

DEMAND NO. 38

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE FOR 2008-2009

Public Department, which deals with important works relating to the general administration of the State, is functioning under the direct control of the Chief Secretary. The following are some of the important functions of this department:-

- Matters relating to His Excellency the Governor and Council of Ministers.
- Matters relating to I.A.S. Officers and District Revenue Officers.
- Matters relating to Law & Order.
- Matters of common interest between Central and State Governments including National Integration Council, Inter-State Council etc.
- Protocol work and VVIP visits.
- Liaison with Ministry of External Affairs and Foreign Consulates.
- Declaration of public holidays.
- Welfare of Ex-Servicemen and their families and administration of Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen Corporation.
- Grant of pension and administering welfare schemes for Freedom Fighters, Ex-INA personnel.
- Administration of Government Guest Houses in Chennai, Udthagamandalam and Tamil Nadu House and Additional Tamil Nadu House in New Delhi.
- Provision of Relief measures and basic amenities to Sri Lankan refugees.
- Matters relating to the welfare and rehabilitation of repatriates.
- Matters relating to extension of stay in India to all the foreigners (Except Pakistan and Bangladesh Nationals), who come to Tamil Nadu with proper visa.
- Matters relating to the Inter-State affairs and Southern Zonal Councils.
- Constitution of Commissions of Inquiry and establishment matters of the State Human Rights Commission.

- Chief Minister's Special Cell.

Certain important functions are explained hereunder

I. GUEST HOUSES

Government Guest House at Chepauk and Government Rest House at Chindadripet, Chennai.

2. All facilities such as protocol, boarding, lodging and transport facilities to VVIPs and VIPs visiting Tamil Nadu are provided by the State Guest Houses. His Excellency the President of India, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Union Ministers, Foreign Dignitaries, Hon'ble Supreme Court Judges and Chief Justice of High Courts, Ministers of other States, Secretaries to Government of India, Members/Chairman of various Committees appointed by Government of India etc. are treated as State Guests.

3. During the year 2007-2008, His Excellency the President of India visited three times, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and His Excellency the Former President of India visited once, His Excellency the Prime Minister of Bulgaria visited once, Chief Ministers and Governors of other States visited on 25 occasions, Union Ministers made 398 visits, Chairman/ Members of Commissions constituted by Government of India made 225 visits, Judges of Supreme Court and other State High Courts made 140 visits, Secretaries to Government of India and officials of other States made 200 visits. These Guest Houses providing lodging facilities to the State Guests and Officials are under the direct control of the Reception Officer and Joint State Protocol Officer who is in the cadre of District Revenue Officer.

Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi

4. Old Tamil Nadu House and Additional Tamil Nadu House in New Delhi, provide food and accommodation to those who visit New Delhi from Tamil Nadu. Orders for accommodation in this Guest House are issued from this department.

5. The entire administration and functioning of this guest house is under the control of the Resident Commissioner who is an I.A.S. Officer. The Joint Resident Commissioner supports him in all his works. The Special Representative to the Government of Tamil Nadu functions from Tamil Nadu House on behalf of the State

Government. The renovation works taken up in the old Tamil Nadu House are expected to be completed shortly.

Thamizhagam Guest House, Udthagamandalam.

6. "Thamizhagam" Guest House, with the beautiful garden is situated at Udthagamandalam in 36 acres of land amidst the sylvan surroundings. This Guest House provides accommodation to all VVIPs and Government Staff who visit Udthagamandalam.

II. NATIONAL FUNCTIONS, SPECIAL DAYS AND AWARDS

7. This department makes all arrangements for the celebration of national festivals i.e. Republic Day and Independence Day and arrange for administering pledge on special days such as Martyrs Day, Anti-Terrorism Day, Sadhbhavana Diwas, National Integration Day declared by the Government of India.

8. This department makes arrangements for celebration of Republic Day every year at Marina Beach where His Excellency the Governor of Tamil Nadu hoists the National Flag followed by march-past by Defence forces and cultural events. Further, arrangements for celebration of Independence Day in Secretariat where the Hon'ble Chief Minister hoists the National Flag in the Fort Ramparts are also done by this department. Apart from this, this department is making arrangements for pledge taking function on the special days announced by the Government of India at the Army Parade ground in Secretariat where the Hon'ble Chief Minister will administer the pledge to Hon'ble Ministers, Secretaries to Government and other staff of Secretariat.

