

Demand No. 38

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE FOR 2009-2010

The Public Department which is under the direct control of the Chief Secretary, deals with important functions of General Administration of the State. The following are some of the important subjects handled by the department.

- Matters relating to His Excellency the Governor and the Council of Ministers.
- Protocol arrangements during the visit of high dignitaries.
- Matters of common interest between Central and State Governments including National Integration Council, Inter-State Council etc.

- Liaison with Ministry of External Affairs and Foreign Consulates.
- Granting extension of stay in India and exit to aliens (Except Pakistan and Bangladesh Nationals), who are with proper visa.
- Posting of I.A.S. Officers and District Revenue Officers and their establishment matters.
- Law and Order issues.
- Constitution of Commissions of Inquiry and establishment matters of the State Human

Rights Commission.

- Administration of Government Guest Houses in Chennai, Udthagamandalam and Tamil Nadu House and Additional Guest House in New Delhi.
- Welfare of Ex-Servicemen and their families and administration of Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen Corporation.
- Provision of relief measures and basic amenities to Sri Lankan refugees.
- Sending of Relief materials to the affected Tamils in Sri Lanka.
- Maintenance of Government Aircraft and Helicopter.
- Matters relating to the welfare and rehabilitation of repatriates.
- Grant of pension and administering welfare schemes to the Freedom Fighters, Ex-INA personnel.
- Declaration of public holidays.
- Disposal of the petitions presented to the Hon'ble Chief Minister by the Chief Minister's Special Cell.

Certain important functions are explained hereunder

I. GUEST HOUSES

The VVIPs and VIPs like Her Excellency the President of India, Hon'ble Vice President of India, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Union Ministers, Foreign Dignitaries, Hon'ble Supreme and High Court Judges, Ministers of other States, Secretaries to Government of India, Chairman/ Members of various Committees appointed by Government of India visiting Tamil Nadu are treated as State Guests and provided with protocol, boarding, lodging and transport facilities, by the Public (Protocol) Department.

Visit of VIPs to Tamil Nadu:

2. During the year 2008-2009, Her Excellency the President of India, visited three times, Hon'ble Vice President of India visited two times, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India visited two times and the Former President of India visited 26 times, Foreign Heads visited 10 times, Chief Ministers and Governors of other States and former Governor of Tamil Nadu visited on 148 occasions, Central Ministers made 1685 visits, Chairman / Members of Commissions constituted by Government of India made 566 visits, Judges of Supreme Court and other State High Courts made 147 visits, Secretaries to Government of India, other Officials and other State Ministers made 587 visits.

State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai.

3. The State Guest House, Chepauk and Government Rest House, Chindatripet are functioning under the control of the Secretary to Government, Public (Protocol) Department, Secretariat, Chennai – 9 and under the direct supervision of the Reception Officer and Joint State Protocol Officer in the rank of District Revenue

Officer. In the State Guest House, there are six suites and twenty three rooms. All the rooms in the State Guest House are provided with A/C facility. An air conditioned reception hall and a dining hall are also available in the State Guest House.

Government Rest House, Chindadripet, Chennai.

4. The Government Rest House in Chindadripet with 24 double bedded rooms in a double storeyed building is supervised by an Assistant Reception Officer in the cadre of Tahsildar.

Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi

5. The Tamil Nadu House in New Delhi is the Guest House of the Government of Tamil Nadu for providing lodging and boarding facilities to the State Guests, VIPs, Ministers, Tamil Nadu Government officials, Officials of Central Government and others.

6. The Tamil Nadu House came into existence in the land measuring 1.757 acres and the old block of old Tamil Nadu House was constructed at a cost of Rs.9 Lakh in the year 1962 and subsequently a three storeyed building (New Block) was constructed in 1976 at a cost of Rs.61 Lakh. During 1992, land measuring 7956.62 Sq. meters, was allotted to Government of Tamil Nadu by the Ministry of Urban Development, New Delhi and in this land the Additional Guest House was constructed at a cost of Rs.27.2 crore.

7. The overall control of Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi including reservation is vested with the Public Department. The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Chepauk, Chennai is responsible for the proper maintenance of the building. The Administrative control of the House is vested with

the Resident Commissioner to Government of Tamil Nadu, who is declared as Head of Department, for all purposes, under the control of Public Department, Secretariat. The Resident Commissioner is assisted by Joint Resident Commissioner in all matters. The reservation of accommodation is based on the orders issued in the Public Department. There are 45 rooms and 9 suites in old Tamil Nadu House and 46 rooms and 26 suites in Additional Guest House.

