

Demand No.45
Social Welfare
and
Nutritious Meal Programme Department

POLICY NOTE 2009-2010

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, under the visionary leadership of Honourable Chief Minister, has rightly accorded top priority to the welfare schemes for women, children, aged and disabled people. The Honourable Chief Minister while introducing banana to the non-egg eating children under the Noon Meal Programme had pointed out that giving Vazhaipazham (banana) is to be seen as “Vazha” Pazham (fruit given for living). The guidance provided by the Honourable Chief Minister has been instrumental for introducing and implementing several schemes meant for the better ‘Vazhkai’ (life) of the women, children and the under-privileged in the State.

The Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department implements various social policies and programmes of the Government through four Directorates, namely, Social Welfare, Social Defence, Integrated Child Development Services and the State Commissioner for the Disabled. This department also functions as a nodal agency for implementation of various social security programmes through Revenue Department such as old age pension, widow pension and pension for the physically disabled persons, pension to un-married, poor, incapacitated women of age 50 years and above etc.,

This Department is engaged in the services provided for the welfare and well-being of women, children, aged and the disabled. Empowerment of women has been the hallmark of the approach of the Government in its social and economic development initiatives towards achieving the goals of gender equality, gender justice and social security. This department lays special focus on the welfare schemes such as marriage assistance schemes for the women, hostels for the working women, girl child protection scheme and service homes for women.

Supplementary Nutrition Programme is one of the prime services rendered under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS). Most of the pregnant and lactating mothers are identified from several sections of the society for providing nutritious food. The ICDS takes care of the nutritional and health needs of children from 6 months to 5 years and Nutritious Meal Programme provides meals to school children from 6 years to 15 years of age.

This Department through the Directorate of Social Defence has endeavoured to implement many schemes for the development and rehabilitation of the neglected (children in need of care and

protection) and delinquent juveniles (juveniles in conflict with law) in a professional manner. The Government has also initiated several new and innovative schemes for the social and economic welfare of the Disabled in the State for their overall development. By establishing homes for the old aged, and providing pensions to the old aged people, widows, destitute women and physically handicapped persons this Government have ensured to protect their living and well being.

These pioneering and untiring efforts of the Government for the overall well-being of women, children, old aged and the under-privileged have become the models for many States to emulate and protect the vulnerable people in their areas. Tamil Nadu has become a model State and will try to consolidate its premier position in social development achievements.

CHAPTER 2

WOMEN AND CHILD WELFARE

2.1 The Government of Tamil Nadu is a frontline State in the Country in implementing various welfare programmes for the overall development of women and children. The Department of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme is implementing many schemes for the welfare of women and children such as granting financial assistance to children in difficult circumstances to pursue their education, marriage assistance to poor women and for widow re-marriage. In its endeavour to provide a healthy and protective environment to girl children and women, the Government have formulated many policies towards removing gender discrimination and improving the status of the adolescent girls and implementing the schemes effectively. Nutritious Mid Day Meal is given to the school going students with the aim of ensuring a balanced development of health of the students and their education under the Nutritious Meal Programme.

WOMEN WELFARE SCHEMES

2.2 MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEMES

Five types of Marriage Assistance Schemes to help the poor parents / guardians to get their girl children married are implemented by the Government.

Large number of poor girls and their parents are benefitted under these schemes.

2.2.1 MOOVALUR RAMAMIRTHAM AMMAIYAR NINAIVU MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME

Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyaar Ninaivu Marriage Assistance Scheme was launched on 3.6.1989 to improve the education level of girls and to help the poor parents financially in getting their

daughters married, who have studied upto 8th Std., and above and attained the age of 18 years, with an assistance of Rs.5000/-. Subsequently, the educational qualification for getting this assistance has been raised to 10th Standard and also the financial assistance raised to Rs.10,000/-. This scheme discontinued with effect from 1.4.2002 and later revived on 3.6.2006, by raising the financial assistance from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.15,000/- per beneficiary. The financial assistance has been increased to Rs.20,000/- with effect from 20-03-2008. The annual income ceiling limit for availing this benefit has been raised from Rs.12,000/- to Rs.24,000/-.

For the year 2009-2010, a sum of Rs.150.00 Crores has been allocated in the Budget Estimate to benefit 75,000 poor families.

2.2.2 DR. DHARMAMBAL AMMAIYAR NINAIVU WIDOW RE-MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME

The widow re-marriage assistance scheme has been launched in the year 1975 with the motive to encourage social reformation of re-marriage of poor young widows and being implemented in the name of Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiyar. The financial assistance provided has been raised from Rs.15,000/- to Rs.20,000/- with effect from 20-11-2008 and is provided to widows with minimum age of 20 years. There is no income ceiling for availing the benefit under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.33.40 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 to benefit 167 persons.

2.2.3 ANNAI THERESA NINAIVU MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR ORPHAN GIRLS

In order to help the orphan girls to get married who have lost their parents, the orphan girls marriage assistance scheme has been started in the year 1984-85 and is being implemented in the name of Annai Theresa for the marriage of orphan girls. The annual income of the guardians or the orphan girls should not exceed Rs.24,000/-. The girl should be above 18 years of age and not above 30 years of age. The assistance under the scheme has been raised from Rs.15,000/- to Rs.20,000/- with effect from 20.11.2008.

An amount of Rs.54.80 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 to benefit 274 orphan girls.

2.2.4 E.V.R. MANIAMMAIYAR NINAIVU MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR DAUGHTERS OF POOR WIDOWS

The widows, who are below poverty line, suffer lot without enough resources to get their daughters married. To mitigate the suffering of these widows, a scheme was launched in the year 1981-82 to provide financial assistance for the marriage of daughters of poor widows, in the name of E.V.R. Maniammayar. Under this scheme, the daughters of poor widows in the age group of 18 to 30 years and whose annual family income is below Rs.24,000/- are provided financial assistance for their

marriage. The financial assistance has been enhanced from Rs.15,000/- to Rs.20,000/- with effect from 20-11-2008.

A sum of Rs.400.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 to benefit 2000 daughters of poor widows.

2.2.5 ANJUGAM AMMAIYAR NINAIVU INTER-CASTE MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME

In order to abolish discrimination along caste lines and to eliminate dowry harassment, a scheme to encourage inter-caste marriage by providing financial assistance was launched on 1-7-1967 and being implemented as Anjugam Ammaiyar Ninaivu Inter-Caste Marriage Assistance Scheme. There is no income limit for availing assistance under this scheme. The beneficiaries should apply within two years from the date of marriage. A sum of Rs.20,000/- (Rs.10,000/- in the form of DD / Cheque for marriage expenses and Rs.10,000/- in the form of National Savings Certificate) is provided if one spouse is from SC / ST and the other belongs to a different community. A sum of Rs.15,000/- (Rs.5,000/- for marriage expenses in the form of DD / Cheque and Rs.10,000/- in the form of National Savings Certificate) is provided to those newly married couple where a forward community person marries a BC/ MBC person.

A sum of Rs.525.00 Lakhs has been provided for the benefit of 3355 couples in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009 - 2010 this scheme.

2.3 SATHIYAVANIMUTHU AMMAIYAR NINAIVU FREE SUPPLY OF SEWING MACHINE SCHEME

Sewing machines are supplied at free of cost to widows, deserted wives, destitute women and physically handicapped men and women who are below poverty line, with a noble cause to increase their self employment potential and to improve their living standards under the scheme of Sathyavani Muthu Ammaiyar Ninaivu free supply of sewing machines.

Persons who have been trained in tailoring and have completed 20 years of age and below 40 years are the eligible beneficiaries under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.132.00 Lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate under this scheme for the year 2009 - 2010.

2.4 SERVICE HOMES

In Tamil Nadu, for various reasons, many girls discontinue their studies and get married and some of them are deserted from their families due to family problems. Some even lose their husband due to various reasons. Some do not get married due to poor circumstances. To provide education and employment opportunities to such women and to improve their economic status, the Department

of Social Welfare runs 7 Service Homes at Tambaram, Cuddalore, Salem, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Sivagangai and Madurai. These Service Homes provide accommodation, food, education (upto Higher Secondary level) and vocational training to the inmates at free of cost. Besides these, the women inmates are allowed to keep their children with them and educational facilities are also provided to these children.

A sum of Rs.426.40 Lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010.

2.4.1 SECONDARY GRADE TEACHERS TRAINING INSTITUTE

Secondary Grade Teachers Training course was restarted in Tambaram Service Home during 2007-08. Forty Ex-inmates of Service Homes and Government Orphanages are benefitted every year through the Teachers Training Course.

A sum of Rs.6.80 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010.

2.5 SERVICE HOMES FOR WOMEN RUN BY VOLUNTARY INSTITUTIONS

Service Homes are being run by Voluntary Agencies for the benefit of socially and economically weaker women by educating them through condensed course and training in tailoring. In these service homes, food, accommodation, education and vocational courses are provided as assistance. The women who are socially destitute, deserted wives, widows and orphans are eligible to benefit under this scheme.

The following Voluntary Organisations are getting grant from State Government for running these Service Homes:

Kasthuriba Sevashramam, Gandhigram, Dindigul	Imparting education from 6 th Std to 10 th Std.
Shree Seva Mandir, Saligramam, Chennai	Secretarial Course

A sum of Rs.19.53 Lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009 - 2010 for this scheme.

2.6.1. WORKING WOMEN'S HOSTEL

The working women, particularly from the middle and lower middle income groups, are facing many problems to find suitable accommodation at the rent affordable to them. To cater to their requirements, Government is running eight Working Women's Hostels two in Chennai and one each in Cuddalore, Madurai, Pudukottai, Thoothukudi, Tiruchirapalli and Hosur. A monthly income ceiling of Rs.10,000/- is prescribed for admission in these 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 and food charges are shared equally by the inmates. Salaries of the Superintendent, Junior Assistant, Cooks, Scavengers and other staff are met by the State Government.

A Transit Hostel is also functioning at the existing Working Women's Hostel at Chennai.

A Sum of Rs.57.27 Lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010.

2.6.2 CONSTRUCTION OF WORKING WOMEN'S HOSTEL COMPLEX ON THE LANDBELONGING TO ARULMIGHU VADAPALANI ANDAVAR TEMPLE, CHENNAI

Due to increase in the number of Automobile and I.T. related companies, in and around Chennai city, working women find it difficult to get convenient and safe accommodation. In order to fulfil the above needs the Government through Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited, Chennai has proposed to construct a Working Women's Hostel Complex at a project cost of Rs.13.13 crores (out of which Rs.5.00 crores will be met by Government of India and the remaining Rs.8.13 crores will be met by the State Government) on the land measuring 5.96 acres belonging to Arulmigu Vadapalani Aandavar Temple at Gandhi Nagar, Saligramam, Chennai. The Working Women's Hostel is proposed to be constructed in 5 Blocks accommodating 500 working women and 60 pre-school children with facilities of Recreation Centre, Creche, Library, Computer Centre, Gymnastic Centre etc.,. The State Government has sanctioned Rs.2.00 crores for construction of one block and the work is in progress. The Government of India have sanctioned Rs.3.75 crores for the construction.

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

This scheme benefits school going children of poor widows with a family income below Rs.12,000/- per annum by providing free text books and note books at the following rates:-

Class	Cost of text books and note books
	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/-
+1 and +2	Rs.600/-

A sum of Rs.11.32 Lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-10 to this scheme benefitting about 10,000 children.

2.8 EMPLOYMENT FOR WOMEN

By involving women in Co-operative movement, socio-economic empowerment of women is ensured. Through formation of Industrial Co-operative Societies exclusively for women, economic empowerment of women is achieved. There are 98 Industrial Co-operative Societies and 25 Weaning Food Manufacturing Women Co-operative Societies functioning under the control of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department. 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	41,748
2	Stationery Indl. Co-op. Societies	15	746
3	Other Societies	3	1015
	Total	98	43,509

41,748 Women Members of the 80 Tailoring Industrial Co-operative Societies are engaged in stitching uniforms to the children studying in Std I to VIII who are benefitted under Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme. The number of beneficiaries covered under the scheme are 53.64 lakhs students including children in Orphanages and Service Homes.

Stitching of uniforms for students studying in Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Schools, Kallar Reclamation schools and other schools controlled by the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minority Welfare Department which were entrusted to private agencies from 2003-04 has now been entrusted to Industrial Women Cooperative Societies to improve the income of the above society members.

15 Women Stationery Industrial Co-operative Societies are functioning under the control of Social Welfare Department. These Societies have a total membership of 746. These stationery co-operative societies are providing work to the women members by getting orders for supply of registers to the Government Departments, Government institutions, Government Organisations and other Co-operative Institutions.

There are 36 tailoring training centres functioning throughout the State. Among these, 2 in Salem District and one each in Namakkal and Thiruvannamalai District totalling 4 Tailoring centres

are giving training exclusively to tribal women. 65 Tribal women are trained in these centres every year.