9. Collectors and Police Officers Conference convened under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister to review and monitor the welfare schemes are organised by this department. Recommendations for Central Government's Gallantry awards such as Jeevan Raksha Padak, Ashok Chakra, Keerthi Chakra, Shaurya Chakra and for Central Government's highest civilian awards like Prime Minister's award for Excellence in Public Administration, Padma Shree, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Kabeer award for Communal Harmony, Gandhi Peace award, are sent to Government of India by this department. Further, awardees for the State Awards of Anna Medal, Kottai Ameer Award for Communal Harmony and Kalpana Chawla Award are also selected by this department. Nominations for State

awards like Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, Annal Ambedkar, Perarignar Anna, Mahakavi Bharathiar, Paavendar Bharathidasan, Muthamizh Kaavalar K.A.P.Viswanatham, Tamilthendral Thiru.Vi.Ka and Thanthai Periyar are obtained from the District Collectors and Secretaries to Government and a grand function is organised to distribute the awards.

III. FOREIGNERS

10. Grant of Extension of Stay in India to all foreigners (except Pakistan and Bangladesh Nationals) who come to Tamil Nadu with proper visa, grant of return visa to those who desire to visit their country for a short while and then return to India back and exit permit to those who desire to leave India, are being dealt with by this department. After the ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Nationals are granted Extension of Stay in India only after obtaining the orders of Government of India.

11. If any foreigner indulges in anti-social activities, violates visa rules or comes to adverse notice, this Department issues orders of quit notice/deportation after obtaining concurrence from the Government of India. Besides, this Department authenticates the Certificates issued by the Directorate of Government Examinations, Directorate of Technical Education, Directorate of Medical Education, Universities, Registrar of Marriages, Registrar of Births and Deaths to those who desire to go abroad for job, studies or for other purposes, after verifying its genuineness from the authorities concerned.

IV. GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT AND HELICOPTER

12. The Government of Tamil Nadu maintains one Aircraft and one Helicopter for the use of VVIPs. These two crafts are operated by Air Force Pilots. Two Pilots for operating the Helicopter, one Pilot for operating the Air Craft and an officer as Director (Aviation) are appointed on deputation basis from the Indian Air Force. These two crafts are parked in Chennai Airport and are utilized for emergency use of VVIPs.

V. REFUGEE RELIEF AND REPATRIATE REHABILITATION

ARRIVAL OF REFUGEES

13. Owing to ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, a large number of Sri Lankan

Tamils took asylum in India from 1983 and the details of their arrival in three phases are as follows :-

Phase	Influx		Repatriation	
	Year	Persons	Year	Persons
First	1983 to 1987	1,34,053	1983 to 1989	45,281
Second	1989 to 1991	1,22,078	1989 to 1996	54,188
Third	1996 to 2003	22,418	-	-

14. The fourth phase of influx commenced from 12.01.2006. In this phase, 6,832 families consisting of 21,020 refugees have arrived in India up to 31.03.2008. Currently, 19,360 families consisting of 73,087 Sri Lankan Tamils are accommodated in 117 camps including two special camps, located in 25 districts. Sri Lankan Refugees in the camps are provided with various relief assistances and the entire expenditure is initially met by the State Government and based on the production of audit certificate issued by the Accountant General of Tamil Nadu, claim proposals for reimbursement are sent to Government of India.

RELIEF ASSISTANCES PROVIDED TO REFUGEES

(a) Disbursement of monthly cash doles to families of refugees

15. The Government of Tamil Nadu has doubled the monthly cash dole from 01.08.2006 to the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees who are accommodated in various refugees camps in Tamil Nadu and disburse it at the rates furnished below:

Doubled cash dole from 01.08.2006

1.	Head of Family	Rs. 400/-
2.	Each additional member aged 12 years and above	Rs. 288 /-
3.	First child (less than 12 years of age)	Rs. 180/-
4.	Each additional child	Rs. 90/-

Rs.18.09 Crores was spent during 2006-07. Out of Rs.27 Crores allotted including supplementary estimates for 2007-2008, Rs. 24.79 Crores has been spent till March, 2008. Though the approval of the Government of India for enhanced cash dole has not yet been received, the State Government is disbursing the cash doles at the enhanced rate. The State Government has

impressed upon the Government of India to accord its consent early.

(b) Supply of rice at subsidised rate

16. Under this scheme, rice is supplied to the refugees accommodated in the camps at the subsidised rate of 57 paise per kilo-gram as per the following scale of supply.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Each Adult | - 400 grams per day. |
| 2. Each Child
(aged below 8 years) | - 200 grams per day. |

The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation supplies the subsidised rice to the refugees through the designated fair price shops established under the Public Distribution System and gets the differential cost reimbursed from the State Government. An amount of Rs.6.72 Crores was incurred during 2006-2007 for the supply of rice and a sum of Rs.8.34 Crores has been spent during 2007-2008. The Government of India have conveyed their concurrence for this scheme upto 31.03.2007. Though the Government of India have already been urged to continue the scheme of supply of rice at the existing rate of 57 paise per kilo-gram by this Government, and their concurrence is still awaited, yet the State Government is implementing the scheme continuously in the interest of refugees accommodated in the Refugee Camps.

