14. SOCIAL JUSTICE, EMPOWERMENT AND WELFARE
Inclusive development must go hand in hand with accelerated economic growth. Historically disadvantaged groups and vulnerable groups must be adequately benefitted from growth and development. The planning processes must ensure that no individual or group gets excluded or neglected.

The State must guarantee equity among its citizens. The principle of equity necessarily implies treating people in accordance with differential needs. In other words, equity refers to ensuring fairness in access to services and fairness of opportunity. Despite past efforts, much is needed to be done to pro-actively address these concerns.

Vision 2023 of the Tamil Nadu Government resolves for a highly inclusive growth pattern. It will largely be a Poverty Free State with opportunities for gainful and productive employment for all those who seek it and will provide care for the disadvantaged, vulnerable and destitute in the State.

Gifts, grace, right sceptre, care of peoples weal;
These four a light of dreaded kings reveal.
- Thirukkural 390
14.1 SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

Introduction

According to 2001 Population Census, the share of Scheduled Castes population was 19 per cent (1.19 crore) and Scheduled Tribe population was 1.04 per cent (0.07 crore) of the total population of 6.24 crore in Tamil Nadu. Nearly 70 percent of the SCs live in rural areas. The sex-ratio among SCs is 999/1000 and among STs is 980/1000, which are high when compared to the general sex ratio of 987/1000 for the State.

Box 14.1.1: Social Justice in Tamil Nadu

The Government has rendered social justice to the people of Tamil Nadu by adopting 30 percent reservation for Backward Classes, 20 percent reservation for Most Backward Classes / Denotified Communities, 18 percent reservation for Scheduled Castes and 1 percent reservation for Scheduled Tribes in Education and Employment Sectors in Tamil Nadu. By ensuring 69 percent of reservation, Government has ensured Social Justice.

Source: Hon'ble Chief Minister’s 65th Independence Day Address.

14.1.1: Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)

The Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) are important initiatives in bridging the gap between the SCs/STs and the rest of the population. The SCSP and TSP are efforts to direct plan resources towards meeting the needs of the SCs/STs, specifically to promote inclusive growth in the State. There is an increasing thrust on effective implementation of these plans, both at the national and regional levels. In Tamil Nadu, the SCSP and TSP are being implemented since 1980-81 and 1976-77 respectively. The objectives of SCSP and TSP are:

- To channelise the flow of funds and benefit from the State’s Plan Outlay for the development of SCs/STs, at least in proportion to their population both in physical and financial terms.
- To effect substantial reduction in poverty and unemployment among SCs/STs.
- To create productive assets in favour of SCs/STs to sustain the growth likely to accrue through development efforts.
- To augment Human Resource Development of the SCs/STs by providing adequate education and health services.
- To provide physical and financial security against all types of exploitation and oppression.

In Tamil Nadu, a schematic approach was initiated by the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department in order to achieve the targets. The SCSP and TSP are implemented through 21 sectoral secretariat departments. All the sectoral departments have appointed a Nodal Officer, not below the rank of an Under Secretary for coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the schemes under SCSP/TSP. The Government has constituted a State Level Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to the Government to conduct a quarterly review on the performance of all the sectoral departments concerned in implementing various schemes under SCSP/TSP.
Review of Eleventh Plan- SCSP/TSP

During the Eleventh Plan period, the outlay allocated for SCSP and TSP under divisible scheme was ₹9,421.62 crore and ₹822.29 crore respectively. It was also expected that, by including the flow of funds from the indivisible schemes from various sectors, the total flow of funds to the SCSP and TSP would be in proportion to the population i.e. 19% and 1% respectively. However, the actual expenditure incurred towards SCSP and TSP were ₹19,178.74 crore and ₹1,118.50 crore respectively. The details are given in the Table 14.1.1.

Table: 14.1.1: Financial Performance during the Eleventh Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Flow (Target)</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Divisible</td>
<td>In divisible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP)</td>
<td>15479.82</td>
<td>5906.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of EPAO</td>
<td>16.99</td>
<td>6.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP)</td>
<td>382.39</td>
<td>1230.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of EPAO</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>1.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Dept. of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare, GoTN

Twelfth Five Year Plan (SCSP/TSP)

Goals and Objectives

- To ensure that the SCSP/TSP is fully and effectively implemented through all sectors/ departments of the State Government.

- To formulate policies, plans, budgets, schemes and programmes that are innovative and in line with the modern technological environment and fast growing economy of the State and are based on ensuring the right to social equity, access to entitlements and right to dignity of all SCs/STs.

