

Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department

Current Schemes for Rehabilitation of the Disabled

1. A Welfare State is responsible for the well-being of all sections of its people.

The State's helping hand must reach out especially to the under-privileged and the handicapped. A number of innovative programmes of this Government in general are pre-oriented towards this objective.

With a way to give adequate importance to the Welfare of the Disabled, the State Government have established a separate Directorate for Rehabilitation of the Disabled, during 1992-93. This Directorate is being managed by a State Special Commissioner for the Disabled as per the requirement enunciated by the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1999.

The State Policy on Persons with Disabilities focused on the prevention of disabilities and timely assistance to persons with disabilities to lead as normal life as possible within the family and the community. This comprehensive policy aims at early detection and provision of comprehensive services in medical, vocational, economic and social spheres in order to make them self supporting citizens and integral part of the society. This involves a joint responsibility of the Government, Entrepreneurs, Philanthropists, the NGOs and the community as a whole.

Based on the above State Policy the following steps are being taken:-

- To assess the nature and extent of the problem of the disabled including the early detection and immunization against polio, measles, rubella, mumps, etc besides supply of simple aids and appliances suited to the needs of the individual in order to improve mobility and physical capacity.
- To ensure that every disabled child is given free and compulsory primary education, either special education or integrated (inclusive) education, based upon the level of disability of the individual and also to promote the integration of the handicapped students with normal students at every stage depending upon the capacity / level / need of each handicapped child.
- To develop the required skilled manpower by establishing Teacher Training Centers and develop a corps of competent Teachers in Educational Institutions / Training Centers who have developed a deep understanding of the problems of the handicapped.
- To promote special supportive facilities like scholarship, free transport, supply of teaching aids, special aids and assistive devices, appointment of Resource Teachers, Hostel facility etc., and to help the disabled to pursue appropriate higher education.
- To identify trades suited to each category for the disabled particularly in specific industries and to establish and run training centers for the disabled.
- To arrange financial assistance for the handicapped trainees towards purchase of tools, kits, etc. required by them.
- To enable banks and other financial institutions to assist liberally for self employment ventures.

- To introduce measures for the removal of architectural barriers in all buildings, to provide easy access and indeed all barriers to the successful adjustment of the disabled.
- To take suitable measures to enable the disabled persons to participate in cultural and sports events as in the case of normal persons.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT 1995

The Persons with Disabilities Act was enacted during 1995, to give equal opportunities to the disabled and to protect their rights in order to integrate them with the normal society to enable them to have full participation in the normal life. In Tamil Nadu, the act is being successfully implemented by appointing a State Commissioner to monitor the implementation of the Act, besides his role as Head of the Department for Rehabilitation of the Disabled.

3 POPULATION OF THE DISABLED IN THE STATE

According to the National Sample Survey, the disabled constitute 1.9% of the total population. As per Census of India – 2001 report the total disabled population in Tamil Nadu State is 16,42,497.

4 SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR THE DISABLED

Special Education is provided to the disabled through the Special Schools. The Number of Government, Municipal, Aided and Unaided Special Schools functioning in the State are as follows:

S No	Type of school	Government school	Recognised		Municipal	Total
			Aided	Unaided		
1	Schools for the Blind	11	11	5	--	27
2	a) School for the Speech and hearing impaired	10	20	41	1	78
	b) Pre School	2	--	4		
3	School for the Mentally Challenged-	1	12	88	--	101
4	School for the severely Locomotor Disabled	1	14	44	--	59
5	School for the Leprosy cured	--	1	--	--	1
Total		25	58	182	1	266

The Government Special Schools are functioning in the following places.