(c) Clothing materials

17. Free clothes and mats are supplied every year and free blankets once in two years to the families of the refugees staying in refugee camps as per the guidelines prescribed by the Government of India. During the financial year 2006-2007, a sum of Rs.2.91 crores was spent and Rs.2.59 crores has been provided in the revised estimate for 2007-2008. The Government of India have been exhorted to revise the rates for supply of the above items in sync with the current market price as the procurement rate fixed by them in the year 2004 found to be insufficient. Accepting our plea, the Government of India have now enhanced the procurement rate by 28 percent for the next 3 years from 2007-2008.

(d) Cooking Utensils

18. Once in two years, cooking utensils are supplied free of cost to each refugee family accommodated in refugee camps. The Government of India have

been addressed to enhance the rate from the existing rate of Rs.150/- to Rs.250/- per family.

Medical Services

19. The refugees are permitted to avail themselves of free medical services at Government Hospitals and Primary Health Centres situated near the camps. The financial assistance for major medical treatment is also sanctioned by the Government from the Sri Lankan Tamil Special Relief Fund on case to case basis and on the recommendation of the District Collectors. The Integrated Child Development Services Scheme implemented by the Social Welfare Department has been extended to women and children staying in the refugees camps with effect from 01.04.2007. The cash assistance of Rs.1000/- per month for nutritional supplementation during the three months before and after delivery now provided under Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance Scheme has been extended to the pregnant Sri Lankan women refugees with effect from 01.04.2007. Under this scheme, 905 Sri Lankan women have been benefited in the financial year 2007-2008.

Educational facilities

20. Free education upto Higher Secondary level (Plus 2) is provided to the children of Sri Lankan refugees in the camps. At present, 20,849 children are benefited by this scheme. The school going children of camp refugee families are provided with free uniforms, noon-meal, bus pass, text-books, note-books and bicycles. The refugee children staying outside the camps are allowed to pursue their studies anywhere in Tamil Nadu with admissible cash dole and other assistance.

Infrastructure development programme

21. The Scheme aims at carrying out necessary repairs to huts, provision of drinking water, sanitary arrangement, roads, street lighting etc., at the refugee Camps. The works are being carried out with prior approval of the Government of India to repair the dwelling constructed during the year 1997-2000 and to improve the basic amenities works estimated at Rs.467 lakhs have been undertaken during 2006-2007. Sanctions have been accorded for Rs.12.26 lakhs for repairs/works at Chengalpattu Special Camp and Rs.6 lakhs for construction of new huts in M.Mettupatti Refugee Camp in Namakkal District during 2007-2008.

Return of refugees

22. The refugees who are willing to go back to their homeland or to any other country from Sri Lankan refugee camps in Tamil Nadu at their own cost are allowed to do so. During 2006-07, 106 exit permits and 74 exit permits during 2007-2008 have been issued to Sri Lankan refugees by District Collectors.

Details of expenditure

23. A total sum of Rs. 39.04 crores as certified by Accountant General, Tamil Nadu, was spent for extending various relief measures to the Srilankan refugees during 2006-2007 and a sum of Rs.51.44 crores including the supplementary allocation has been set apart for 2007-2008 for these services and Rs.40.08 Crores has been spent till 31.03.2008.

Rehabilitation of repatriates

24. 1,44,445 persons of Tamil origin who had been granted Indian Citizenship were repatriated to India from Burma during the period from 1963 to 1989. Likewise 2055 Vietnamese of Tamil Origin were also repatriated to India during the period from 1975 to 1980.

25. The Srilankan Tamils numbering 4,61,639 were also repatriated to India during the period from 1965. They have been provided with rehabilitation assistances and settled in tea, rubber, cinchona plantations, co-operative spinning mills, industrial schemes of Repco Bank and agricultural schemes besides grant of Business and Housing loans. Apart from this, they were also involved in self-employment schemes such as dairy farming, cycle rickshaw and match industries. All the above rehabilitation assistances by the Government of India have been stopped from 31.03.1999.

VI. EX-SERVICEMEN'S WELFARE

26. Men of our Armed Forces make immense sacrifices to ensure the security and integrity of the country. The welfare of the families of battle casualties, rehabilitation and resettlement of Ex-Servicemen and their dependants and welfare of the families of Serving Defence Personnel belonging to Tamil Nadu are the main responsibilities of this department. All welfare schemes are being implemented through the 25 District Offices of the Department with missionary zeal. As on

31.3.2008 a total number of 2,02,021 Ex-Servicemen and widows of Ex-Servicemen have registered with the District Offices.