- To provide full support and facilitation to SCs/STs for achieving not only equity but also become leading forces in all areas namely, social, economic, education, culture and health.

Outlay for the Twelfth Plan – SCSP/TSP

During Twelfth Plan period, an outlay of ₹40,138.00 crore for SCSP and ₹2,197.00 crore for TSP have been proposed in due consultation with all the sectoral departments and the details are given in the Table 14.1.2.
Proposal for an additional review committee for SCSP and TSP

Apart from the presently functioning State Level Monitoring Committee (which monitors and reviews the schemes under SCSP / TSP across all sectoral departments) under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, it is proposed to form one more committee under the Chairmanship of the Development Commissioner, Planning Development & Special Initiatives Department during the Twelfth Plan. The Secretary to Government of the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department will act as the Nodal Officer and the Member Secretary of this Committee. The committee members will include the Secretaries to Government of the sectoral departments, NGO representatives and other Stakeholders. This Committee will review the implementation of the schemes approved under SCSP/TSP and in case of contingency, the committee will arrange for allocation from a basket of schemes through respective sectoral departments.

Table 14.1.2: Twelfth Plan Outlay - SCSP & TSP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>SCSP</th>
<th>TSP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>1362.94</td>
<td>51.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Soil &amp; Water Conservation</td>
<td>130.55</td>
<td>11.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Animal Husbandry</td>
<td>370.31</td>
<td>14.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Cooperation</td>
<td>306.77</td>
<td>6.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rural Development</td>
<td>9803.72</td>
<td>385.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Community Development</td>
<td>770.86</td>
<td>45.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Power &amp; Energy</td>
<td>899.04</td>
<td>105.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Handlooms &amp; Textiles</td>
<td>487.73</td>
<td>26.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Roads and Bridges</td>
<td>2362.67</td>
<td>20.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>4371.87</td>
<td>168.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Medical and Public Health</td>
<td>1777.13</td>
<td>109.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Water Supply and Sanitation</td>
<td>1870.66</td>
<td>97.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Urban Development</td>
<td>142.85</td>
<td>59.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>139.72</td>
<td>30.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Welfare of SCs/STs</td>
<td>4445.88</td>
<td>470.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Social Security &amp; Welfare</td>
<td>8642.09</td>
<td>508.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>761.76</td>
<td>32.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Labour &amp; Employment</td>
<td>319.77</td>
<td>24.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Art &amp; Culture</td>
<td>288.13</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Forestry &amp; Wild Life</td>
<td>814.10</td>
<td>13.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Sports &amp; Youth Services</td>
<td>69.44</td>
<td>12.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>40138.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>2197.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The below mentioned basket of schemes were suggested for SCs following deliberations by members of sub-group for SCSP for the Twelfth Plan.

- **SCs in Realty Sector**: In order to counter the problem of urban exclusion of SCs - an increasing phenomena in modern Tamil Nadu, SCs would be supported with subsidy, credit with differential rate and land for development of commercial and housing constructions in Corporations, Municipalities and Town Panchayats. The objectives of the proposed entry of SCs in Realty Sector are giving entrepreneurial opportunity to unemployed & diploma holders and scaling up business opportunities to small SC builders.

- **Car Rental Companies for SCs**: The present scheme in TAHDCO to finance individual vehicles for individual beneficiaries does not fit in a business model. No individual auto, taxi, lorry or tanker owner can survive in the market where business is mostly offered to agencies possessing many vehicles. Even though, TAHDCO’s past ventures for the last three or more decades have increased the number of beneficiaries, they have not been able to produce any successful and surviving transporters. Therefore, a revitalised model of funding would be introduced. Every year 100 top notch cars will be provided to 50 SCs with driving licenses (two cars each). Five associations/agencies / societies will be formed consisting of 10 beneficiaries each. Each Society on its own or with intervention from regulatory authorities will secure a three year lease agreement (renewable) from Star Hotels. The Government can intervene on behalf of these agencies to secure contracts for longer periods from public undertakings for outsourcing vehicles from these beneficiaries.

- **Load Transport Business for SCs**: As in the car rental scheme, 100 lorries and tankers will be provided to another five associations of 10 beneficiaries each and long-lease agreements will be secured from oil companies.

- **SCs in Public Transport**: The State Transport Corporations procure at least six thousand new buses to replace and replenish their fleet and for the purpose, Transport Corporations draw from the Government exchequer. Instead, about 1000 new buses will be outsourced from SCs who in turn can be funded through SCSP.

- **Promoting SC Media**: Providing SC ownership to any print or electronic media to voice their concerns, will be a fruitful confidence building exercise.