CHILD WELFARE SCHEMES

2.9 SATHYA AMMAIYAR NINAIYU GOVERNMENT ORPHANAGES

Many orphan children are denied proper food and education at the tender age due to many reasons in the society. They do not get right environment for an all round growth. With genuine interest in the welfare of the destitute and orphan children, the Government of Tamil Nadu runs 27 Orphanages throughout the State of Tamil Nadu to groom them into good citizens. Classes are being conducted from 1st to 5th standard in the Orphanage itself and the children from 6th standard are sent for higher education to nearby schools run by Government and Local Bodies. These orphanages provide food, shelter, clothing, education, uniform, excursion and health care, at free of cost to the inmates so that they are enabled to study like other children.

Following categories of children are admitted to the Government orphanages:

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

A Committee with the District Collector concerned as the Chairman and consisting of the representatives from the Education, Health and Social Welfare Departments along with the Social Workers has been formed by the Government to monitor and provide necessary guidance for better functioning of Government Orphanages.

These Committees meet once in three months and monitor the progress of the inmates of the orphanages in education, health and admission of children.

A sum of Rs.925.91 Lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the orphanages for the year 2009-2010.

2.10 NGO's PARTNERSHIP FOR THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

To rehabilitate the destitute children in the age group of 5 to 18 years of single parent family or who do not have either parent, State Government is giving financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organisations. Children of deserted wives / parents affected with prolonged illness / parents imprisoned for longer period are also eligible to benefit under the scheme. Annual income of the

parent / guardian should not exceed Rs.12,000/-.

In order to encourage voluntary organisations which maintain orphan children, the State Government is sanctioning grants-in-aid towards maintenance of the children from 1st April 1992. The State Government is giving Rs.225/- per child per month as grant-in-aid (out of the total required expenditure of Rs.281) representing 80% of recurring expenditure, towards food, contingencies etc., to Voluntary Organisations for the maintenance of children. The remaining 20% of the expenditure which is Rs.56/- per month per child is met by Voluntary Organisations.

Each unit consists of 25 children. In every unit, there is a house mother / father and a helper, to maintain the children.

A sum of Rs.320.23 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009 – 2010 for the benefit of 14,477 children.

2.11 RECOGNITION OF ALL CHILD CARE INSTITUTIONS UNDER JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN) AMENDMENT ACT, 2006.

Under section 34(3) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2006, all child care institutions (0-18 years) have to be necessarily registered.

Accordingly, all the Child Care Institutions along with the stipulated documents like Board of Management, profile, scheme activities, bye-laws etc., in a profile with minimum standards maintained in accordance with Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Act, 2006, in complete shape have to be submitted with the officials concerned in the district viz., the District Social Welfare Officer, the District Disabled Rehabilitation Officers and Probation Officers of Defence Department.

2.12 SIVAGAMI AMMAIYAR NINAIVU GIRL CHILD PROTECTION SCHEME

The restructured scheme of Sivagami Ammaiyar Ninaivu Girl Child Protection has been implemented since 31.12.2001. The objective of this scheme is to prevent female infanticide 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 Limited by Government through Social Welfare Department in the name of the girl child, if there is only one girl child in the family and Rs.15,200/- in the name of each of the girl children in case of families with two girl children. The above deposit is renewed at the end of every 5 years and on completion of the 20th year of the deposit, the deposit amount with

interest will be released to the girl to enable her to pursue higher education or to defray the marriage expenses. An annual incentive of Rs.1800/- is released to the child from the interest accrued from the deposit from the 6th year of the deposit to take care of education of the girl child. The incentive of Rs.1800/- for the children enrolled in 2001-2002, have been released through Electronic Clearing System to the Savings Bank Account of 4 girl children out of 7 girl children sanctioned under Scheme – I, and 814 girl children out of 1164 girl children under Scheme – II.

Eligibility Criteria:

Family having one girl child or two girl children without a male child when either of the parent has undergone sterilization before the age of 35 are eligible to apply under the scheme.

Couple should not adopt male child.

Annual income for Scheme – I should be below Rs.50,000/- and below Rs.24,000/- for Scheme – II.

A sum of Rs.75.00 crores has been allotted in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010. About 49,300 girl children will be benefitted under this scheme.

2.13 CRADLE BABY SCHEME

During 1992, incidents of female infanticide in some parts of Salem District were brought to the notice of the Government. Responding to the situation, Cradle Baby Scheme was first started in Salem District. In order to rescue the girl babies from being killed, cradles were placed in Primary Health Centres and Anganwadi Centres. Thus during the years 1992-2001, 150 girl babies were rescued from the clutches of death. Further, this scheme was extended to Madurai, Theni, Dindigul and Dharmapuri districts during 2001, where this evil practice was found and Reception Centres were opened in these districts to receive the unwanted babies. These Reception Centres are provided with sufficient staff and infrastructure facilities including life saving drugs, telephone, refrigerator, incubator and medical equipments. Moreover, cradles were placed in important places such as Government hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Health Sub-Centres, Collectorates and District Social Welfare Offices to receive the abandoned, deserted and surrendered babies. The main function of these Reception Centres is to receive and provide shelter to the babies and handover them to licensed adoption agencies for rehabilitating them through adoption.

Under this scheme from the year 1992 to 31.03.2009, 3418 babies (486 - Male, 2932 - Female), have been received, thus saving them from infanticide. District Social Welfare Officers have been nominated as nodal officers for this scheme.

A sum of Rs.8.79 Lakhs is provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for the 5 Reception Centres.

2.14 ADOPTION

One of the fundamental rights of the child is the right to a family. Today a large number of children are abandoned at an early stage itself. Adoption has come to be recognised as very important alternative for their rehabilitation. Adoption undoubtedly offers an important avenue for the care and protection of an abandoned, destitute or neglected child in a family set up and provides an atmosphere of happiness of love and understanding for the realisation of his/her talents and potential. Adoption provides the child, emotional, physical and material security necessary for proper development. It also serves as the most reliable means of preventing situations leading to abuse, exploitation and social mal-adjustment of abandoned, destitute and neglected children. Further, adoption provides the opportunity, happiness and satisfaction of having a child solely belonging to them to the couples who are issueless.

At present, there are 22 Non-Governmental Adoption Agencies which have been licensed by the State Government to process in-country adoption. Among them, 9 agencies have been licensed by Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), New Delhi to handle inter-country adoption also. These 22 agencies are situated in Chennai, Coimbatore, Krishnagiri, Tiruchirapalli, Salem, Thoothukudi, Madurai, Dindigul, Nagapattinam, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Vellore and Kancheepuram.

Awareness has been created among Public / Non-Governmental Organisations to start Adoption Centres in other districts where no adoption units are available.

A booklet in Tamil, containing all basic information regarding adoption and providing necessary guidance to prospective adoptive parents was printed and is distributed to the general public, at free of cost.

The Government of Tamil Nadu regularly conducts awareness programmes and workshops to create awareness among general public and remove various fears and stigmas about adoption. The District Social Welfare Officers have been designated as nodal officers for this programme.

A sum of Rs.14.00 lakhs has been allotted for this scheme in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010.

2.15 CRECHES FOR THE CHILDREN OF WORKING AND AILING MOTHERS

On many occasions, the children of working and ailing mothers drop out of the school to look after their younger siblings. To prevent this and encourage such children to attend school, this scheme was introduced.

The children between the age group of 0-5 years whose parents are below poverty line are admitted in the creche. This scheme is implemented through Non-Governmental Organisations with

the help of State Government grants. The children are provided with supplementary food and education. A sum of Rs.25,410/- is given as grant per annum to each creche for taking care of 25 children for a year.

A sum of Rs.22.62 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010, to run 90 creches.

2.16 WELFARE OF THE AGED

2.16.1 OLD AGE HOMES

Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 has come into force in Tamil Nadu with effect from 29.9.2008.

According to 2001 census, the elderly population was 55.07 lakhs out of the total population. In order to fulfill the demanding need of senior citizens, State Government is giving financial assistance to Non Governmental Organisations to run Old Age Homes. The objective of the scheme is to provide physical, social and psychological support to the aged, who are in the age group of 60 years and above. Food, shelter, medical facilities, care and protection are given to the older persons under this scheme.

The destitute older persons who are aged 60 years and above and below poverty line are eligible to benefit under this scheme.

The prime need of the older persons from poor families who are destitute is proper food and shelter. 27 Old Age Homes are functioning with State Government Grant and 49 Old Age Homes are functioning with Government of India grant. Upto 40 inmates can be accommodated in each Old Age Home. A sum of Rs.2.00 lakhs per year per Old Age Home is given as grant by State Government and Rs.40,000/- per year is spent by the Institution as Institution's share. Officers of the Directorate of Social Welfare and District Social Welfare Officers inspect the activities of the institutions frequently.

A sum of Rs.60.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

2.16.2 OLD AGE DAY

Every year, 1st October is celebrated all over the world as International Day of Senior Citizens. During the year 2008-09, the State Government have celebrated International Day of Senior Citizens at the cost of Rs.5.50 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.7.00 lakhs has been allotted in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010, for this scheme.

2.16.3 CONSTRUCTION OF OLD AGE HOME AT THUNDALKAZHANI VILLAGE, KANCHEEPURAM DISTRICT.

The State Government has proposed to start an Old Age Home as a pilot project in 10 acres of land at Thundalkazhani Village, Sriperumpudur Taluk to accommodate 160 older persons.

2.17 TAMIL NADU SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

The Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board which was constituted in 1954 and has been working for development of poor people below poverty line through Voluntary Institutions in the State with the following objectives;

1. To promote and set up of Non-Governmental Social Welfare Organisations
2. To render technical and financial assistance to the Voluntary Institutions for better quality and standard of services.
3. To assess the Programmes aided by Central Social Welfare Board / Government.

Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board, with assistance from Central Social Welfare Board and State Government, provides support to Voluntary Organisations under a variety of programmes in order to facilitate and strengthen their role in empowering women through education and training, collective mobilization and awareness creation, income generating facilities and by the provision of support services.

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

With the assistance of Rs.837.05 lakhs from the Central Government, 849 Voluntary Institutions consisting of 1844 units were assisted during the period from April 2008 to March 2009. State Government assistance of Rs.14.80 lakhs has been provided for the assistance of 206 Voluntary Organisations consisting of 206 units. The total beneficiaries of women and children under all the schemes of Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board are 45,815. The Board coordinates between Non-Governmental Organisation and Government to formulate programme to eradicate Narcotic drug usage and alcoholic etc. It also conducts awareness programme on domestic violence against women and AIDS awareness programme and creation of creche for children of sexual workers.

2.18 GRANTS RECEIVED FROM STATE GOVERNMENT TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION FOR WORKING IN RURAL AREAS THROUGH TAMIL NADU SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

The Government of Tamil Nadu provides Rs.10 lakhs every year to the State Social Welfare Board to help 200 registered Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of the poor in rural areas, having two years standing after its registration under the Societies Registration Act / Trust Act to develop infrastructure facilities for activities like creche, balwadi, recreational centre etc. An

amount of Rs.5000/- is being given as grant on 50:50 matching basis for developing infrastructure, play materials for children and skill training equipments.

A sum of Rs.10.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-10.

2.19 FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRES

The main aim of Family Counselling Centre is to provide counselling to preserve the basic social unit of a family. It helps women, who approach the centre to redress their grievances relating to dowry harassment, marital maladjustment, cases of alcoholism and counselling to AIDS victims by giving suitable and appropriate guidance. The Government of Tamil Nadu is assisting 6 Family Counselling Centres in Tiruvallur, Erode, Villupuram, Namakkal, Vellore and Perambalur run by Non-Governmental Organisations through the Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board.

A sum of Rs.6.60 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-10.

2.20 TAMIL NADU STATE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women was first constituted in the year 1993 and it was reconstituted in January, 2007, with a Chairperson and nine members.

The main objective of the Commission is to safeguard the welfare of women, handling general issues relating to the status of women and to make recommendations to the Government for suitable action.

Tamil Nadu State Commission for Women Act, 2008 has been enacted and came into force with effect from 30-7-2008.

The activities of the Commission are as follows:-

- Investigate and examine all matters relating to the safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws.
- Present to State Government, annually, and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of these safeguards and make such reports, recommendations for the effective implementation of those safeguards for improving the conditions of women.
- Review, from time to time, the existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women and recommend amendments thereto so as to suggest remedial legislative measures to meet any lacunae, inadequacies or shortcomings in such legislations.

- Take up the cases of violation of provisions of the Constitution and of other laws relating to women with the appropriate authorities.
- Look into the complaints relating to:
 - a) Deprivation of women's rights
 - b) Non-implementation of law enacted to provide protection to women.
- To achieve the objective of equality and development.
- Call for special studies or investigations into specific problems or situations arising out of discrimination and atrocities against women and identify the constraints so as to recommend strategies for their removal.
- Undertake promotional and educational research so as to suggest ways of ensuring due representation of women in all spheres and identify factors responsible for impeding their advancement.
- Any other matter which may be referred to it by the State Government.
- Inspecting / visiting of Working Women Places, Hostels, Stay Homes, Juvenile Homes and Prisons.
- To create awareness among the public about the Laws for women.
- Review of status of women.