The activities of the Department are:-

1. Re-Employment Assistance,
2. Self Employment Schemes,
3. Resettlement Training Scheme,
4. Grants from Benevolent Funds,
5. Welfare Assistance from the Government,
6. Flag Day Collection and
7. Honour bestowed on Battle Casualties.

Re-employment

27. This department is entrusted with the responsibility to facilitate re-employment of Ex-servicemen. In Tamil Nadu State Government services, 5% reservation in Group 'C' posts and 10% reservation in the basic services, 15% reservation for the post of Forest Guards and Forest Watchers in the Forest Department and 10% of basic services in quasi Government Organisation are reserved for Ex-Servicemen.

28. Further, the Ex-Servicemen are exempted from physical and medical tests for the post of Grade-II Constable in the Technical Wing of the Police Department. Ex-Servicemen/one dependant of the Ex-Servicemen is provided with priority certificate for getting employment for the posts being filled up on priority basis through employment exchange. In the year 2007-2008, 1,415 Ex-Servicemen/their dependants were provided with this priority certificates to avail employment opportunities and 158 Ex-Servicemen were provided re-employment in various sectors. Further, 128 Ex-Servicemen were selected for the post of Village Administrative Officers through the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission.

Self Employment Schemes

29. As it is not feasible to provide Government jobs to all Ex-Servicemen after their retirement from the Armed Forces, Government have formulated several schemes with financial assistance to encourage them to start their own business closer to their place of residence and thereby to improve their economic status.

30. Ex-Servicemen who obtain loans to the maximum amount of Rs.2.5 lakhs from the Banks are provided with 50% of interest subsidy from the Amalgamated Fund. As on 31.03.2008, an amount of Rs.1.67 crores was disbursed to 113 Ex-Servicemen / Widows as Bank Loan and 509 Ex-Servicemen / Widows were benefited with Interest Subsidy amounting to Rs.10.86 lakhs. Self Help Groups of Ex-Servicemen / Widows are assisted with 100% interest subsidy from the Amalgamated Fund for a maximum loan amount of Rs.7.5 lakhs obtained from the Banks. At present, 96 Self Help Groups have been formed in 20 Districts.

31. Women dependants of Ex-Servicemen's family are given training in the tailoring units run by this department. In the year 2007-2008, 89 such dependants were trained and provided with stipend. Free sewing machines and sewing machines at subsidised rate have been distributed at a cost of Rs.6.10 lakhs.

Resettlement Training

32. Training is imparted to Ex-Servicemen in various fields of their choice to improve their skills for re-employment and self-employment. Upto 31.3.2008, 77 Ex-Servicemen have been given training at an expenditure of Rs.3.85 lakhs.

33. Ex-Servicemen who were already qualified in physical education in the Army Service are given four months special re-orientation course in physical education through Karaikudi Alagappa University to qualify them for appointment as Physical Training Instructors in Government Schools. Out of 37 Ex-Servicemen trained, 9 Ex-Servicemen have been appointed as Physical Education Instructors in the Government High Schools in the financial year 2007-2008.

Financial assistances from Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund & Amalgamated Fund:-

Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund

34. This fund is administered by a Committee of Tamil Nadu Soldiers' Sailors' & Airmen's Board constituted and headed by the Honourable Minister for Ex-Servicemen's Welfare. The Ex-Officio Director of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare is the Chairman and the Additional Director is the Secretary of this Committee. The sources of the fund are as follows:

- (a) Flag Day Collection and

(b) Rental income received from Jawans Bhavans.

In the financial year 2007–2008, an amount of Rs.8.26 Crores have been distributed to 13,888 Ex-Servicemen and their dependants as financial assistance under various schemes from this fund.

Amalgamated Fund

35. This fund is created by amalgamating the share amount given to the State Government from the National Defence Fund by the Government of India and the equivalent share amount contributed by the State Government and the balance amount of the post-war reorganisation fund. This Fund is administered by a State Managing Committee under the Chairmanship of His Excellency the Governor. In the financial year 2007-2008, Rs.41.17 lakhs was spent from Amalgamated Fund towards various financial assistance and 1526 Ex-servicemen and their dependants were benefited.

Cash Grants to the recipients of Gallantry / Distinguished Service Award and War Service Incentive to parents.