- **SCs in Science (Aid to conduct Conferences)**: SC academicians in higher educational institutions will support to conduct two national and one international science conference every year to celebrate Dr. Ambedkar’s Birth Anniversary.

- **SCs in Science/ Social Science Research and Doctoral Studies**: Providing substantial scholarship to aspiring SC scholars in the areas of biotechnology, nanotechnology, robotics, aeronautics, space science, oceanography, advanced mathematics, economics, anthropology, linguistics, journalism etc.

- **Horticulture and Floriculture Green House Scheme**: The Government will support about 600 SC farmers (20 in each district) across the State to set up green houses for both horticulture and floriculture with the required supportive infrastructure.

- **Agricultural Engineering Equipment**: The Government with the SCSP funds will support at least 900 farmers in the State (30 in each district) to purchase agricultural machinery of their choice (like tillers, ploughs, harvesters, sowers, sprayers etc.)
**Additional Grants to SC Women Panchayat Presidents:** The Government will support at least 100 Dalit Women Panchayat Presidents with an additional grant of Rs.1.00 crore for specific schemes that she herself will carry out, so as to gain authority and popularity over other panchayat presidents.

**Promoting and Exhibiting SC Works of Art (sponsorship and provision of space for exhibitions for SC artists):** Painting exhibitions will be financed by the Government wherein, upcoming young SC artists can exhibit their paintings. A monthly exhibition in the various galleries in the city of Chennai, two each in six chosen districts, one each in the city of Delhi and Mumbai will be organised by the Department of Art and Culture every year.

### 14.1.2 : Welfare and Empowerment of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)

The Department of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare (AD&TW) of the Tamil Nadu Government is particularly responsible for the education, economic empowerment and housing needs of the SCs/STs in the State.

**Review of Eleventh Plan (AD&TW)**

During the Eleventh Plan Period ₹1,750.37 crore (₹1,502.70 crore for SCs and ₹247.67 crore for STs) were allocated for empowerment and welfare of the SCs/STs. However, the actual expenditure incurred during the Eleventh Plan period was ₹1,774.14 crore (₹1,672.44 crore for SCs and ₹101.70 crore for STs). The table 14.1.3 gives a snapshot of the outlay allocated and expenditure incurred during the Eleventh Plan period.

**Table 14.1.3: Financial Performance during the Eleventh Plan (₹ crore)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Programme Area</th>
<th>Outlay Allocated</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scheduled Castes</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>732.83</td>
<td>863.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Economic Empowerment</td>
<td>138.18</td>
<td>486.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Housing and Other Schemes</td>
<td>631.69</td>
<td>322.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sub Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1502.70</strong></td>
<td><strong>1672.44</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Scheduled Tribes</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>57.92</td>
<td>44.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Economic Empowerment</td>
<td>6.10</td>
<td>1.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Housing and Other Schemes</td>
<td>183.65</td>
<td>55.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sub Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>247.67</strong></td>
<td><strong>101.70</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Grand Total (I &amp; II)</strong></td>
<td><strong>1750.37</strong></td>
<td><strong>1774.14</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Dept. of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare, GoTN*

Pursuing the objective of improving the living conditions of the SCs/STs, various schemes were implemented during the Eleventh Plan period with regard to improving their levels of education, economic conditions, housing and other basic amenities. Since 80 percent of the total outlay was allocated for education of SCs/STs, there was a renewed thrust on Adi Dravidar Welfare (ADW) Schools and Government Tribal Residential (GTR) Schools. The table 14.1.4 shows the number of SC/ST beneficiaries under the various education schemes during the Eleventh Plan period.
Table 14.1.4: Number of Beneficiaries under Education Schemes during the Eleventh Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name of the Scheme</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Post-Matric Scholarship for SC (GOI)</td>
<td>27,44,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Post-Matric Scholarship for ST (GOI)</td>
<td>20,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pre-Matric Scholarships for Children of families engaged in sanitary works (GOI)</td>
<td>3,27,496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Higher Education Special Scholarships (SC/ST/SC converted)</td>
<td>1,12,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Free Education upto U.G. level (SC/ST/SC converted)</td>
<td>21,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Free Education upto P.G. Level for Girls only (SC/ST/SC converted)</td>
<td>5,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Chief Minister Award</td>
<td>1,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>State Pre-Matric (VI-X) (SC/ST/SC converted)</td>
<td>16,08,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>State Special Post-Matric (SC/ST/SC converted)</td>
<td>3,02,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Girls Incentive Scheme for III to V std.</td>
<td>2,85,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Girls Incentive Scheme for VI std.</td>
<td>1,41,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Compensation to Universities-reimbursement of Tuition fees (SC/ST/SC converted)</td>
<td>71,312</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Dept. of Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare, GoTN