Visually handicapped	Speech and Hearing impaired	Locomotor disabled	Mentally challenged
Coimbatore (I to V std.)	Cuddalore (I to VIII std.)	Madurai (I to VIII)	Chennai (Tambaram) (Educable and Trainable Category only)
Cuddalore (I to V std.)	Dharmapuri (I to XII std.)		
Dharmapuri (I to V std.)	Erode (I to X std.)		
Madurai (I to VI std.)	Kancheepuram (I to X std.)		
Nagercoil (I to V std.)	Tambaram (I to VIII std.)		
Poonamallee (I to XII std.)	Udhagamandalam (I to X std.)		
Pudukkottai (I to V std.)	Pudukkottai (I to VIII std.)		
Salem (I to VIII std.)	Salem (I to X std.)		
Sivaganga (I to V std.)	Thanjavur (I to XII std.)		
Thanjavur* (I to VIII std.)	Virudhunagar (I to VII std.)		
Tiruchirapalli (I to XII std.)	Ramanathapuram (Preschool only)		

* Upgraded to High School from the academic year 2005-06

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

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

Twenty Pre-School sections for the speech and hearing impaired children are functioning in the Government Schools for Deaf at Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Erode, Kancheepuram, Chennai, Udhagamandalam, Pudukkottai, Salem, Thanjavur, Virudhunagar as well as in the Government Aided Schools for the Deaf at Vellore, Trichirappalli, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Sivagangai, Kanyakumari, Tuticorin, Dindigul and in the Government Orphanage at Ramanathapuram and Government School for the Blind at Coimbatore.

A sum of Rs.799.77 lakhs have been provided for the year 2005-2006.

5(a). SCHOLARSHIP TO THE DISABLED

Under this scheme, disabled students undergoing their education upto post graduate level are given financial assistance towards purchase of study materials as noted below:

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

5(b).READERS ALLOWANCE:

The visually handicapped students are given readers allowance along with scholarship.

Readers allowance is being paid at the following enhanced rates from 2004-2005

S.No.	Class	Amount of Readers allowance sanctioned already	Enhanced rate of Readers allowance from 2004-2005
1	IX to XII	Rs.500/-	Rs.750/-
2	B.A. / B.Sc., / B.Com	Rs.750/-	Rs.1250/-
3	M.A./M.Sc./M.Com./B.Ed./B.L./M.Ed. and other professional courses	Rs.1000/-	Rs.1500/-

A sum of Rs.117.72 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

6 SCRIBE ASSISTANCE TO VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSONS

The visually handicapped students studying IX Std. to XII Std. are permitted to engage a scribe for their school examinations and a sum of Rs.50/- per paper is paid to each scribe. 225

Visually Disabled students studying in the following schools are benefited every year.

- Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Poonamallee, Chennai-56.
- Government Girls Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Tiruchirappalli.
- Little Flower Convent Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Chennai and
- St. Louis Institute for the Deaf and Blind, Chennai.

A sum of Rs. 2.69 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

7 GOVERNMENT REGIONAL BRAILLE PRESS

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

A sum of Rs.14.21 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

8 TRAINING TO THE TEACHERS OF THE SPECIAL SCHOOLS

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

S No	Name of the Training Institution	Nature of Training given	No. of Trainee Teachers
1.	Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind, Poonamallee.	Junior Diploma in teaching the Blind.	20
2.	Balavihar Training School, Kilpauk, Chennai.	Junior / Senior Diploma in Teaching the Mentally Challenged	25
3.	Little Flower Higher Secondary School for the Hearing Impaired, Chennai.	Junior / Senior Diploma in teaching the Hearing Impaired.	50

A sum of Rs.162 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

9. SECONDARY GRADE TEACHERS TRAINING (DIPLOMA IN TEACHER EDUCATION) AT GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR VISUALLY HANDICAPPED CAMPUS, POONAMALLEE, CHENNAI-600 056.

During 2004, Secondary Grade Teachers Training (Diploma in Teacher Education – DTE) was started at Government Higher Secondary School for the Blind Campus. 20 Visually handicapped and 20 Orthopaedically handicapped students were admitted by getting approval from National Council for Teacher Education – Regional Centre, Bangalore. This will ensure more employment opportunities to visually handicapped and orthopaedically handicapped persons.

A sum of Rs.7.38 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

10. MODERN TRAINING CUM PRODUCTION WORKSHOP (MTCPW), GUINDY, CHENNAI-32.

The Modern Training cum Production Workshop is located at C-22 Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-32. This Unit functions under direct control of Special Commissioner for the Disabled and it undertakes Designing, Production and Manufacturing of Tricycles and Wheel chairs for the Special Commissioner's requirements of every year. The finished Tricycles and

Wheel chairs are distributed to the identified and needy physically handicapped persons through the District Disabled Rehabilitation Officers.