8. The different wings functioning at Tamil Nadu House are (1) Reception (2) Catering (3) Housekeeping (4) Engineering (5) Accounts (6) Establishment, and (7) Liaison.

9. Further, Tamil Nadu House also acts as a bridge linking various departments of Government of India and the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Tamizhagam Guest House, Udthagamandalam.

10. The Tamizhagam Guest House, Udthagamandalam is situated amidst sylvan surroundings at a distance of 2.8 kms away from the Udthagamandalam Railway Station and Central Bus Stand. The Guest House consists of beautiful and spacious buildings, garden and trees. The total area of the Guest House is 36 acres. The garden is maintained by the Horticulture Department.

11. The primary object of having the Guest House is to provide accommodation and catering facilities to VVIPs, State Cabinet Ministers, Judges of High Court, M.L.As., Tamil Nadu Government Officials and Officials of the State Autonomous bodies who are visiting Udthagamandalam on official duty. In order to achieve the above primary object, the high dignitaries and officials are charged at concessional rates with heavy subsidy from the Government of Tamil Nadu.

12. The Government in Public Department is the authority for the reservation of the Guest House during summer and the second season. The first season is from

April to June and the second season is September & October. The Collector of the Nilgiris, Udthagamandalam has been authorised to provide reservation during the off-season. There are 33 rooms available in Tamizhagam Guest House.

13. A spacious conference hall with a seating capacity of 200 persons is available in this Guest House. Various Legislative Assembly Committee review meetings and seminars are being conducted in this Conference Hall.

II. NATIONAL FUNCTIONS, SPECIAL DAYS AND AWARDS

14. This department makes all arrangements for the 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 at 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 such as Martyrs Day, Anti-Terrorism Day, Sadhbhavana Diwas, National Integration Day declared 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.

15. This department is organizing the Collectors' and Police Officers' Conference under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister to review and monitor the welfare schemes of the Government. 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 Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Kabir Puraskar award for Communal

Harmony, Gandhi Peace award are sent to Government of India by this department. The works relating to selection of State Awards like Anna Medal, Kottai Ameer Award for Communal Harmony and Kalpana Chawla Award are also processed 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 Awards are obtained from the District Collectors and Secretaries to Government and processed by this Department.

III. FOREIGNERS

16. Extension of stay in India to all Foreigners (except Pakistan and Bangladesh Nationals) who came to Tamil Nadu with proper visa to study / to stay with their family members who are Indians and return visa to the Foreigners who desire to visit their countries for a short period (i.e for a period upto 90 days) and exit permission to the Foreigners who desire to leave India are granted by this Department. Sri Lankan Nationals are granted Extension of stay in India only after obtaining the orders of Government of India. Exit Permission is granted by this Department to the Sri Lankans who are overstaying unauthorizedly for a period upto 5 years. Exit Permission is also granted by this Department to the Sri Lankan Nationals who are overstaying for more than five years after obtaining orders from the Government of India. This Department issues Deportation Orders / Leave India Notice to the Foreigners who indulge in anti-social activities or violate visa rules or come to adverse notice, after obtaining concurrence of the Government of India.

17. Besides, this Department authenticates the Certificates issued by the institutions in Tamil Nadu (viz. Universities, Directorate of Medical Education, Directorate of Technical Education, Directorate of Employment and Training,

Directorate of Government Examinations) and Marriage Certificate, Birth Certificate, Power of Attorney, Legal Heirship Certificate, Court Order etc. to those who desire to go abroad for job, studies etc. after verifying the genuineness from the issuing authorities. This section, frequented by the public to get the authenticated certificates, functions in the ground floor of the Secretariat with effect from 26.4.2008. Computerization of this wing will be taken up during this year. (2009-2010)

IV. REFUGEE RELIEF AND REPATRIATE REHABILITATION

18. The ethnic violence in Sri Lanka since 1983 has displaced many Sri Lankan Tamils who abandoned their houses and properties and fled to India as refugees by air as well as sea to save their life.

19. The Sri Lankan refugees came to India from 1983 to 1987 in the first phase, from 1989 to 1991 in the second phase, from 1996 to 2003 in the third phase and from 12.1.2006 to 31.3.2009 in the fourth phase.

Refugee camps:

20. As on date, 19,705 families with 73,451 Sri Lankan Tamils have been accommodated in 115 Refugee camps including 2 special camps located in 26 districts and they have been provided with various relief assistances. All expenditure towards relief assistances is met by the State Government and subsequently reimbursed by the Government of India.