Twelfth Five Year Plan

Goals and Objectives

- To ensure the dignity and security of SCs/STs and remove all forms of exclusion, marginalisation, untouchability and discrimination.
- To provide full support and facilitation to SCs/STs for achieving not only equity but also to become leading forces in all areas, namely, social, economic, education, culture and health.
- To formulate policies, plans, budgets, schemes and programmes for all SCs/STs that are innovative and in line with the modern technological environment and fast growing economy of the State, based on ensuring the right to social equity, access to entitlements and right to dignity.
- To ensure that the Twelfth Plan is especially responsive to SC/ST women’s needs and aspirations in all areas.

Thrust Areas and Strategies

Education

The ongoing schemes and programmes with regard to education of the SCs/STs include the following and will be continued for the period of the Twelfth Plan:

- Opening new schools and hostels, upgradation of infrastructural facilities, construction and maintenance of schools and hostels.
- Incentives for girl students.
- Extension of special coaching facilities.
- Scholarships, prizes and educational concessions.
The Department of AD&TW controls 1,394 schools (1,095 ADW schools, 297 GTR schools and 2 Eklavya Model Residential Schools). Out of these 1,394 schools, 198 are Middle Schools and 98 are High Schools. It is proposed that during the Twelfth Plan period, these Middle Schools and High Schools will be upgraded to Higher Secondary Schools in order to enable the SC/ST students to access Higher Secondary School Education. Also, English Medium education along with state-of-art facilities will be initiated in all schools under the department. All Higher Secondary Schools will have a separately constructed library building and will be provided with photo copier machines.

The Post-matric scholarships given to the SC/ST students studying in Government institutions have been extended to the SC/ST students studying in free and paid seats of recognised self-financing institutions.

Overseas scholarships will be awarded to more number of students, who aspire to pursue higher studies abroad in the field of engineering, technology and other science disciplines. There will be a minimum of 30 percent reservation for women under this category.

The incentive given to SC/ST candidates who pass the UPSC Preliminary Examination has been enhanced from ₹25,000/- to ₹50,000/- to enable them to get special coaching in reputed institutions. A separate award has been created for the SC/ST/SCC students studying in ADW and GTR schools.

Renovation and Maintenance of 30 years old, 200 Adi Dravidar Primary Schools, provision of Weighing Scales and Napkin Incinerator to Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Hostels will be taken up in the Twelfth Plan. Upgradation of essential infrastructure facilities in 1080 ADW hostels have been taken up.

The Twelfth Plan proposes to organise Annual State Level Sports Meet for all students of the ADW schools in coordination with the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu.

During 2011-12, the Government has distributed laptop computers to school and college students studying in Government and Government Aided Institutions. During the Twelfth Plan, Postgraduate and Research Scholars will also be provided with laptop computers.

Currently, there are 297 GTR schools including Primary, Middle, High and Higher Secondary Schools functioning in Tamil Nadu providing hostel facilities to all students. In spite of having a substantial Tribal population, some villages in Tamil Nadu do not have access to GTR schools, thus creating a greater demand for GTR schools. The Twelfth Plan proposes to open new GTR schools in districts with substantial tribal populations, like the newly formed districts of Krishnagiri and Ariyalur.

The Twelfth Plan also proposes expansion of hostel facilities in GTR schools in a phased manner. Originally, every GTR school was provided with hostel facilities for 50 students. However, over the years, the actual number of students enrolled in each of the GTR Schools has drastically increased and ranges from 80 to 100 students per GTR School. In order to accommodate the growing demand, new buildings will be constructed and infrastructural facilities will be expanded to provide hostel facilities to all students in GTR schools.

Currently, there are 297 GTR schools including Primary, Middle, High and Higher Secondary Schools functioning in Tamil Nadu providing hostel facilities to all students. In spite of having a substantial Tribal population, some villages in Tamil Nadu do not have access to GTR schools, thus creating a greater demand for GTR schools. The Twelfth Plan proposes to open new GTR schools in districts with substantial tribal populations, like the newly formed districts of Krishnagiri and Ariyalur.

