

Demand No. 45
Social Welfare
and
Nutritious Meal Programme Department
Policy Note 2007-2008

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

As face is the index of the mind, country's prosperity (the face of the nation) hinges on the development of women, children and physically challenged. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister, who is also the Bharathi Award winner is striving hard to see that no stone is unturned in realizing the goal of making the disadvantaged sections to get the fruits of development. The status of women is reflected by Gender Development Index (GDI), which is 0.654 in Tamil Nadu. This is higher than the all India value of 0.560. Similarly the nutritional status of children in Tamil Nadu has improved considerably over the years and the percentage of normal children has improved from 41.40 % in early 90s to 61.75 % as at 2006. This is bound to go up with the introduction of 3 eggs per week. Also, the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has come down from 53 to 41 per 1000 live births. The State's goal by the end of the 11th Five Year Plan is to reduce it to 20 per 1000 live births.

But there can be no room for complacency as continuous monitoring and implementation of programmes are essentially needed to keep the momentum and to be in the reckoning among other states. Our primary thrust during this year is to expand the network of ICDS programmes based on the revised population norms for setting up more Anganwadi and Mini Anganwadi Centres so that the beneficiary need not walk more than one kilometer to avail the ICDS scheme. Besides, anemia among adolescent girls and lactating mothers will be tackled by providing iron and folic acid, vitamin A and iodine content nutrient etc.,

Combating trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children has been the primary concern of the state Government and earnest and effective measures have been taken to end the menace. This year, a scheme has been drawn to undertake a detailed survey through reputed institution for collecting data on this menace.

In the words of Richard Piematal, a renowned American speaker "that there are no good jobs for people with disabilities, but there are good persons with a disability in every job. All we need is a little insight and more than a little of foresight. An insight into their ability and foresight of their potential is needed". In keeping with the above saying, many new schemes have been announced in the budget. As everyone is aware that our able and skillful Honourable Chief Minister has set his eyes, ears and heart for the development of the society as a whole with particular emphasis on the welfare of the women, children and the disabled. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister has shown the way for the rest of Indian sub-continent to improve and uplift the living standard of individual especially with disabilities. Under the able leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the department of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme will leave no stone unturned to implement all the schemes efficiently and effectively.

CHAPTER 2

WOMEN AND CHILD WELFARE

2.1 The Government of Tamil Nadu has been a forerunner in implementing programmes to improve the living conditions of women and children and to increase their access to basic essential services like health, nutrition, child care, maternal care etc. The Department of Social Welfare is implementing a variety of schemes for children and women in difficult circumstances to pursue education, marriage / re-marriage etc. In its endeavour to provide a healthy and protective environment to them, the Government has formulated many policies towards reducing gender discrimination and improving the status of the adolescent girls and is implementing them effectively. This has been reflected in the Gender Development Index of Tamil Nadu which is above the national average.

WOMEN WELFARE SCHEMES

2.2 MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEMES

The Department of Social Welfare implements Marriage Assistance Schemes to alleviate the problems of poor parents / guardians who are unable to get their girl children married. There are five marriage / re-marriage schemes. To become eligible for the schemes the bride should be in the age group of 18 – 30 years except Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiyar Ninaivu Widow Re-marriage Assistance Scheme.

SI. No.	Scheme	Quantum of Assistance	Eligibility
1	Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme (revived from 3.6.2006)	Rs.15,000/-	(a) Annual income of the girl's family should be less than Rs.12,000/- (b) Bride's age should be between 18 to 30 years. (c) Only one girl is eligible for the benefit from one family. (d) Educational Qualification : Should have studied up to 10 th Std. (For Scheduled Tribes: 5 th Standard)
2	E.V.R. Maniammaiyar Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme for Daughters of poor widows	Rs.10,000/-	(a) Annual income of the girl's family should be less than Rs.12,000/- (b) Bride's age: 18-30 years. (c) Only one girl is eligible for the benefit from one family. (d) Educational Qualification: 8 th Standard.
3	Annai Teresa Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme to Orphan Girls	Rs.10,000/-	(a) Annual income of the guardian should not exceed Rs.12,000/- (b) Bride's age: 18-30 years.
4	Tamil Nadu Government Inter-caste Marriage Assistance Scheme	(a)Rs.20,000/- (Rs.10,000/- for marriage expenses and Rs.10,000/- in the form of National Savings Certificate) (b) Rs.10,000/- (Rs.3,000/- for marriage expenses and	(a) Where the bride or bridegroom belongs to SC / ST and the other one belongs to a different community. Bride's age: 18-30 years.

		Rs.7,000/- in the form of National Savings Certificate)	(b) Marriage between persons belonging to forward community and BC / MBC community persons. Bride's age 18-30 years.
5	Dr. Dharmambal Ammaiyar Ninaivu Poor Widow Re-marriage Assistance Scheme	Rs.10,000/- (Rs.3,000/- in cash and Rs.7,000/- in the form of National Savings Certificate)	(a) No income ceiling. (b) Age – 20-35 Years.

2.3 SATHIYAVANIMUTHU AMMAIYAR NINAIVU FREE SUPPLY OF SEWING MACHINES SCHEME

Under this scheme, sewing machines are supplied free of cost to widows, deserted wives and destitutes below poverty line and physically handicapped men and women with a view to increase their self employment potential and to help them lead a decent life.

2.4 SERVICE HOMES

In an age where fixed income groups themselves suffer owing to various economic factors, widows, destitutes and orphans who have no means of survival need institutional care. The Department of Social Welfare runs 8 Service Homes one each at Tambaram, Cuddalore, Salem, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Sivaganga, Madurai and Kanniyakumari to provide protection to such destitute women and to help them re-build their lives. Special Service Home for Tsunami affected in the age group of 14-18 years and unmarried women above 18 years is functioning at Nagapattinam district. These Service Homes provide accommodation, food, education and vocational training to the inmates. Besides allowing the women inmates to keep their children with them, educational facilities are also provided to these children.

In all the Service Homes, classes upto Higher Secondary level are conducted in campus wherein vocational skills are also imparted. Feeding charges at Rs.300/- per month per adult and Rs.225 per month per child is provided to the inmates of the Service Homes. The adult inmates are provided with free uniform at a cost of Rs.500/- per adult in the homes once in a year and their children are also provided uniforms from the cloths available under uniforms given to Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme Scheme beneficiaries. Apart from the above, note books purchased from Tamil Nadu Text Book Corporation are supplied to the inmates free of cost. There is a separate section for physically handicapped persons in the Service Home, Tambaram.

The Service Homes in Tirunelveli, Cuddalore, Sivaganga, Salem and Tambaram offer training in vocational trades like nursing, textile and designs, lab technician course etc., in the Higher Secondary classes. Besides, Tambaram Service Home is offering Secretarial Course to the inmates and in Madurai Tailoring Course is offered. In order to familiarise the inmates with modern vocational skills, computer course is being offered to the inmates who have completed 10th Std. After completion of training and passing 10th Std, the inmates are recommended for multi-purpose health worker training. At Tambaram Service Home, Silk Industrial Training Course has been commenced to improve the economic condition of

the inmates. Secondary Grade Teacher Training Course will be re-starting soon in Tambaram Service Home to benefit 40 girls every year at a cost of Rs.19.34 lakhs.

2.5 GRANTS TO SERVICE HOMES RUN BY NGOS

3 Service Homes for deserted wives, widows and orphans are being run by NGOs, one at Gandhigram by Kasturiba Sevashram, another at Chennai by Shree Seva Mandir and the third at Coimbatore by Saranalayam. Government provides teaching grant and stipend at the following rates to these Service Homes for providing general education and training in crafts and tailoring. Stipend and teaching grant are provided at Rs.20 and Rs.75 respectively.

2.6 WORKING WOMEN'S HOSTEL

With the opportunities for women on the rise, there has been an increase in the demand for their accommodation. Women need to find accommodation near their working place. In view of their requirements, Government is running eight Working Women's Hostels – two in Chennai and one each in Cuddalore, Madurai, Pudukottai, Tuticorin, Trichy and Hosur. A monthly income ceiling of Rs.10,000/- is prescribed for admission in the working women's hostels. Monthly rent of Rs.200/- in Chennai and Rs.150/- in other places is collected from the inmates. While water, electricity charges and food charges are shared equally by the inmates, salaries of the Superintendent, Junior Assistant, Cooks and other staff are met by the State Government.

Construction of new Working Women's Hostels

As part of our efforts to provide protection to working women and thereby enhance the security environment, construction of Working Women Hostels has been proposed. During 11th Five Year Plan, 10 more hostels are required for Chennai to provide relief to low and middle income groups. The total cost is estimated to be around Rs.7 Crores. Similarly, in other Municipal Corporations two hostels each for Madurai, Trichy, Tirunelveli, Coimbatore and Salem are needed and the estimated cost is around Rs.7 Crores. The Government of India is being approached for assistance for the above schemes.

2.7 GUIDANCE BUREAU

Started in the year 1979 with the main objective of creating awareness and providing guidance to women on various schemes being implemented by the Government for their welfare and development, 20 Guidance Bureaux are presently functioning in the District Social Welfare Offices. These Guidance Bureaux also forward loan applications of women under self employment scheme to Nationalised Banks for sanction of petty loans for starting petty trades and help the District Social Welfare Officers in dealing cases / complaints relating to dowry harassment, crime against women etc.,

2.8 FREE SUPPLY OF TEXT BOOKS AND NOTE BOOKS TO THE CHILDREN OF POOR WIDOWS

While all students are provided with free text books, the scheme providing free note books for children of poor widows with a family income below Rs.12,000/- per annum benefits the children as detailed below:

Class	Cost per annum per child
I Std. and II Std.	Rs. 50/-
III Std to V Std	Rs. 125/-
VI Std to VIII Std.	Rs. 175/-
IX Std and X Std	Rs. 300/-
Plus 1 and Plus 2	Rs. 600/-

2.9 CRECHES FOR CHILDREN OF WORKING AND AILING MOTHERS

Many of the children of working and ailing mothers drop out of schools to take care of their younger siblings. Some of these children also indulge in anti-social activities. To relieve these children from the responsibility of taking care of their younger siblings and to prevent them from indulging in anti-social activities by encouraging them to attend schools, 106 creches with 25 children each are run by identified Voluntary Organisations throughout Tamil Nadu. An annual grant of Rs.25,410/- per creche is sanctioned towards recurring expenditure.

2.10 SCHEMES FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPLIFTMENT OF WOMEN

- i. It is primarily meant to ensure socio-economic empowerment of women through Co-operative method, involving women in the development process.
- ii. Through formation of Industrial Co-operative Societies exclusively for women economic empowerment of women is sought to be achieved. There are 102 Industrial Co-operative Societies functioning under the control of the Director of Social Welfare and 25 Weaning Food Manufacturing Women Co-operative Societies under the control of Project Co-ordinator, ICDS. These Cooperative Societies provide gainful employment to the women below poverty line by engaging them in manufacture of products and rendering services required for implementing the schemes of the Social Welfare Department.

Sl.No.	Type of Society	No. of Co-op. Societies	No. of beneficiaries
1.	Tailoring Indl. Co-op Societies	80	41917
2.	Stationery Indl Co-op Societies	15	833
3.	Other Societies	7	1054
	Total	102	43804

41,917 women members of the 80 Tailoring Industrial Co-Operative Societies are engaged in stitching of Polyester and Cotton uniforms supplied to the children studying in Std.I to VIII and benefitted

under Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme and the number of beneficiaries covered under the scheme are 63 lakhs students including children in Orphanages and Service Homes,

15 Women Stationery Industrial Co-operative Societies are functioning under the control of Social Welfare Department. These Societies have a total membership of 833. These stationery co-operative societies are providing work to the women members by getting orders from the Government Departments, Government institutions, Government Organisations and other Co-operative Institutions.

Three production cum training centres are providing training in readymade garments manufacturing, doll making and candle making to 40 women each every year who are below poverty line.

The Social Welfare Department is running 39 Training Centres and giving training to 713 Women in various fields like tailoring, manufacturing of Palm Leaf Products, mat weaving and manufacture of fibre products etc.

Among the above training centres, 4 Tailoring Centres, 2 in Salem District and one each in Namakkal and Thiruvannamalai District are giving training exclusively to tribal women. 65 Tribal Women are trained in these centres every year.

Women belonging to Backward classes and Denotified Communities are also given training in the above training centres.

Stitching of uniforms for students studying in Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Schools, Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes and Minority Welfare controlled schools and Kallar reclamation schools upto 8th Standard which were entrusted to private agencies from 2003-2004 will be entrusted to Industrial Women Co-operative Societies to improve the income of the above sections.

CHILD WELFARE SCHEMES

2.11 GOVERNMENT ORPHANAGES

With benign interest in destitute and orphan children, the Government of Tamil Nadu runs 27 Orphanages with 5155 children throughout the State of Tamil Nadu to groom them into good citizens. These orphanages provide food, shelter, clothing, education and health care, free of cost to the inmates.