Disbursement of Cash Doles to Refugees:

21. All the families living in Refugee camps are provided with cash dole at the following rate every month to meet their day to day expenditure towards the basic needs:-

CASH DOLE FROM 1.8.2006

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Individual member (above 12 years of age) ./ Head of Family | Rs.400/- |
| 2. For each additional member | Rs.288/- |
| 3. For first child (less than 12 years of age) | Rs.180/- |
| 4. For each additional child | Rs. 90/- |

22. After coming to power, this Government pursued and succeeded with the Government of India to increase the quantum of cash dole by 100% from the earlier level. During 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 24.53 crore was disbursed as cash dole to the refugees living in the Refugee camps. During 2008-09, an amount of Rs. 26.00 crore has been provided in the Budget towards this item of expenditure and as on 31.3.2009 an amount of Rs.24.57 crore has been spent.

Supply of rice at subsidized rate:

23. The Government of Tamil Nadu provides rice to the refugees living in the camps at a subsidized rate of Rs.0.57 per Kilo-gram. The requirement of rice at subsidized rate for each family is worked out at the rate of 400 gm. per day per adult (persons above 8 years) and 200 gm. per day per child (persons below 8 years) in a family. Rice is supplied to the refugees through designated Fair Price shops established under the Public Distribution System by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation. The State Government reimburses the differential cost to the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation and in turn the State Government gets the amount reimbursed from the Government of India. Though the scheme of rice at subsidized rate was discontinued by the Government of India from 5.8.2005 onwards, the Government of Tamil Nadu had been continuing this scheme through its own funds.

However, due to the continuous efforts of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Government of India accorded its concurrence to continue the scheme. During 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 8.32 crore was incurred as an expenditure under this scheme and during the year 2008-09, as on 31.3.2009, an amount of Rs.8.25 crore had been spent.

Clothing Materials:

24. Every year, Government provides free clothes and mats to the refugees living in the camps. Government also supplies free blankets at the rate of one blanket for every adult in each family once in two years. Clothes and mats are provided to the refugees as per the norms prescribed by the Government of India through Co-optex. The grant towards clothes has been enhanced by 28% from 2007-08 onwards.

Utensils:

25. Cooking utensils are given to each family of the refugees in camps once in two years. The rate, fixed at Rs.150/- for this, for each family, is enhanced to Rs.250/- from the year 2008-2009.

Health Service and Medical Aid:

26. Regular medical check up and provision for free medical services are being provided to the refugees accommodated in various camps across the State through the Government hospitals and Primary Health Centres situated near the refugee camps. The Government also provides financial assistance to the Sri Lankan Refugees for treatment of major ailments from the Sri Lankan Tamil Special Relief Fund on case to case basis on the recommendation of the District Collectors. After coming to power in 2006, this Government has also extended Integrated Child Development Services Scheme to the women and children living in the refugee

camps to improve their educational and nutritional condition with effect from 1.4.2007.

27. Government of Tamil Nadu has extended Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance Scheme to the pregnant women refugees with effect from 1.4.2007. Cash assistance of Rs.1000/- per month is provided to each pregnant woman during the first three months of pre-natal period and next three months of post natal period. During the year 2007-08, 905 pregnant mothers were benefited under the scheme. During the year 2008-09, 805 pregnant mothers were benefited under this scheme.

Free Education:

28. Children of Sri Lankan Refugees living in Refugee camps are provided with free education upto higher secondary education level (+2) and they are also provided with free uniforms, noon meal, bus pass, text books, note-books and bicycles. The Sri Lankan refugees staying outside the camp are permitted to continue their studies with admissible cash dole and other benefits. At present, 20,045 children are benefited under this scheme.

Supply of Free Electricity:

29. After this Government came to power in May 2006, the houses in the refugee camps have been provided with 24 hours electricity free of cost, which was earlier supplied only for 12 hours i.e. from 6.00 P.M to 6.00 A.M.

Cremation Assistance:

30. This Government has increased the assistance towards cremation expenditure to the Sri Lankan Refugees from Rs.100 to Rs.500 for the adults and from Rs.60/- to Rs.300/- for the children.

Infrastructure Development:

31. During the year 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 6 lakh was incurred towards construction of new huts in M.Mettupatti Refugee Camp in Namakkal District. During the year 2008-09, sanction have been accorded for an amount of Rs.15.98 lakh towards the infrastructure development in Refugee camps and the works are under progress. This Government has also submitted various projects amounting to Rs.16 crore to the Government of India for its concurrence and the same is under active consideration.