2.21 PROTECTION OF WOMEN FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT, 2005

As per the provisions of the Central Act and Rules framed thereunder, effective protection of the women who are victims of violence of all kinds occurring within the family and for matters connected therewith has been provided with the appointment of separate Protection Officers and staff (One each in every district and two for Chennai). A Service Provider for each district (two for Chennai) has been appointed from the reputed Non-Governmental Organisations. The Service Providers have been informed of the requirements that they should provide food, shelter, medical facilities, counseling and legal assistance. The expenditure incurred towards food, shelter etc., by the service provider is reimbursed by the State Government.

2.22 TAMIL NADU TRANSGENDER WELFARE BOARD

The Government have constituted a Board for Transgender with the Hon'ble Minister of Social welfare as its Chairperson in 2008, with an aim to rehabilitate the transgender and to achieve equality for them in the community and security in the society. This Board will look into the various problems,

difficulties and inconvenience faced by them. The Government will formulate and execute various welfare schemes for the betterment of their lives.

The Board has been constituted with 11 Official members and 8 Non Official members. These Non official members will hold the post for 3 years. A district-wise survey has been taken up for the first time in Tamil Nadu and so far 2663 Transgenders have registered themselves.

2.22.1 IDENTITY CARD

A committee under the Chairmanship of District Collector has been constituted in all districts with Deputy Director of Medical & Rural Health Services, District Social Welfare Officer, a Clinical Psychologist, Psychiatrist and a Transgender selected by District Collector as members.

The function of the Committee is to screen the enrolled Transgender and certify them as Transgender. Identity card will be issued to the Transgender, who has been certified by the above Committee.

After due enrollment, identity cards are being issued. Besides,
61 Self Help Groups are formed.
Ration Cards are provided to 712 transgenders.
325 transgenders are given land pattas.
Sewing machines were given to 15 transgenders.

Rs.1.00 Crore is allocated for the construction of group houses to the Aravanis at the rate Rs.55000/- per house.

2.22.2 SCHOLARSHIP FOR EDUCATION

Educational scholarship for graduation, post graduation, vocational education, skill development training will be given to the transgenders.

2.22.3 ASSISTANCE FOR SELF EMPLOYMENT

Rs.20,000/- will be given as financial assistance to start income generating business. If a group containing 5 transgenders willing to start one business Rs.1.00 lakhs will be given through the District Collectors.

2.22.4 ACCIDENT RELIEF ASSISTANCE

Financial assistance of Rs.1.00 lakh is given to the transgenders who have lost both hands/legs/eyes in accident. Rs.50,000/- is given as assistance for those who have lost one hand / leg / eye. For the loss of one hand or leg due to severe injuries, Rs.20,000/- is given as relief. Rs.10,000/- is given as assistance for funeral service of the deceased transgender.

2.22.5 TRANSIT HOME

A Transit Home for Transgender has been set up at the campus of Service Home, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai. The purpose of this Transit Home is to provide temporary accommodation to those who feel that he/ she is a Transgender and guide their parents/ relatives. During their stay, they will be given counselling by the counsellor appointed for this purpose.

District Collectors have been instructed to conduct grievance day exclusively for Transgender once in three months.

DETAILED LIST OF NEW SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR

2009 – 2010

SOCIAL WELFARE

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Schemes	Amount
1	Modernisation of Kitchen in Government Orphanage at Cuddalore	5.00
2	Modernisation of Kitchen in Government Service Home, Tambaram	5.00
3	Purchase of One Laptop and LCD Projector to Commissionerate of Social Welfare	1.00
4	Replacement of Condemned vehicles for Reception Centre, Salem	4.75
5	Purchase of Refrigerators to 8 Working Women's Hostels	1.20
6	Purchase of wooden chairs fitted with writing pads for Teachers' Training Institute, Tambaram	1.00
7	Purchase of Wooden chairs fitted with writing pads for Higher Secondary students studying in Service Homes at Chennai, Cuddalore, Madurai and Salem	2.50

8	Purchase of multi-tier steel cots for Government Orphanages	5.00
9	Purchase of kitchen appliances for storage of rice and other provisions to 27 Government Orphanages	1.35
10	Purchase of kitchen devices for storage of rice and other provisions to 7 Service Homes	0.35
11	Construction of own building for Government Working Women Hostel at Hosur, Dharmapuri District	37.50
12	Construction of own building for Government Orphanage at Gopinathampatti in Dharmapuri District	37.50
	Total	102.15

CHAPTER 3

NUTRITION

3.1 PURATCHI THALAIVAR M.G.R. NUTRITIOUS MEAL PROGRAMME

The foremost objective of the Nutritious Meal Programme is to motivate children from economically backward families to pursue education by providing adequate nutritious meal to them in order to reduce school drop out rates. It also aims to eradicate malnutrition and increase literacy rates.

With a view to enhancing enrollment, retention and attendance and simultaneously improving nutritional levels among children, Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme was launched on 1.7.1982 and initially implemented in Child Welfare Centres for pre-school children of 2-5 years of age and primary school children of 5-9 years of age in rural areas. This scheme was subsequently extended to Nutritious Meal Centres in urban areas from 15th September 1982 and later extended to school students of age group 10 to 15 from September 1984. The children of 2-5 years of age and

the students in I to V Std, receive nutritious meal throughout the year (365 days) and the students of VI to X are provided with meals in all the school working days (220 days).

A sum of Rs.830 Crores has been allocated for Nutritious Meal Programme for the year 2009-2010.

Administrative Control

Rural and Urban School Nutritious Meal Centres are now functioning under the control of Commissioner of Social Welfare whereas pre school Nutritious Meal Centres catering the age group of 2 – 5 years are under the control of the Commissioner of Integrated Child Development Services.

N.M.P. BENEFICIARIES IN CHILD CENTRES

SI.No.	Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme	No. of Centres	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2-5 year children in Child Centres (25 to 60 months)	50,433	11,21,574
2	Old Age Pensioners		29,561
	Total	50,433	11,51,135

SCHOOL NUTRITIOUS MEAL CENTRES AND BENEFICIARIES

SI. No.	Name of the Scheme	No. of Centres	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme (Rural)	39,377	53,38,610
2	Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme (Urban)	2,701	3,02,892
	Total	42,078	56,41,502

CLASS WISE BENEFICIARIES UNDER PT MGR NMP

Std	Urban	Rural	Total
I - V	1,69,421	29,44,878	31,14,299
VI – VIII	1,01,266	16,89,081	17,90,347
IX – X	32,205	7,04,651	7,36,856
Total	3,02,892	53,38,610	56,41,502

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER NMP

1	Child Centres (2 – 5 years)	11,21,574
2	School Nutritious Meal Centre Beneficiaries (1-10 Standard)	56,41,502
3	OAP beneficiaries	29,561
	Total	67,92,637

FEEDING SCALE PER BENEFICIARY PER DAY

S. No.	Name of the Commodity	Age Group (in years)				Old Age Pensioners
		2-5	5-9	10-15		
			I - V Std.	VI - VIII Std.	IX & X Std.	
1	Rice	80 grams	100 grams	100 grams	120 grams	200 grams
2	Dhall	10 grams	15 grams	15 grams	15 grams	15 grams
3	Oil	2 grams	1 gram	1 gram	1 gram	1 gram
4	Salt	1.9 grams	1.9 g	1.9 g	1.9 g	1.9 g
5	Vegetables, Condiments and Fuel	44 paise*	44 paise*	44 paise*	44 paise*	44 paise*
6	Egg (3 Eggs per week - Monday , Wednesday & Thursday)	46 grams (mini mum)	46 gms. (mini mum)	46 gms. (mini mum)	46 gms (mini mum)	
7	Banana to children who do not take egg	Rs. 1.25	Rs.1.25	Rs.1.25	Rs.1.25	

*Vegetables: 20 paise; Condiments: 9 paise; Fuel: 15 paise (from 18/7/2007) – Total – 44 Paise

3.2 PROTEIN RICH FOOD

From 3rd June 1989, one boiled egg was supplied to the children and students in the age group of 2-15 years in addition to the nutritious meal. From the year 2006 onwards, 15th July the birthday of the Perunthalaivar Kamarajar is being celebrated as 'Educational Development Day'. Two boiled eggs are provided every week to the children and students in the age group of 2-15 years from 15.7.2006 and from 15.7.07 onwards, three eggs, on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday are provided to the beneficiaries every week. They are also provided with 20 gms of Black Bengal Gram or Green Gram on Tuesdays, 20 gms of Potatoes on Fridays in cooked form. Each student derives 475.75 calories of energy and 15.34 gms of protein through all these feeding per day. Bananas are supplied to the children who do not take eggs to compensate the nutrition with effect from 15.7.2008. From 15/7/2007, one boiled egg is provided to 4 lakh children in the age group of 1 – 2 years on Wednesday every week along with weaning food.

A sum of Rs.177.00 crore has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the provision of eggs to the children and student beneficiaries for the year 2009-2010.

3.3 DOUBLE FORTIFIED SALT

In order to control and prevent Iron deficiency / Anemia which is the common nutritional disorder widely prevalent among children of 2 to 15 years of age, Iodised salt was used in the preparation of meals instead of common salt under this programme. With a view to eradicate the disease of Goiter prevailing in 7 districts viz., Tiruchirapalli, Salem, Namakkal, Coimbatore, Karur, Perambalur, and The Nilgiris Districts, Government introduced Double Fortified Salt in the preparation of meals. From 20.6.2007, onwards Iron and Iodine enriched salt (Double Fortified Salt) is used in NMP scheme in all districts.

3.4 SUPPLY OF FOOD ARTICLES

Based on the monthly indents placed by the Block Development Officers, the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation supply the food articles such as Rice, Dhall & Oil from its Regional Godowns directly to the Nutritious Meal Centres normally between 10th and 25th of every month. Payment is made by the District Collectors for the supply of food articles other than the free rice supplied by the Government of India under Mid-Day Meal Programme to the Senior Regional Managers of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation. Vegetables, Condiments and fuel are purchased locally by the organizers using the grant for feeding charges released under NMP.

3.5 CONTINGENCIES

A sum of Rs.20/- p.m. per centre (upto 500 beneficiaries) and Rs. 30/- p.m per centre (for above 500 beneficiaries) is also given to meet the contingencies for the purchase of cleaning materials for the centre such as soap, broomstick, phenyl etc.,

3.6 FIXATION OF FEEDING STRENGTH

Based on the reports of the respective Block Development Officers on the Nutritious Meal attendance of children in school, the feeding strength of the children for every centre is fixed by the District Collectors every year.

3.7 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN AND STAFF PATTERN

Every Nutritious Meal Centre is managed by Noon Meal Organiser, a Cook and an Assistant to the Cook. One additional Cook and one additional Assistant are provided where the feeding strength

exceeds 500 beneficiaries. The scheme provides employment to rural and urban women. Preference is given to widows and destitute women.

3.8 PAY OF THE NMP EMPLOYEES

The Non Standard Scale of pay of the post of Noon Meal Organisers / Anganwadi Workers shall be revised from Rs.1300 –20 – 1500 -25 – 2000 to Special Time Scale of Pay of Rs.1300 – 3000 + Grade Pay of Rs. 300 / - notionally with effect from 01-01-2006 and then re-fixed in the revised Special Time Scale of pay of Rs. 2500 – 5000 with Grade pay of Rs.500/- notionally with effect from 01-09-2006 and with monetary benefit from 01-01-2007.

The post of Mini Anganwadi Workers / Anganwadi Helper, Grade – I / Noon Meal Cooks / Anganwadi Helper Grade – II and Cook Assistant on consolidated Pay as on 01-01-2006 and subsequently brought on to Non Standard Scale of Pay shall be revised as given below : -

- ❖ The Non Standard Scale of Pay of post of Mini Anganwadi Worker shall be revised from 975 – 15 – 1125 – 20 – 1325 to Special Time Scale of 1800 – 3300 + 400 Grade Pay with Effect from 15– 9-2008.
- ❖ The Non Standard Scale of Pay of post of Noon Meal Cook, Anganwadi Helper Grade – I shall be revised from 660 – 15 – 810 – 20 – 1010 to the Special Time Scale of 1300 – 3000 + Grade Pay 300 with effect from 15 – 09 – 2008.
- ❖ The Non Standard Scale of Pay of post of Cook Assistant, Anganwadi Helper Grade – II shall be revised from 500 – 10 – 600 – 20 – 800 to the Special Time Scale of 950 – 2000 + 200 Grade Pay with effect from 15 – 09 – 2008.
- ❖ From 1.6.2009, House Rent Allowance and City Compensatory Allowance have also been ordered to be provided to these employees.