The Twelfth Plan also proposes expansion of hostel facilities in GTR schools in a phased manner. Originally, every GTR school was provided with hostel facilities for 50 students. However, over the years, the actual number of students enrolled in each of the GTR Schools has drastically increased and ranges from 80 to 100 students per GTR School. In order to accommodate the growing demand, new buildings will be constructed and infrastructural facilities will be expanded to provide hostel facilities to all students in GTR schools.
The Government of India has established the Eklavya Model Residential (EMR) Schools to provide higher education to the ST students. Currently, Tamil Nadu has only two such schools. Commensurate with the demand for higher education among ST students, the Government of Tamil Nadu will establish five Tamil Nadu Model Tribal Residential Schools with advanced facilities in the districts with more than 50 percent ST population during the period of the Twelfth Plan.

In order to prevent contagious and water borne diseases like Malaria, Filaria, Dengue etc., facilities like medicated mosquito nets will be provided to all the hostels and residential schools.

Economic Empowerment

The following schemes for economic empowerment of the SCs were implemented by Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Housing and Development Corporation (TAHDCO) during the Eleventh Plan period and will be continued in the Twelfth Plan:

- Land Purchase Scheme.
- Entrepreneur Development Programme.
- Self Employment Programme for Youth (SEPY).
- Revolving Fund / Economic Assistance to Self Help Groups.
- Fast Track Power Supply (Electricity Board Deposit).
- Financial Assistance to candidates who have passed the preliminary examinations of the civil services.
- Financial Assistance to Law Graduates to set up their profession.

Job-oriented skill training programme for SC/ST/SC converted to Christianity

The Twelfth Plan will continue providing skill training to the youth. During the Eleventh Plan, 20,000 youth were provided such training. The Twelfth Plan will extend the training programme to another 2,00,000 youth.

Enhancement of TAHDCO’s Share Capital Assistance

TAHDCO was formed to implement economic empowerment schemes for the welfare of SCs. Till 2006, TAHDCO used to provide margin money to beneficiaries based on the share capital. Owing to the Government’s announcement of waiver of the margin money, the collection from repayment by beneficiaries declined, which in turn resulted into erosion of TAHDCO’s share capital. The Twelfth Plan proposes to strengthen the organisation for the development of SCs and thus the authorised share capital of TAHDCO will be doubled and necessary budget provisions will be made. Accordingly, with equal contribution from the Central Government, special projects can be taken up by providing margin money to SCs. Since the Government’s block guarantee to mobilise funds from National Corporations is not sufficient to cater to the requirements of SCs, the Government will double the guarantee to enhance the capacity of TAHDCO to mobilise sufficient funds from National Corporations.

Economic Empowerment Schemes for ST under SCA for TSP will be undertaken by TAHDCO

The outlay earmarked during the Eleventh Plan under the SCA for TSP to economically empower the STs was underspent. Thus, it is proposed that during the Twelfth Plan, a portion of the SCA for TSP will be handed over to TAHDCO to implement the Economic Empowerment Schemes for STs on par with schemes implemented for SCs.

Local Skill Development of the Tribals

It is proposed to upgrade the skills of tribals to secure suitable jobs, which will improve their standard of living. Traditional
skills of the Tribal communities would be identified and their potential will be harnessed by training them to produce products that can be marketed.

**Establishment of Tribal Vocational Centre**

At present, one Special Vocational Guidance Centre is functioning in The Nilgris under the control of the Directorate of Employment and Training with the provision of funds from the Directorate of Tribal Welfare. At the Centre, special awareness camps are conducted in tribal areas and those eligible and seeking jobs are registered with the Employment Exchange. Training them on various subjects both traditional and non-traditional items will create employment opportunities. For example, the Kota tribes are traditional potters. They will be given training on artistic pottery. The training will also include practical hands-on experience. Support for such employment will not alienate the tribes from their cultural background and they will be able to earn a livelihood based on their cultural tradition. The training modules will include: Carpentry and Toy Making, Clay Modelling, Knitting and Embroidery (of Thodas), Two Wheeler Mechanism, Kitchen and Herbal Gardening and Kurumba Painting. It is proposed that during the Twelfth Plan, such a centre will be established in Thali in Krishnagiri district and would function under the control of the Tribal Research Centre, The Nilgris.

**Comprehensive Tribal Development Programme**

To increase the flow of funds for Tribal Welfare, the Government has proposed to launch a Comprehensive Tribal Development Programme in 2012-2013. This programme will focus on:

- Strengthening educational infrastructure in tribal areas.
- Improving housing, road and other basic infrastructure in tribal hamlets.
- Providing livelihood support through encouraging income generating activities.
- Implementing programmes to enhance the employability of tribal youth.
- Revitalisation of local area multi-purpose societies. It will attempt to converge with other existing infrastructure and poverty eradication programmes.