36. Government of Tamil Nadu have sanctioned cash award to the tune of Rs.48,000/- to 12 Gallantry Award / Distinguished Service Award winners for the year 2007-2008. An amount of Rs.1.15 lakhs as cash in-lieu-of land has been sanctioned to only 2 recipients of Gallantry award winners out of these 12 awardees, on eligibility criteria.

37. The parents who have sent their only son / daughter or more than one son / daughter to the Armed Forces, are honoured with monetary Grants annually by the Government. In the year 2007–2008, 1106 parents were granted war services incentive to the tune of Rs. 9.87 lakhs by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Flag Day Fund

38. Armed Forces' Flag Day collections form the basic source for various welfare activities. Tamil Nadu has been consistently on the lead in Flag Day Collection in the country. With the keen interest evinced by the District Collectors, the Flag Day collection amounted to Rs.10.22 crores exceeded the target of Rs.6.93 crores fixed for the year 2006 (07.12.2006 to 06.12.2007). Target for Armed Forces

Flag day collection for the year 2007-08 is Rs.7.27 crores. The amount collected, as on 31.03.2008 is Rs.1.47 crore.

Honour bestowed on Battle Casualties:

39. In order to honour those valiant men who made great sacrifices and laid down their lives in defence of our Motherland, their last rites are conducted with full State honours. The funeral of the martyrs are attended by Ministers, the District Collector / Superintendent of Police and this Department Officers.

Kargil Defence Personnel Relief Fund

40. This department administers the Kargil Defence Personnel Relief Fund. The defence personnel belonging to Tamil Nadu who had made supreme sacrifice or were incapacitated in counter insurgency operations are sanctioned monetary grants as under:-

1. For family of the martyr - Rupees five lakhs
2. For disabled
 - (i) Totally disabled/double amputee/totally blind. - Rupees three lakhs
 - (ii) Single amputee/one eye blind - Rupees one lakh

During the financial year 2007-2008, the next of kin of one Serving Personnel belonging to Tamil Nadu who made the supreme sacrifice in "Operation Rakshak" at Jammu and Kashmir against the terrorists has been sanctioned Rs.5 lakhs from this Fund.

Aid to Civil Power – Govt. Ex-Gratia

41. The families of those Defence / Border Security Force personnel, who are killed in operations while performing duties in aid to civil power, were sanctioned with Rs.1 lakh by the Government of Tamil Nadu and those personnel who have been disabled in such operations, were sanctioned Ex-Gratia Grant between Rs.10,000/- to Rs.40,000/-, depending upon their disability, from the year 2002. This Ex-Gratia has been enhanced with effect from 01.04.2008 to Rs.5 lakhs to the family of the defence personnel killed in the operation and this amount ranging from Rs.50,000 to Rs.2 lakhs to the defence personnel who have been disabled in the operation depending upon the disability. During the financial year 2007-2008, Ex-gratia to the tune of Rs.8.34 lakhs have been sanctioned by the Government to 14 Ex-Servicemen's families.

Introduction of New Schemes

42. A new scheme of Ex-Gratia grant of Rs.30,000/- each to war disabled and extension of Annual Maintenance Grant of Rs.2,000/- per annum to remarried war widows from Amalgamated Fund have been introduced as per the decision taken at the Meeting of the State Managing Committee for the Amalgamated Fund held on 29.11.2007.

43. The Government in their G.O.Ms.No. 459 Revenue (RA-3) Department, dated 17.8.2007 have waived the requirement of minimum period of stay in the State by the Armed Forces Personnel for the purposes of granting domicile status to the children of Serving Personnel for admission to Professional / Technical / Vocational Courses and for availing other Welfare concessions.

Pre-recruitment training

44. The Armed Forces provide an excellent career opportunity to the youth. In order to encourage and motivate maximum number of youth from Tamil Nadu to join the Indian Army, free preparatory training is given to face the written test. In the financial year 2007-2008, 346 rural youth of Tamil Nadu were given training by the Government at a cost of Rs.1.72 lakhs.

Computerisation of Department

45. The Department of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare has already been computerised. In order to interlink the 25 District Offices with the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare, a Server at an expenditure of Rs.2.50 lakhs is installed during 2007-2008.

Reservation of Seats in Educational Institutions

46. The Government has ordered reservation of seats to the children of Ex-Servicemen in various educational institutions of the State. These include four seats in the Anna University and seventy seven seats in other Engineering Colleges, two seats for Medical Course, one seat for Dental Medical Course, sixty seats for Nursing Course, eighty seats for Diploma Courses in Polytechnics, six seats for Undergraduate Courses in each of the Arts and Science Colleges, one hundred and thirty two seats in Teachers' Training Courses, 1% of the seats in Law Courses.