Noon Meal Organiser / Anganwadi Worker, Cook / Anganwadi Helper Grade I and Cook Assistant / Anganwadi Helper Grade II are also paid special monthly pension of Rs. 700/-, Rs. 600/- and Rs. 500/- respectively who retires on or after 15.9.08.

To the staff working in Puratchi Thalaivar MGR NMP Centre / Child Centres, a sum of Rs.50,000/- to Noon Meal Organiser / Anganwadi Worker and Rs.20,000/- to Cook / Anganwadi Helper – I and Rs.20,000/- to Helper / Anganwadi Helper II is given as retirement lumpsum amount.

Consequent on the death of worker of Noon Meal Centre / Child (Anganwadi) Centre, while in service, the legal heir of the deceased is given compassionate appointment by this Government.

3.9 MODERNISATION OF KITCHEN

The Cooks and Cook Assistants encounter health problems when they use country wood as fuel in most of the kitchens of the Nutritious Meal Centres for the preparation of meals. There are practical problems in using country wood during the rainy season, as also environment is affected. With a view to alleviate the sufferings of the cooks, the Government of Tamil Nadu provided LPG connection with stoves in 750 selected Nutritious Meal Centres at a cost of Rs.1.50 crore during 2006-07 as a pilot scheme. A sum of Rs. 1.50 crores was allotted to modernize kitchens of another 750 centres during 2007-08. In 2008-09 a sum of Rs. 70 lakhs to modernize 350 kitchens has been sanctioned.

350 NMP centres will be modernized at a cost of Rs.70.00 lakhs in the current financial year 2009-2010.

3.10 SUPPLY OF COOKING VESSELS AND WEIGHING SCALES

Orders were issued for the supply of New aluminium cooking vessels to 2000 NMP Centres at a cost of Rs.60.00 lakh during 2008-2009. Besides orders were issued for the supply of weighing scales to 2500 NMP Centres at a cost of Rs.50 lakhs during 2008-2009.

3.11 NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF MID DAY MEALS IN SCHOOLS” (NP – MDMS)

“National Programme of Mid Day Meals in Schools” was launched in Tamil Nadu w.e.f 15.8.1995 in the name of “National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education – NP – NSPE”. Under this scheme, the total quantity of quality rice required for feeding all the children who want to take Mid Day Meal 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 – V Std in Government, Government aided, Local body schools and Education Guarantee Scheme / Alternative and Innovative Education centres, at the rate of 100 grams per child per day for 10 months (220 School days approximately) in an academic year. With the existing well established infrastructure available under PT MGR Nutritious Meal Programme, the rice allotted under this scheme is converted into cooked food and served hot to the children in the NMP centres

In addition, Central Assistance towards Cooking cost is being granted at Rs.1.58 per child per school day for the primary school children from 2008-2009. Further, the Government of India have fixed the calorific and nutritional value for the students studying in 1-5 Std at 450 calories and 12 grams of protein. Nutritious Food is supplied as per the guidelines of Government of India. At present, approximately 31 lakhs of children are benefited under this scheme.

Further, as a first step, the Government of India extended the Mid Day Meal Scheme to the upper primary children (Classes VI – VIII) studying in Government (including local body), Government Aided schools and Education Guarantee Scheme / Alternative and Innovative Education centres with effect from 1.10.2007. During 2007-2008, as a first step the scheme has been implemented in 44 Educationally Backward Blocks (E.B.B.s) in 11 Districts of Tamil Nadu covering 1,26,728 children. From 1.4.2008 onwards, the scheme has been extended to cover all districts. Under this scheme the Government of India is supplying the entire quantity of quality rice required for feeding all the willing children studying in Upper Primary Classes. Approximately, 18 lakhs children are benefited.

The Government of India is releasing Central Assistance towards Cooking cost for Upper Primary children at Rs.2.10 per child per meal and have fixed the calorific and protein value at 700 calories and 20 grams of protein duly considering their mental and physical growth. In addition, the Government of India is granting Central Assistance towards construction of new kitchen-cum-stores and provisioning of kitchen devices / cooking utensils at Rs.60,000/- and at Rs.5000/- per centre respectively.

During the year 2008-09, the Government of India have released the Central Assistance under “National Programme of Mid Day Meal Scheme” as detailed below :-

S. No	Components of Mid Day Meal	I – V Std (Amount in lakhs)	VI – VIII Std (Amount in lakhs)	Total (Amount in lakhs)
1.	Allocation of free rice	74134.10 MTs	56929.77 MTs	131063.87 MTs
2.	Cooking cost	Rs.11942.02	Rs. 8075.01	Rs.20017.03
3.	Cooking Devices for 8526 noon meal School Centers at Rs.5,000/- per centre (426.30 lakhs)	Rs.354.50	Rs. 71.80	Rs.426.30
4.	Construction of Kitchen – cum – Store In 3804 centres at Rs. 60,000/- per centre (3217 + 587) (Rs 2282.40 lakhs)	Rs.1930.20	Rs.352.20	Rs.2282.40
5.	Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (Rs.510.21 lakhs)	Rs.299.98	Rs.210.23	Rs.510.21
6.	Transportation Cost towards liftment of free rice.	Rs.566.86	Rs.432.59	Rs.999.45

3.12 MONITORING

A State Level Steering cum Monitoring 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 and Panchayat Level Committees have also been formed to monitor the functioning of school Nutritious Meal Programme Centres. Elected representatives of local bodies have been nominated to the above Committees along with Officials.

One or two willing mothers of children/student beneficiaries on turn basis, also monitor and ensure that hygienically prepared good quality food is supplied to the children in the School Nutritious Meal Centres

3.13 EVALUATION

Apart from the internal monitoring and evaluation, it is important to have external agencies to evaluate the overall impact of the programme, identify shortcomings, if any, and to suggest improvements. So far, Avinasilingam University for Women, Coimbatore, Madras Institute of Development studies, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore have evaluated the programme.

INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Nutritional status is an indicator for the overall well being of the population. Nutritional status of the Pre-school children reflects not only the nutritional status of the population as a whole, but also an indicator of the overall living conditions of the society. The nutritional status of children in Tamil Nadu has improved considerably over the years and the percentage of Normal children has improved from 55.70% in 2001 to 62.11% in November - 2008. Severe malnutrition has been reduced from 0.21% in 2001 to 0.04% in November - 2008. The Infant Mortality Rate(IMR) has come down from 49 (2001) to 35 (2008) per 1000 live births. By the end of Eleventh five year plan, the IMR will be reduced to 20 per 1000 live births.

In Tamil Nadu, the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) has 434 Projects with 47,265 Children Centres and 3168 Mini centres, totalling 50,433 centres. Out of 434 projects, 47 are in urban, 2 in Tribal and 385 in rural areas. As per the revised norms, minimum population must be 400 and there must be One Child centre for 400-800 population in Urban and Rural areas and one centre for every 300-800 population in Tribal areas, and one Mini-centre for 150-400 population in Urban and Rural areas and one Mini-centre for every 150-300 population in Tribal areas.

3.14 NEW CHILD CENTRES AND MINI CENTRES

Under the second phase of expansion of ICDS Scheme, the Department 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 children. Government of India have also conveyed the revised population norms for setting up of an Anganwadi centre. Under the new population norms, 2234 additional Anganwadi centers and 1772 mini Anganwadi centers were identified and the sanction received from Government of India recently. These Anganwadi centres will be opened very shortly. If these centres were opened, then the beneficiary need not walk more than one Kilometer to avail the ICDS services.

3.15 MAIN FEATURES OF ICDS

The objectives of the ICDS Scheme are:

- a. Universalisation of Child Development Services with quality.
- 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. To improve Nutritional & Health status of women, particularly pregnant women, nursing mothers and adolescent girls
- d. To empower women and adolescent girls through increased awareness to take better care of their personal and household health and nutrition issues.
- e. To make Tamilnadu 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 pregnant and lactating mothers, infants, children, adolescent girls and the aged.

3.16 BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROJECT

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

3.17 KISHORI SHAKTHI YOJANA (KSY)

KSY Scheme is exclusively for the benefit of adolescent girls – to create awareness about legal literacy level, health and hygienic aspects and occupational skills and shape them into better citizens.

This Scheme was started in the year 2001-02 in 37 blocks initially. From 2006-07 onwards it was extended to all the 434 ICDS Blocks in the State at the cost of Rs.1.10 lakhs per Block. The total amount was Rs.477.40 lakhs.

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 girls and school dropouts.
- Vocational training in trade such as computer education, Catering services, Cell phone repair, etc., are being imparted through NGO/ reputed institutions to adolescent girls in the age group of 16 to 18 years. Every year, on an average 4 lakhs Adolescent girls are benefited under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.477.39 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

3.18 SUPPLY OF PRE-SCHOOL KIT MATERIALS

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

A sum of Rs.249.90 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

3.19 MODERNISATION OF CHILDREN CENTRES PROVISION OF GAS CONNECTION, GAS STOVE & PRESSURE COOKER

1. In view of maintaining “**SMOKE FREE KITCHEN**” and also to save the cooking time, to provide healthy food without nutritious loss and smokeless atmosphere for the children in the Children Centres, initially in three districts, 1000 children centres have been modernized and provided with Gas connection, Gas stove, pressure cooker & Electrification during the year 2006-07 at a total cost of Rs.81,65,000/- on pilot basis.

2. Since this scheme has brought healthy atmosphere to children and also is much appreciated by public, during the year 2007-08, orders have been issued extending this scheme further to the 2940 children centers at a total cost of Rs.2.00 Crores.

3. During 2008-09 orders were issued for modernizing 2000 Children Centers by providing Gas connection, Gas Stove, Pressure Cooker and Electrification at a total cost of Rs.1.54 crores.

3.20 PROVISION OF FOOD CONTAINERS

To store food commodities in the Children Centre, sanction has been accorded for purchase of containers at a total cost of Rs.84.00 lakhs under Part II Scheme during 2009-2010. Initially 7000 Children centers will be covered under the scheme. Each centre will be provided with 2 containers at the rate of Rs.600/- each at a total cost of Rs.84.00 lakhs.

3.21 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 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 Children Centre and to help the Children worker in the smooth functioning and implementation of project activities at their village level. 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 child centres.

3.22 NUMBER OF CHILD CENTRES AND BENEFICIARIES

Sl. No	Scheme	Number of Centres	Number of Beneficiaries					Total
			Children		Other Beneficiaries			
			Supplementary Food 6-24& 25-36 Months children	Nutritious Meal 25-60 months children	Supplementary Food Antenatal /Post-natal Mothers	Nutritious Meal Old Age Pensioners		
1.	ICDS	47265 Child Centres +3168 Mini- Centres	7,34,029 + 4,43,199	11,21,574	5,22,996	29,561	28,51,359	

3.23 NUTRITION SERVICES

In the year 2008-09, Rs.137.52 crores have been provided in the Budget Estimate 2008-09 for supplementary feeding to various beneficiaries under ICDS scheme. Out of the total expenditure,

50% of the amount as per Government of India norms or 50% of the actual expenditure, whichever is less will be shared by the Government of India.

3.24 NPAG (NUTRITION PROGRAMME FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS)

The Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) is being implemented in Tamil Nadu on pilot basis in Thiruvannamalai and Ramanathapuram Districts. Under this scheme 6 Kilogram of free rice per month is provided to all the Adolescent girls in the age group of 11 - 15 years who weigh less than 30 Kgs and all the Adolescent girls who weigh less than 35 Kgs. in the age group of 15 – 19 years.

3.25 HEALTH

Through convergence with the Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, such as Immunisation health awareness Programmes and referral services are being provided to the pregnant and lactating mothers and children below 5 years. The following activities are undertaken for the year 2008-09

- Medicine Kits have been provided @ Rs.600/- per kit for 47265 centres and @ Rs. 300/- per kit for 3168 mini-centres at a total cost of Rs. 293.09 lakhs.
- Replenishment of medicines sanctioned at a cost of Rs.5000/- for urban projects, and Rs.3000/- for rural projects.

3.26 ADMINISTRATION

The Anganwadi Workers are paid on standard time scale of Rs.1300-20-1500-25-2000 and Anganwadi Helper Grade I are paid on special time scale of pay at Rs.660-15-810-20-1010. The Anganwadi Helper Grade II are paid on special time scale of pay at Rs.500-10-600-20-800. The Anganwadi Worker and Anganwadi Helper I & II have been fixed special pension at Rs.700/- for Anganwadi Worker at Rs.600/- for Anganwadi Helper Grade I and Rs.500/- for Anganwadi Helper Grade II per month.

The Government have issued orders for recruitment of 6576 Anganwadi Workers and 10269 Anganwadi Helpers to fill up the vacancies under the Department of ICDS by following the existing rules in force. All the 16,845 vacancies have been filled up after redeploying the surplus Children Workers and Helpers.