**Revitalisation of Tribal Enterprises**

There are certain enterprises developed by tribals that have become defunct due to lack of financial support. But these enterprises have high marketing potential for their products. These tribal enterprises will be encouraged by providing some sort of financial help in the form of wages for the tribals working in these enterprises. It is proposed that during the first year, wages will be provided for 100 persons at a rate of ₹4,000/- per month/per person. Second year onwards, wages will be provided for 300 persons at a rate of ₹4,000/- per month/per person. These wages will be provided for a total of five year period. This amount towards wage provisioning for tribal enterprises will be handed over directly to the tribal people.

**Other Initiatives**

**Encouraging private organisations and individuals to start SC/ST schools and higher educational institutions**

There are 1,095 ADW schools and 297 GTR schools functioning in Tamil Nadu. Compared with the general schools, these are very meagre. As per 2001 Census, there were 2,182 villages with more than 50 percent SC population, but it was not possible to open schools in all those areas. Therefore, private organisations and individuals will be encouraged to start schools and colleges in SC dominated and low literacy areas. The institution must admit a minimum of 50 percent of SC/ST students. Women will be given 30 percent preference for starting such educational institutions.
**Incentives to unaided schools to admit more SC students**

Private recognised educational institutions would be encouraged to enrol more SC students by providing incentives. Schools that admit more than 50 percent SC students will be provided grants such as salaries for teachers.

**Extension of support to SCs/STs engaged in literature, research, art and culture**

It is proposed to enhance the amount awarded (from ₹20,000 to ₹2,00,000) to Dalit writers for their literary work owing to price escalation of printing and publishing. The experts in the field of art, crafts, literature and culture will be encouraged to enhance their creativity. Support will be extended to SCs/STs engaged in research. Cash award of ₹20,000/- given to SC/ST/SCC writers has been enhanced to ₹40,000/- to each writer.

**SC/ST women entrepreneurship in retail and hotel industry**

Women SHGs which have been mainstreamed with other communities will be supported to start ten large business enterprises for retail marketing or hotels etc., in the ten Municipal Corporations of the State. Funds upto ₹1.00 crore will be given for each Group. This amount will be about ₹10.00 crore each year.

**Dignity of labour and financial assistance to sanitary workers and their dependants**

As part of the Twelfth Plan, the following initiatives will be undertaken:

- In order to eliminate the ill effects of manual sanitary work, it has to be completely prohibited by adopting new technologies in sanitary and conservancy work. Necessary protective equipment will be provided free of cost. Mechanisation of the jobs would be attempted wherever possible and in all those jobs that affect the general well being of the person. A separate budget allocation for local bodies will be made for adopting latest technologies.

**Accommodation facilities to SC/ST youth**

Working Women and Men Hostels will be set up in urban conglomerations and industrial hubs, where SC/ST youth have potential for employment to facilitate migration of youth from rural to urban areas. It is proposed that ten hostels will be constructed in the Municipal Corporations of Tamil Nadu at the rate of two hostels per year during the Twelfth Plan.

**Role of Voluntary Agencies**

Voluntary Agencies, either constituted by the SCs/STs themselves or by others which work for their socio-economic empowerment and creating social awareness will be extended support. Presently, the Government of Tamil Nadu extends financial assistance to Voluntary Agencies to run hostels with subsidised fees and provides teaching grants. During Twelfth Plan period, funds will be allotted to voluntary organisations to involve them in awareness creation on evils of untouchability and on the available welfare schemes and also for carrying out various surveys.

**Development of Database**

The Department of AD&TW is implementing more than 50 schemes for the development of education, economic empowerment and infrastructure facilities in SC/ST habitations in Tamil Nadu. The collection of data, monitoring and review of schemes etc., are critical to assess the progress.
made. Therefore, review and monitoring of the implementation and effectiveness of these schemes have to be adequately strengthened and revamped. For this purpose, research studies will be organised during the Twelfth Plan period to gather disaggregated data.

**Focus on Six Economically Backward Districts (Perambalur, Ramanathapuram, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Pudukottai and Villupuram)**

The Department of AD&TW has proposed to take the following measures to raise the standard of living of the downtrodden SCs/STs:

- Opening of new Primary Schools in habitations where SC/ST population is more than 40 percent.
- Construction of additional buildings in the existing ADW hostels to enroll more hostellers.
- Imparting exclusive skill development training by TAHDCO for these areas.
- More number of beneficiaries will be covered for economic empowerment through TAHDCO especially in these 6 districts.
- In the first phase, in the above 6 backward districts, an adhoc grant of ₹10,000/-per year would be given to SC/ST/SC converted to Christianity students, who secure the first ten places in the district in the Higher Secondary Examination and those who pursue Arts and Science Degree Courses and Professional Courses. There will be no income limit for coverage or eligibility under this scheme.