The eligibility for admission into Government Orphanages is:

- Orphaned and abandoned children without parents / relatives.
- Children of single parent families where either of the parents died / imprisoned for a long term / deserted.
- Children whose parents are unable to take care of them due to Leprosy or mental illness.

The facilities provided by the Government to the inmates of Government Orphanages are:

- ❖ Feeding charges at Rs.225/- per child per month
- ❖ Providing education from 1st to 5th Standard in schools attached to the orphanages.
- ❖ Providing education from 6th to 12th Standard in outside schools

- ❖ Giving Vocational Training to make the children to become self reliant
- ❖ Supply of Books and Note books purchased from the Tamil Nadu Text Book Corporation to the children.
- ❖ Supply of two sets of uniform per year per child studying in 1st to 5th Standard.
- ❖ Giving Rs.400/- and Rs.500/- (per annum per head) for two sets of uniforms for girl children studying in outside schools in 6th to 8th Standard and 9th to 12th Standard respectively
- ❖ Giving Bedding allowance of Rs.150/- per head per annum (Rs.250/- per head per annum for Government Orphanage in the Nilgiris district)
- ❖ Giving one pair of leather chappal costing Rs.50/- per child per year
- ❖ Providing Medical facilities of
 - Rs.1000/- per annum to the inmates of each of the 20 Government Orphanages with the strength of 250
 - Rs.500/- per annum to each of the 7 Government Orphanages with inmate strength of 100
- ❖ In order to have the firsthand knowledge of the world outside, they are taken on excursion to neighbouring places of importance as part of career improvement.

A committee with the District Collector of the concerned district as the Chairman with members from the education, health and social welfare departments along with Social Workers has been formed to provide necessary guidance for better implementation of the schemes for the welfare of the inmates of Government Orphanages.

The Committee meets once in three months and monitors the progress of the inmates of the orphanages in education, health and attendance. The feedback of the Committee proceedings is taken note of by the concerned District Social Welfare Officers.

2.12 NGOs PARTNERSHIP FOR THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

The objective of the scheme is to rehabilitate the destitute children as normal citizens. The destitute children of single parent family or who do not have either parents and in the age group of 5 to 18 years are eligible to benefit under the scheme. Family income of the parent / guardian should not exceed Rs.12,000/- per annum.

In order to encourage Voluntary Organisations, State Government is sanctioning grants-in-aid towards maintenance of children. From 1st April 1992, the Government has been sanctioning Rs.200/- per child as grants-in-aid, representing 80% of the recurring expenses of Rs.250/- per month per child towards maintenance. The remaining 20% of the expenditure which is Rs.50/- per month per child is met by the Voluntary Organisations. Each unit consisting of 25 children should have a house mother / father and a helper to look after the children. At present, 174 Voluntary Organisations are receiving grants for the maintenance of 12800 children.

2.13 SIVAGAMI AMMAIYAR NINAIVU GIRL CHILD PROTECTION SCHEME

The scheme was conceived with a view to prevent female infanticide, discourage preference for male child and to promote family planning. This scheme also ensures equal opportunity in education for girl children on par with male children.

Under this scheme, an amount of Rs.22,200/- is deposited in Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd., in the name of the girl child, if there is only one girl child in the family with no other child in the family and when either of the parents has undergone sterilization before the age of 35 years. A monthly payment of about Rs.150/- is released to the children from the interest accrued from the deposit to take care of the education of the child from standard I to X. On the 20th year of the deposit the terminal benefit is released to the girl to enable her to pursue higher education or to defray the marriage expenses.

In case of families with two girl children and no male child, an initial deposit of Rs.15,200/- is made with Tamil Nadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd., for each of the girl children by the Government. A monthly payment of about Rs.150/- is made from the interest accrued from the deposit to take care of the education of each child from Standard I to X. Each of the two girl children will be eligible for a terminal benefit from the deposit with accrued interest on the 20th year of deposit. This will enable them to pursue their higher studies or to defray their marriage expenses.

2.14 CRADLE BABY SCHEME

The Cradle Baby Scheme was launched in Salem with the sole aim of eradicating female infanticide. This Scheme was later extended to Madurai, Theni, Dindigul and Dharmapuri, as these districts are also prone to this practice. Reception centres were started in the above four districts with sufficient staff and infrastructure facilities including telephone, medicines, refrigerator and life saving medical equipment. Cradles numbering 188 are placed in all District Social Welfare Offices, District Collectorates, Government Hospitals, Primary Health Centres / Sub Health Centres to receive the deserted / abandoned babies.

These reception centres play an important role in receiving the deserted / abandoned babies and in protecting their lives.

The District Social Welfare Officers are designated as the Co-ordinating Officers for this scheme.

The District Administration and allied Government Departments coordinate with each other in the crusade against female infanticide.

2.15 ADOPTION

Adoption undoubtedly offers an important avenue for the care and protection of orphaned, abandoned, destitute and neglected children in a family environment and provides an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding for the realisation of their talents and potentials. Adoption also provides couples who are issueless, the opportunity, happiness and satisfaction of having a child solely belonging to

them. It carries with it, the emotional, physical and material security necessary for the proper development of a child and also serves as the most reliable means of preventing situations associated with child abuse, exploitation and social mal-adjustment of orphaned, abandoned, destitute and neglected children.

There are 19 licensed agencies doing in-country adoptions. These agencies are situated at Chennai, Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Trichy, Tuticorin, Madurai, Salem, Dindigul, Nagapattinam, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur and Kancheepuram. Of these, 8 agencies are recognised to handle inter-country adoptions also. Steps are being taken to identify at least one adoption agency in each district of Tamil Nadu. All the Licensed agencies are authorised to handle legal adoptions. In all, about 3355 children have been covered under the adoption scheme. The CARA under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, New Delhi issues licence to inter-country adoption and Government of Tamil Nadu issues licence to in-country adoption.

2.16 OLD AGE HOMES

Owing to the changing lifestyle and urbanization in India have led to the total neglect of large number of elderly people. More over with the increase in the life expectancy, the aged population is rising. Older persons hailing from poor families and older persons who are destitute are the main sufferers due to non-availability of proper food and shelter. In order to get rid of their problems, State Government gives financial assistance to 16 Voluntary Organisations wherein 620 old age persons are provided with above facilities. A sum of Rs.2 lakhs per year per old age home is given as grant by the State Government. Rs.40,000/- per year has to be met by the institution as institution's share for accommodation upto 40 inmates. These organisations are frequently inspected by officials. The State Government will reveal its Old Age Policy after the enactment of a Central legislation on this issue.

2.17 RELIEF MEASURES AND NEW SCHEMES FOR THE TSUNAMI AFFECTED POPULATION

To mitigate the sufferings of the Tsunami affected population of the worst affected coastal districts of Chennai, Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur, Kanyakumari, Thanjavur, Nagapattinam, Thiruvarur, Pudukottai, Ramanathapuram, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin, Villupuram and Cuddalore the Government of Tamilnadu through the Department of Social Welfare has implemented various welfare and relief measures as mentioned below:

a) Special Children Home

In order to rehabilitate the victims of Tsunami tidal waves, particularly children and women, 3 Special Government Homes for children have been established. Presently only two orphanages in Nagapattinam and Cuddalore accommodating 100 children each in the age group of 0 to 14 years are functioning. The tsunami orphanage in Kanyakumari District was merged with the existing orphanage in Nagercoil from 14.3.2006.

b) Special Service Homes For Adolescent Girls & Unmarried Girls above 18 years

Two Service Homes for adolescent girls in the age group of 14 to 18 years and unmarried women above 18 years of age have also been started in the Districts of Nagapattinam and Kanyakumari from 6.1.2005 and 18.1.2005 respectively. Presently due to decrease in the number of inmates, the Special Service Home in Kanyakumari district has been converted into general Service Home so as to accommodate persons belonging to other categories also.

c) Financial Assistance Scheme

To assure a bright future to those orphaned by the Tsunami, the Government has formulated an innovative scheme under which an amount of Rs.5 Lakhs, for the orphans in the age group of 0 to 14 years (both sex) and adolescent girls in the age group of 14 to 18 years and Rs.3 Lakhs for the unmarried orphaned girls who are 18 years and above, have been deposited in the names of the beneficiaries with Tamilnadu Power Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd in the form of fixed deposits, which on maturity will be utilized for higher studies / self employment purpose. So far 223 beneficiaries have been benefitted under the scheme with a total assistance of Rs. 7,41,26,661/- from Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund & Calamity Relief Fund.

d) Psychosocial Care and Support Programme

A Memorandum of Understanding has been entered into by the Tamil Nadu Government with UNDP to extend psychosocial support to the Tsunami affected population of the 11 coastal districts of Tamil Nadu (except Pudukottai and Ramanathapuram) - 2813 Community Level Workers have been trained to carry out psychosocial care, support and counselling to the affected people. 32,852 families and 1,51,424 individuals have been counselled.

A Special project for dealing with alcohol abuses among the Tsunami affected people has been initiated with series of cascading trainings to the Community Level Workers by TTK Ranganathan Clinical Research Foundation, Chennai with technical support provided by WHO. Funds to the tune of Rs.13.06 lakhs has been sanctioned by World Health Organisation India Office, New Delhi under APW project. Training programme for Community Level Workers on how to deal with alcohol abuse in 11 coastal districts have been completed. On completion of training the Community Level Workers collect information on the number of persons consuming alcohol, levels of intake etc., and also refer severe cases for clinical intervention besides extending psychological support to them.

2.18 TAMIL NADU SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD, CHENNAI

Constituted in the year 1954, Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board has been working with the following objectives:

1. To promote setting up of Non Governmental Social Welfare Organisations.
2. To render technical and financial assistance to the voluntary institutions so that they provide better quality and standard of services.
3. To assess the programmes aided by the Government.

Towards achieving this objective, the Central Social Welfare Board provides support to Voluntary Organisations under a variety of programmes to facilitate and strengthen their role in empowering women

through education and training, awareness creation, income generating facilities and also by support services.

The pattern of assistance varies from 50 percent to 90 percent, the balance being borne by the Organisations. Special schemes receive cent percent grants.

With the assistance of Rs.954 lakhs from the Central Government, 606 Voluntary institutions consisting of 1456 Units were assisted during the period April 2006 to March 2007. The State Government's assistance of Rs.14.80 Lakhs has been provided to 206 Voluntary Organisations consisting of 206 Units.

2.19 GRANTS TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS WORKING IN RURAL AREAS THROUGH TAMIL NADU SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

200 registered NGOs with a minimum of three successful years of service to rural people are sanctioned with a grant of Rs.5000/- each towards purchase of skill training equipment like sewing machines, typewriters, coir wheels etc., and play materials for Day Care Centres. The grant is disbursed through the State Social Welfare Board.

The Government of Tamil Nadu provides Rs.10 lakhs every year to the Tamil Nadu State Social Welfare Board to help Voluntary Organisations to develop infrastructure facilities for activities like crèche, balwadi and recreation centre for children, women etc. An amount of Rs.5,000/- to the above institutions is given as grant on 50 : 50 matching grant.

2.20 FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE

Family Counselling Centres have been established with the objective of providing counselling to preserve the basic social unit of a family. Presently, 6 Family Counselling Centres in Namakkal, Karur, Erode, Villupuram, Vellore and Perambalur run by NGOs are assisted by the Government through Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board. These centres help women in the redressal of their grievances relating to dowry harassment, marital maladjustment and de-addiction of alcoholism, besides counselling to HIV / AIDS victims.

2.21 TAMIL NADU STATE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

The Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women was constituted in the year 1993 with the following objectives:

1. To safeguard the welfare of women.
2. To go into the gender issues relating to the status of women.
3. To make recommendations to the Government for suitable action.

The above Commission was recently reconstituted with Dr.K.M. Ramathal as Chairperson. The Commission consists of a Chairperson and nine members. The Members of the Commission are (1) Secretary to Government, Social Welfare and NMP Dept. (2) Two Women MLAs., (3) One IAS Officer and

One Police Officer (4) Two reputed public women (5) One Lawyer and (6) Director of Social Welfare (Member-Secretary). The Commission will exercise powers as outlined in the Government Order.

2.22 THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT, 2005

The above Central Act and the Rules framed thereunder came into effect from 26th October, 2006 which provides for more effective protection of the rights of women guaranteed under the Constitution who are victims of violence of any kind occurring within the family and for matters connected therewith. As contemplated under the Act, District Social Welfare Officers have been appointed as District Protection Officers as an interim measure till women of public standing are appointed. A Service Provider for each district and two Service Providers for Chennai have been appointed from among the reputed Non-Governmental Organisations. The Service Providers have been informed of the requirements they should possess namely, medical facilities, counselling, and legal assistance. They have been further informed that reimbursement of expenses on food and shelter on account of the victims will be met by the State Government..