3.27 TRAINING

Training contributes for Capacity building of field functionaries and ensures quality in service and delivery. The Job Training and Refresher Training programmes are organized to impart training to all ICDS functionaries from District level to Grass root level functionaries.

Government of India has approved the State Training Action Plan (STRAP) for the year 2008-09 for a sum of Rs.173.73 lakhs for the following Training Programmes.

- ❖ Job and Refresher Training to Anganwadi Workers.
- ❖ Orientation and Refresher Training to Anganwadi Helper.
- ❖ Job & Refresher Training to Child Development Project Officers.
- ❖ Job & Refresher Training to Supervisors.
- ❖ Infant and Young Child Feeding under “ Other Training”.

Orientation/Job training to Anganwadi Helpers and Refresher training to Anganwadi Workers are being organized in the respective projects.

Job Training and Refresher training to Supervisors are being conducted at Middle Level training Centre (MLTC), Chennai.

Job and Refresher Training to CDPOs are being organized at Communication and Training Centre, Taramani, Chennai.

Under “Other Training”, Infant and Young Child Feeding training to all project functionaries has been conducted in four districts, namely Coimbatore, Erode, Salem & Virudhunagar.

3.28 INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION (IEC)

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

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.

The following IEC activities have been carried out during 2008-2009

32 Digital still camera (2 digital still camera for Commissionerate and 30 camera for 30 District Project Offices) have been provided at a total cost of Rs.2.88 lakhs.

An LCD TV and multi media accessories have been provided at a cost of Rs.1.32 lakhs.

Smart Board 640 model has been provided to the Commissionerate of ICDS at a cost of Rs.90,000/-

The following activities for the year 2008-2009 are under process:-

- ❖ Under IEC component, Dangler Kit on macro and micro nutrient deficiency for display in 6500 Municipalities, Town Panchayat and Village panchayat Offices at a total cost of Rs.32.50 lakhs.
- ❖ Bi- monthly Newsletter, 'Chittu kuruvi sethi theriyuma ?' disseminate information on project activities, various health and nutrition messages to the field workers and community at total cost of Rs. 6.00 lakhs.
- ❖ 25,000 copies of Field workers manual for phase I Districts at a cost of Rs: 25 lakhs..
- ❖ Need based area specific target oriented IEC activities like conduct of workshop, group meeting, village camps and preparation of flash cards, flannel graphs hand bills at a total cost of Rs:17.36 lakhs.
- ❖ Provision of height and weight charts along with Tamil alphabets at the rate of Rs. 500/- per centre for 1305 children centres in Dharmapuri District, 1065 children centres in Thiruvarur District and District Programme offices in 30 Districts at a total cost of Rs.12.00 lakh.

In addition to the above IEC activities,

- ❖ Exhibitions will be conducted at State and District level at a cost of Rs. 3.00 lakhs.
- ❖ Booklet on, 'About the 30 years ICDS project'- 10000 copies at a cost of Rs.2.50 lakhs.
- ❖ Guide for Adolescent girls – 15,000 copies at the rate of Rs.10- per copy at a cost of Rs.1.50 lakhs
- ❖ Instruction Manual to be supplied to the field functionaries of 30 districts as teaching material at a cost of Rs.3.50 lakhs.

These IEC activities have significantly contributed to the improvement in several Health and Nutritional indicators. To sustain the improvement already achieved, need based, IEC activities have been proposed this year.

NEW SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR 2009-2010

NUTRITION

(Rs.in Lakhs)

S. No.	Scheme	Amount
1	Providing Weighing Scales to Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme Centres (Rs.2000/- per Centre for 1000 Centres)	20.00
	Total	20.00

INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SCHEME

(Rs.in Lakhs)

S.No.	Scheme	Amount
1	Purchase of vehicles (20 jeeps) for the District Project Officers and the Office of Commissioner of Integrated Child Development Scheme	95.00
2	Purchase of storage bins for 7000 Children Centres (two bins per centre) to store food items.	84.00
3	Purchase of LCD Projector with Computer for State Training Institute, Taramani, Chennai	1.40
	Total	180.40

CHAPTER – 4

REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED

4.1 The Government of Tamil Nadu aims at creating a society where persons with disabilities and normal persons work together and are accepted **as equal partners**. The State Government agencies are geared up to implement the various provisions of the Persons with Disabilities Act for the welfare of persons with disabilities and **to strengthen the strengths and weaken the weaknesses of persons with disabilities**. There is a need for a Policy Framework, which ensures protection of their rights, providing equal opportunities to participate fully in all the activities of the society and effective co-ordination thereby enhancing their dignity and self-respect. Realising this need, State Government have formulated a Comprehensive Policy for Disabled. The State Policy for the Disabled gives the direction and focus to achieve the Vision and Mission relating to persons with disabilities.

Vision

Mainstreaming the persons with disabilities in the society and improving their standard of living.

Mission

- 1) Prevention of Disability
- 2) Early Identification of Disability and Early Intervention ,
- 3) Education – Special Education, Inclusive Education based on the need,
- 4) Vocational Training,
- 5) Employment Opportunities – Government, Private and Self- Employment,
- 6) Socialisation,
- 7) Participation in Development process
- 8) Rehabilitation services and implementation of welfare schemes,
- 9) Barrier – free environment,
- 10) Distribution of Aids and Appliances and
- 11) Social Security Schemes.

4.2 IMPLEMENTATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, PROTECTION OF RIGHTS AND FULL PARTICIPATION) ACT, 1995

Tamil Nadu leads other States in implementing the various provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 and obtained appreciation and second place at National Level. The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) 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 the role as Head of the Department for Rehabilitation of the Disabled.

4.3 POPULATION OF THE DISABLED IN THE STATE

Census data is the basis for evolving any policy and strategy According to Census 2001, there are 2.19 crore persons with disabilities in India, which constitute 2.1% of the total population and in Tamil Nadu, there are 16.42 lakh disabled persons, which constitute 2.6% of the total population. More than 70% of the disabled population lives in rural areas.

4.4 SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR THE DISABLED

Special Education is provided to the disabled children through the Special Schools. There are Twenty three Government Special Schools – Ten for the Visually Handicapped, Eleven for the Hearing Impaired, one for the Severely Locomotor Disabled and one for the Mentally Challenged.

Disabled Children Studying in the Government Special Schools are provided with the following facilities:-

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

Further, learning materials, play materials, vessels and furniture have been supplied to all the Government Special Schools.

A sum of Rs.1288.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.5 (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 etc. The quantum of scholarship is as detailed below:-

Sl. No.	Standard	Enhanced rate w.e.f. 1.4.2007
1)	I std to V std	Rs.500/-
2)	VI std to VIII std	Rs.1500/-
3)	IX to XII std	Rs.2000/-
4)	Under Graduate Courses	Rs.3000/-
5)	Professional Courses and Post-Graduate Courses	Rs.3500/-

(b) READERS ALLOWANCE

The State Government is providing Readers Allowances for the Visually Handicapped Students along with scholarship. The quantum of Readers Allowance is as detailed below:

Sl. No	Standard	Enhanced allowance per annum w.e.f 1.10.2007
1)	IX to XII std	Rs.1500/-
2)	Under Graduate Courses	Rs.2500/-
3)	Professional Courses and Post-Graduate Courses	Rs.3000/-

A sum of Rs.280.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for the above two scheme.

4.6 SCRIBE ASSISTANCE TO VISUALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

The Visually Handicapped Students studying IX std to XII std in special schools for the Blind 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, Thiruchirapalli.
- 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.

A sum of Rs.5.54 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.7 PROVIDING TAPE RECORDERS WITH PRE-RECORDED CASSETTES CONTAINING LESSONS TO THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

Free Tape-recorders with Pre-Recorded audio Cassettes containing lessons, are provided to Visually Handicapped Students, who are studying X and XII standard in the Government Special School for the Blind at Poonamallee, Tiruchirapalli and Thanjavur from the year 2006-2007.

A sum of Rs. 2.71 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.8 B.COM., AND B.C.A., COURSES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED STUDENTS

For the first time in India, B.Com., and B.C.A., Courses have been started in the Presidency College at Chennai from the year 2007-2008 exclusively for the Hearing Impaired Students. 15 students are admitted in each course every year. This enables the Deaf students to pursue higher education and improve their standard of living.

A sum of Rs.6.57 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.9 ASSISTANCE TO PHYSICALLY HANDI- CAPPED LAW GRADUATES

Twenty 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.

A sum of Rs. 0.60 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.10 PRE-SCHOOLS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED

Twenty Pre-School sections for the Speech and Hearing Impaired Children are functioning in Government Special Schools for Deaf and in Government-Aided Schools for the Deaf.

A sum of Rs.55.46 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.11 SPECIAL DIPLOMA COURSES FOR THE TEACHERS

Teachers for the Special Schools require special training because they handle different categories of disabled students, who are suffering from various disabilities and therefore, training programmes are conducted for them. 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	25
2	Balavihar Training School, Kilpauk, Chennai.	Junior / Senior Diploma in Teaching the Mentally Challenged	20
3	Little Flower Higher Secondary School for the Hearing Impaired, Chennai.	Junior / Senior Diploma in teaching the Hearing Impaired	50

A sum of Rs. 13.82 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

In addition to the above Government run courses, NGOs are running Diploma Courses which were recognized by Rehabilitation Council of India.

4.12 SECONDARY GRADE TEACHERS TRAINING (DIPLOMA IN TEACHER EDUCATION) TO 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 course for

Orthopaedically Handicapped persons (Diploma in Teacher Education – DTE) is conducted at the Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind at Poonamallee. Every year 25 Orthopaedically Handicapped persons undergo this two year Course. This ensures more employment opportunities to the Orthopaedically Handicapped.

A sum of Rs.6.17 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.13 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 at free of cost:-

1. Diploma Course in Laboratory Technology (DMLT) - two year Duration. (Chennai, Salem, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirapalli, Thanjavur, Madurai, Chengalpattu, Vellore, Thoothukudi, Nagarkoil, Coimbatore and Theni)
2. Computer Training Course - Six Months Duration (in all the Districts)

The above mentioned training programmes are given to Orthopaedically Handicapped, Visually Handicapped and Hearing Impaired persons free of cost, which includes a Stipend of Rs.300/- per month per Trainee. Tuition fees and Training cost are borne by the Government.

A sum of Rs. 26.34 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.14 TRAINING FOR VISUALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

The following exclusive Training Programmes for the Visually Handicapped persons are conducted at the Government Industrial Training Centre for the Blind, located at the campus of the Government Higher Secondary School for Blind, Poonamallee:-

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

The above said Training programmes are conducted for 24 Visually Handicapped persons free of cost, which includes Tuition fees, Training cost, as well as free Boarding and Lodging along with two sets of uniforms.

A sum of Rs.30.36 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.15 “FITTER” TRAINING FOR HEARING IMPAIRED PERSONS

A Special Training wing has been established for the deaf and dumb in the Government ITI at Guindy. At present, 19 members are being given training in the Fitter Trade. Rs.300/- per month is given as stipend to the trainees during the training period.

A sum of Rs.3.91 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.16 GOVERNMENT REGIONAL BRAILLE PRESS

Braille Books for Visually Handicapped students are printed and supplied through the Regional Braille Press functioning in the campus of the Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Poonamallee. It has been modernized by installing two units of computerized mini Braille Printers.

A sum of Rs. 24.33 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.17 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 enable them to generate own income. Visually handicapped Women in the age group of 18-40 years (45 years in the case of SC/ST) are admitted in the Government Rehabilitation Home with Sheltered Workshop for the Blind women and given training in Chalk-Piece making and Weaving. 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.

A sum of Rs.13.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.18 SHELTERED HOME FOR MENTALLY CHALLENGED GIRLS AGED ABOVE 14 YEARS

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

A sum of Rs.10.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.19 GRANT-IN-AID ASSISTANCE TO RUN SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR THE PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION

In Theni District, one Special School started by Non-Governmental Organisation to benefit 25 mentally retarded children is functioning with the assistance of Government and at present providing Special Education to 50 Mentally Retarded Children.

A sum of Rs.6.10 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.20 HOMES FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED

In order to provide care and protection to Mentally Retarded Persons above the age of 14 years, seven Homes have been established through NGOs to benefit 50 Mentally Retarded Persons in each home in the Districts of Thiruvallur, Madurai, Dindigul, Coimbatore, Tiruchirapalli, Tirunelveli and Kancheepuram. Besides providing sheltered homes, Vocational Training Programmes are also imparted to these beneficiaries.

A sum of Rs. 97.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.21 SALARY GRANT TO SPECIAL EDUCATORS AND PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

As a measure to encourage Special Educators to continue to work for the Mentally Retarded Persons, Special Educators and Physiotherapists are being paid an additional honorarium of Rs. 3000/- per month by the Government.