Financial Performance:

32. During the year 2007-08, Government incurred an expenditure of Rs.39.90 crore towards providing various relief measures to the Sri Lankan refugees living in refugee camps. During the year 2008-09, an amount of Rs.44.34 crore had been incurred towards these works.

Sri Lankan Tamils' Relief Fund:

33. For providing assistance to the war affected Sri Lankan Tamils, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has constituted "Sri Lankan Tamils Relief Fund" and appealed to the people to contribute to the fund. In response to this appeal, a sum of Rs.50.84 crore has been mobilized upto 31.3.2009.

Relief Materials to the affected Srilankan Tamils:

34. 80,000 packets of relief materials were sent from Chennai to Sri Lanka for the affected Sri Lankan Tamils by the ship MV Conti Jork on 13.11.2008. The materials were sent to Indian High Commission and from there it was distributed to the affected Sri Lankan Tamils through the International Committee of Red Cross. The neutral observers in Sri Lanka have expressed their view that the relief materials from the Indian Tamils to the war affected Sri Lankan Tamils were very

useful and that the humanitarian act of timely despatch of relief material deserves deep appreciation. On 22.4.2009, 40,000 packets containing food materials, clothes and utensils and on 9.5.2009, 50,000 packets containing food materials, clothes and medicines to provide first aid to the injured were sent by ship as relief materials to the Sri Lankan Tamils affected in the war.

Rehabilitation of Repatriates:

35. 1,44,445 persons of Tamil origin holding Indian Citizenship, were repatriated to India from Burma during the period from 1963 to 1989. Similarly, during the period from 1975 to 1980, Vietnamese of Tamil origin numbering 2055 were repatriated to India. During the period from 1965 onwards, 4,61,639 Sri Lankan Tamils have been repatriated to India.

36. The repatriates had been provided with rehabilitation assistance and have been settled in tea, rubber, cinchona plantations, co-operative spinning mills, industrial schemes of Repco Bank and agricultural schemes. Besides, the repatriates have also been provided with Business and Housing loans. To promote self-employment, assistance has been provided to the repatriates to start dairy farming, match industry, cycle rickshaw etc. However, the Government of India discontinued all rehabilitation schemes from 31.3.1999.

V. EX-SERVICEMEN'S WELFARE

37. Our Armed Forces, the sentinels of the Nation, have been our pride. They have made immense sacrifices to ensure security and integrity of the country, at times of grave challenges both external and internal. Welfare of the families of battle casualties, rehabilitation and resettlement of disabled Soldiers, Ex-Servicemen and their dependants and welfare of the families of Serving Defence Personnel belonging to Tamil Nadu are the prime responsibilities of the Department of Ex-Servicemen's

Welfare. All welfare schemes for the upliftment of the 1,72,407 (as on 31.3.2009) Ex-Servicemen and widows of Ex-Servicemen, registered with the District Offices, are being implemented through the 25 District Offices of the Department with missionary zeal.

Major Activities of the Department

1. Assistance from the Government

- i War Service Incentive to Parents
- ii Cash Grant to recipients of Gallantry / Distinguished Service Award
- iii Aid to Civil Power – Government Ex-Gratia
- iv Pre-Recruitment Training
- v Reservations of Seats in Educational Institutions
- vi Temple Protection Force

2. Kargil Defence Personnel Relief Fund

3. Flag Day Fund

4. Grants from Benevolent Funds

- i Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund
- ii Amalgamated Fund

5. Re-Employment Assistance

6. Resettlement Training Schemes

7. Self Employment Schemes and

8. Honour bestowed on Battle Casualties.

1. Assistance from the Government

i. War Service Incentive to parents

38. 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 as

incentive by the Government. During 2008–2009, 503 parents were granted incentive to the tune of Rs.5.06 lakh.

ii. Cash Grant to the recipients of Gallantry/Distinguished Service Award

39. The Government of Tamil Nadu have sanctioned cash award to the tune of Rs.1.21 lakh to 34 Gallantry Award / Distinguished Service Award Winners for the year 2008-2009. An amount of Rs.1.15 lakh as Cash-in-lieu of land has been sanctioned to 2 recipients of Gallantry award winners out of these awardees.

iii. Aid to Civil Power – Government Ex-Gratia

40. The Ex-gratia payment of Rs.1.00 lakh being sanctioned to the families of deceased personnel of Defence / Border Security Force has been increased to Rs.5.00 lakh from the financial year 2008-2009. Similarly, the payment of Rs.10,000/- to Rs.40,000/- to the disabled personnel, depending upon the disability, has been increased from Rs.50,000/- to Rs.2.00 lakh with effect from 1.4.2008.

