39/90</b>	<b>Total</b>
Scheduled Castes	1,00,127	62	1,038	1,01,227
Scheduled Tribes	2,317	17	412	2,746
Others	80,017	363	288	80,668
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,82,461</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>1,738</b>	<b>1,84,641</b>

### **5.3 Land Tribunals**

To ensure quicker disposal of the Land Reforms cases pending with the Subordinate Courts, separate Land Tribunals presided over by District Revenue Officers were established in the year 1980 and at present only one Land Tribunal at Chennai for the entire State is functioning.

### **5.4 Revenue Courts**

Six Revenue Courts are now functioning in the State at Cuddalore, Mayiladuthurai, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Tiruchirapalli and Madurai under the control of Special Deputy Collectors. The Special Deputy Collectors (Revenue Courts) are appellate authorities who decide on appeals against the orders of the Tahsildars concerned in respect of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural Lands (Records on Tenancy Rights) Act, 1969. They administer various tenancy laws mentioned in the paras above.

### **5.5 TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS WELFARE BOARD**

Following the announcements made in the Governor's address in the Legislative Assembly, Government in G.O.(Ms) No.509, Revenue (L.R. I(2)/Dept., dt.7.8.2006, ordered for the implementation of a new Scheme called "The Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers-Farmers (Social Security and Welfare) Scheme, 2006" in lieu of the "Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Farmers Security Scheme".

The 'Act' i.e. Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers-Farmers (Social Security and Welfare) Act, 2006 has been published in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette vide No.265, Extraordinary, dt.20.9.06. The 'Rules' for the above Act, the "Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers-Farmers (Social Security and Welfare) Scheme" and formation of Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers Welfare Board were issued by the Government as per G.O.(Ms) No.852, Revenue (L.R I (2)] Department, dt.29.12.06, G.O (Ms.) No.853, Revenue (L.R.I (2) Dept., dt.29.12.2006 and G.O.(Ms).No. 42, Rev. L.R.I ) Dept., dt.18.1.07 respectively and published in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette. The Scheme came into force with effect from 22.12.2006.

**i) Registration of Members of the Scheme:**

(1) All agricultural labourers and farmers enumerated and identified by the village level committees constituted by the Government, in this regard, shall be registered as members of the Scheme on such persons making an application in Form No. I, to the Special Tahsildar (Social Security Scheme) of the respective taluks.

(2) Any agricultural labourer or farmer (including a cultivating tenant), who owns wet land not exceeding 2.50 acres or dry land not exceeding 5.00 acres and engaged in direct cultivation of that land and who has completed the age of 18 years but not completed 65 years, may register his/her name to become a member of the Scheme.

(3) There shall be no fee for registration as a member under the Scheme.

As on 23.3.2007, 57.30 lakhs Family Identity cards, as identified by Village Level Committee, have been distributed. Upto 31.3.2007, 63.73 lakhs families have been provided with Identity Cards.

The Special Tahsildars (Social Security Scheme) under the supervision of District Collector at the District level are the implementing authority. The Commissioner of Land Reforms as Member-Secretary, Tamil Nadu Agricultural Labourers Welfare Board is monitoring the implementation of the Scheme at state level. In respect of the assistance relating to Educational and Child Birth / miscarriage, the concerned Heads of Department are implementing the scheme. This scheme provides financial assistance to the members for marriage, maternity, miscarriage of pregnancy, medical termination of pregnancy, relief to the legal heirs in case of death or loss of limbs due to accident or natural death, funeral expenses and old age pension on attainment of 60 years of age. The dependants of the members are given financial assistance for marriage and education from 10th Standard to Post Graduation, technical education and for professional courses.

The amount of financial assistance provided under this scheme is as follows :-

<b><i>Sl.No.</i></b>	<b><i>Relief or Assistance</i></b>	<b><i>Amount (in Rupees)</i></b>
1.	<b>ACCIDENT RELIEF</b>	
	a) Death due to accident	1,00,000 (One lakh)
	b) Loss of both hands	1,00,000 (One lakh)
	c) Loss of both legs	1,00,000 (One lakh)
	d) Loss of one hand and one leg	1,00,000 (One lakh)

	e) Total and irrecoverable loss of sight in both eyes	1,00,000 (One lakh)		
	f) Loss of one hand or one leg	50,000 (Fifty thousand)		
	g) Loss of limbs from grievous injuries other than those specified above	20,000 (Twenty thousand)		
2	<b>NATURAL DEATH:</b>	10,000 (Ten thousand)		
3	<b>FUNERAL EXPENSES:</b>	2,500		
4	<b>EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO SON AND DAUGHTER OF THE MEMBERS</b>	<u>Day Scholar</u>	<u>Hosteller</u>	
		<u>Boys</u>	<u>Boys</u>	
		<u>Girls</u>	<u>Girls</u>	
	a) 10th Std. pass	1250	..	..
		1500		
	b) 12th Std. pass	1750	..	..
		2000		
	c) I.T.I or Polytechnic (per year)	1250	1450	
		1750	1950	
	d) Bachelor Degree (per year)	1750	2000	
		2250	2500	
		2250	3250	
	e) Post Graduate (per year)	2750	3750	
	f) Professional Courses (Law, Engineering etc) (per year)	2250	4250	
		2750	4750	
	g) Post Graduate Professional Courses (Per year)	4250	6250	
		4750	6750	
5	<b>MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE:</b>			
	a) Marriage of Member		3000	
	(i) Male			
	(ii) Female		5000	