Approximately, every year this workshop is manufacturing Rs.400 lakhs worth of Tricycles and Wheel chairs.

A sum of Rs.23.20 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

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

Deserted, Orphan, Visually handicapped Women in the age group of 18-40 years (45 years in the case of SC/ST) are given training in Chalk-Piece Making and Weaving in the Government Rehabilitation Home with Sheltered Workshop for the Blind women, Poonamallee. After 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. Totally 26 blind women are staying as inmates in the home.

12 TRAINING FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS THROUGH DISTRICT DISABLED REHABILITATION CENTRES

The Department for Rehabilitation of the Disabled is conducting the following Trainings for Disabled persons through District Rehabilitation Centres at Chennai, Salem, Coimbatore, Trichy, Tanjore and Madurai Districts.

1. Diploma Course in Medical Laboratory Technology
two year Duration.
(Chennai, Salem, Coimbatore, Trichy, Tanjore, Madurai)
2. Computer Training Course
Six Months Duration
(Chennai, Salem Coimbatore, Trichy, Madurai, Tirunelveli)

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

A sum of Rs.20.01 lakhs has been provided for the above training courses in 2005-2006.

13 TRAINING FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

The Department for Rehabilitation of the Disabled is conducting the exclusive Trainings to Visually Impaired persons at Government Industrial Training Centre for the Blind, located at Government Higher Secondary School for Blind, Poonamallee, and Chennai-56 campus. The following trainings are offered to them.

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

The above said Trainings are given to 24 Visually Impaired persons free of cost which includes Tuition fees, Training cost, as well as Free Boarding and Lodging along with two sets of uniforms.

Apart from above, Government I.T.I., Guindy is conducting a Special Training wing for the 16 Hearing Impaired persons in the Trade of "Fitter" and Rs.100/- per month is given as stipend to the trainees during training period.

A sum of Rs.20.85 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

14. FREE SURGICAL CORRECTION FOR POLIO AND SPINAL CORD AFFECTED PERSONS.

The Department for Rehabilitation of the Disabled is conducting the medical camps for identification of spinal cord injured and polio affected persons in need of surgical correction through District Rehabilitation Centres in all the Districts of Tamil Nadu State. 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 and carry out their regular activities of Daily Living without any others support and 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 and Nurses who perform the surgery to physically handicapped persons.

A sum of Rs. 4.01 lakhs has been provided for this during 2005-2006.

15. FREE SUPPLY OF AIDS AND APPLIANCES TO THE DISABLED

The Department for Rehabilitation of 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 Officers free of cost.

Viz.

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

The above said Aids and Appliances are given to physically handicapped persons to enable them to move from one place to another place with these supportive devices and they can earn for their livelihood without any others support and to live in the society as near normal persons.

Calipers and Artificial Limbs are designed, manufactured and fitted by orthotists for each and every patient at District Rehabilitation Centre's Orthotic Units itself in the respective Districts.

A sum of Rs. 701 lakhs has been provided for the manufacture / purchase of above aids and appliances for the year in 2005-2006.

16. RESERVATION FOR THE DISABLED

3% vacancies/seats arising in all the State/Public Services and Educational Institutions under all kinds of Managements (Government, Local Bodies etc) have been reserved for the disabled. Of these vacancies, 1% has been reserved for Visually Handicapped, 1% for Speech and Hearing Impaired and 1% for Locomotor Disabled respectively.

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

17. UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE TO THE UNEMPLOYED VISUALLY HANDICAPPED

Unemployed visually handicapped persons are paid unemployment allowance as indicated below for a period of 5 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:-

a)

Educational Qualification	Rates of Unemployment Allowance (Per month)
i) Graduates/Post Graduates	Rs.300/-
ii) P.U.C/H.SC/Under Graduates	Rs.250/-
iii) 10 th Std and below	Rs.200/-

b) Age: 18 to 40 years (45years in the case of SC/ST)

c) Should have been in the live Registers of Employment Exchange for a minimum period of one year.