41. During 2008-2009 Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs.2.21 lakh towards ex-gratia to the next of kin of 3 defence personnel killed in action and to 6 disabled serving personnel.

iv. Pre-Recruitment Training

42. The Armed Forces provide an excellent career opportunity to the youth of the Nation. Government have taken special measures to encourage and motivate maximum number of youth from Tamil Nadu to join the Indian Army. Free preparatory training is given to the youth to take up the written test successfully. In the year 2008-2009, 289 youth of Tamil Nadu were given such training at a cost of Rs.1.67 lakh.

v. Reservation of seats In Educational Institutions

43. The Government have ordered reservation of seats to the children of Ex-Servicemen in various educational institutions in the State. Reservation of seats for children of Ex-Servicemen in Engineering Colleges has been enhanced from 81 to 150. Reservation in Engineering Courses under Lateral Entry has been enhanced from 8 seats to 15 seats for the Children of Ex-Servicemen. Similarly, 2 seats for MBBS Course, 1 seat for BDS Course, 60 seats for Nursing Courses, 80 seats for Diploma Courses in Polytechnics, 6 seats for Undergraduate Courses in each of the Arts and Science Colleges, 132 seats in Teachers' Training Courses, 1% of the seats in Law Courses have been reserved for Ex-Servicemen. 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.

vi. Temple Protection Force

44. Presently 1,920 Ex-Servicemen are employed in the Temple Protection Force to secure and protect the valuable treasures and idols of temples in Tamil Nadu. They are paid a consolidated salary of Rs.1500/- per month.

2. Kargil Defence Personnel Relief Fund

45. The Public (Military) Department administers the Kargil Defence Personnel Relief Fund. The defence personnel belonging to Tamil Nadu who had

made the supreme sacrifice or were incapacitated in counter insurgency operations are sanctioned monetary grants from the fund as under:-

1. For the family of martyr - Rs.5 lakh
2. For disabled
 - (i) Totally disabled/double amputee/ totally blind. - Rs.3 lakh
 - (ii) Single amputee/one eye blind - Rs.1 lakh

During the financial year 2008-2009, the next of kin of one Serving Officer who has made the supreme sacrifice in “**Operation Rakshak**” at Jammu and Kashmir has been sanctioned a sum of Rs.5.00 lakh from Kargil Defence Personnel Relief Fund.

3. Flag Day Fund

46. Armed Forces Flag Day is celebrated on the 7th December of every year to honour the valiant and brave and to express our solidarity with Armed Forces. Contribution are solicited from the general public. Tamil Nadu State has always been generous in contributing their mite towards the noble cause and continuously receiving the All India Best Collection Trophy for the last three years from the Defence Ministry. For the Flag Day year 7.12.2007 to 6.12.2008, the Department has achieved a collection of Rs.11.06 crore as against the target of Rs.7.28 crore.

4. Grants from Benevolent Funds

i. Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund

47. The contributions to Flag Day Collection and Rental income received from Jawans Bhavans forms the basic source of this fund. The fund is administered by a Committee of Tamil Nadu Soldiers', Sailors' & Airmen's Board constituted by the Honourable Minister for Ex-Servicemen's Welfare. The Ex-Officio Director of

Ex-Servicemen's Welfare is the Chairman of the Committee and the Joint Director of the Directorate is the Secretary.

During 2008-2009, 12,620 Ex-Servicemen and their dependants were benefited under various schemes of financial assistance from this fund to the tune of Rs.762 lakh.

ii. Amalgamated Fund

48. This fund was set up by amalgamating the balances of the erstwhile Post War Services Reconstruction Fund, the Special Fund consisting of contribution from the National Defence Fund by the Government of India and a matching grant by the Government of Tamil Nadu. This Fund is administered by a State Managing Committee under the Chairmanship of His Excellency the Governor.

During 2008-2009, 1328 Ex-Servicemen and their dependants were benefited under various schemes of financial assistance from this fund to the tune of Rs.60.06 lakh.

5. Re-employment Assistance

49. The Government of Tamil Nadu have provided a number of concessions to promote employment of Ex-Servicemen in civil jobs.

50. Government have reserved 5% in Group 'C' posts and 10% in the basic services, 15% for the posts of Forest Guards and Forest Watchers in the Forest Department, 10% of basic services in quasi Government Organisations and 25% of the posts of Drivers, Watchmen and Lascars are reserved in the National Cadet Corps Establishment for Ex-Servicemen.