A sum of Rs.200.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.22 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO 60 NGOS

Assistance are provided to 60 Non Governmental Organisations for running Special Schools with residential facilities for the maintenance of Mentally Retarded Persons. Assistance provided includes grants for construction of Buildings or rent as the case may be and for feeding charges.

A sum of Rs. 116.05 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

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

Three Day Care Centres for the mentally challenged children are functioning in Theni District, benefiting 90 children. Non-Governmental Organizations manage these centres with the grants-in-aid assistance provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

A sum of Rs. 9.40 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.24 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 he/she gets employment, whichever is earlier:-

Educational Qualification	Rate of Unemployment Allowance per month
i) Graduates/Post Graduates	Rs.450/-
ii) H.S.C./Under Graduates	Rs.375/-
iii) 10 th Std and below	Rs.300/-

Eligibility Criteria :-

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

A sum of Rs. 42.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.25 UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE TO ALL CATEGORIES OF THE UNEMPLOYED DISABLED PERSONS

Orders have been issued for providing unemployment allowance to **all categories of Disabled persons** as in the case of visually challenged.

A sum of Rs. 114.30 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.26 SELF-EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES

The Department is taking effective steps to assist the disabled persons to avail loan from the Nationalised Banks towards their 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 the disabled person, who desires to install Bunk Stall in public places. 1050 disabled persons have benefited under these Schemes in the year 2008-2009.

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.

A sum of Rs.32.50 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.27 STATE AWARDS

To appreciate and encourage the persons who are involved in the services for the disabled, the following State Awards are presented by the 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 (for providing employment to Disabled)	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, Certificate and Cash prize of Rs.25,000/-
8	Best District Disabled Rehabilitation Officer Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate

(On **The details of State Awards given on the occasion of International Day of the Disabled 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
5	Lakshmikantham Ammal Award (Best 2 Visually Handicapped Students of Higher Sec. School)	Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs.1,200/-

A sum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.28 NATIONAL AWARDS

National Awards are given 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 the Best Disabled Employee, Employer, Placement Officer, Institution, Individual, Creative Disabled, Creative Disabled Children, the Best Role Model, the Best Institution providing Barrier free environment and also for the 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 the year 2008-09, six National Awards were given to the persons / Institutions in Tamil Nadu.

4.29 CASH AWARDS TO VISUALLY HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

Visually Handicapped students, who have studied in Tamil Medium and secured first three ranks at the District and State level in 10th and 12th Public Examinations, are awarded with cash prize besides financial assistance for pursuing higher studies, by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

A sum of Rs.29.62 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.30 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 Declaration of the United Nations Organisation. The main aim of observing this day is to encourage the disabled persons to exhibit 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 for Disabled Children. As many as 5000 disabled children participate from all over the State. Several sports events are conducted and prizes distributed to winners and certificates issued to all the participants. On 3rd December, cultural programmes by disabled children are also conducted. 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 celebrate this day, the Government have issued orders granting Special Casual Leave for all the disabled employees in Government Departments / Undertakings.

A sum of Rs. 5.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.31 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 District Rehabilitation Centres in all Districts.. On Identification, the Physically handicapped persons requiring surgery are sent to District Head Quarters Hospitals for assigned surgical correction so as to enable them to walk freely without support from anybody and to eke out their livelihood.

The physically handicapped persons, who undergo surgical correction, are given Rs.500/- to meet out expenses during their stay at Hospital and also Rs.300/- is given as Honorarium to Doctors who perform the surgery, Nurses and Non-medical employees.

A sum of Rs.4.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.32 FREE SUPPLY OF AIDS AND APPLIANCES TO THE DISABLED

The Department of Rehabilitation for the Disabled is providing various kinds of Aids and Appliances to identified and needy physically handicapped persons, according to their disability, usage of limbs, power and requirement of appliances through District Disabled Rehabilitation Offices at free of cost as follows:-

- (1) Tricycles
- (2) Wheel chairs
- (3) Goggles
- (4) Folding Sticks
- (5) Braille Watches
- (6) Hearing Aids
- (7) Solar Rechargeable Batteries
- (8) Calipers
- (9) Crutches and
- (10) Artificial Limbs

Calipers and Artificial Limbs are designed, fabricated and fitted by Orthotic Technicians and Leather Workers for each and every patient at Orthotic Units of District Rehabilitation Centres functioning in the Districts.

A sum of Rs.75.00 Lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.33 SUPPLY OF FREE MODULAR ARTIFICIAL LIMBS TO DISABLED STUDENTS

Low cost plastic type of Artificial Limbs are generally provided to the beneficiaries through District Rehabilitation Centres. From the year 2007-2008, latest Modular Functional Artificial Limbs (Modular Transtibial Prosthesis/Modular Trans Femoral/Modular Below-Elbow) are provided to the amputee students free of cost to enable them to move from one place to another and to attend their day-to-day works without any external support.

A sum of Rs.26.25 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.34 SUPPLY OF FREE MOTORISED TRICYCLES (INVALID CARRIAGE) TO THE SEVERELY DISABLED STUDENTS AND PROVIDING SUBSIDY FOR PURCHASE OF MOTORISED TRICYCLES TO THE WORKING SEVERELY DISABLED PERSONS

The scheme of supply of Free Motorised Tri-cycles, started from the year 2007-2008 and every year 60 Motorised Tricycles (Invalid Carriage) are provided to the severely disabled students free of cost. A subsidy of 30% of the cost of the Motorised Tricycles (Invalid Carriage) or

Rs.10,000/-, whichever is less, is provided to 290 Working Severely Disabled Persons all over Tamil Nadu for purchase of Motorised Tricycles.

A sum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.35 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO NORMAL PERSONS MARRYING DISABLED PERSONS

To encourage persons marrying disabled persons, the following financial assistance is given by the Government:-

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

The quantum of Marriage Assistance has been raised from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.20,000/- by this Government during 2006-07. There is no income ceiling limit for availing assistance under these schemes.

A sum of Rs. 78.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.36 MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE TO SEVERELY HANDICAPPED

Maintenance Allowance to the severely handicapped persons are paid at the rate of Rs.500/- per month. The Maintenance Allowance is sent to the residence of the severely handicapped persons

through money order every month. The number of severely handicapped persons availing maintenance allowance is 10,000.

A sum of Rs.630.30 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.37 MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE TO MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY AFFECTED PERSONS

As the plight of persons affected with Muscular Dystrophy is similar to that of the severely disabled persons and Mentally Retarded persons, they are also provided with monthly assistance of Rs.500/- per month from the year 2008-2009 for 1000 beneficiaries.

A sum of Rs. 63.10 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.38 MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE TO MENTALLY RETARDED PERSONS

Mentally Retarded Persons with Disability Percentage of 60% and above are given Maintenance Allowance of Rs.500/- per month without any age and income ceiling limit and without any restriction on the number of beneficiaries. The Maintenance Allowance is sent to the residence of the Disabled Persons through Money order. An additional allotment has been made to benefit 30,600 beneficiaries.

A sum of Rs.3189.30 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.39 ESTABLISHMENT OF 31 EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRES FOR HEARING IMPAIRED

In the year 2006-2007, Early Intervention Centres for Infants and Young children with Hearing Impairment was started in 10 districts and subsequently extended to all the 31 Districts. 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 other 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.

A sum of Rs.93.98 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.40 EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRES FOR MENTALLY RETARDED

Early Intervention Centres for the Mentally Retarded have been established in the year 2007-2008 in every District to benefit 50 children each in the age group of 0-6 years. These Centres are managed by Non Governmental Organisations in all districts. The main objective of this scheme is to identify infants and young children with Mental Retardation and to provide Early Intervention Services including detection, identification, and providing suitable training with support, counselling and training to parents and families to optimize their potential in the developmental areas of movement of children, communication, self development, socialization and understanding. Under this scheme, every Centre has been sanctioned with a grant of Rs.6.45 lakhs during the year 2008-2009.

A sum of Rs.193.50 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.41 PROGRAMME FOR REHABILITATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (PRPD) Scheme is implemented in seven Districts in Tamil Nadu namely, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Tirunelveli, Sivagangai and Pudukottai,. The PRPD aims at providing rehabilitation services at various levels starting from Village Panchayat. The main objective of the Scheme is to provide Community Based Rehabilitation Services to disabled persons 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 Non-Governmental Organisations, Government servants and others on Rehabilitation of the Disabled.

A sum of Rs. 150.36 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

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

The State Government is implementing the Scheme of providing different types of Free Travel concession to various disabled persons to travel in the 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. All other disabled persons are permitted concession travel with certain conditions in order to pursue their education, visit hospitals, training centres and to 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.

All category of disabled persons are now permitted to avail 75% concession with effect from 29.10.2008 to travel to any place in the State in all types of buses (except A.C. Bus) without any restrictions on number of trips as in Railways.

A sum of Rs. 308.21 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.43 ISSUE OF NATIONAL IDENTITY CARDS, PASS BOOKS AND DISABILITY CERTIFICATES

Top priority is given by the State Government for issue of National Identity Cards to all the eligible disabled persons in the State. As per the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995, Disability Certificates are issued to the Persons with Disabilities at the District Medical College Hospital and District Head Quarters Hospitals on a specific day/days of the week by District Medical Boards. 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. So far, 6,37,035 National Identity Cards have been issued.

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 / Sarva Shiksha Abiyan Schools / Integrated Education for the Disabled Schools and also in the "Varummun Kappom Thittam" camp.

4.44 TAMIL NADU WELFARE BOARD FOR THE DISABLED PERSONS

The Tamil Nadu Welfare Board for the Disabled Persons was formed with an assent of the Legislative Assembly in the year 2007. The Board was constituted with the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare as the Chairperson, Secretary to Government, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department as Vice-Chairperson, State Commissioner for the Disabled as Member

Secretary, Principal Secretary to Government Finance Department as Member and 15 Non Official members. 1,25,692 Disabled members have been registered in the Board. Following Schemes are being implemented through the Welfare Board to provide Social Security and Welfare Measures for the Disabled Persons above the age of 10 years:-

(1)	Personal accident relief:	
	The Compensation provided under the scheme is as follows:	
	a) Death	Rs.1,00,000/-
	b) Hand or leg loss	Rs. 1,00,000/-
	c) Loss of a leg or a hand or an eye	Rs.50,000/-
	d) Permanent total disability (Except (b) or (c))	Rs.25,000/-
(2)	Assistance to meet the funeral expenses of a disabled person:	Rs. 2,000/-
(3)	Assistance on the natural death of a disabled person:	Rs. 15,000/-
(4)	Assistance for education of the Son or Daughter of a Disabled Person, (Where both husband and wife have applied for assistance under this clause one of them alone shall be eligible for such assistance.)	ranging from Rs.1000/- to Rs.6000/-
(5)	Assistance for Marriage (Son / Daughter)	Rs.2,000/-
(6)	Assistance for delivery or miscarriage of pregnancy or termination of pregnancy:	
	(i) Delivery	Rs.6,000/- @ Rs. 1,000/- per month for six months
	(ii) Miscarriage	Rs.3,000/-
	(iii) Termination	Rs.3,000/-
(7)	Assistance for purchase of spectacles by a disabled person	Rs.500/-

A sum of Rs.100.00 lakhs has been allotted in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010.

4.45 NATIONAL TRUST

The National Trust Act was enacted in 1999 for the welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities, 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 the 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.

4.46 EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

To make avenues for self employment for the disabled persons by availing Bank loan with the Central Government grant under Prime Minister's Employment Guarantee Scheme, Government of Tamil Nadu provides the 5% share amount to be paid by the disabled persons.

4.45 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.

4.48 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 (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) 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.

4.49 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. These District Rehabilitation Centres identify the disabled persons and provide necessary rehabilitation assistance depending on the nature of disability.

A sum of Rs. 631.30 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.50 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 Sector undertaking and Educational Institutions under all kinds of Managements (Government, Aided, Local Bodies) have been reserved for the disabled. Of this 3%, 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 speech and 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 the Government in G.O.(Ms) No.200, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 26.12.2006 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 period of 3 years.

To monitor the 3% reservation for the disabled persons in the Government sector, a High Level Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare.

4.51 BARRIER FREE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE DISABLED PERSONS

The State Government takes 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 have 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.

4.52 GOVERNMENT REHABILITATION HOMES

Government Rehabilitation Homes are functioning in the following 10 places with a view to extending medical assistance and rehabilitating 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 by the Doctor. The Government Rehabilitation Home, Ulundurpet admits leprosy beggars who are convicted by the 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 the inmates studying from Std I to Std XII.