DETAILED LIST OF NEW SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR 2007-2008 SOCIAL WELFARE AND NMP DEPT (Secretariat)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Scheme	Amount
1	Purchase of One Roneo Xerox Machine and One Multifunctional Fax Machine (All-in-one) to Social Welfare.	0.80
2	Purchase of 2 one tonne split Air Conditioner to the Computer Cell of Social Welfare and NMP Department	1.00
	Total	1.80

SOCIAL WELFARE

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Scheme	Amount
1	Providing Library in each Higher Secondary School attached to Service Homes and in the Working Women Hostels	5.95
2	Provision of Computers with Accessories to 7 Service Homes in districts	3.44
3	Provision of Computers with Accessories to 25 Government Orphanages in districts	12.25
4	Provision of 30 Computers with accessories to the officers of the Social Welfare looking after NMP in the districts	14.75
5	Replacement of condemned vehicle for the District Social Welfare Officer, Dindigul	4.50

S.No.	Scheme	Amount
6	Providing Gas Burners and Gas pipes to the Government Orphanages, Kodappamandhu, The Nilgiris District	0.20
7	Purchase of cooking vessels for the 27 Government Orphanages	9.45
8	Provision of cooking vessels for Nutritious Meal Centres	50.00
9	Supply of stainless steel plates and tumblers to the beneficiaries in PT MGR NMP Centres	85.00
10	Construction of Kitchen-cum-store room in PT MGR NMP Centres	85.00
11	Modernisation of kitchens in Noon Meal Centres located in schools	100.00
Total		370.54

NUTRITION

3.1 PURATCHI THALAIVAR MGR NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME

The main objectives of the Nutritious Meal Programme are to provide adequate nutrition to the economically disadvantaged to combat malnutrition among the children, increasing their literacy rate and to act as a potent incentive for increasing the enrolment and reducing drop out from schools. Introduced on 1st July, 1982, Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme was initially implemented in Child Welfare Centres for pre-school children in the age group of 2 to 5 years and to primary school children in the age group of 5 to 9 years. Subsequently the scheme was extended to Nutritious Meal Centres in urban areas from 15-9-1982 and further extended to school students in the age group of 10 to 15 from September 1984. The students in I to V Standard do receive nutritious meal throughout the year (all 365 days) and those in the VI to X Standard receive the meal in all the school working days (220 days). The old age pensioners have been included in the scheme with effect from 15-1-1983.

A sum of Rs.781 crores has been provided as the total allocation for Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme for 2007-08.

NUTRITIOUS MEAL AT ANGANWADI CENTRES

(As on December-2006)

Sl. No	Scheme	No. of Centres	Number of Beneficiaries					Total
			Supplementary Food		Nutri-tious Meal	Supple-mentary Food	Nutritious Meal	
			6-24 Months	25-36 months child-ren	24-60 months children	Ante-natal /Post-natal mothers	Old Age Pensioners	
1.	GI.ICDS	26226	178227	129805	325454	156002	9779	799277
2.	Erstwhile WBICDS	19500	209533	125989	876297	357026	23357	1592202
	TOTAL	45726	387760	255794	1201751	513028	33136	2391479

School Noon Meal Centres

S No.	Name of the scheme	No. of centres	No. of beneficiaries
1	Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme (Rural)	40169	54,93,217

2	Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme (Urban)	1747	3,76,693
	Total	41,916	58,69,910

These rural School Centres are now under the administrative control of Commissioner and Director of Social Welfare with effect from 20-7-2006.

Total number of nutritious meal beneficiaries 12,34,887 + 58,69,910 = 71,04,797.

Feeding scale per beneficiary per day

Sl. No.	Food Commodities	Age Groups (Years)				old age pensioners
		2-5	5-9	10-15		
				VI to VIII Std.	IX & X Std	
1.	Rice	80 g	100 g	100 g	120 g	200 g
2.	Dhall	10 g	15 g	15 g	15 g	15 g
3.	Oil	2 g	1 g	1 g	1 g	1 g
4.	Salt	1.9 g	1.9 g	1.9 g	1.9 g	1.9 g
5.	Vegetables, Condiments & Fuel*	35 paise	35 Paise	35 Paise	35 paise	35 Paise
6.	Egg - Two eggs per week (Monday and Wednesday)	46 g minimum	46 g minimum	46 g minimum	46 g minimum	

* vegetables (15 paise), condiments (9 paise) and fuel (11 paise).

PROTEIN RICH FOOD

In addition to the nutritious meal, one boiled egg was being supplied to the children and students in the age group of 2-15 years from 3-6-1989. During the year 2006, the birth day of the Great Leader Thiru Kamarajar, 15th July was announced as 'Educational Development Day'. From that day onwards, two boiled eggs are provided every week to the students. Apart from this, 20 grams of Black Bengal gram or Green gram on Thursdays, 20 grams of potatoes on Fridays in cooked form are also supplied to school children. Through this, each student derives additionally 248.60 Calories of energy and 17 grams of protein per week.

In the Budget 2007-08, a sum of Rs.165 crores has been provided for providing three eggs per week.

SALT

Iodised Salt is used in the preparation of Meals under Puratchi Thalaivar MGR NMP to control and prevent iron deficiency / anaemia which is the commonest nutritional disorder widely prevalent among children in the age group of 2-15 years. Double Fortified Salt (Iron & Iodine) is used in the Nutritious Meal Programme in seven districts viz., The Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Salem, Trichy, Karur, Perambalur and Namakkal.

SUPPLY OF FOOD ARTICLES

Food articles (Rice, dhal and oil) intended for the nutritious meal centres are supplied by Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation from the taluk godowns to the Noon Meal Centres based on the indents placed by the Block Development Officers. Every month the supplies are normally made between the 10th & 25th. The District Collectors make payment for the supply of food articles (except bills relating to Chennai Corporation School Centres settled by the Commissioner of Municipal Administration) to the concerned Senior Regional Managers of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation. Vegetables, condiments and firewood are purchased locally by the Organizers. Besides, a sum of Rs.20/- p.m. per centre (up to 500 beneficiaries) and Rs.30/- p.m. per centre (for above 500 beneficiaries) is also given to meet contingencies such as purchase of cleaning materials for the centre (soap, broomstick, phenyl, etc.).

SWEET PONGAL

Government have ordered for the distribution of Sweet Pongal to the beneficiaries of Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme and ICDS on the birthday of the dignitaries.

FIXATION OF FEEDING STRENGTH

The feeding strength of the children is fixed by the District Collectors for every year for every centre through Block Development Officer based on the attendance in the Centres.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN AND STAFFING PATTERN.

This scheme provides employment opportunities for women, both in urban and rural areas, preference being given to widows and destitutes. Each of the Noon Meal Centre is employed with one Nutritious Meal Organiser, a Cook and an Assistant. One additional Cook and one additional Assistant are provided where the feeding strength exceeds 500 beneficiaries.

STRENGTH OF NMP STAFF

The total number of posts sanctioned in School Centres are as follows:

Number of Centres	Category	No. employed	Total No. of beneficiaries	
			In Working days	In Holidays
41916	Organiser	41,916	58,42,451	6,31,459
	Cook	41,993		
	Assistant	41,993		
	Central Kitchen Cook	38		

Keeping in mind the necessity to man the centres, the Government have issued orders for filling up of 29,773 (School Noon Meal Centres 14090 + Anganwadi Centres 15683) vacant posts by the respective District Collectors.

SUPPLY OF STAINLESS STEEL PLATES AND TUMBLERS

New stainless steel plates and tumblers are provided every year to the beneficiaries. During the year 2006-2007, a sum of Rs.50 lakh was released for purchase and supply of stainless steel plates and tumblers benefiting 1,51,515 students. During 2007-2008 a sum of Rs.135 lakh has been provided for purchase and supply of stainless steel plates and tumblers to the beneficiaries of Nutritious Meal Programme.

SUPPLY OF NEW ALUMINIUM COOKING VESSELS

During the year 2006-2007, a sum of Rs.50 lakhs was released for purchase of new aluminium cooking vessels at the rate of Rs.3000/- per centre to 1667 Noon Meal Centres. In 2007-2008, a sum of Rs.50 lakh is provided for supply of cooking vessels for another 1667 Noon Meal Centres.

REPAIRS TO NOON MEAL CENTRES

During the year 2006-2007, a sum of Rs.1 crore was allotted to Public Works Department for carrying out repairs to 1000 Noon Meal Centres at the rate of Rs.10,000/- per centre.

MODERNISATION OF KITCHEN

In order to improve the kitchen environment, LPG connection, Gas Stoves have been provided to 750 Noon Meal Centres in Corporation and Municipal areas at a cost of Rs.20,000/- per Centre during 2006-2007 for which Rs.150 lakhs has been incurred.

3.2 National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education (NPNSPE)

National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education was launched in Tamil Nadu on 15.08.1995. Under this scheme, rice is supplied free of cost by the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India, to provide nutritional support to primary school children studying in I to V Std at the rate of 100 grams per child per day for 10 months (200 days) in an academic year. With the infrastructure available under PTMGR NMP, the rice allotted under this scheme is converted into cooked food and supplied to the children. Cooking cost is reimbursed by the Government of India @ Rs.1.50 per child per day.

During the year 2006-2007, the Government of India provided funds under National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education as follows:-

- i) A sum of Rs.406.17 lakhs for the purchase of Kitchen devices, utensils to the 8124 Noon Meal Centres at the rate of Rs.5000/- per centre.
- ii) A sum of Rs.159.10 lakhs for the construction of 265 Kitchen-cum-Store Rooms each at a cost of Rs.60,000/-
- iii) A sum of Rs.165.84 lakhs towards Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (MME) Component of Mid Day Meal.

3.3 Supervision

A State Level Committee has been constituted to ensure that adequate quantity of quality food is served with reference to the enrolment of beneficiaries. District / Block / Corporation / Municipality / Panchayat level Committees have been formed to monitor the functioning of school Nutritious Meal Programme Centres. Elected representatives of people have been nominated to the above Committees along with Officials.

Willing mothers of children/student beneficiaries, one or two mothers on turn basis, monitor and ensure that hygienically prepared good quality food is supplied to the children in the Noon Meal Centres.

3.4 INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SCHEME

The Integrated Child Development Service Scheme is one of the World's most unique community based outreach programmes for early child hood care and development. The Anganwadi Centre, a courtyard-play-centre, is the symbol of Government system and services, closest to disadvantaged communities, at village/hamlet level. It is the focal point for converging various Government programmes for young children, girls and women from disadvantaged communities. ICDS is also the convergent interface between disadvantaged communities and other systems such as the primary health care and education systems. Tamil Nadu has a long history of providing organized childcare services which emphasise on nutrition to children outside home under institutional care. During the year 1975, 3 projects were launched at Chennai, Nilakottai and Thalli in Tamilnadu. Subsequently, it was extended to other areas with more number of projects throughout TamilNadu.

As per the revised norms, there must be one Anganwadi Centre for a population of 500-1500 in Rural and Urban areas and 300-1500 in Tribal areas. To cover all habitations in the State and in compliance with the Supreme Court's Order and as per the sanction of Government of India, the Government of Tamil Nadu have opened 3049 additional Anganwadi Centres during 2006-2007. Presently, there are 434 Projects functioning with 45726 Centres covering a total population of nearly 5 crores. 23.91 Lakhs beneficiaries are benefited under this scheme. Now Government of India have sanctioned 1539 new Anganwadi Centres & 3168 Mini Anganwadi Centres to Tamil Nadu.

3.4.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the ICDS Scheme are

- a) Universalisation of Child Development Services;
- b) To improve Nutritional, Health and Psycho – Social status of children in the age group of 0-5 years with special emphasis on preventing malnutrition in children under 3 years besides improving child care practices at the household level;
- c) Improving Nutritional & Health status of women, particularly pregnant and nursing mothers and adolescent girls;

- d) Empowering women and adolescent girls through increased awareness to take better care of their personal and household health and nutrition issues;
- e) Making Tamil Nadu a “Malnutrition Free State” and to provide a whole life cycle, nutrition security programme for those below poverty line with special focus on nutrition for expectant mothers, infants, children, adolescent and the aged.

3.4.2 BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROJECT

- Children in the age group of 6-24 months and 25-60 months
- Expectant mothers and Lactating mothers
- Adolescent girls
- Old Age Pensioners
- Community Groups \ Community leaders.

3.5 KISHORI SHAKTHI YOJANA

This scheme is being implemented since 2001-2002 in 37 ICDS projects of Pudukottai, Dharmapuri, Nagapattinam, The Nilgiris, Salem, Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur, Villupuram, Cuddalore, Dindigul and Thiruvarur districts, exclusively for the benefit of adolescent girls – to improve their literacy level and occupational skills to shape them in to better citizens.

Under this scheme,

- awareness campaigns on Nutrition and Health, legal rights, home management and child care are conducted through two days camps for adolescent girls aged 11 to 15 years, School going and school dropouts.
- 60 days Vocational training is imparted to adolescent girls in the age group of 16 to 18 years.