51. The Ex-Servicemen are exempted from physical and medical test for the post of Grade-II Constable in the Technical Wing of the Police Department. Ex-

Servicemen or one dependant of the Ex-Servicemen is provided with priority certificate for getting employment for the posts filled up through employment exchange. During 2008–2009, 2,144 dependants were benefited by this scheme. 202 Ex-Servicemen were provided re-employment in various sectors.

6. Resettlement Training

52. Job oriented training is provided to the Ex-Servicemen in various fields to enhance their employability. Ex-Servicemen who have necessary service qualification for physical instructors, are given four months special re-orientation course in physical education through Karaikudi Alagappa University to qualify them for appointment as Physical Education Instructors in Government Schools. During the year 2008-2009, 23 Ex-Servicemen were trained as Physical Education Instructors at a cost of Rs.1.26 lakh and 21 Ex-Servicemen are undergoing 11 month training for the post of Live Stock Inspector.

7. Self Employment Schemes

53. As it is not possible to provide Government jobs to every Ex-Serviceman after their retirement from the Armed Forces, Government have formulated several schemes to encourage them to start their own business closer to their place of living and also improve their economic conditions by giving financial support.

54. The Ex-Servicemen who obtain loan to the maximum amount of Rs.2.50 lakh from the Banks are provided with 50% interest subsidy from the Amalgamated Fund. As on 31.3.2009, an amount of Rs.130 lakh had been disbursed to 89 Ex-Servicemen / Widows, as Bank Loan and 479 Ex-Servicemen / Widows were benefited with Interest Subsidy amounting to Rs.12.18 lakh. 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 lakh obtained from the

Banks. At present, 109 Self Help Groups have been formed in 21 Districts and 3 Self Help Groups have been provided with Bank Loan amounting to Rs.9.00 lakh.

55. Women dependants of Ex-Servicemen families are given training in tailoring units run by this department. In the year 2008–2009, 85 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.5.95 lakh.

8. Honour bestowed on Battle Casualties

56. 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 funerals of the martyrs are attended by Hon'ble Ministers, the concerned District Collector / Superintendent of Police and Officers of the Department of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare.

Jawans Bhavan

57. 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. During 2007-2008 Government have sanctioned Rs.94 lakh for construction of Ex-Servicemen's Centre and Shopping Complex at Nagaercoil from the Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund and the work has been completed.

58. Construction of Ex-Services Centre at Tuticorin at an estimated cost of Rs.47.81 lakh is in progress. The Government have also accorded administrative sanction for construction of a multi-storeyed office complex in the premises of District Ex-Services Centre at Coimbatore at a cost of Rs.197 lakh and the first instalment of

Rs.40 lakh has been released from the Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund.

Appointment of Officers and Staff

59. During 2008-2009, 4 posts of Assistant Director by direct recruitment and under compassionate grounds 4 posts of Junior Assistant, 1 post of Driver and 1 post of Watchman have been filled up.

VI. TAMIL NADU EX-SERVICEMEN'S CORPORATION LIMITED

60. Tamil Nadu has been one of the pioneering States in the country to promote welfare measures meant for Ex-Servicemen. With a view to focus on income generation and overall economic upliftment of the Ex-Servicemen, the Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Limited (TEXCO) was formed on 28.1.1986 and registered under the Companies Act, 1956. It is a financially self-supporting and profit earning organization. The authorised and paid-up share capitals are Rs.50.00 lakh and Rs.22.91 lakh respectively.

Major Activities of TEXCO

61. a) TEXCO has been planning and implementing various schemes for the social and economic upliftment of Ex-Servicemen belonging to Tamil Nadu.

b) TEXCO has been engaging in various commercial activities, such as, providing security arrangements, managing the paid parking systems on behalf of Corporation of Chennai, providing telecommunication operators to Oil and Natural Gas Commission, managing and maintenance of Government Helicopter and Air Craft.

c) TEXCO appoints registered and well qualified Ex-Servicemen as Security Guards, Clerks, Drivers, Nursing Assistants, Fire Fighting Personnel and Telecommunication Operators to the State and Central

Government Organisations on contract basis. For this, TEXCO receives 12% Service Charge from the concerned Organisations.