**Infrastructure facilities in ST habitations**

There are 200 ST habitations spread over 16 districts. The funds now provided under three provisions/schemes, namely Article 275(1), SCA to TSP and Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG’s) are not adequate. The amount allocated under these schemes will be enhanced. More number of check dams, percolation ponds, causeways, small bridges, solar street lights, drainage system, community halls, electrification, drinking water facilities and cement pavements / B.T. roads in tribal areas will be undertaken. Improvement or construction of additional class rooms and compound walls for GTR schools and EMR (Eklavya Model Residential) schools will be constructed and sufficient funds will be provided to meet the expenditure during the Twelfth Plan period.

In order to ensure mainstreaming and inclusion of SCs/STs, the Rural Development department, under the Tamil Nadu Village Habitations Improvement (THAI) Scheme will be mapping the resources and the assets of the habitations for habitation based planning. It will be essential to ensure that habitations with more percentage of SC/ST population would receive additional fund allocation for the provision of basic amenities. Extra efforts would be taken to ensure food, water, housing and energy security of the most vulnerable population.

**Special Economic Development Schemes**

For tribal population for empowerment, employment, strengthening of infrastructure facilities in the multi-purpose cooperative societies are proposed in the present Plan period.

**Outlay for the Twelfth Plan**

During the Twelfth Plan, the Department of AD&TW will be allocated an outlay of ₹5,005.49 crore, out of which ₹4,407.22 crore will be for Adi Dravidar Welfare (SCs) and ₹598.27 crore for Tribal Welfare (STs) as shown in the Table 14.1.5.
Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare

The Government of Tamil Nadu is in the forefront of protecting the interests of the socially and economically disadvantaged groups like the Backward Classes (BCs), Most Backward Classes (MBCs)/Denotified Communities (DNCs) and Minorities. Pursuing the principle of social equity, the State’s Five Year Plans have aimed at bringing these underprivileged sections into the mainstream by improving their education, economic and social status. Concrete steps have been taken to ameliorate the poor living conditions of these classes and communities.

The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission has been constituted as per the directions of the Supreme Court of India to examine and make recommendations on the requests relating to inclusion and exclusion of individuals and groups from the list of BCs and MBCs. Thus, periodically the list of BCs and MBCs in the State has been revised.

### Table 14.1.5: Twelfth Plan Outlay - Welfare and Empowerment of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Ongoing Schemes</th>
<th>New Schemes</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adi Dravidar Welfare (SCs)</td>
<td>3148.55</td>
<td>1258.67</td>
<td>4407.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Welfare (STs)</td>
<td>158.97</td>
<td>439.30</td>
<td>598.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total (SCs &amp; STs)</td>
<td>3307.52</td>
<td>1697.97</td>
<td>5005.49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Graph 14.1.1: Share for ADW and TW in the Twelfth Plan Outlay

**14.1.3: Welfare and Empowerment of Backward Classes (BCs), Most Backward Classes (MBCs)/ Denotified Communities (DNCs) and Minorities**

The Government of Tamil Nadu is in the forefront of protecting the interests of the socially and economically disadvantaged groups like the Backward Classes (BCs), Most Backward Classes (MBCs)/Denotified Communities (DNCs) and Minorities. Pursuing the principle of social equity, the State’s Five Year Plans have aimed at bringing these underprivileged sections into the mainstream by improving their education, economic and social status. Concrete steps have been taken to ameliorate the poor living conditions of these classes and communities. The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission has been constituted as per the directions of the Supreme Court of India to examine and make recommendations on the requests relating to inclusion and exclusion of individuals and groups from the list of BCs and MBCs. Thus, periodically the list of BCs and MBCs in the State has been revised.
The State Minorities Commission has been constituted to advise the Government on various measures necessary to safeguard the interests of religious and linguistic minorities. The Directorate of Minorities Welfare is a separate Directorate established during the Eleventh Plan period to exclusively look after the welfare of the minorities in the State.

Earlier, in 1982 and 1999, the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation (TABCEDCO) and Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation (TAMCO) were formed and the main objective of these Corporations is to promote economic empowerment of BCs, MBCs/DNCs and Minorities by providing loans at subsidised interest rates for economically and financially viable schemes, trades or projects for individual groups or societies belonging to the BCs, MBCs/DNCs and Minorities. TABCEDCO and TAMCO are also acting as channelising agencies for the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation and the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation respectively.