Inmates are given medical assistance by the Medical Officers. Required medicines are purchased through Tamil Nadu Medical Service Corporation. Funds are allotted to each Home to meet the financial expenditure on the following items:-

Sl. 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	Rs.2500/-
4.	Sports Materials	Rs.1200/-
5.	Musical Instruments	Rs. 400/-

Further, a sum of Rs.500/- is given to perform funeral rites. A sum of Rs.1.29 Crores has been sanctioned to construct a New Block to accommodate 50 families of inmates in Government Rehabilitation Home, Paranur.

A sum of Rs. 732.98 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.53 GOVERNMENT CARE CAMP, MELPAKKAM

The Tamil Nadu Prevention of Beggary Act was enacted in the year 1945. The Government Care Camp at Melpakkam was started on 1-3-1954 with a sanctioned 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. Inmates are provided with mats, bed sheets, plates and tumblers and coconut oil. On completion of the conviction period, they are sent back to their native place.

A sum of Rs. 72.37 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-2010 for this scheme.

4.54 THE DETAILS OF CONCESSIONS GRANTED TO DISABLED PERSONS ASSURED BY THE HONOURABLE CHIEF MINISTER ON 19.08.2008

1) To make avenue for self employment opportunities for the disabled 5% of the margin money to be paid by the disabled persons for availing loans under Prime Minister's Employment Guarantee Programme will be borne by the Tamil Nadu Government.

(G.O.Ms.No.112, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 22.08.2008.)

2) Extension of unemployment allowance to all categories of the disabled as given to the blind.

(G.O.Ms.No.113, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 22.08.2008)

3) To enhance the employment opportunities for the disabled, vocational training with hostel facilities will be established in all districts in a phased manner of three years through the NGOs.

(G.O.Ms.No.114, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 22.08.2008.)

4) Constitution of High Level Committee to monitor 3% reservation for persons with disabilities.

(G.O.Ms.No. 117, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 23.12.2008)

5) Exemption from payment of tuition fees to the disabled students studying in Government / Government Aided Higher Educational Institutions.

(G.O.Ms.No.135, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 20.09.2008.)

6) Whenever a Memorandum of understanding is signed with the Industrialists/entrepreneurs who come forward to establish Industries, request should be made to give priorities the disabled for appointment.

(Government letter No.142/SW-4/2008-3, dated 29.09.2008)

7) All the Disabled employees working in various Government Departments on consolidated pay for more than two years have been brought into the regular time scale of pay.

(G.O.Ms.No.151, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 16.10.2008.)

8) Travel concession to all categories of Disabled persons in Express/Deluxe buses (except A/C buses) run by Tamil Nadu Transport Corporation at 75% concession as in Railways.

(G.O.Ms.No.153, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 29.10.2008)

9) State Policy for the Disabled has been formulated.

DETAILED LIST OF NEW SCHEMES FOR THE YEAR 2009-2010

REHABILITATION OF THE DISABLED

**(Rupees
in Lakhs)**

S. No.	Scheme	Amount
1	Strengthening of SRTC by Construction of building for the proposed Comprehensive Vocational-cum-Marketing Training Centre in the SRTC., K.K.Nagar, Chennai.	20.00

2	Implementation of e-governance	6.40
3	Purchase of Machinery and Equipments to all Government Rehabilitation Homes and Government Care Camp, Melpakkam 1. Weighing Machines 2. Wheel Burrow (Stainless Steel) 3. Leather Stitching Machines 4. Power operated Sewing Machine	6.55
4	Training for Disabled persons, Orientation cum Sensitization Training Programme for Special Teachers and Providing Software skills to disabled children	19.96
Total		52.91

CHAPTER – 5

SOCIAL DEFENCE

5.1 The paramount duty of the Department of Social Defence is to provide services for the development of children in distress and the girls and women who are in moral danger and require care, treatment and rehabilitation. The Department is also providing institutional and non-institutional services for the rehabilitation of the children entering the institutions, besides involving the Non-Governmental Organisations in all the programmes to ensure protection of the rights of the children and their all-round development.

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 as amended in 2006 and girls and women admitted under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. The Department also provides after care 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. The Government of India have also gazetted the Model Rules on 26th October 2007.

During 2008-2009, the State Government took a number of steps for strengthening the Juvenile Justice System and had sanctioned additional funds of Rs.190.45 lakhs for the following activities - Modernisation of vocational training, Introduction of art, music, theatre, dance and other forms and facilities for exercise to nurture and bring out the talent, Annual Sports Meet, Creation of Counselling services in all districts, Improved provisions of clothing which includes giving casual clothes for the first time, and extra dietary items for bringing greater variety in food, Infrastructure improvement for Rs.80.88 lakhs and additional maintenance and repairs funds of Rs.20 lakhs, Kitchen Modernisation, Creation of posts of Probation Officers in all districts, Special support for tracing parents of missing children and escorting, Training and sensitisation of staff.

The State of Tamil Nadu is fully committed to the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act and Rules in letter and spirit. Reiterating this, the following steps will be taken:

➤ ***CHILD PROTECTION POLICY***

The State Government would work towards a Child Protection Policy and take steps that reiterate its commitment to the United Nations Child Rights Convention.

➤ ***POSITIVE MEASURES AND BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD***

Positive measures and best interest of the child shall be the main guiding principles, for enabling the child to reach to his or her full potential. Full mobilisation of all possible resources, governmental, non-governmental, volunteers, community & corporates would be attempted. Various schemes of different departments dealing with children, in sectors of health, education, livelihoods, creativity, leisure and play, would also be provided and extended to the children covered under the Juvenile Justice Act. Physical, emotional, intellectual, social and moral development of the child shall be ensured.

➤ ***CONVERGENCE IN IMPLEMENTATION***

The Department of Social Defence would work towards convergence of all its units for enabling better implementation of governmental services for children. All government orphanages and Children Homes run by Government, by Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and the Childline programme would be linked to the Child Welfare Committees under the Juvenile Justice (Amendment) Act, 2006.

➤ **CHILD PROTECTION AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

Creating awareness and involving civil society groups, corporates, NGOs in child protection and capacity building would be done leading to better implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act and improvements to the Juvenile Justice system.

➤ **CHILDREN'S COMMITTEES**

Active participation of children through children's committees in all child care institutions would be brought in, leading to implementation of the principle of safety as well as building skills and confidence in the children to work and plan as a team for achieving goals.

5.2.1 JUVENILE JUSTICE BOARDS

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

A sum of Rs. 15.36 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

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, Tiruchirapalli, Salem and Cuddalore and two Observation Homes run by NGOs at Madurai and Coimbatore.

In addition to the improvements taken up in vocational training and providing art, music, etc., and counselling services during 2008-2009, all Observation Homes will be strengthened with staff and provision of education, vocational training, sports and other activities to enable them to have better rehabilitation services in a secure environment. Necessary infrastructure improvements would also be done for this effort.

Maintenance Grant of Rs.450/- per month per child and salary for staff is also provided to Observation Homes run by NGOs as grant-in-aid. As the Government is concerned about the welfare

and the rehabilitation of the juveniles, the Government have extended vocational training and counselling services support during 2008-2009.

A sum of Rs.138.20 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.2.3 SPECIAL HOMES FOR BOYS AND 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.

The Special Home for Boys at Vellore would be shifted and established in Chengalpattu as a Model Special Home setting it as a benchmark for the rest of the country.

This shifting would be accompanied by provision of education, modernized vocational training, counselling, sports, other forms and facilities for exercise and co-curricular activities which have positive effects of confidence building, channelising energies and have therapeutic value.

A sum of Rs.24.75 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.3.1 CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEES

Eighteen Child Welfare Committees have been constituted to deal with cases of children in need of care and protection and are functioning in the following places:

1. Chennai	7. Salem	13. Thanjavur
2. Chengalpattu	8. Coimbatore	14. Tiruchirappalli
3. Ranipet	9. Virudhunagar	15. Madurai
4. Villupuram	10. Dindigul	16. Tirunelveli
5. Dharmapuri	11. Karaikudi	17. Mayiladuthurai
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 to function as a Bench of Magistrates and are vested with the powers of Metropolitan Magistrate or Judicial Magistrate of First Class as under the Code of Criminal Procedure. These Committees meet thrice a week on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the premises of the notified homes.

A sum of Rs. 17.28 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.3.2 CHILDREN HOMES FOR BOYS & GIRLS

31 Children Homes are functioning under this department in the State to provide care, training, education and vocational education to the children in need of care and protection sent by Child Welfare Committees.

(i)	Government Children Home for Boys – 10 (Chengalpattu, Tattaparai, Ranipet, Thanjavur, Chennai, Mallipudur, Panchapalli, Erode, Villupuram and Karaikudi) and for Girls-1 (Chennai)	11
(ii)	Children Homes run by Non-Governmental Organisations (Gandhigram, Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Salem, Thiruvallur, Thiruvannamalai, Virudhunagar, Mayiladuthurai, Dindigul, Thoothukudi and 10 in Chennai).	20
Total		31

Non-Governmental Organisations that are running and maintaining childcare institutions are given grant-in-aid of Rs.450/- per month / per child towards their maintenance charges by the Government with effect from August 2007. The Children's Home under Bala Vihar, Chennai and Sri Arunodayam, Chennai for mentally challenged children are given grant-in-aid of Rs.450/- per month / per child and Children Home – "Arivagam", for differently abled children, mostly with multiple disabilities, at Mayiladuthurai, is given grant-in aid of Rs.600/- per month per child towards their maintenance charges by the Government.

A sum of Rs. 911.34 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.3.3 SPECIAL CARE CENTRE

To provide parental care to the destitute children in Children Homes, one Special Care Centre (girls) is functioning through Mariyalaya a Non-Governmental Organisation at Chennai. Fifty girl children are benefitted under the scheme. Grant of Rs.450/- p.m. per child is given to them.

A sum of Rs.0.60 lakhs has been provided in Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.4 AFTER CARE ORGANISATIONS

The After Care Organisations are functioning at the following 3 places to provide job oriented vocational training to the boys and girls from the Children Homes and after discharge from the Special Homes:

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

Bala Vihar, Chennai is supported by Government for running a shelter home with vocational training for adult mentally challenged girls at a cost of Rs.1.62 lakhs for 30 girls at Rs.450/- per month per girl.

A sum of Rs. 73.09 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

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

To provide care, treatment, training and rehabilitation to the women victims, Vigilance / Protective Homes were established under the provisions of Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. These institutions also admit girls who face threat of sexual exploitation and are in moral danger. Admission of such girls to these institutions is authorised on a voluntary basis also. There are five Vigilance/Protective homes situated in the following places:

➤ Chennai	1
➤ Madurai	1
➤ Tiruchirapalli	1
➤ Salem	1
➤ Coimbatore	1
Total	5

5.5.2 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.

5.5.3 UNMARRIED MOTHERS HOME

Women and girls who are fallen victims of sexual exploitation and become pregnant can be admitted in Unmarried Mothers Home attached to Government Vigilance Home and Stri Sadana, Chennai. A similar home is also functioning at St. Francis Xavier Rescue Home (Non Governmental Organisation) at Adaikalapuram in Thoothukudi District.

5.5.4 SHORT STAY HOME

Apart from the above, a home for stranded girls is also functioning at Chennai (Abhaya Nilayam) by an Non-Governmental Organisation. Here girls are permitted to stay for a period of 90 days, which can be extended for an additional period of 45 days. The Government is sanctioning a maintenance grant of Rs.450/- per month per girl.

A sum of Rs. 194.34 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for Vigilance/Protective Homes, Rescue Shelters, Unmarried Mothers Home and Short Stay Homes.

5.6 OTHER SCHEMES FOR VULNERABLE WOMEN AND WOMEN IN DISTRESS.

5.6.1 SWADHAR is a Government of India Scheme for vulnerable women in distress, who are supported by providing shelter, vocational training and counselling to become independent and self empowered. 14 SWADHAR HOMES are functioning in 13 districts during 2008-2009. Efforts to cover more districts with suitable NGOs will be pursued in 2009-2010.

5.6.2 UJJAWALA a Government of India Scheme, is a comprehensive one for dealing with trafficking of women from prevention to repatriation which has been introduced in 2007-2008 and 7 proposals were sanctioned by Government of India under the above scheme.

5.7 RESOURCE CENTRES

The 5 Juvenile Guidance Bureaux under the Department in Chennai (2), Madurai, Vellore and Coimbatore, have been restructured to facilitate creation of Resource Centres with a Social Worker-cum-Counsellor and Psychologist in 30 Districts. These Resource Centres are to provide psycho

social care and guidance to the children referred to them by the Child Welfare Committee, Juvenile Justice Boards and Institutions. The Resource Centres are also to provide counselling and guidance to the parents, apart from undertaking research programmes on issues of relevance to the children. These Resource Centres would function through Non Governmental Organisations, with financial assistance from the Government.

A sum of Rs.2.85 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.8 SCHOOL EDUCATION

Education is imparted upto VIII standard in all the Government Children / 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. In the best interest of the children, it has been decided to provide school education in the Institution upto class V and thereafter the children will go out and pursue studies in higher classes while staying in the Institution. This would enable their mainstreaming and maximizing all benefits to the children.