- d) On behalf of Corporation of Chennai, TEXCO is collecting parking fees in notified parking places within Chennai Corporation Limits. The net profit earned out of this arrangement is shared between Corporation of Chennai and Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Limited in the ratio of 70:30 respectively.
- e) TEXCO is maintaining the State owned "**BELL-412 EP**" Helicopter and "**CESSNA**" Air Craft. The expenditure on maintenance and management of the Aircraft and Helicopter are met by TEXCO and subsequently the same is reimbursed by the Government. Service Charges at the rate of 2% of the maintenance expenditure are paid to TEXCO by the Government.
- f) In total, 8,705 Ex-Servicemen are sponsored by this Corporation for employment on contract basis as on 31.3.2009. The performance of the Corporation in the last five years are furnished below : -

Year	Turn over	Profit	Number of Ex-Servicemen employed
	Rupees in lakhs		
2004-2005	4403.85	411.41	7645
2005-2006	4868.61	403.82	8532
2006-2007	5388.48	478.41	9136
2007-2008	6325.83	490.64	9871
2008-2009	6958.41	539.70**	8705

** Provisional, subject to audit.

VII. STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

62. The State Human Rights Commission constituted as per the Provisions of the Human Rights Protection Act, 1993 is functioning in Tamil Nadu from 17.4.1997 in "Thiruvarangam Building" at Door No.143, P.S. Kumarasamy Raja Salai, Chennai-28. Currently, the Commission is functioning with 3 members and a Chairperson, who is a retired Chief Justice of High Court. Every year, Government of Tamil Nadu provides budgetary grant for the functioning of the Commission. The Commission functions independently with following Divisions:-

- (a) Law Division;
- (b) Investigation Division, and
- (c) Administrative Division.

63. Tamil Nadu is one among the few States which have constituted the State Human Rights Commission and the Tamil Nadu Human Rights Commission is one of the earliest constituted Human Rights Commissions, i.e. during 1997. This Government, after coming to power, filled-up the posts of the Chairperson and three other members, which were kept vacant for a long time.

Functions

64. Human Rights are the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of an individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in the International Covenants and are enforceable by the Courts in India. Complaints of violation of Human Rights may be filed before the Commission in any language free of fee. Complaints may be filed in writing by the victim or by anyone on his / her behalf. The

Commission inquires the petitions presented to it. However, Commission can also inquire Human Rights violation, suo-moto.

65. The Commission also conducts Seminars and Training Programme for the benefit of the public servants to create awareness among them on Human Right issues. The steep increase in number of complaints received by the Commission during 2008 (i.e.) 12,313 as compared to that of 1997 (i.e.) 2,162 establishes the level of awareness among the public on Human Rights in recent days.

66. The Government of Tamil Nadu have sanctioned required staff and other infrastructure facilities like cars, phones, laptop, etc., for the effective functioning of the Commission. During the financial year 2009-2010, Government has provided a budgetary grant of Rs.1,75,35,000/- to the State Human Rights Commission.

67. It is proposed to construct a new building for the State Human Rights Commission, Tamil Nadu in the campus of "Thiruvarangam Maaligai" at a cost of Rs.3,48,56,000/-.

VIII. CHIEF MINISTER'S SPECIAL CELL

68. The Chief Minister's Special Cell plays a crucial role in helping the people in distress and effectively solving their problems. The Special Cell is headed by a Special Officer, who is authorised to correspond directly with the authorities concerned to seek quick redressal to the grievances of the people.

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

Administrative set-up

70. Two Officers are looking after the functioning of Chief Minister's Special Cell viz., (1) Special Officer, Chief Minister's Special Cell in IAS cadre and (2) Special Officer, Chief Minister's Secretariat in DRO cadre. 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.

71. 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 and with the Nodal officers of Commissionerates of Police and the District Superintendents of Police. In addition to this, the Special Officer, Chief Minister's Special Cell also conducts periodic meetings with the Nodal Officers/Under Secretaries of all Secretariat departments and Heads of Departments to expedite quality and timely disposal of grievance petitions and action taken on the petitions are closely monitored.

72. Between 1.4.2008 and 31.3.2009 a total number of 2,67,250 petitions have been received and sent to the respective offices for taking necessary action. During the period, 1,67,325 petitions have been processed and finalised. Between 1.4.2008 and 31.3.2009, a total number of 2,285 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 1,586 petitions have been received and disposed off.

Assistance through Chief Minister's Special Cell

73. On orders of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Educational assistance of Rs.25,000/- for each student, belonging to the families living under indigent conditions, is being provided under CMPRF, based on the recommendation of the District Collector, to the students studying Medicine, Veterinary, Nursing and Engineering courses. Apart from this, financial assistance of Rs.25,000/- is also provided to the 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 1.4.2008 and 31.3.2009.