Every year 1200 visually handicapped persons are benefitted under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.42.00 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

18. SELF EMPLOYMENT

The Department is also taking steps to assist the disabled persons to avail loan from Nationalised Banks towards self-employment ventures including setting up of bunk stalls. Government subsidy equal to 1/3 of loan amount or Rs.2000/- whichever is less is paid. From the year 2005-2006, subsidy has been increased to Rs.3000/- Number of beneficiaries has also

been increased from 875 to 1000. Bunk stall subsidy of Rs.5, 000/- or 1/3 of the loan amount whichever is less will be given to the disabled persons who desires to install Bunk Stall. This will benefit a minimum of 1050 disabled persons.

Rs. 32.50 lakhs has been provided towards subsidy for the year 2005-2006.

To give an added thrust to the self employment opportunities for the disabled, the Government have given Block Government Guarantee to the loans taken from the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation.

19. DOCTOR'S HONORARIUM

To overcome the difficulty faced by disabled persons in getting the medical certificate / identity card signed by Medical Officer and District Disabled Rehabilitation Officer, a single window system has been introduced in which the Medical Officers (ENT Specialist/ Psychiatrist/ Orthopaedic Surgeon/ Ophthalmologist) make a visit to District Rehabilitation Centres on a particular day and all disabled persons are reviewed and identity cards / medical certificates are issued on the same day.

A sum of Rs. 1.16 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006

20 CONCESSIONS TO NORMAL PERSONS MARRYING DISABLED PERSONS

The following concessions are given to normal persons marrying disabled persons:-

SI No	Name of the Scheme	Nature of Assistance	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount allotted in 2005-06 Rs. in lakhs
1.	Concession to normal person marrying visually handicapped	1. Cash assistance for marriage expenses Rs.3000/- 2. National Saving Certificate - Rs.7000/-	100	10.00
2.	Concession to normal persons marrying persons without one arm / one leg	1. Cash assistance for marriage expenses Rs.3000/- 2. National Saving Certificate Rs.7000/-	145	14.50
3.	Concession to normal persons marrying speech and hearing impaired	1. Cash assistance for marriage expenses Rs.3000/- 2. National Saving Certificate Rs.7000/-	145	14.50

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

The Visually Handicapped are permitted to travel free of cost in the Government Transport Corporation Buses upto 100 Kms from their residence without any condition. The concessions have been extended to other disabled persons under certain conditions in order to pursue their education, visit hospitals and training centres and undertake employment. The visually handicapped and the orthopaedically handicapped are permitted to travel to their native place within the State once in a year to and fro in express buses also. The Income ceiling of Rs.12, 000/- per annum has been lifted in the case of mentally challenged to avail free travel concession. Mentally challenged are permitted to travel with one escort, free of cost.

A sum of Rs. 100.00 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

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

Any Non-Governmental Organisation providing any rehabilitation services to person with disability should register themselves with the Special Commissioner for the Disabled who is the competent authority for the purpose of according registration under Section 52 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 199

23. BARRIER FREE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE DISABLED PERSONS

As per the provisions envisaged under Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, Development Control Rules for Chennai Metropolitan Development Area has been amended for provision of ramps and other barrier free facilities in Public Buildings for the benefit of physically handicapped persons.

24. MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE TO SEVERELY HANDICAPPED

The maintenance allowance of Rs.200/- p.m. is given to the severely handicapped persons. From 1.1.2003, maintenance allowance is sent to the disabled persons' residence itself through money order every month. 8400 severely disabled persons benefited during 2004-200

A sum of Rs. 211.94 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

25. SHELTERED HOME FOR ADULT MENTALLY CHALLENGED GIRLS

To protect the adult mentally challenged girls above 14 years, the Government offer grants-in-aid to Non-Governmental Organisations for running sheltered homes. Under the scheme, five homes (Madurai, Salem, Tuticorin, Sivagangai and Vellore) have been sanctioned a grant of Rs.2.5 lakhs per home for rehabilitating 30 girls every year.