	<b>b) Marriage of son or daughter of the Member</b>	
	<b>(i) Male</b>	3000
	<b>(ii) Female</b>	5000
6	<b>DELIVERY OR MISCARRIAGE OF PREGNANCY OR TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY</b>	6000
		(@ Rs.1000/- per month for six months)
	i) Delivery	3000
	ii) Miscarriage	3000
	iii) Termination	3000
7	<b>OLD AGE PENSION</b> (per month)	400

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has inaugurated this scheme on 22.2.2007 at Thanjavur and distributed the benefits to the members under the Scheme

**Details of Fund Allotment, Expenditure and No. of Beneficiaries as on 31.3.2007**

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Allotment (Rs. in Crores)</i>		
		<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Funds allotted for the financial year 2006-2007 as per Revised Estimate	120.10	32.46	152.56
2.	Expenditure from 22.2.2007 to 31.3.2007	6.70	0.71	7.41
3.	Balance	113.40	31.75	145.15
4.	No. of Beneficiaries	21874	3313	25187

**5.6 TAMIL NADU URBAN LAND TAX ACT, 1966**

Tamil Nadu Urban Land Tax Act 1966 has been introduced in Chennai city with effect from 1.7.63 with a view to augment revenue to Government and to discourage accumulation of lands

in the hands of few. Under this Act all urban lands were assessed to urban land tax at a flat rate of 0.4 percent of its market value. The Act was then extended to Towns of Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchirapalli and Salem with effect from 1.7.1971. The Act was amended in 1975 which came into force with effect from 1.7.75 extending the provisions of the Act to the area lying within 16 K.M. from the outer limits of Chennai City. The Act was further extended to Tirunelveli Corporation with effect from 1.7.1981 and 23 other Municipalities with effect from 1.7.1991.

In all these areas tax was levied based on the market value as on 1.7.81.

The slab rate for levy of Urban Land Tax is as follows:-

<i>S.No</i>	<i>All Urban lands in areas other than Chennai City Belt Area.</i>	<i>All lands in Chennai City Belt Area</i>		
1.	First 2 grounds	Nil	First three grounds	Nil
2.	Where the aggregate extent does not exceed five grounds.	0.7% of the market value	Where the aggregate extent does not exceed seven grounds	0.7% of the market value
3.	Where the aggregate extent exceeds five but does not exceed 10 grounds	1% of the market value	Where the aggregate extent exceeds seven but does not exceed 10 grounds	1% of the market value
4.	Where the aggregate extent exceeds ten but does not exceed 20 grounds	1.5% of the market value	Where the aggregate extent exceeds ten but does not exceed 20 grounds	1.5% of the market value
5.	Where the aggregate extent exceeds 20 grounds	2% of the market value	Where the aggregate extent exceeds 20 grounds	2% of the market value

The Government may grant exemption from payment of Urban Land Tax under section 27(1) of the Tamil Nadu Urban Land Tax Act 1966 in respect of the lands owned by Charitable, Religious, Philanthropic and other institutions if the payment of Urban Land Tax causes undue hardship to the above institutions. Further,

- i) 50% tax concession is granted for ownership occupation in the residential building and in respect of Sabhas, Clubs and Studios.
- ii) 10% tax concession is granted to Cinema Theatres and major industries.
- iii) 25% tax concession is granted for certified Small Scale Industries in respect of lands owned and used by the owner of the land.

Under the Amended Act 1991, a sum of Rs.39.46 crores was levied as Urban Land Tax in 1,83,386 cases all over the State as on 28.2.2007. After excluding the amount covered by exemption under various categories, the current annual demand is arrived at Rs.18.91 crores. A sum of Rs.13.59 crores has been collected from April 2006 to Feb.2007. As on 1.3.2007, the balance collectable demand is Rs.76.90 crores.

### **5.7 TAMIL NADU URBAN LAND (CEILING AND REGULATION) ACT 1978.**

The Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1978 (Based on central Act 24 of 1976) was enacted with a view to impose ceiling on vacant land in Urban Agglomerations to prevent concentration of urban land in the

hands of a few persons for speculation and profiteering therein and to bring about an equitable distribution of lands to subserve the common good. The Act was in force from 3.8.76.

The Tamil Nadu Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act 1978 has been repealed with effect from 16.6.99 by Act 20/99.

An extent of 1168 Hects. of surplus lands are available for allotment.

**I.PERIASAMY**  
**MINISTER FOR REVENUE AND PRISONS**