The Observation Homes and Special Home will however provide school education support for higher classes upto X and even XII.

5.9.1 HIGHER EDUCATION

The department also takes care of the higher education of these children by facilitating their admission in ITI Certificate courses and Higher Secondary Schools in addition to the Vocational Training programmes in the institutions. The details of children studying in various courses while staying in the Children / Observation / Special / After Care Homes are given below:

I.T.I. Certificate Course	30
Higher Secondary Course	18
Vocational Training Programmes	373
Total	421

A sum of Rs.3.86 lakhs lakhs has been provided in Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for providing School Education and Higher Education to the children in Government Children Homes and Special Homes.

5.9.2 VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Modernised vocational training such as Cell Phone servicing, Handy man, Videography, Photography and Desktop publishing are imparted with the help of trained teachers and instructors. Apart from the above, vocational training courses are also offered in Automobile Mechanism, Screen Printing, Computers, Tailoring and Electrician.

Incentives are provided to children studying vocational trades with Skilled children being given Rs.70/- per month per child, and 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.

A sum of Rs. 0.39 lakhs has been provided in Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.10 REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

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

1. Tamil Nadu Social Defence Welfare Fund for women and children was created in 2002 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 children under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (as amended in 2006). The fund can also be used for 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.
2. The women and girls discharged from the Vigilance/Protective Homes are provided with financial assistance under self employment scheme from the same fund.
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 – Carpentry Rs.2000/-, Weaving Rs.1000/-, Book binding Rs.1000/-, Gardening and Agriculture Rs.500/-, Masonry Rs.500/-, Tailoring Rs.2500/-, Embroidery Rs.1000/-, Metal Work Rs.1000, Mat Weaving Rs.1000/-, House wiring and plumbing Rs.1000/-, Electric arc welding Rs.1000/-, Two-wheeler servicing and repair Rs.2000/-.

4. A Marriage grant of Rs.3,000/- is sanctioned to the girls and a sum of Rs.2000/- is also paid towards marriage day expenses.

A sum of Rs. 0.23 lakhs has been provided in Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.11 FAMILY SUPPORT SCHEME

Institutionalisation of children should be the last resort. Hence, efforts are made to counsel the family and children and place the children, if it is in their best interest, with their family itself, under the Family Support Scheme. The scheme for family support is implemented with a view to help children and family who have come to Children Homes due to poor economic condition. Under the scheme, children are de-institutionalised 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. 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 as to help children to study while with their family, instead of joining in Children Homes.

A sum of Rs.1.00 lakh has been provided in Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.12 ERADICATION OF JUVENILE BEGGARY

The scheme to eradicate begging by children is implemented through Indian Council for Child Welfare with financial support from State Government. The children are persuaded to join schools and the parents are counseled and motivated to send their children to school.

A sum of Rs.1.08 lakhs has been provided in Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.13 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. 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 counseling services to the children and their family.

A sum of Rs. 0.60 lakhs has been provided in Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.14 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.2,70,000/- per annum per shelter (i.e.Rs.450/- per child per month x 50 children x 12 months) is provided. At present, the Shelters are functioning at the following 7 places.

Chennai	4	Tirunelveli	1
Madurai	1	Salem	1

350 children are benefitted under the scheme.

A sum of Rs.18.90 lakhs has been provided in Budget Estimate 2009-2010 for this scheme.

5.15 CHILDLINE

Childline India Foundation (CIF) was founded in June 1996, for implementing CHILDLINE services in the cities/districts across India. 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.

During the year 2008-2009, BSNL, Chennai Telephones, Vodaphone, Airtel, Aircel, Reliance Communication and TATA Indicom have provided connectivity to '1098' free of cost. CHILDLINE is currently operational in 83 cities which includes 10 cities in Tamil Nadu viz.,Chennai, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Coimbatore, Salem, Tirunelveli, Kanniyakumari, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam and Kancheepuram (Mahabalipuram). Childline services are basically managed by the Non-Governmental Organisation with the financial support from the Government of India and other support from State Government. **CHILDLINE** aims to reach out to the most marginalised children between the age group of 0-18 years, and provides interventions related to shelter, medical, repatriation, rescue, sponsorships and, emotional support and guidance.

5.16 MISSING CHILD BUREAU

The Department of Social Defence and the Police Department are working in close coordination with each other to deal with the issue of Missing Children. A common website of the

Police Department would be used and together the two departments would strive to bridge the time gap in tracing the parent/child and restoring child to parent, if it is in the best interest of the child.

5.17 DE-ADDICTION PROGRAMMES

The Department is the nodal agency for the implementation of the Government of India programme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for De-addiction. There are 21 de-addiction programmes sanctioned by Government of India in 19 districts in 2007-2008 and 34 proposals for obtaining Government of India assistance to 34 NGOs covering 25 districts have been sent to Government of India for sanction in 2008-2009 under De-addiction Programme.

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

Tamil Nadu has set up a three tier monitoring mechanism to deal with the issue of trafficking in women and children consisting of

- State Level Coordination Committee
- District Level Advisory Board in all districts.
- Village Level Watch Dog Committee in all Village Panchayats.

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:

- State Level Co-ordination Committee meeting under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government has been held on 22.01.2009.
- 7 Districts Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Salem, Coimbatore, Pudukkottai and Kanyakumari have been identified as pilot project districts to bring in coordinated and concerted action by district administration, Police, NGOs and others to curb human trafficking.
- Training on Psycho-social care and support for the staff of Vigilance / Protective Homes was organised at National Institute for Mental Health and Neuro-Science under United Nations Office on Drug and Crime project.
- Specialised counseling arranged for the victims for addressing the problem of alcoholism and drug addiction through NGOs.

- Specialised counseling being given to the victims for addressing the problem of HIV/AIDS through NGO supported by Tamil Nadu State Aids Control Society.
- 1688 Village Level Watch Dog Committees have been oriented on prevention of trafficking with financial assistance from United Nations Development Programme. IEC materials have been printed and distributed to the Village Level Watch Dog Committees.
- Steps are being taken for establishing a Model Home to implement Comprehensive scheme of rehabilitation for victims of trafficking as a joint venture with NGO.

5.19 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 2009-2010 SOCIAL DEFENCE

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Schemes	Amount
1.	Providing of woollen sweaters to 110 children of Government Children Home for Boys, Panchapalli	0.39
2.	Providing of inverters to all institutions, Regional Office under the Department of Social Defence	9.75
3.	Conducting of Cultural Meet between all the institutions under the Department of Social Defence.	5.00
4.	Conducting of Summer Camps for children in all Children Homes under the Department of Social Defence	2.00
5.	Providing of utensils, plates and tumblers to the children in all institutions under the Department of Social Defence	9.15
6.	Construction of Model Home for victims of trafficking at Vellore.	40.00
7.	Construction, Renovation and raising of protection wall for Observation/ Children Home and Reception Unit at Trichy, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli and Chengalpattu	75.00
Total		141.29

Chapter – 6

SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES

6.1 PENSION SCHEMES

The Government of Tamil Nadu implements the following Pension schemes, through 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.

Old Age Pension (Normal) Scheme (From 1.4.1962) and renamed as Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (From 19-11-2007)

Destitute Physically handicapped Pension Scheme (From 1-11-1974)

Destitute Widows Pension Scheme (From 1-6-1975)

Destitute Agricultural Labourers Pension Scheme (From 15-3-1981)

Destitute / Deserted wives Pension Scheme (From 25-4-1986)

Pension to Un-married, incapacitated poor women of age 50 years and above (From 1-7-2008)

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

i) INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME (19-11-2007)

The National Old Age Pension Scheme has been renamed as Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme and launched on the Birthday of former Prime Minister, Tmt. Indira Gandhi on 19-11-2007. As per the new scheme, pension is granted to persons who are 65 years of age or above belonging to households Below Poverty Line. The Central Assistance for this scheme per beneficiary per month is Rs.200/- The Government of Tamil Nadu is contributing a matching share of Rs.200/- per month per beneficiary as was done earlier in the case of National Old Age Pension Scheme. The beneficiaries under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme will get Rs.400/- per month on par with the other beneficiaries of the State Sponsored Pension Schemes.

For the financial year 2008-2009, 8,49,962 persons have benefited under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.523.69 Crores has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the financial year 2009-2010 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 60% or more are eligible for this pension. District Level Committees, constituted by the Government in every district functioning under the Chairmanship of the District Collector with the District Medical Officer and District Social Welfare Officer as its members, examines applications received from physically handicapped persons and sanction pension to them considering the individual hardship without reference to age limits prescribed by the scheme. Patients suffering from leprosy are also covered by this scheme. Other conditions for availing benefit under this scheme are, a person should not have any source of income, should not own property valued above Rs.5000/-, should not be a professional beggar and should not be supported by son or son's son aged 20 years or above. Under this scheme, an amount of Rs.400/- is paid as pension. The entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government.

For the financial year 2008-2009, 95,254 persons have benefited under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.47.03 Crores has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the financial year 2009-2010 under this scheme.

iii) Destitute Widows' pension Scheme (Since 1-6-1975)

Destitute widows of any age, who have not remarried are benefited under this scheme even if they have legal heirs aged 18 years and above. Other conditions for availing benefit under this scheme are, a person should not have any source of income, should not own property valued above Rs.5000/- and should not be a professional beggar. An amount of Rs.400/- is paid as pension under this scheme. The entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government.

For the financial year 2008-2009, 5,71,012 persons have benefited under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.288.11 Crores has been sanctioned in the Budget Estimate for the financial year 2009-2010 under this scheme.

iv) Destitute Agricultural Labourers Pension Scheme (Since 15.3.1981)

This scheme covers Destitute Agricultural Labourers aged 60 years and above. Other conditions for availing benefit under this scheme are, a person should not have any source of income, should not own property valued above Rs.5000/-, should not be a professional beggar and should not be supported by son or son's son aged 20 years or above. An amount of Rs.400/- is paid as pension under this scheme. The entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government.

For the financial year 2008-2009, 1,05,021 persons have benefited under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.46.69 Crores has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the financial year 2009-2010 under this scheme.

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

The scheme of erstwhile 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 / who obtained legal separation certificate from a competent court of law. Deserted wives having legal heirs who have completed 18 years of age, based on merit are also eligible for pension under this scheme. Other conditions for availing benefit under this scheme are, a person should not have any source of income, should not own property valued above Rs.5000/- and should not be a professional beggar. An amount of Rs.400/- is paid as pension under this scheme. The entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government.

For the financial year 2008-2009, 94,092 persons have benefited under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.48.14 Crores has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the financial year 2009-2010 under this scheme.

vi) Pension to Un-married, Poor, incapacitated Women of Age 50 years and above (since 1.7.2008)

The Government have introduced a new Scheme of providing monthly **Pension** of Rs.400/- **to unmarried, poor, incapacitated women of age 50 years and above.** The beneficiaries under this scheme get Rs.400/- per month as pension on par with the beneficiaries of Destitute Widows Pension and Deserted and Destitute Wives Pension Schemes. Other conditions applicable to Destitute Widows Pension and Deserted and Destitute Wives Pension Schemes apply to this scheme also. Under this scheme, an amount of Rs.400/- is paid as pension. The entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government.

For the financial year 2008-2009, 8,537 persons have benefited under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.5.00 Crores has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the financial year 2009-2010 under this scheme.

6.2 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. For Pongal-2009, 12,81,781 Sarees and 3,79,454 Dhotis have been distributed to the Pension beneficiaries.

2) Supply of Free Nutritious Meal and Free Rice (Since 15.9.1991)

The Government have 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.

6.3 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 poverty line, on the death of the primary bread winner. In Tamil Nadu, the beneficiaries of the National Family Benefit Scheme are covered by Accident Relief Scheme and Distress Relief Scheme. Under Accident Relief Scheme, a sum of Rs.15,000/- is granted to the family of the victim 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 of Distress Relief Scheme, the Central assistance of Rs.10,000/- is given to the family of the deceased.

For the financial year 2008-2009, 431 persons are benefited under Accident Relief Scheme and 17,266 persons benefited under Distress Relief Scheme.

A sum of Rs.0.98 Crores under Accident Relief Scheme and a sum of Rs.38.28 Crores under Distress Relief Scheme have been provided in the Budget Estimate for the financial year 2009-2010.

**Tmt. P. Geethajeevan
Minister for Social Welfare**

Details of Important Days Observed by Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Dept

1	January 24 th	National Day for the Girl Child
2	March 8 th	International Day for the Women
3	June 12 th	Anti Child Labour Day
4	June 15 th	World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
5	July 15 th	Education Development Day
6	October 1 st	International Day of the Elders
7	November 14 th	Children' s Day
8	November 20 th	Universal Child Rights Day
9	November 26 th	Dowry Prohibition Day
10	December 3 rd	International Day of the Disabled