Apart from this, one seat for Tamil Teachers' Training Course in Orathanadu Government Teachers' Training College in Thanjavur District and two seats in each Post Graduate Course in Colleges having two branches and three seats in each Post Graduate Course in Colleges having more than two branches are reserved for Ex-Servicemen. The Government have also ordered reservation of one seat each in Para-Medical Degree courses, i.e., Nursing, Physiotherapy and Pharmacology.

Jawans Bhavan

47. Shopping / office complexes are being constructed in the Jawans Bhavan premises with the aim of augmenting funds for welfare activities out of the Benevolent Fund. The Government during 2007-2008 have sanctioned Rs.94 lakhs for construction of Ex-Servicemens' Centre and Shopping Complex at Nagercoil from the Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund and the construction work is nearing completion.

Temple Protection Force

48. 2011 Ex-Servicemen are employed with consolidated salary of Rs.1,500/- per month in the Temple Protection Force to secure and protect the valuable treasures and idols of our temples in Tamil Nadu.

Appointment of Officers and Staff

49. During 2007-2008, 4 posts of Assistant Director, 1 post of Welfare Organiser have been filled up by direct recruitment and 1 post of Steno Typist, 7 posts of Typist and 1 post of Watchman were filled up departmentally.

TAMIL NADU EX-SERVICEMEN'S CORPORATION LIMITED (TEXCO)

50. The Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Limited (TEXCO) was formed on 28.01.1986 and registered under the Companies Act. It is a financially self-supporting, profit earning organization. The authorized and paid-up share capitals are Rs.50 lakhs and Rs.22.91 lakhs respectively.

The main functions of the TEXCO are

51. (a) Planning and implementation of various schemes for the welfare and economic upliftment of Ex-Servicemen belonging to Tamil Nadu.

- (b) To carry out commercial activities.
- (c) To appoint registered qualified Ex-Servicemen such as Security Guards, Clerks, Drivers, Nursing Assistants, Fire Fighting personnel and Telecommunication Operators to State and Central Government Organisations on contract basis. This Corporation receives 12% service charge from Government organisation.
- (d) To collect parking fees in notified parking space within Chennai Corporation limits (70% of the net profit out of this operation is paid to Corporation of Chennai as licence fees).
- (e) To maintain the State owned "BELL 412" Helicopter and "CESSNA" Air Craft. The expenditure on maintenance and management of the Aircraft and Helicopter are initially met by TEXCO and the same is reimbursed by the Government. Service Charge at the rate of 2% of the maintenance expenditure is paid to TEXCO.

52. There are 9871 Ex-Servicemen sponsored by this Corporation for employment on contract as on 31.03.2008. The performance of the Corporation for the last five years are as under :-

Year	Turn Over	Profit	Number Employed
	(Rs. in Lakhs)		
2002-2003	3990.41	211.75	7656
2003-2004	4293.27	399.94	7216
2004-2005	4403.85	411.41	7645
2005-2006	4868.61	403.82 *	8532
2006-2007	5388.48	478.41	9136
2007-2008	5447.32	526.25 **	9871

* Due to provision made for prior period expenses.

** Provisional, subject to audit.

The provisional net profit earned is Rs.5.26 crores during the financial year 2007-2008.

VII. STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

53. The Government of India have constituted the National Human Rights Commission at New Delhi as per the provisions of Human Rights Act, 1993. The State Human Rights Commission is functioning from 17.04.1997 in Tamil Nadu.

Organization:

54. At present the Commission is functioning at 'Thiruvaramangam Building' in Door No.143, P.S.Kumarasamy Raja Salai, Chennai-28. The Commission is functioning with the Retired Chief Justice of a High Court as Chairperson and four other Members. The Government of Tamil Nadu is providing funds for the functioning of the Commission by way of grants under the Budgetary Provisions of the Public Department every financial year. The Commission is functionally and financially independent. The Commission is having Law Division, Investigation Division and Administrative Division and they are functioning effectively. It is also a matter of pride that this Government is one among the few States which has constituted the State Human Rights Commission in 1997 much earlier than other States. Further, this Government is proud to inform that the posts of Chairperson and three other members of the Commission which were kept vacant for a long time have been filled up with effect from 05.08.2006 as soon as it took over charge.

Functions

55. Human Rights mean the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of an individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in the International Covenants and enforceable by Courts in India. Complaints of violation of Human Rights may be filed to the Commission in any language. No fee is being charged on complaints. Complaints may be filed in writing by the victim or by anyone on his / her behalf. Either the Commission shall inquire on a petition presented to it, or it shall also inquire *suo motu* about the Human Rights violation.