A sum of Rs.12.50 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

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

Two day care centre for the mentally challenged children have been established in the year 2003-2004 at Theni District benefiting 60 children through Non-Governmental organizations.

A sum of Rs. 9.40 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

27. GRANTS-IN-AID ASSISTANCE TO RUN SPECIAL CENTRE FOR THE PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION AT THENI DISTRICT.

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

A sum of Rs.1.59 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

28. 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.

29. ASSISTANCE TO PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED LAW GRADUATES

10 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. 0.30 lakh has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

30. INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE DISABLED

In accordance with United Nations Organisation's appeal to observe 3rd December every year as "International Day of the Disabled", our State is observing 3rd December as International Day of the Disabled. The main aim of observing this day is to encourage the disabled to showcase their different skills and abilities in the field of Arts and Sports.

In connection with the International Day of the Disabled, "State Level Sports Meet" was conducted at Rajarathinam Stadium, Egmore, Chennai 8. 5000 disabled children participated from all over the Districts. 102 events are conducted and prizes distributed to winners and certificate issued to all participants. On 3rd December, cultural programme is being conducted at Kalaivanar Arangam. Over 1200 disabled children from Government and Non-Governmental organisations throughout the State participated. On this day, State awards were distributed to the Best Employer, Best Social Worker, Best Employee, Best Teachers and Best Institutions who had rendered outstanding service for the welfare of the disabled and aids and appliances are also distributed.

A sum of Rs. 00 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

31. STATE AWARDS

To encourage the persons who are involved in the services for the disabled, the following 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	10 Grams of Gold Medal, and Certificate
2	Best Institution Award (for Best institution serving Disabled persons)	10 Grams of Gold Medal Cash Prize of Rs.50, 000/-, and Certificate
3	Best Institution Award (for Best Institution serving women)	10 Grams of Gold Medal, Cash Prize of Rs.50,000/- and Certificate
4	Best Social Worker Award (for outstanding work done for disabled)	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
5	Best Social Worker Award (for outstanding work done for women)	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
6	Best Doctor Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
7	Best Collector Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
8	Best District Disabled Rehabilitation Officer Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate

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

S.No.	Name of the Award	Nature of Award
1	Best Employer Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
2	Best Employee Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
3	Best Teacher Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
4	Best Institution Award	10 Grams of Gold Medal and Certificate
5	Lakshmikantham Ammal Award (Best Visually Handicapped Students)	Certificate and Cash Prize of Rs.1200

32. NATIONAL AWARDS:

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India distributes National Awards on the occasion of International Day of the Disabled which is observed on 3rd December every year. The awards are presented to Best Disabled Employee, Employer, Placement Officer, Institution, Individual, Creative Disabled, Creative Disabled Children, Best Role Model and also for New Technological Innovations useful for the disabled.

During the year 2003-2004 Tamil Nadu has won 14 awards out of 58 awards presented. Ramanathapuram District was selected as the "Best District in providing rehabilitation services to the Disabled" in the whole of India.

33. DISTRICT REHABILITATION CENTRES

A District Rehabilitation Centre is functioning in Chengalpattu which serves the disabled in the District. This is funded by the Government of India. Nearly 2000 persons with different types of disabilities are benefited every year.

A sum of Rs. 26.68 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

On the same pattern, District Rehabilitation Centres are functioning in the State with State funds in all the remaining 28 Districts. These District Rehabilitation Centres identify the disabled and provide rehabilitation assistance depending on the nature of disability including assistive devices and necessary training.

A sum of Rs.3454 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

34. BLIND RECANERS EMPLOYED IN THE DISTRICT REHABILITATION CENTRES

27 Blind Recaners are working in the District Rehabilitation Centres (Except Chennai and Madurai) in a non standardized time scale of pay of Rs.2100-30-2400

A sum of Rs.11.27 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

35. NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR REHABILITATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities which provides Community Based Rehabilitation Services to the disabled, has been implemented in four Districts viz. Kancheepuram, Thiruvannamalai, Theni and Ramanathapuram at a cost of Rs.1.78 Crores during the year 2002-2003. In the above districts, rehabilitation services are provided at District, Block and Gram Panchayat Level. In all, 2200 Community Based Rehabilitation Workers and 60 Multipurpose Rehabilitation Workers have been recruited and trained for one month and three months respectively in disability management. 50 assessment clinics are conducted in each district and assistance provided.