As per the Government of India sanction this scheme has been extended to all the 434 ICDS projects in the State at the cost of Rs.1.10 lakhs per project. The annual expenditure in implementing this scheme is Rs.477.40 lakhs.

3.6 NUTRITION PROGRAMME FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS - (NPAG)

Under Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG), malnourished adolescent girls are given 6 Kgs. of rice free of cost every month. At present this Programme is being implemented in Thiruvannamalai and Ramanathapuram Districts on Pilot basis.

An amount of Rs.3 crores will be incurred on providing free rice to adolescent girls under NPAG Scheme during the year 2007-2008.

3.7 SUPPLEMENTARY NUTRITION PROGRAMME

The supplementary feeding to the beneficiaries of ICDS will be continued during the year 2007-2008 at an estimated cost of Rs.116 crores. Of which, 50% will be shared by the Government of India. The feeding scale for each beneficiary per day under Supplementary Nutrition Programme is as below:

Nutrition Status	Ration of Weaning Food		
	Children (6-24 months)	Children (25-36 months)	Pregnant and Lactating Mothers
Normal	50 Gms.	100 Gms.	100 Gms.
Grade I & II	50 Gms.	100 Gms.	----
Grade III & IV	100 Gms.	150 Gms.	----

Number of beneficiaries

The number of beneficiaries under the above scheme is:

6 – 24 Months children	387760
25-36 Months children	255794
Antenatal & Postnatal Mother ..	513028

3.8 SUPPLY OF PRE-SCHOOL KITS

Pre-school education is provided at the Anganwadi Centres through Non-formal and play-way methods. The Government of India provide pre-school kit materials to each Anganwadi Centre at a cost of Rs.500/- per Centre per year. Apart from this, one time grant of Rs. 1000/- is sanctioned to the newly sanctioned Anganwadi Centres to procure play materials.

3.9 MODERNISATION OF ANGANWADI CENTRES

UNIFORM COLOUR PAINTING

In the first phase, 1000 Anganwadi Centres have been uniformly painted during 2006-07 at a cost of Rs.1500/- per Centre. The total cost involved is Rs. 15.00 lakhs.

PROVISION OF GAS & COOKER

Initially 1000 Anganwadi Centres have been provided with LPG connection, Gas stove, Cooker & Electrification during the year 2006-07. For this, an amount of Rs. 81,65,000/- has been sanctioned.

SUPPLY OF COOKING VESSELS

New cooking vessels have been provided to 7000 Anganwadi centres during 2006-07. Eversilver Plates and Tumblers are also provided to 1,76,000 beneficiaries in Anganwadi centres at a total cost of Rs. 1,03,55,000/-.

SUPPLY OF STAINLESS STEEL PLATES AND TUMBLERS

A sum of Rs.1.04 Crores had been provided for the year 2006-07 for the purchase of new cooking vessels to the centres and stainless steel plates and tumblers to the children in Anganwadi Centres. In the year 2007-08, Government have accorded sanction for the supply of new stainless steel plates and tumblers to the 2,20,425 SC/ ST beneficiaries enrolled in Anganwadi centres as a special scheme at a total cost of Rs.66.12 lakhs.

3.10 MONITORING

For a sharper focus on preventing and managing severe malnutrition, special studies in thrust areas for early identification and diagnosis will be taken up. Village Level Management Committees have been formed in all the districts. Village Level Management Committee consists of 15 members from the same village. The responsibility of the Village Level Management Committee is to monitor the functions carried out by the Anganwadi Centre and to help the Anganwadi Worker in the smooth functioning and implementation of project activities at their village level.

3.11 MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (MIS)

Under the Management Information System, for the retrieval of data from the district, necessary software were developed and installed in State Project Management Unit. District level trainings were given to the staff of District Programme Offices to send reports under MIS. All the erstwhile WB ICDS 318 projects and 116 General ICDS Projects were supplied with computer and adequate trainings were also given to the staff of the Child Development Project Offices.

3.12 NEW ANGANWADI CENTRES AND MINI ANGANWADI CENTRES

There are 45726 Anganwadi Centers functioning in Tamil Nadu. Under the second phase of expansion of ICDS Scheme, the Ministry of Women and Child Development, New Delhi have requested to universalize the ICDS scheme to provide a functional Anganwadi Centre in each settlement and ensure full coverage of all children especially SC/ST and minorities. Government of India have also conveyed the revised population norms for setting up of an Anganwadi Centre. Under the new population norms 1539 additional Anganwadi Centers and 3168 Mini Anganwadi Centres were identified and Government of India have accorded sanction for this. These Anganwadi Centres will be opened very shortly. When these centres start functioning, the beneficiaries need not walk more than one Kilometre to avail the ICDS services.

For improving the quality in the services of Anganwadi Workers, reliability checks are conducted periodically by the Statistical Inspectors in the districts by random selection of Anganwadi Centres.

3.13 GRADING OF ANGANWADI CENTERS.

For rating for Anganwadi Centres, indicators are selected under 10 different categories as in the given table and marks are assigned to the indicators.

SI. No	Category	No. of Indicators	Marks Assigned
1	Malnutrition Free	7	20
2	Health	10	17
3	Growth Monitoring	5	10
4	Supplementary feeding & NMP	5	10
5	Cleanliness & Maintenance	6	10
6	Adolescent Girls	6	10
7	Maintenance of Registers	3	7
8	Quality of service	4	7
9	Community participation	3	4
10	Convergence	3	5
Total		52	100

Based on the marks obtained, the AWCs will be classified as

- “A”- Grade AWC : (80-100 Marks)
- “B”- Grade AWC : (60-80 Marks)
- “C”- Grade AWC : (below 60 Marks)

If the Anganwadi Centre is “Malnutrition Free”, straightaway, it will be given “A”-Grade.

The District Programme Officer will decide the best three Anganwadi Centres among “A”-Grade Centres for recommending the Anganwadi Centre for State and National Awards.

3.14 HEALTH

Through convergence with the Department of Public Health, health services are delivered to the pregnant and lactating mothers and children below 5 years. The following activities are proposed for the year 2007-2008.

- Medicine Kits @ Rs.600/- per kit will be provided at a total cost of Rs.230.30 Lakhs for 38383 Anganwadi Centres.
- Replenishment of medicines will be sanctioned at a cost of Rs.5000/- for urban projects, and Rs.3000/- for rural projects. The total expenditure involved is Rs.5.00 lakhs

3.15 ADMINISTRATION

The Government have issued orders for recruitment of 1922 Anganwadi Workers and 4966 Anganwadi Helpers to fill up vacancies in Anganwadi Centres under the erstwhile WB ICDS III Project by following the existing rules in force. The Government have also issued orders in January 2007 to fill up further 2361 posts of Anganwadi Workers and 6434 posts of Anganwadi Helpers.

3.16 AWARDS

A cash award of Rs.5000/- is being given every year to 98 Anganwadi Workers for exemplary service and outstanding performance in order to encourage Anganwadi Workers in delivering quality service. The total cost of expenditure per year is Rs.4.90 lakhs.

3.17 TRAINING

Training contributes for Capacity building of field functionaries and ensures quality in service delivery. A number of Job Training, Refresher Training and Orientation Trainings were imparted to Workers, Helpers and Supervisors during 1999-2006.

Government of India had approved the State Training Action Plan (STRAP) for the year 2006-07 for a sum of Rs.527 lakhs.

Job Training to Anganwadi Workers and Refresher Training to Anganwadi Helpers are being organized in the respective projects.

Job Training and Refresher Training to Supervisor are being conducted at MLTC, Chennai.

Child Development Project Officer Refresher and Orientation Training to Trainers are being organized at CTC, Tharamani.

Under other Trainings, Infant and Young Child Feeding Training to all project functionaries of districts are conducted in the respective project/district.

The backlog of Job and Refresher Training of all the field functionaries and need based innovative training will be organized during 2007-08.

3.18 INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION(IEC)

IEC is an important inbuilt component of ICDS. Nutrition Education and Nutrition Services are delivered concurrently. IEC activities promote Health and Nutrition Services and enhance the credibility and image of Anganwadi Centres. IEC aims at improving maternal and child care practices, encouraging community participation and motivating community to support ICDS scheme.

The ultimate objective of IEC is to bring about positive behavioural change in Health and Nutritional practices among individuals, family and community and thereby facilitate reduction of malnutrition in the community. IEC, being an integral part of the programme, is implemented in close coordination with the activities of other components of ICDS. It precedes interlink and succeeds every activity of the scheme. A number of IEC activities including advocacy and mobilization camps for the Panchayat Presidents and Vice Presidents, Area Specific Programmes like Eradication of female infanticide, Prevention of early marriage, Orientation on Gender equity, Intensive IEC campaign on Prevention of Anaemia, Iodine deficiency disorder, Vitamin 'A' deficiency disorder, Workshop for Newly Married couples, Orientation on Health and Nutrition and Family Life Education for Adolescent Girls, Dramas and cultural programmes etc. have been carried out during the previous years. These IEC activities have significantly contributed to the improvement in several Health and Nutritional indicators. To sustain the improvement already achieved, need based, area specific and target oriented IEC activities have been proposed to be carried out in 434 projects for the year 2007-08 at an estimated total cost of Rs.108.50 Lakhs based on the Central Sector ICDS financial norms.

DETAILED LIST OF NEW SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR 2007-2008

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Scheme	Amount
1	Procurement of New Stainless Steel Plates and Tumblers for the Anganwadi Centres benefiting SC / ST	66.12
2	Upscaling of infrastructure in the office of the Project Coordinator, World Bank Assisted ICDS-III Projects, Chennai through purchase of 4 Nos. Xerox machine, 31 Nos of Fax and One Franking Machine	9.10
	Total	75.22

CHAPTER – IV

REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED

4.1 The Government of Tamil Nadu is geared to provide an enabling environment for disabled people to achieve livelihood security, equality, full participation in community life, and more independence and self-determination. The State Government has a vision to create a society where disabled and non disabled persons work together and are accepted as equal partners. This Government focuses on the prevention of disabilities and providing timely assistance to Persons with Disabilities to lead as normal a life as possible within the family and the community. This Government aims at early detection of disabilities and provision of comprehensive services in medical, vocational, economic and social spheres in order to make the disabled self-supporting citizens and integral part of the society. It is the joint responsibility for the Government, NGOs, Entrepreneurs, Philanthropists, and the Community as a whole to work towards the welfare of the disabled.

The Department for Rehabilitation of the Disabled discharges the following functions for the welfare of the Disabled.

- To assess the nature and extent of the problem of the disabled, including the early detection and immunization against polio, measles, rubella, mumps, etc., besides free bus-pass, supply of simple Aids and Appliances suited to the needs of the individual in order to improve mobility and physical capacity.
- To ensure that every disabled child is given free and compulsory primary education, either special education or integrated (inclusive) education, based on the level of disability of the individual and also to promote the integration of the handicapped students with normal students at every stage depending upon the capacity / level / need of each handicapped child.
- To develop the required skilled manpower by establishing Teacher Training Centres and develop a corps of competent Teachers in Educational Institutions / Training Centres who have developed a deep understanding of the problems of the handicapped.
- To promote special supportive facilities like scholarship, free transport, supply of teaching aids, special aids and assistive devices, appointment of Resource Teachers, Hostel facility, etc., and to help the disabled to pursue appropriate higher education.
- To identify trades suited to each category for the disabled, particularly in specific industries and to establish and run training centres for the disabled.
- To arrange financial assistance for the handicapped trainees towards purchase of tools, kits, etc. required by them.
- To facilitate banks and other financial institutions to assist liberally for self-employment ventures.
- To introduce measures for the removal of architectural barriers in all buildings, to provide easy access and indeed remove all barriers to the successful adjustment of the disabled.
- To take suitable measures to enable the disabled persons to participate in cultural and sports events, as in the case of normal persons.

- To take suitable measures to provide equal opportunities, ensure full participation and protect the rights of the disabled persons.

4.2 IMPLEMENTATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, 1995

Tamil Nadu leads other States in implementing the various provisions of the PWD Act, 1995. The Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995, enacted to give equal opportunities to the disabled, to protect their rights in order to integrate them with the normal society and to enable them to have full participation in the normal life, is a boost for the Disability Sector. A State Commissioner for the Disabled has been appointed in Tamil Nadu to monitor the implementation of the Act, besides his role as Head of the Department for Rehabilitation of the Disabled. The views sought by the Government of India to make amendments to various provisions for effective implementation will be sent shortly.

4.3 POPULATION OF THE DISABLED IN THE STATE

As per Census of India-2001 Report, the total disabled population in Tamil Nadu State is 16,42,497. The breakup details are as follows:-

i) Visually Handicapped	-	9,64,063
ii) Hearing Handicapped	-	1,97,115
iii) Orthopaedically Handicapped-		3,53,798
iv) Mentally Handicapped	-	1,27,521

In order to have a sound database on Disabled Population in the State, the State Government has decided to launch a State-wide survey to gather details relating to disabled population. The State Government has sanctioned Rs.5 lakhs for this purpose.