56. The Commission shall inquire the violation of Human Rights or abetment thereof or negligence in the prevention of such violation by a public servant and recommend to the Government for the grant of such immediate interim relief to the victim or to the members of his / her family, if the Commission considers it necessary. It shall also send a copy of its recommendation to the concerned authority and request the same authority to forward its action taken report within a period of one month. The Commission may allow further time for implementation of its recommendation on request by the concerned authority.

57. The Commission creates an awareness on Human Rights by conducting Seminars, Training Programme to the public servants. The steep increase in number of complaints i.e. 10,326 received in 2007 as compared to that of 1997 i.e. 2,162 shall establish the Level of awareness of the public on Human Rights in recent days.

58. The Government of Tamil Nadu has sanctioned required staff, and other infrastructure like cars, phones etc., for the efficient functioning of the Commission.

VIII. CHIEF MINISTER'S SPECIAL CELL

59. The Chief Minister's Special Cell plays a crucial role in helping the people in distress and to solve their problems in a very effective manner. The Special Cell is headed by a Special Officer, who is authorized to correspond directly with the authorities concerned to seek quick redressal to the grievances of the people.

60. The Hon'ble Chief Minister meets the public and receives petitions on all days at his residence, Secretariat and on tours. These petitions are segregated district-wise and department-wise and sent to the respective authorities for taking action. Necessary follow-up action is being taken through series of review meetings with Secretariat departments / Head of the Departments / District Collectorates. All the details pertaining to the petitions are entered in the computer for follow up action.

Administrative setup

61. Two District Revenue Officers are looking after the functioning of Chief Minister's Special Cell viz., (1) Special Officer, Chief Minister's Special Cell and (2) Special Officer, Chief Minister's Secretariat. The Special Officer, Chief Minister's Special Cell is positioned at Secretariat. He attends not only the regular work of the Chief Minister's Special Cell but also receives petitions in person on all working days.

The Special Officer, Chief Minister's Secretariat attends to the grievances of the petitioners at the Hon'ble Chief Minister's residence and also accompanies the Hon'ble Chief Minister while on tour and receives petitions.

62. Petitions are also received in Chief Minister's Special Cell through fax, e-mail, courier service and by post. All grievance petitions are segregated district-

wise and department-wise and forwarded to the respective authorities for taking immediate action. The Special Officer, Chief Minister's Special Cell conducts monthly review meetings with the Special Deputy Collectors (SSS) of all Districts. In addition to this, the Special Officer also conducts periodic meetings with the Nodal Officers of all Secretariat departments and all Head of Departments to expedite quality and timely disposal of grievance petitions and action taken on the petitions are monitored.

63. Between 1.4.2007 and 31.3.2008 a total number of 3,50,684 petitions have been received and sent to the respective offices for taking necessary action. During the period, 2,59,083 petitions have been processed and finalized. Between 1.4.2007 and 31.3.2008 a total number of 3,920 petitions have been received from Hon'ble Ministers / M.Ps / MLAs and sent to the respective offices for taking necessary action out of which, replies for 2,362 petitions have been received and disposed off.

Assistance through Chief Minister's Special Cell

64. On orders of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Educational assistance of Rs.25,000/- for each student is being provided, under CMPRF, based on the recommendation of District Collector, to the students studying Medicine, Veterinary, Nursing and Engineering courses belonging to the families living under indigent conditions. Apart from this, financial assistance of Rs.25,000/- for each student is also provided to public living below poverty line, to undergo life saving surgeries from The State Illness Assistance Society Fund.

Financial assistance for life saving surgeries sanctioned between 01.04.2007 and 31.3.2008.

65. A sum of Rs.4,24,65,000/- has been sanctioned from Tamil Nadu State Illness Society Fund for the period from 1.4.2007 to 31.03.2008 to 1701 persons for performing 1584 Heart surgeries, 75 Kidney Transplantations, 22 Cancer surgeries, 4 Spinal Cord surgeries, 10 Skull opening and Brain Tumour surgeries, 3 Uretic surgeries and for treatment of 3 Blood Cancer cases.

Educational assistance sanctioned between 01.4.2007 and 31.3.2008.

66. A sum of Rs. 35,25,000/- has been sanctioned from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund for the period from 01.04.2007 to 31.03.2008 to 141 poor students (117 Engineering students and 24 Medical, Veterinary and Nursing students) to pursue their higher education in Engineering / Medical and other allied subjects.