The scheme was continued in the year 2004-05 at a cost of Rs.153.30 lakhs.

To continue the implementation of this programme in the above four Districts through identified NGOs during the year 2005-2006, a sum of Rs.153.30 lakhs has been provided.

As a part of the above programme, a State Resource cum Training Centre is being established at Chennai.

36 REHABILITATION OF DISABLED PERSONS AFFECTED BY TSUNAMI.

Giant Tidel wave named Tsunami struck Tamil Nadu coast on 26.12.2004 and caused disaster resulting in heavy loss of life and injuries to the persons in coastal districts besides causing damage to houses, properties.

13 districts of Tamil Nadu namely Chennai, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Cuddalore, Villupuram, Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Kanyakumari, Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram and Pudukottai were affected by Tsunami.

All the 13 District Disabled Rehabilitation Officers were instructed to visit the relief camps and take stock of disabled persons who were affected by Tsunami and render necessary rehabilitation assistance.

In Tamil Nadu 2494 disabled were affected by Tsunami. Out of which 1007 disabled needed assistive devices like Tricycles, wheel chair, etc. This Government has taken steps on war footing and supplied the required assistive devices.

37 GOVERNMENT REHABILITATION HOMES

The Government of Tamil Nadu established 10 Rehabilitation Homes in the following 10 places with a view to extend medical assistance to the beggars suffering from leprosy and to rehabilitate them:-

SI No	Government Rehabilitation Home
1	Bargur, Dharmapuri District
2	Deviyakurichi, Salem District
3	Mallavadi, Thiruvannamalai District
4	Manaiyeripatti, Thanjavur District
5	Paranur, Kancheepuram District
6	Pudukottai, Pudukottai District
7	Selliampatti, Dharmapuri District
8	Ulundurpet, Villupuram District
9	Vinnapalli, Erode District
10	Y. Pudukatti, Madurai District

In each Government Rehabilitation Home, 400 adults and 25 Children are admitted voluntarily, after medical confirmation about the reality of the disease. Leprosy Beggars are also admitted in Government Rehabilitation Home, Ulundurpet on conviction by Judicial Magistrate. If spouse is affected, the other spouse is also admitted along with family members. The inmates are discharged from the homes either on good health condition or on disciplinary grounds.

Inmates are provided with free boarding, lodging, clothing, medical facilities, training in various vocational trades and recreation facilities like games, screening of films, provision of colour TV, library etc.

Each inmate is supplied diet at a cost of Rs.15 per day and their dependents at Rs.10 per day. On special occasions, special diets are supplied at an additional cost of Rs.5 per inmate. Two sets of clothes are distributed per 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.

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

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

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

Every year funds are allotted to each home to meet the expenditure for supply of note books and text books to the children of the inmates from I Std. to XII Std. Able inmates are trained in the production units and taught mat weaving, cloth weaving, tailoring and shoe-making etc. For goods produced they are paid nominal wages. One powerloom is functioning at Paranur Government Rehabilitation Home.

A sum of Rs. 496.45 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006.

38. GOVERNMENT CARE CAMP, MELPAKKAM

The Tamil Nadu Prevention of Beggary Act was enacted in the year of 194 In order to maintain beggars who were resorting to beggary in Chennai city and convicted by the Judicial Magistrates under the above Act with a conviction period of one to three years, Care Camp at Melpakkam was started on 1st March 1954 with a strength of 950 members(Males 770+Females 180). The Beggars convicted by courts are provided 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 Pongal Day. Inmates are provided with mats, bedsheets, plates, coconut oil etc. On completion of conviction period they are sent back to their native place with railway warrant / bus fare.

A sum of Rs.44.87 lakhs has been provided for the year 2005-2006 to the Government Care Camp, Melpakkam.

**STATE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER
FOR THE DISABLED**