4.4 SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR THE DISABLED

Special Education is provided to the disabled through the Special Schools. There are 23 Government Special Schools – 10 for the Blind, 11 for the Deaf, one for the Severely Locomotor Disabled and one for the Mentally Challenged run by Government.

The following facilities are provided to the disabled studying in Government Special Schools:

- Free special education, free boarding and lodging
- Two sets of uniform free of cost every year.

Further, play materials, vessels and furniture have been supplied to all the Government Special Schools. Twenty Pre-School Sections for the Speech and Hearing Impaired children are functioning in the Government Special Schools for Deaf and in the Government-Aided Schools for the Deaf.

4.5 ESTABLISHMENT OF 10 EARLY INTERVENTION CENTERS

Early Intervention Centres for Infants and young children with hearing impairment have been established in 10 Districts - Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchy, Tiruvarur, Salem, Kanniyakumari, Tiruvallur, Sivaganagai and Tirunelveli. These centres are managed by reputed NGOs. The main objective of these centres is to identify infants and young children with hearing impairment and to provide early intervention services, with support and training to parents and families to facilitate the maximum development of the full potential of their children with hearing disabilities. Only children aged less than 2 ½ years with hearing impairment without any additional disabilities are admitted in these centres, so that by the time they become 5 years old, they can develop verbal language skills and get ready for admission into I standard of regular School and thereby get integrated.

4.6 CASH AWARD TO VISUALLY HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

Visually Handicapped students, who have studied in Tamil Medium and secured first three ranks at District and State level in 10th and 12th Public Examinations, are awarded with cash prize as noted below:

	State Level	District Level
10th Standard		
First Prize	4,000/-	2,000/-
Second Prize	3,000/-	1,500/-
Third Prize	2,000/-	1,000/-
Plus Two (12th Standard)		
First Prize	6,000/-	4,000/-
Second Prize	4,000/-	2,500/-
Third Prize	3,000/-	1,500/-

Further, financial assistance is provided to visually handicapped students for pursuing higher studies.

4.7 PROVIDING TAPE RECORDERS WITH PRE RECORDED CASSETTES TO THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED STUDENTS :

Visually Handicapped Students find it difficult to get "Readers" to read the lessons for them whenever they are in need of. To overcome this problem, Tape recorders with Pre-Recorded Lesson Cassettes are provided to Visually Handicapped Students, who are studying in the Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind at Poonamallee and Tiruchirapalli and Government High School for the Blind at Thanjavur. 107 students get this benefit and a sum of Rs.1.83 Lakhs has been spent for this scheme in the year 2006-2007.

4.8 COMPUTERS WITH 'TALKING SOFTWARE' TO THE GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR THE BLIND

In order to expose Visually Handicapped students to the use of Computers, 10 Computers with 'Talking Software' are provided to the Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind at Poonamallee and Tiruchirapalli. 5 Computers are given to each School costing Rs.13.66 Lakhs.

4.9 STARTING OF B.COM. AND B.C.A. COURSES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED STUDENTS

B.Com. and B.C.A. courses will be started exclusively for the Hearing Impaired students in the Presidency College at Chennai during the year, 2007-2008. This will enable the Deaf students to pursue higher education and improve their standard of living.

4.10(a) SCHOLARSHIP TO THE DISABLED

The State Government is providing scholarship to disabled students undergoing education up to post graduate level towards purchase of study materials as indicated below:

Standards	Scholarship per annum
(a) I std to V std	Rs.250/-
(b) VI std to VIII std	Rs.750/-
(c) IX std to XII std	Rs.1100/-
(d) Under Graduates	Rs.1500/-
(e) Professional courses and Post Graduates	Rs.1950/-

(b) READERS ALLOWANCE:

The State Government is providing Readers Allowances for the visually handicapped students along with scholarship at the following rates.

S.No.	Class	Readers allowance per annum
1	IX to XII Std.	Rs.750/-
2	Graduation Courses	Rs.1250/-
3	Post Graduates and Professional Courses	Rs.1500/-

4.11 SCRIBE ASSISTANCE TO VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSONS

The visually handicapped students studying IX Std. to XII Std. are permitted to engage a scribe for their school examinations and a sum of Rs.50/- per paper is paid to each scribe. 400 Visually Disabled students studying in the following schools get this benefit every year.

- a) Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Poonamallee, Chennai.
- b) Government Girls Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Tiruchirappalli.
- c) Government High School for the Blind, Thanjavur
- d) Little Flower Convent Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Chennai
- e) St. Louis Institute for the Deaf and Blind, Chennai
- f) Indian Association for the Blind Higher Secondary School, Madurai

4.12 TRAINING TO THE TEACHERS OF THE SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Teachers of the Special Schools require special training, because they handle different categories of children who are suffering from various disabilities. The duration of the programme is ten months. The details of the Training Programme are given below:-

S No	Name of the Institution	Nature of Training given	No. of Trainee Teachers
1.	Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Poonamallee, Chennai.	Junior Diploma in teaching the Blind.	15
2.	Balavihar Training School, Kilpauk, Chennai.	Junior / Senior Diploma in Teaching the Mentally Challenged	25
3.	Little Flower Higher Secondary School for the Hearing Impaired, Chennai.	Junior / Senior Diploma in teaching the Hearing Impaired.	50

4.13 SECONDARY GRADE TEACHERS TRAINING (DIPLOMA IN TEACHER EDUCATION) TO VISUALLY HANDICAPPED AND ORTHOPAEDICALLY HANDICAPPED:

It is the aim of this Government to conduct suitable training programmes to generate employment opportunities for the disabled persons. Secondary Grade Teachers Training (Diploma in Teacher Education-DTE) Programme is conducted at the Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind at Poonamallee. Every year 25 Visually handicapped and 25 Orthopaedically Handicapped persons undergo this two year Course. This will ensure more employment opportunities to the visually handicapped and orthopaedically handicapped persons.

4.14 GOVERNMENT REGIONAL BRAILLE PRESS

The Regional Braille Press is functioning in the campus of the Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Poonamallee to supply Braille Books for Visually Handicapped students. It has been modernised by installing two units of computerised mini Braille Printer.

4.15 MODERN TRAINING CUM PRODUCTION WORKSHOP (MTCPW), GUINDY, CHENNAI.

A Modern Training cum Production Workshop located at Guindy, Chennai, functions under the direct control of the State Commissioner for the Disabled and it undertakes Designing, Production and Manufacturing of Tricycles and Wheel chairs to meet the requirements of District Rehabilitation Centres every year. The finished Tricycles and Wheel chairs are distributed to the identified and eligible needy disabled persons through the District Disabled Rehabilitation Officers.

4.16 GOVERNMENT REHABILITATION HOME WITH SHELTERED WORKSHOP FOR THE BLIND WOMEN, POONAMALLEE

The State Government is organizing a training programme for the visually handicapped women to generate income. Visually handicapped Women in the age group of 18-40 years (45 years in the case of SC/ST) are given training in Chalk-Piece Making and Weaving in the Government Rehabilitation Home with Sheltered Workshop for the Blind women at Poonamallee. On completion of this training, they are given job in the Home itself in weaving bed sheets, towels, bandage cloth and chalk-piece making. These products are sold to hospitals and schools. At present 19 blind women are staying as inmates in the Home.

4.17 TRAINING FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS THROUGH DISTRICT REHABILITATION CENTRES

The Department for Rehabilitation of the Disabled is conducting the following Training Programmes for Disabled persons through the District Rehabilitation Centres.

1. Diploma Course in Medical Laboratory Technology (DMLT) - Two year duration. (Chennai, Salem, Tirunelveli, Trichy, Thanjavur, Madurai)
2. Computer Training Course - Six Months Duration in all Districts for Physically Handicapped and Hearing Impaired persons and in Chennai for the Blind persons.

The above mentioned Training programmes are conducted free of cost, which includes a stipend of Rs.300/- per month per trainee. Tuition fees and Training cost are borne by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

4.18 TRAINING FOR VISUALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

The Department for Rehabilitation of the Disabled is conducting the following training programmes for the Visually Impaired persons at the Government Industrial Training Centre for the Blind at Poonamallee.

1. Fitter-cum-Basic Machine Operator (One year duration)
2. Book-Binder (One year Duration)
3. Cutting and Tailoring (Women only) (One year Duration).

The above Training Programmes are conducted for 17 Visually Impaired persons, free of cost, which includes Tuition fees, Training cost, Free Boarding and Lodging, along with two sets of uniforms. Further, 19 Hearing Impaired persons are trained in the Government I.T.I. at Guindy in the Trade of "Fitter" and Rs.100/- per month is given as stipend to the trainees during the training period of 2 years.

4.19 FREE SURGICAL CORRECTION FOR POLIO AND SPINAL CORD AFFECTED PERSONS

Special medical camps are conducted by the Department for identification of spinal cord injured and polio affected persons in need of surgical correction through the District Rehabilitation Centres. On Identification, the disabled persons requiring surgery are sent to the Medical College Hospital / District Headquarters hospitals for Surgical Correction so as to enable them to walk freely and carry out their regular activities of daily living without the support of others and to eke out their livelihood independently.

The disabled persons, who undergo surgical correction are given Rs.500/- to meet out expenses during their stay at the hospitals and Rs.300/- is given as Honorarium to the Doctors and Nurses, who perform the surgery.

4.20 FREE SUPPLY OF AIDS AND APPLIANCES TO THE DISABLED

Aids and Appliances enhance the productivity of the disabled persons and enable them to move from one place to another place and lead an independent life. The following types of Aids and Appliances are provided to the identified and needy physically disabled persons, free of cost, according to their disability, usage of limbs, power and requirement of appliances through the District Rehabilitation Centres.

- (a) Tricycle
- (b) Wheel chair
- (c) Goggle
- (d) Folding stick
- (e) Braille Watch
- (f) Hearing Aid
- (g) Solar Rechargeable Battery
- (h) Caliper
- (i) Crutches
- (j) Artificial limb.

MODULAR FUNCTIONAL ARTIFICIAL LIMBS

The Government have proposed to provide the latest modular functional artificial limbs available in the country to the student amputees who have lost their original limbs. For this year, this may benefit 83 students and the cost of the above modular functional artificial limb is Rs.30,000/-

MOTORISED TRICYCLE

From 2007-2008, Motorised tricycle costing RS.35,000/- will be supplied to the severely disabled students numbering 60 at free of cost. Further, a subsidy of 30% of the cost of motorized tricycle / motor cycle or Rs.10,000/- whichever is less is given to 290 disabled working persons.

4.21 RESERVATION FOR THE DISABLED

The State Government is determined to implement the Policy of Reservation for the disabled effectively. 3% vacancies/seats arising in all the State/Public Services and Educational Institutions under Government, Government-Aided and Local Bodies have been reserved for the disabled. Of these vacancies, 1% has been reserved for Visually Handicapped, 1% for Speech and Hearing Impaired and 1% for Locomotor Disabled.

In the Education Department, with regard to teaching posts, 2% of vacancies have been reserved for the visually handicapped persons and 2% of vacancies in non-teaching posts have been reserved for hearing impaired persons.

Orders were issued to follow the Roster pattern of the Government of India while filling up 3% vacancies in Government Departments / Undertakings with disabled persons.

Orders were also issued by this Government to carry forward the vacancies earmarked for disabled persons, which were not filled up due to non-availability of disabled persons in the recruitment year, for a further period of 3 years.

Special recruitment drive

The Government have decided to hold a special recruitment test for employing the disabled in the backlog vacancies under 3% reservation through Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission. This will cover vacancies of posts which come under the purview of the TNPSC.

4.22 UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE TO THE UNEMPLOYED VISUALLY HANDICAPPED

Unemployed visually handicapped persons are paid unemployment allowance as indicated below for a period of 10 years or up to the age of 40 years (45 years in the case of SC/ST) or till they get employment, whichever is earlier:-

Sl. No.	Educational Qualification	Rates of Unemployment Allowance per month
1	Graduates/Post Graduates	Rs.450/-
2	P.U.C/H.S.C./Under Graduates	Rs.375/-
3	10 th Std and below	Rs.300/-

- Age: 18 to 40 years (45years in the case of SC/ST)
- Should have been in the live Registers of Employment Exchange for a minimum period of one year.

4.23 SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Various Training Programmes are organized to impart skills to the Disabled persons so as to engage them in Self-Employment. The Department is taking effective steps to assist the disabled persons to avail loan from the Nationalised Banks for self-employment ventures, including setting up of Bunk stalls. Subsidy equal to 1/3 of loan amount or Rs.3000/-, whichever is less, is sanctioned by the Government. Bunk stall subsidy of Rs.5,000/- or 1/3 of the loan amount, whichever is less, is given to disabled persons, who desire to install Bunk Stall in public places.

Women with disability are given training for self-employment and loan for starting small business. Disabled persons in rural areas are given priority in handicrafts and to run petty shops.