Web based online reply system

67. Before November 2006, replies on the petitions of the Chief Minister's Special Cell were entered manually in the computer with the hard copies available in hand. To ensure accuracy and to synchronise the data of Chief Minister's Special Cell and the District Collectorates, a web-based online reply feeding system was introduced in November, 2006 for Secretariat Departments / Heads of Departments and districts which enable them to send online replies from their office through Internet to the server of Chief Minister's Special Cell. Consequent to the introduction of new system all replies to the petitions are received through online.

NEW INITIATIVES

Upgradation of Computers/Peripherals for improving effectiveness

68. Servers, computers, printers, scanners, UPS and other supporting software which have been in service for more than five years will be replaced and updated at a cost of Rs.23,00,000/- to improve the functioning of the Chief Minister's Special Cell.

Installation of Computer Kiosk in Chief Minister's Special Cell

69. A separate **Computer kiosk** will be provided at a cost of Rs.1,50,000/- in the Chief Minister's Special Cell to enable the petitioners to know instantly the status of their petitions sent to C.M's Special Cell.

Development of Web based life saving surgeries' assistance monitoring system

70. A web based "Life Saving Surgeries' Assistance Monitoring System" is developed with the technical assistance of National Informatics Centre for monitoring the implementation of the financial assistance sanctioned for life saving surgeries such as heart, kidney, cancer etc., under Tamil Nadu State Illness Society Fund up to Rs.25,000/- per surgery. This new monitoring system will provide information

instantly on application status, details of Government order issued, surgeries performed, payment made, details of year-wise, disease-wise, district-wise, hospital-wise beneficiaries, fund utilized etc.

Development of Web site for Chief Minister's Special Cell

71. A separate web site is being developed exclusively for Chief Minister's Special Cell with the technical assistance of National Informatics Center to enable the general public to know its activities. The web site will contain details of all government welfare schemes, proforma for applying and availing the scheme benefits. It will also contain facility for ascertaining the status of Chief Minister's Special Cell petitions sent by the public and for filing e-petitions online.

NEW SCHEMES UNDER PART-II

- Provision of Software Development for linking Secretariat with all the four State Guest Houses at an expenditure of Rs.15 lakhs.
- Computerisation of the business centre at the additional guest house at New Delhi and replacement of the computers in the office at an estimated cost of Rs.4 lakhs.
- Purchase of two Mahindra Bolero Jeeps at a cost of Rs.13.40 lakhs for the purpose of escort and pilot duties during the visit of VVIPs to Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi.
- Renovation of Portico in front of the Conservatory in the main building, in "Thamizhagam" Guest House, Udhagamandalam, at a cost of Rs.3.20 lakhs.
- Renovation of bath rooms and toilets to some suites in "Thamizhagam" Guest House, Udhagamandalam at an estimate of Rs.3.70 lakhs.
- Strengthening of Main Panel Board and Sub Panel Boards and segregation of LTUG cable arrangements to Main Building in Thamizhagam Guest House, Udhagamandalam, at a cost of Rs.12 lakhs.
- Reinstallation of Telephone Equipments in Thamizhagam Guest House, Udhagamandalam to the tune of Rs.1.70 lakhs.
- Purchase of two Honda City and two Toyota Innova Cars, at a cost of Rs.39 lakhs for the State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai-5 for the use of VVIPs and the VIPs during their stay.

- Purchase of 10 numbers of 1.5 Ton Split Air Conditioners for the use of State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai-5, at a cost of Rs.3 lakhs.
- Improvements to Chief Secretary's Conference Hall in the Secretariat Building at a cost of Rs.7 lakhs.

BUDGET PROVISION

Details of Budget Provision for Demand No. 38 are furnished in the Annexure.

**M.KARUNANIDHI
CHIEF MINISTER**

ANNEXURE

DETAILS OF THE BUDGET PROVISION FOR 2008-2009 UNDER DEMAND NO.

38.

Head of Account	(RUPEES IN THOUSANDS)			
	2006-07	2007-08	2007-08	2008-09
	Accounts	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Budget Estimate
2014 Administration of Justice	75	5,00	5,00	5,00
2015 Elections	75,82,96	38,83,96	53,15,12	43,33,67
2052 Secretariat General Services	16,71,47	21,46,79	25,86,81	22,99,98
2059 Public Works	3,76,47	3,56,41	4,56,41	3,84,54
2070 Other Administrative Services	13,57,95	18,52,49	18,66,82	18,87,82
2075 Miscellaneous General Services	4,43,16	2,95,84	4,30,90	3,16,18
2216 Housing	4	3,00	25,19	17,77
2235 Social Security and Welfare	44,81,41	48,81,74	52,54,83	56,02,90
2251 Secretariat Social Services	42,29	23,03	84,19	57,69
4216 Capital Outlay on Housing	2,00,00	5,00,00	5,42,00	5,00,00