74. Between 1.4.2008 and 31.3.2009, a sum of Rs.4,59,55,000/- has been sanctioned from Tamil Nadu State Illness Society Fund to 1839 persons for performing 1688 Heart surgeries, 94 Kidney Transplantations, 42 Cancer surgery, 12 Skull opening and Brain Tumour surgeries, 1 Uretic surgery / Kidney stone and 2 Hip replacement surgeries.

Educational assistance sanctioned between 1.4.2008 and 31.3.2009.

75. Between 1.4.2008 and 31.3.2009, a sum of Rs.39,25,000/- has been sanctioned from the Chief Minister's Public Relief Fund to 157 poor students

(134 Engineering students and 23 Medical, Veterinary and Nursing students) to pursue their higher education in Engineering / Medical and other allied subjects.

IX. NEW SCHEMES UNDER PART-II

- Purchase of one colour copier-cum-printer for use in Chief Secretary's Office and one digital Duplicator for the use in Public Department at an expenditure of Rs.4.71 lakh.
- Purchase of 8 Nos. of computer system for the use of Public (Bills and Cash) Department at an estimated cost of Rs.2.29 lakh.
- Purchase of 56 Nos. of computers with accessories and 26 Nos. of Printers including
10 Nos. of Heavy Duty Printers at a cost of Rs.29.52 lakh for Tappal Distribution and Electronic File Processing System in Public Department.
- Proposal for up-gradation of computer systems available in Public Department to handle Tappal Distribution and Electronic File Processing System, to Provide LAN connection to some of the sections and all Under Secretaries and Section Officers in certain important sections at a cost of Rs.8.65 lakh.
- Provision of Computers with accessories at a cost of Rs.2.51 lakh to the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare.
- Purchase of kitchen articles at a cost of Rs.0.89 lakh to Tamizhagam Guest House, Udhagamandalam.
- Purchase of Television sets at a cost of Rs.0.75 lakh to the newly renovated rooms in Tamizhagam Guest House, Udhagamandalam.

- Installation of optic fibre cable and connected accessories at a cost of Rs.0.35 lakh to improve the quality of reception in the Television sets in Tamizhagam Guest House, Udhagamandalam.
- Purchase of wollen blankets, Beds, Pillows and Bath Towels at a cost of Rs.3.05 lakh for use in Tamizhagam Guest House, Udhagamandalam.
- Modernization of kitchen with connected electrical fittings etc. at a cost of Rs.15.50 lakh in the State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai-5.
- Purchase of Kitchen Utensils / Electrical appliances at a cost of Rs.1.03 lakh for the State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai-5.
- Purchase of certain household items and 3 Refrigerators at a cost of Rs.1.95 lakh for the State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai-5.
- Purchase of Computerised Telephone Exchange (EPABX) System at a cost of Rs.4.50 lakh for the State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai-5.
- Works relating to Modernisation of Kitchen at a cost of Rs.9.00 lakhs to the Additional Guest House at Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi.
- Improvements to the Additional Guest House by provision of Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment System at a cost of Rs.7.00 lakh.
- Provision of furniture at a cost of Rs.5.00 lakh to dining hall at Old Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi.
- Provision of Waste Water Management at a cost of Rs.3.30 lakh as an improvement to Additional Guest House at Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi.

X. BUDGET PROVISION

76. Details of Budget Provision for Demand No.38, Public Department, for the financial year 2009-2010 are furnished in the Annexure.

**M. KARUNANIDHI
CHIEF MINISTER**

ANNEXURE**DETAILS OF THE BUDGET PROVISION FOR 2009-2010 UNDER DEMAND NO. 38.****(Please refer para 76)**

Head of Account	(RUPEES IN THOUSANDS)			
	2007-2008	2008-2009	2008-2009	2009-2010
	Accounts	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Budget Estimate
2014 Administration of Justice	3,30	5,00	5,00	5,00
2015 Elections	40,21,25	43,33,67	48,19,96	113,76,38
2052 Secretariat - General Services	19,42,44	22,99,98	29,32,50	31,20,18
2059 Public Works	4,56,99	3,84,54	4,14,72	3,42,29
2070 Other Administrative Services	15,21,86	18,87,82	21,50,65	20,79,93
2075 Miscellaneous General Services	3,89,12	3,16,18	3,96,72	3,73,02
2216 Housing	14,80	17,77	17,78	17,78
2235 Social Security and Welfare	45,97,84	56,02,90	59,63,40	59,95,35
2251 Secretariat - Social Services	58,99	57,69	80,75	87,10
4216 Capital Outlay on Housing	7,73,57	5,00,00	---	---
4235 Capital Outlay on Social Security and Welfare	---	---	---	5,00,00