Special Self-Help Groups are formed exclusively with persons with disabilities and financial assistance is provided to these Groups to start self-employment ventures.

Further, the State Government is taking effective steps to provide assistance for self-employment ventures through the Schemes sponsored by the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation, Government of India.

4.24 ISSUE OF NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD, PASS BOOK AND DISABILITY CERTIFICATE

The State Government is giving top priority for issue of National Identity Cards to all the eligible disabled persons in the State. As per the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995, Disability Certificates are issued by the District Medical Board for Persons with Disabilities formed at the District Medical College Hospital and District Head Quarters Hospitals on a specific day/days of the week. The District Medical Board for the Persons with Disabilities consists of 3 members, of whom one member is a Specialist in the field of ENT/ Ophthalmology/ Ortho/ Psychiatrist/ Pediatrician. No fee is collected from persons with disabilities for issuing these Certificates.

Regular camps are conducted throughout the State at Block and Taluk levels for issuing Identity Cards. 50 Medical Boards for Persons with Disabilities are functioning in Tamil Nadu. Students with disabilities are given Identity Cards through special camps conducted at the School premises of Special Schools / SSA Schools / IED Schools.

4.25 CONCESSIONS TO PERSONS MARRYING DISABLED PERSONS

To encourage persons marrying disabled persons, the following concessions are given by the Government:-

The quantum of Marriage Assistance has been raised from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.20,000/- by this Government during 2006-07.

SI No	Name of the Scheme	Nature of Assistance	Number of Beneficiaries availed
1.	Concession to person marrying visually handicapped	Cash assistance for marriage expenses Rs.10000/- National Saving Certificate Rs.10000/-	100
2.	Concession to person marrying persons without one arm / one leg	Cash assistance for marriage expenses Rs.10000/- National Saving Certificate Rs.10000/-	145
3.	Concession to person marrying speech and hearing impaired	Cash assistance for marriage expenses Rs.10000/- National Saving Certificate Rs.10000/-	145

4.26 FREE TRAVEL CONCESSION TO THE DISABLED PERSONS IN STATE OWNED TRANSPORT CORPORATION BUSES

The State Government is implementing the scheme of providing free bus passes to benefit various disabled persons to travel in State owned Transport Corporation Buses. The Visually Handicapped persons are permitted to travel free of cost in the Government Transport Corporation Buses up to 100 Kms from their

residence without any condition. The concessions have been extended to other disabled persons with certain conditions in order to pursue their education, visit hospitals, training centres and undertake employment. The visually handicapped and orthopaedically handicapped persons are permitted to travel to their native place and back within the State once in a year in Express buses. Mentally challenged are permitted to travel with one escort, free of cost without income limit.

4.27 REGISTRATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS WORKING FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED PERSONS

It is mandatory for the NGOs providing various services to the disabled persons to get registered under the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995. Any Non-Governmental Organisation providing any rehabilitation services to persons with disability in the State should register themselves in the office of the State Commissioner for the Disabled, who is the competent authority for the purpose of Registration under Section 52 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.

4.28 BARRIER FREE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE DISABLED PERSONS

The State Government is taking various steps to provide barrier free environment for the disabled persons. This is to ensure integration of disabled persons with the mainstream. As per the provisions envisaged under Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, the Development Control Rules (DCR) for Chennai Metropolitan Development Area have been amended for provision of ramps and other barrier free facilities in Public Buildings for the benefit of physically handicapped persons. The State Government has directed the Public Works Department, Highways Department, Transport Department and Municipal Administration Department to take necessary steps to provide barrier free environment for disabled persons so as to ensure full participation of the disabled persons in all the activities of the society.

4.29 MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE TO SEVERELY HANDICAPPED

The amount given as Maintenance Allowance to the severely handicapped has been raised from Rs.200/- to Rs.500/- per month with effect from 1.9.2006. Maintenance Allowance is sent to the residence of disabled persons through money order every month. The number of Severely Disabled Persons availing maintenance allowance has been increased from 8400 to 10,000 by this Government during 2006-07. Government has decided to provide all severely mentally retarded persons with the same pension as for severely handicapped persons, without any ceiling as to their number or income.

4.30 (a) SHELTERED HOME FOR ADULT MENTALLY CHALLENGED GIRLS

To protect the adult mentally challenged girls above 14 years, the Government offers grants-in-aid to Non-Governmental Organisations for running sheltered Homes. Under this scheme, five Homes at Madurai, Salem, Tuticorin, Sivagangai and Vellore have been sanctioned a grant of Rs.2.50 lakhs per Home for rehabilitating 30 girls in each Home every year.

(b) HOME FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

In order to take care of the Mentally ill persons, the Government has established a Home for the Mentally ill at Thirupathur in Vellore District. Uthavum Ullangal, a local NGO manages this Home. This Home creates social awareness in the community about the capabilities of the persons with Mental illness. The Home gives shelter for 25 mentally ill persons.

4.31 THREE DAY CARE CENTRES FOR THE MENTALLY CHALLENGED CHILDREN IN THENI DISTRICT ESTABLISHED THROUGH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

Three day care centers for the mentally challenged are functioning in Theni District, benefiting 90 children. Non-Governmental Organisations manage these centres with the grants-in-aid assistance provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

4.32 GRANTS-IN-AID ASSISTANCE TO RUN SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR THE PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION

In Theni District one Special School run by Non-Governmental Organisation benefiting 25 mentally retarded children is functioning with the assistance of Government.

Further, Grant-in-aid is provided to one Special School each in Chennai, Salem and Coimbatore benefiting Mentally Retarded Children

4.33 REGISTRATION OF PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION CENTRES

Tamil Nadu Registration of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centres for Mentally ill Persons Rules, 2002, has been notified to regulate the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centres for the Mentally ill persons for the first time in India. All the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centres should be registered as per these Rules.

4.34 ASSISTANCE TO PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED LAW GRADUATES

Fifteen Physically Handicapped Law graduates are given financial assistance of Rs.3000/- each to register at Bar Council as Lawyers and for purchase of Law books.

4.35 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE DISABLED

'International Day of the Disabled' is observed on 3rd December every year by the State Government in accordance with the United Nations Organisation's appeal. The main aim of observing this day is to encourage the disabled persons to showcase their different skills and abilities in the field of Arts and Sports. In connection with the International Day of the Disabled, "State Level Sports Meet" is conducted. As many as 5000 disabled children participate from all over the State. 102 sports events are conducted and prizes distributed to winners and certificates issued to all the participants. On 3rd December, cultural programme is also conducted to bring out the talent of disabled children. On this day, State Awards are distributed to the Best Employer, Best Social Worker, Best Employee, Best Teacher and Best Institution, who render outstanding service for the welfare of the disabled. Aids and Appliances are also distributed on this occasion to the disabled persons.

4.36 STATE AWARDS

To encourage the persons who are involved in the services for the disabled, the following Awards are presented by the State Government during Independence Day and International Day of the Disabled.

Details of State Awards given on the occasion of Independence Day:-

S.No.	Name of the Award	Nature of Award
1	Best Employer Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal, and Certificate
2	Best Institution Award (for Best institution serving Disabled persons)	10 Grams of Gold Medal Cash Prize of Rs.50,000/-, and Certificate
3	Best Institution Award (for Best Institution serving women)	10 Grams of Gold Medal, Cash Prize of Rs.50,000/- and Certificate
4	Best Social Worker Award (for outstanding work done for disabled)	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
5	Best Social Worker Award (for outstanding work done for women)	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
6	Best Doctor Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
7	Best Collector Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
8	Best District Disabled Rehabilitation Officer Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate

Details of State Awards given on the occasion of International Day of the Disabled (On 3rd December of every year):-

S.No.	Name of the Award	Nature of Award
1	Best Employer Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
2	Best Employee Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
3	Best Teacher Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
4	Best Institution Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate

4.37 NATIONAL AWARDS:

National Awards are distributed by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India on the occasion of International Day of the Disabled, which is observed on 3rd December every year. The Awards are presented to Best Disabled Employee, Employer, Placement Officer, Institution, Individual, Creative Disabled, Creative Disabled Children, Best Role Model and also for New Technological Innovations useful for the disabled persons. Every year 70 National Awards in 12 categories are given by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. During 2006-07, Tamil Nadu has received six National Awards.

4.38 DISTRICT REHABILITATION CENTRES

Tamil Nadu is the only State in the Country having District Rehabilitation Centres in all the Districts. District Rehabilitation Centres are functioning in the State with State fund in all the 30 Districts. These District Rehabilitation Centres identify the disabled persons and provide necessary rehabilitation assistance depending on the nature of disability.

4.39 BLIND RECANNERS EMPLOYED IN THE DISTRICT REHABILITATION CENTRES

At present 26 Blind Recanners are working in the District Rehabilitation Centres (Except Chennai and Madurai) in the time scale of pay of Rs.2550-55-2660-60-3200.

4.40 NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR REHABILITATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (NPRPD)

The National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (NPRPD) Scheme is implemented in six Districts, namely Kancheepuram, Tiruvannamalai, Ramanathapuram, Theni, Thanjavur and Tiruvarur. The NPRPD aims at providing rehabilitation services at Gram Panchayat level. The main objective of the scheme is to provide Community Based Rehabilitation services to the disabled population in these Districts.

As a part of this scheme, a State Resource-Cum-Training Centre (SRTC) is functioning at Chennai and conducting training programme for Government servants and others on rehabilitation of the Disabled.

4.41 NATIONAL TRUST

The National Trust Act for the welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities, was enacted in 1999 with the main objective to enable and empower persons with these disabilities to live as independently and as fully within as close to the community to which they belong. In order to fulfill this objective, Local Level Committees (LLC) have been formed in the Districts to effectively implement the programs of the National Trust with District Collector as the Chairman of the Local Level Committee. An amount of Rs.10000/- per annum is allotted to each Local Level Committee to take up activities, which includes awareness generation, appointment of legal guardians, sensitization of Non-Governmental Organisations highlighting the salient features on National Trust, etc.

4.42 GOVERNMENT REHABILITATION HOMES

10 Rehabilitation Homes are functioning in the following 10 places with a view to extending medical assistance and rehabilitation to persons suffering from leprosy.

SI No	Government Rehabilitation Home	Established on
1	Paranur, Kancheepuram District	2.10.1971
2	Ulundurpet, Villupuram District	22.1.1972
3	Bargur, Krishnagiri District	18.6.1972
4	Pudukottai, Pudukottai District	7.1.1973
5	Manaiyeripatti, Thanjavur District	17.2.1973
6	Y. Pudupatti, Madurai District	22.4.1973

7	Mallavadi,Thiruvannamalai District	4.7.1973
8	Selliampatti, Dharmapuri District	19.10.1973
9	Deviyakurichi, Salem District	23.10.1973
10	Vinnapalli, Erode District	10.1.1974

Each Government Rehabilitation Home has a sanctioned strength of 400 adults and 25 children. Admission is voluntary after medical confirmation of the disease. The Government Rehabilitation Home, Ulundurpet admits leprosy beggars who are convicted by Judicial Magistrate. The patient is admitted along with his or her family members. Discharge from the Home is either on good health condition or on disciplinary grounds.

Inmates are provided with free boarding, lodging, clothing, medical facilities, and recreation facilities, such as games, library, musical instruments and television. Able inmates are trained in mat weaving, cloth weaving, tailoring and shoe-making. They are paid wages for the goods produced by them.

Each inmate is supplied diet at a cost of Rs.20/- per day for adults and Rs.15/- per day for children. On special occasions such as Pongal, Deepavali and Gandhi Jayanthi, special diet is supplied at an additional cost of Rs.5 per inmate. Two sets of clothes are distributed every year along with free dhoties and sarees during Pongal festival. Every year Micro Cellular rubber footwear and mats are supplied. Plates and tumblers are supplied once in five years and blankets are supplied once in three years. Text books and Note Books are also given to the children of inmates from Std-I to Std-XII.

Inmates are given medical assistance by the Medical Officers. Funds are allotted to each Home to meet the financial expenditure on the following items:-

SI No	Item	Expenditure allotted per annum
1.	Supply of Special type of shoes and artificial limbs (for Needy inmates)	Rs.1000/-
2.	Purchase of Spectacles	Rs.2000/-
3.	Tooth Brush and Tooth Powder (Per year)	Rs.2000/-
4.	Sports Materials	Rs.1200/-
5.	Musical Instruments	Rs.400/-

Further a sum of Rs.500 is given to perform funeral rites.

4.43 GOVERNMENT CARE CAMP, MELPAKKAM

The Tamil Nadu Prevention of Beggary Act was enacted in the year of 1945. The Government Care Camp at Melpakkam was started on 1-3-1954 with a strength of 950 members (Males 770+Females 180). The Beggars convicted by the Judicial Magistrates are kept in the Home. They are provided with free boarding, lodging, clothing, medical facilities and also given training in various trades like weaving, carpentry, pottery and tailoring.

Two towels, two sets of shirts and shorts to the male inmates and two sets of sarees and blouses to the female inmates are supplied once in a year. Apart from this, free dhoties and sarees are supplied on the Pongal Day. On completion of conviction period, they are sent back to their native place.

4.44 DISTRIBUTION OF COLOUR TELEVISION SETS

The programme of distribution of Colour Television Sets, free of cost to the families, who do not have Television Sets, was inaugurated in September, 2006. Accordingly, the inmates of all 10 Government Rehabilitation Homes were given Colour Television sets. 419 Nos. of 14" Colour Television sets and 104 Nos. of 21" Colour Television sets were distributed in the 10 Homes. Further, 2 Nos. of 21" Colour Television sets were distributed to the Care Camp, Melpakkam for the benefit of inmates.

4.45 CONSTITUTION OF DISABLED WELFARE BOARD

The Government has established a separate welfare board for disabled to ensure the continuing governmental attention and assistance for the disabled in the future and a separate Bill will be introduced in this current session of the Legislative Assembly.

DETAILED LIST OF LIST OF NEW SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR 2007-2008

(Rupees in Lakhs)		
S.No.	Scheme	Amount
1	Providing Subsidy for purchase of Motorised Tricycles for Physically Handicapped persons	50.00
2	Providing subsidy for purchase of Modular Functional Artificial Limbs for the Physically Handicapped persons	25.00
3	Purchase of Books for the Library of the State Commissionerate Office	2.00
4	Purchase of Publicity Materials for conducting Awareness Camps in Rural and Urban Areas	20.00
5	Purchase of Electronic Weighing Machines for Rehabilitation Homes	0.27
6	Purchase of Computers and related Furniture for Rehabilitation Homes	3.00
Total		100.27

CHAPTER – 5

SOCIAL DEFENCE

5.1 As in other fields, Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer in establishing Reformatory School way back in 1887 at Chengleput to ensure services for the rehabilitation of the abandoned, neglected, destitute and delinquent children.

The institutions under the Department provide care, treatment (correctional) training (educational and vocational) and rehabilitation to the children who are neglected and children in conflict with law coming under the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and girls and women institutionalised under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. The Department also provides aftercare services to the boys, girls and women discharged from the institutions.

The Government of India have reviewed the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and enacted the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2006. Based on the amendments, rules will be framed.

5.2.1 JUVENILE JUSTICE BOARDS

Eight Juvenile Justice Boards have been constituted at Chennai, Tirunelveli, Thanjavur, Salem, Cuddalore, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai and Coimbatore to deal with cases of children in conflict with law. The Boards consist of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the first class with two social workers (including one woman social worker) having powers conferred by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. The Boards meet thrice a week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the premises of the respective Observation Homes.

5.2.2 OBSERVATION HOMES

Children in conflict with law are being admitted in the Observation Homes through Juvenile Justice Boards. There are six Government Observation Homes one each at Chennai, Tirunelveli, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli, Salem and Cuddalore and two Observation Homes run by NGOs at Madurai and Coimbatore. Maintenance Grant of Rs.225/- per month per child is provided to Observation Homes run by Non-Governmental Organisations.

5.2.3 SPECIAL HOMES FOR BOYS & GIRLS

Children in conflict with law who have been found guilty and committed by the Juvenile Justice Boards are sent to Special Homes for care, custody, training and rehabilitation till the end of the period ordered by the Juvenile Justice Boards.

There are two Government Special Homes, one at Chennai for girls and another at Vellore for Boys.

5.3.1 CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEES

To deal with cases of children who are in need of care and protection, eighteen Child Welfare Committees have been constituted in the following places

1. Chennai	7. Salem	13. Thanjavur
2. Chengalpattu	8. Coimbatore	14. Tiruchirappalli
3. Ranipet	9. Virudhunagar	15. Madurai
4. Cuddalore	10. Dindigul	16. Tirunelveli
5. Dharmapuri	11. Karaikudi	17. Nagapattinam
6. Erode	12. Thoothukudi	18. Thiruvallur

Each Child Welfare Committee consists of a non-official Chairman and 4 Members (including one woman member). These Child Welfare Committees are vested with the powers of Metropolitan Magistrate or Judicial Magistrate of First Class. These Committees meet thrice a week on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the premises of the notified homes.

5.3.2 CHILDREN HOMES FOR BOYS & GIRLS

31 Children's Homes are functioning in the State for providing care, training and education including vocational education to the children sent by the Child Welfare Committees.

(i)	Government Children Home for Boys & Girls (Chengalpattu, Tattaparai, Ranipet, Thanjavur, Chennai-13, Mallipudur, Panchapalli, Erode, Villupuram and Karaikudi) & Girls-1 (Chennai)	11
ii)	(Children Homes run by Non-Governmental Organisations (Chennai-21, Chennai-113, Chennai-8, Chennai-93, Chennai-17, Chennai-107, Chennai-39, Chennai.10 (2 Institutions), Gandhigram, Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Salem, Madurai, Thiruvallur, Thiruvannamalai, Virudhunagar, Mayiladuthurai, Dindigul and Thoothukudi.	20
Total		31

Children's Homes would cater exclusively to the needs of children who require care and protection as ordered by Child Welfare Committees.

Non-Governmental Organisations that are running and maintaining childcare institutions are given grant-in-aid of Rs.225/- per month per child towards their maintenance charges by the Government. The Children's Home under Bala Vihar, Chennai where mentally retarded children are kept are given grant-in-aid of Rs.400/- per month / per child and Children's Home for differently abled children at Mayiladuthurai are given grant-in aid of Rs.600/- per month per child towards their maintenance charges by the Government.

5.3.3 AFTER CARE ORGANISATIONS

The After Care Organisations are functioning at the following 3 places to provide rehabilitation to the discharged inmates of Children Homes / Special Homes for Boys & Girls.

1.	Government After Care Organisation for Boys, Athur (Kancheepuram District)
2.	Government After Care Organisation for Boys, Madurai
3.	Government After Care Organisation for Women, Vellore

Job oriented vocational training are imparted to the inmates staying in the After Care Organisations. The children discharged from Children Homes are admitted to After Care Organizations to continue their higher studies.

5.4 VIGILANCE / PROTECTIVE HOMES UNDER IMMORAL TRAFFIC (PREVENTION) ACT 1956

Vigilance / Protective Homes were established under the provisions of Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 to provide care, training and rehabilitation to the women victims in the following five centres:-

Chennai	1
Madurai	1
Tiruchirappalli	1
Salem	1
Coimbatore	1

Total	5
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5.5 RESCUE SHELTER

These Shelters are intended for the detention of under trial women and girls who have been charged with offences under Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. They are kept in the Shelters temporarily till their cases are disposed of by the courts. Six Rescue Shelters are functioning for women victims whose cases are under trials. These shelters are functioning along with the Vigilance / Protective Homes and one in After Care Organisation in Vellore.

5.6 UNMARRIED MOTHERS HOME

Women and girls who are victims of sexual exploitation and become pregnant can be admitted in Government Vigilance Home and Stri Sadana, Chennai-4.

5.7 SHORT STAY HOME

Two Short Stay Homes are run by the Non-Governmental Organisations in the following places for stranded girls.

1. "Abhaya Nilayam", Chennai,
2. St. Francis Xavier Rescue Home at Adaikalapuram in Thoothukudi District (NGO).

These girls are permitted to stay for a period of 90 days and can be extended for additional period of 45 days with the permission of Commissioner of Social Defence. The Government every year is sanctioning a maintenance grant of Rs.225/- per month per girl.

5.8 HALF-WAY HOME

The Half Way Home was started at Ulundurpet, Villupuram District during the year 1999-2000 with the participation of a Non-Governmental Organisation to accommodate 25 girls. Now, this Home is functioning at Madapattu Village, Villupuram district for the following purpose.

- To maintain temporarily the girls who are in moral danger.
- To re-integrate the children with their family early and to rehabilitate them.
- To provide educational and vocational training to the girl children who are living in vulnerable situation
- To protect the rights of the girl children.

5.9 JUVENILE GUIDANCE BUREAU

To provide guidance and counselling to the children and parents / guardians in order to facilitate reform and rehabilitation of children in conflict with law Juvenile Guidance Bureau studies the psychological problems of the inmates of Observation / Children / Special Homes and furnishes its reports to the respective competent authorities. Five Juvenile Guidance Bureaux, two at Chennai and one each at Madurai, Vellore and Coimbatore are functioning with the participation of Non-Governmental Organisations.

5.10 EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

Education is imparted upto VIII standard in all the Government Children's / Special Homes. In the Government Children's Home for Boys at Chengalpattu and Government Special / Children's Home for Girls at Chennai, education is imparted upto X standard apart from providing computer training.

The department also takes care of the higher education of these children by facilitating their admission in Medical, Engineering, Polytechnic, ITI Certificate courses and Higher Secondary schools. The details of children studying in various courses outside their respective Children / Special Homes are given below:

Medical Education (Degree Course)	1
Engineering Degree Course	1
I.T.I. Certificate Course	61
Higher Secondary Course	18
Total	81

5.11 VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Vocational training is imparted with the help of trained teachers and instructors. Apart from the above, the following short-term vocational training courses are also offered.

1. Flour grinding
2. Automobile Mechanism
3. Screen Printing
4. Computer training.

Incentive provided to children studying vocational trades

Skilled Children	Rs.70/- per month per child
Semi-Skilled Children	Rs.50/- per month per child

The incentive payment is saved and credited to the pocket money of the children every month. Pocket money of Rs.5/- is given to each child every month.

5.12 VOCATIONAL TRAINING TO THE DISCHARGED INMATES

In the After Care Organisation for Boys at Athur, Kancheepuram District, training is imparted in job-oriented trades like Desk Top publishing (Computer), Automobile Mechanism and Electrician Training to the discharged inmates.

So far 216 students have benefited under this scheme.

The inmates of After Care Organisation for Women at Vellore, are trained in Needle Work and Tailoring.

5.13 REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

The Department of Social Defence is providing rehabilitation to the children/inmates discharged from the institutions, as detailed below:

1) A Marriage grant of Rs.3,000/- is sanctioned to the girls as a method of rehabilitation. A sum of Rs.2000/- is also paid towards marriage day expenses.

2) Tamil Nadu Social Defence Welfare Fund for Women & Children Rules 2002 was framed to provide infrastructural facilities to the institutions, education assistance to the total orphan / destitute children / to provide financial assistance not exceeding Rs.5000/- (or) material assistance for a value of not exceeding Rs.10,000/- to the discharged inmates under Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of children) Act, 2000 & provisions under Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. Petty repairs and construction works in the existing buildings not exceeding Rs.20,000/- per annum in an institution, providing sports and recreational materials to the institutions, and other expenses in the best interest of the children.

The fund is administered by a Governing Body. The women and girls discharged from the Vigilance / Protective Homes are provided with financial assistance under self-employment scheme from the Tamil Nadu Social Defence Welfare Fund for Women and Children. A sum of Rs.5000/- is provided to each discharged women / girls to start trades on their own such as petty shops, tailoring shops and to rear cattle or goats. So far 153 ex-inmates have benefited under the scheme.

3) A Lump-sum grant is also provided for the purchase of tools and equipment to the trained children in the following vocational trades when they go out of the Children/Special Homes so as to facilitate them to start trades on their own:

Sl.No.	Vocational Sections	No. of Awards	Lumpsum Grant per head
1.	Carpentry	5	2,000
2.	Weaving	2	1,000
3.	Book-Binding	3	1,000
4.	Gardening and Agriculture	4	500
5.	Masonry	2	500
6.	Tailoring	10	2500
7.	Embroidery	2	1000
8.	Metal Work	4	1,000
9.	Mat-Weaving	4	1,000
10.	House Wiring and Plumbing	2	1,000
11.	Electric arc Welding	2	1,000
12.	Two wheeler Servicing & repair	2	2,000

5.14 FAMILY SUPPORT SCHEME

The scheme for family support is implemented with a view to help children who have come to Children Homes due to poor economic condition. Under the scheme children in childcare institutions under the Department are de-institutionalized and allowed to stay with their family. Financial support is extended to such children to continue their education. Children are identified by a Committee and placed back with their parents under the scheme. Financial assistance of Rs.200/- per month per child is provided to the family till their actual date of discharge. The scheme has been framed in such a way to help children to study on their own, instead of joining in Children Homes.

5.15 ERADICATION OF JUVENILE BEGGARY

One Juvenile Guidance Bureau is run by Indian Council for Child Welfare with financial support from State Government in the form of grant-in-aid to prevent juvenile beggary by counselling the children / parents.

5.16 SPECIAL CARE CENTRE

To provide parental care to the destitute children in Children Homes, one Special Care Centre (girls) is functioning through Non-Governmental Organisation at Chennai. Fifty girl children are benefited under the scheme.

5.17 CRISIS INTERVENTION CENTRE FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

To ensure prevention of child abuse, Government has launched a project through Indian Council for Child Welfare, Chennai (Tamil Nadu). The project takes on record and enquires into the cases of child abuse and provides temporary care and protection to children. It also provides Guidance and Counselling services to the children and their family.

5.18 COMPREHENSIVE STREET CHILDREN PROGRAMME

Under the Comprehensive Street Children Programme, 50 children are admitted in each institution and such children are provided food, non-formal education and vocational training. These shelters provide a safe place to the street children. A maintenance grant of Rs.1,35,000/- per annum per shelter (i.e.Rs.225/- per child per month x 50 children x 12 months) is provided. Government has sanctioned to start six more shelter homes in the city of Chennai under comprehensive programme for Street Children by Non-Governmental Organisations under Part II Schemes 2006-2007. At present, the Shelters are functioning at the following places.

Chennai	2	Tirunelveli	1
Madurai	2	Salem	1

300 children are benefited under the scheme.

5.19 CHILDLINE

CHILDLINE, is a national 24-hour, free, emergency telephone helpline and outreach service for children in need of care and protection. The **CHILDLINE** number 1098 is a toll free number that is common in all the cities of India. Childline India Foundation (C.I.F) was founded in June 1996, which is the Nodal Agency for implementing CHILDLINE services in the cities / districts across India. CHILDLINE is currently operational in 73 cities which includes 10 cities in Tamil Nadu functioning at Chennai, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Coimbatore, Salem, Tirunelveli, Kanniyakumari, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam and Kancheepuram (Mahabalipuram) managed by the Non-Governmental Organisation with the financial support from the Government of India. The Commissioner of Social Defence is the Chairperson of Childline Advisory Board of Chennai Childline. **CHILDLINE** aims to reach out to the most marginalised children between the age

group of 0-18 years, and provides interventions of shelter, medical, repatriation, rescue, death related, sponsorships and, emotional support and guidance.

5.20 MISSING CHILD BUREAU

The main objective of the Missing Child Bureau are:

- To trace and arrange the missing children return home soon, safely and re-associate with their family.
- To minimise the child abuse and neglect.
- To provide link between various Government and Private Agencies dealing with missing children.
- To establish a permanent data bank about missing children and to preserve details about the children in institutions.

To find out the run away children / missing children, for collecting data through police and also through application received in this department, this scheme has been taken up.

To collect data's from the Police Department and to have touch with institutions (both Government / Non-Governmental Organisations) whether the children are admitted in the Homes. The applications received from the parents / guardians to the Missing Child Bureau will be uploaded in the website of the department (www.tn.nic.in/socialdefence). At present the services are available in **Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai.**

5.21 PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT, MONITORING AND EVALUATION CELL

At present the Programme Development, Monitoring and Evaluation Cell in the Commissionerate of Social Defence consists of a Programme Development, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer assisted by two Field Officers. The task of the Cell is to undertake periodical inspection of the institutions under the Juvenile Justice System, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, implementation of programmes through NGOs which are assisted by State or Central Government viz., Welfare programme for Street Children, Drug abuse prevention and Swadhar Scheme.

5.22 INITIATIVES FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING AND COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Combating trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children is one of the prime concerns of the State Government. Towards this objective, the following initiatives have been taken:

- A State Level Co-ordination Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary to Government was constituted on 21.11.2001 and it has been reconstituted on 01.08.2006.
- Similarly, District Level Advisory Committees under the Chairpersonship of District Collectors have been constituted

- Village Level Watch-dog Committees under the Chairpersonship of Village Panchayat Presidents have also been constituted in 12547 Panchayat to address the problems at micro level. Tamil Nadu is the first State to have created this kind of a three tier structure to combat trafficking
- A sub-committee under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare has been set up to act as a pro-active Supervisory Committee on matters relating to trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and children. This committee will be a Supervisory Committee for District Level Advisory Committees and Village Level Watch Dog Committees etc.
- Capacity Building Sensitisation Programmes on Prevention of Trafficking and Combating Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children to different stake holders was conducted in every district in the State at a total cost of Rs.1.00 Lakh during the year 2005-2006, enabling them to campaign against trafficking, initiate preventive strategies and in case of exploitation, facilitate the rehabilitation of victims.
- Orientation and sensitisation programme for stakeholders on UNICEF assistance.

5.23 IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW SCHEMES DURING 2006-2007

Dormitory in Children Home at Thanjavur has been constructed as part of the departmental schemes. Construction of additional buildings to Government Special Home at Vellore, Reconstruction of School Building to Government Special / Children Home for Girls, Chennai, construction of library room etc., at Children's Home for Boys at Chennai, construction of Dining Hall in Children Home at Ranipet and construction of buildings for Child Welfare Committee at Chennai are under progress.

5.24 WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEFENCE

The Department of Social Defence has its own Website designed with the help of National Informatics Centre.

The address of the Website is : www.tn.nic.in/socialdefence

DETAILED LIST OF NEW SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR 2007-2008

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Scheme	Amount
1	Providing chicken to the inmates of Government Observation Homes, Children Homes, Special Homes, After Care Organisations & Vigilance / Protective Homes weekly once	7.42
2	Providing kitchen utensils to the Government Children's Home for Boys, Chengalpattu & Thanjavur and Government Vigilance Home, Chennai	1.20
3	Construction of Protection Wall to Government After Care Organisation, Athur, Chengalpattu & Government Children's Home for Boys, Royapuram, Chennai	13.00
4	Providing Furniture to Government Protective Home, Coimbatore	0.22
5	Providing one Air-conditioner to Computer Room in the Regional Office, Madurai	0.30
6	Construction of additional buildings to Government Children's Home, Erode	10.00
7	Strengthening of Programme Development, Monitoring and Evaluation Cell in the Commissionerate	2.25
8	Survey on Trafficking of Women and Children	15.00
Total		49.39

CHAPTER 6

SOCIAL SECURITY NET

6.1 PENSION SCHEMES

The Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the following Pension schemes, through its Revenue Department, to provide social security to the old aged / destitute persons in the State who neither have any means of subsistence nor any relative to support them.

- i) Old Age Pension (Normal) Scheme
- ii) Destitute Physically Handicapped Pension Scheme
- iii) Destitute Widows Pension Scheme
- iv) Destitute Agricultural Labourers Pension Scheme
- v) Destitute/Deserted wives Pension Scheme

A monthly pension of Rs.400/- per month is disbursed through Money Order to the beneficiaries of the above pension schemes by the Special Tahsildars (Social Security Scheme) of the Revenue Department.

- i) Old Age Pension (Normal) Scheme** (since 1.4.1962)

Under this scheme, pension is granted to all old aged persons who are 65 years and above (60 years in case of destitutes who are incapacitated to earn their livelihood due to blindness, leprosy, insanity, paralysis or loss of limb). To become eligible for the grant of Old Age Pension under this scheme, a person

- a) should not have any source of income or means of subsistence to support,
- b) should not be a professional beggar,
- c) should not be supported by son or sons aged 20 years or above and
- d) should not own property valued above Rs.5,000/-.

The Government of India contributes Rs. 200/- out of the total of Rs.400/- per month paid to the Old Age Pensioners covered under this scheme which is part of the National Social Assistance Programme. The balance amount of Rs.200/- is being borne by the State Government.

As on 31.03.2007, 5,01,073 old aged persons are benefitted under this scheme.

ii) Destitute Physically Handicapped Pension Scheme

(since 1.11.1974)

Physically handicapped destitute persons aged 45 years and above whose permanent disability is 50 percent or more are eligible for this pension. District Level Committees, constituted by the Government in all the districts functioning under the Chairmanship of the District Collectors and the District Medical Officers and District Social Welfare Officers as members, examine applications received from physically handicapped persons and sanction pension to them considering the individual hardship without reference to age limits prescribed by the scheme. Other conditions applicable to Old Age Pension (Normal) scheme are applicable to this scheme also. Patients suffering Leprosy are also covered by this scheme. Entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government.

As on 31.03.2007, 70,626 destitute physically handicapped persons are benefitted under this scheme.

iii) Destitute Widows Pension Scheme

(since 1.6.1975)

Destitute widows of any age who have not remarried are benefitted under this scheme even if they have legal heirs aged 18 years and above. Other conditions applicable to Old Age Pension (Normal) scheme are applicable to this scheme also. Entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government.

As on 31.03.2007, the number of beneficiaries under this scheme is 5,01,896.

iv) Destitute Agricultural Labourers Pension Scheme

(since 15.3.1981)

This scheme covers Destitute Agricultural Labourers aged 60 years and above. Conditions applicable to Old Age Pension (Normal) scheme are applicable to this scheme also. Entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government.

As on 31.03.2007, 88,481 Destitute Agricultural Labourers are benefitted by this scheme.

v) Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme (since 25.4.1986)

The scheme of Old Age Pension has been extended to benefit deserted wives / destitute women who are not less than 30 years of age and who are deserted by their husbands for a period of not less than five years / obtained legal separation certificate from competent court of law. Deserted wives having legal heirs who have completed 18 years of age are also eligible for pension under this scheme. Other conditions applicable to Old Age Pension (Normal) scheme apply to this scheme also. Entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government.

As on 31.03.2007, the number of beneficiaries under this scheme is 84,949.

OTHER BENEFITS

1) Free Supply of Dhotis / Sarees

One Saree per female pensioner and one Dhoti per male pensioner are distributed twice a year during Pongal and Deepavali Festivals.

2) Supply of Free Rice (since 15.9.1991)

The Government has permitted beneficiaries of the above Pension Schemes to draw rice, free of cost at the following scales.

- i) 4 Kgs. of fine variety rice per head per month for those who do not take meals at the Nutritious Meal Programme Centres.
- ii) 2 Kgs. of fine variety rice per head per month for those who take meals at the Nutritious Meal Programme Centres.

6.2 ANNAPURNA SCHEME

Under the Annapurna Scheme which forms part of the National Social Assistance Programme, 10 kgs. of rice per month is supplied free of cost to the destitute / senior citizens covered under National Old Age Pension Scheme. This scheme, with a target of 71,974 beneficiaries fixed by the Government of India for Tamil Nadu, is being implemented in the State by the Commissioner of Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection.

Funds for this scheme are initially provided in the State Budget and the entire expenditure incurred under this scheme is adjusted against the Additional Central Assistance released by the Government of India every year under the National Social Assistance Programme.

The beneficiaries of this scheme are selected by the District Collectors from the beneficiaries of National Old Age Pension Scheme in their Districts. Separate ration card in different colour with the identification mark "ANNAPURNA" are printed by the Collectors and issued to the beneficiaries.

6.3 NATIONAL FAMILY BENEFIT SCHEME (since 2.10.1995)

This scheme is also covered by the National Social Assistance Programme and is supported with Additional Central Assistance by the Government of India. Under this scheme, a sum of Rs.10,000/- is sanctioned as grant by the Government of India, to the households below the poverty line, on the death of

the primary bread winner. In Tamil Nadu, the beneficiaries of the National Family Benefit Scheme are covered by Tamil Nadu Distress Relief Scheme and Tamil Nadu Accident Relief Scheme. Under Tamil Nadu Accident Relief Scheme, a sum of Rs. 15,000/- is granted as relief out of which the Central Government's share is Rs. 10,000/- and the State's share is Rs. 5,000/- and in the case Distress Relief Scheme, Central assistance of RS.10,000/- is given to the beneficiary. During 2006-2007, about 55,067 persons have been benefited under Distress Relief Scheme and 817 under Accident Relief Scheme.

CONCLUSION

The mission on Social Welfare and Security covers wide section of the population which includes Children, adolescents, pregnant women, lactating mothers, destitutes, old people and disabled. Any improvement in the living conditions will bring much joy in the hearts of the disadvantaged. The introduction of two eggs per week scheme, enhancement in Old Age Pension and marriage assistance schemes have brought a perceptible changes in the life-style of the above sections.

The focus of XI Five Year Plan will be on malnutrition free state among children and over all physical and mental development of women. This is not meant to favour a gender or a section but to improve the social environment. The human development report of Tamil Nadu reveals that while Tamil Nadu is way ahead of most states in the absolute condition of women, the position of women vis-à-vis men with respect to literacy, education, work participation, wages, asset ownership and political participation needs attention. The aging population is likely to increase to 11.43% of the total population in 2011 which would be next to Kerala. This is because of better health care services and improvement in the standard of living. But this section needs to be taken care of vigorously. Success stories on different schemes speaks volume of our earnest efforts and the resultant effects, in real terms.

The department of Social Welfare and NMP under the guidance of our able and efficient Hon'ble Chief Minister will march ahead to achieve the set goals in the first year of the XI Five Year Plan. The uncanny insight of our Hon'ble Chief Minister into the plight of the disadvantaged sections which has no parallel would see to it that Tamil Nadu attains the first level in Gender Development Index and Gender improvement measures, as was foreseen by Poet Bharathi in his words,

“பெண்மை அறிவுயரப் பீடோங்கும் பெண்மைதான்
ஒண்மையற ஓங்கும் உலகு”

POONGOTHAI,
Minister for Social Welfare