**Review of Eleventh Plan**

During the Eleventh Plan period several programmes were formulated and implemented in the field of education, economic empowerment and housing for BCs, MBCs/DNCs and Minorities. Although, an outlay of ₹1,819.22 crore was allocated, the actual expenditure incurred during the Plan period was ₹1,847.98 crore. The department wise Plan Outlay and actual expenditure incurred are given in the Table 14.1.6.

**Table 14.1.6: Financial Performance during the Eleventh Plan**

(₹ crore)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Details of Programmes</th>
<th>Outlay</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>BCs &amp; Minorities Welfare</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1176.52</td>
<td>1047.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Economic Empowerment</td>
<td>125.75</td>
<td>83.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Housing and Other Schemes</td>
<td>21.40</td>
<td>11.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1323.67</strong></td>
<td><strong>1142.67</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>MBCs/DNCs Welfare</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>469.73</td>
<td>691.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Economic Empowerment</td>
<td>9.57</td>
<td>5.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Housing and Other Schemes</td>
<td>16.25</td>
<td>7.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>495.55</strong></td>
<td><strong>705.31</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1819.22</strong></td>
<td><strong>1847.98</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Dept. of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes/ Denotified Communities & Minorities, GoTN*
The physical performance during the Eleventh Plan with respect to major schemes implemented for the welfare of these communities is indicated in the Table 14.1.7.

**Table 14.1.7: Physical Performance during the Eleventh Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Details of Schemes</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BCs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pre-matric Scholarships (in lakh)</td>
<td>4.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Post-matric Scholarships (in lakh)</td>
<td>7.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Free education (Degree Courses) (in lakh)</td>
<td>3.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Free education (Polytechnic) (in lakh)</td>
<td>1.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hostels (in lakh)</td>
<td>1.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Boarding Grants (Nos.)</td>
<td>5086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Peraringar Anna Award (Nos.)</td>
<td>2658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Economic Empowerment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No. of candidates trained – Job Oriented Training(Nos.)</td>
<td>23653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Supply of Sewing Machines (Nos.)</td>
<td>7427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Housing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Supply of Free House Sites(Nos.)</td>
<td>15041</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Dept. of BC, MBC/DNC & Minorities, GoTN*

**Twelfth Five Year Plan**

The welfare of BCs, MBCs/DNCs and Minorities for the Twelfth Plan will entail continuation of the existing framework and policy with emphasis on identifying and selecting the most vulnerable and relatively disadvantaged sections among these classes/communities. Existing schemes with regard to education, economic empowerment, housing and other activities will be continued for the Twelfth Plan. New schemes will also be introduced during the Twelfth Plan to expand the scope of welfare of these classes/communities and to address the specific needs of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

**Objectives and Strategies**

The fundamental objective of the Twelfth Plan will be advancement and improvement in quality of life of the BCs, MBCs/DNCs and Minority Communities to attain social and economic equity.

**Education**

- To ensure disbursement of scholarships, supply of special guides and uniforms in time.

- Rationalisation of fee structure under scholarship schemes. Following the model of the Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, under the scholarship scheme it has been proposed to instruct the educational institutions to exempt
tuition fees for BC, MBC/DNC students and the same will be reimbursed by the department.

- Motivating the students to come forward to study diploma, professional and technical courses.
- Strengthening the institutional set up by providing full-fledged facilities to schools and hostels, qualitative improvement in the living conditions of the hostel students.
- Effective and efficient functioning of Kallar Reclamation Schools.
- Reducing the financial burden of the parents of children in rural areas by broad basing the sanction of scholarships.
- Scholarships and incentives for meritorious students including welfare measures such as provision of bicycles to encourage and motivate educational enrolment, retention and performance.

**Economic Empowerment**

- Imparting training in new and result oriented areas in reputed institutions so as to enable the students of these classes/communities to compete with others in the job market and secure better position. The functioning of the existing job oriented training programmes will be evaluated on the basis of the findings of an evaluation study and necessary steps will be taken to upgrade the technical and entrepreneurial skill training.

- Facilities will be provided to improve the livelihoods of the vulnerable sections of these classes/communities so as to bring them above the poverty line.

**Housing and Other Schemes**

- The objective of the Twelfth Plan is to provide housing assistance to all the poor and downtrodden to enable them to meet their housing needs. Housing needs of BCs, MBCs/DNCs and Minorities will be given an added emphasis.
- Infrastructure facilities will be provided in layouts already designated by the Department for BCs, MBCs/ DNCs and Minorities.

**Ongoing Programmes/ Schemes**

During the Twelfth Plan period, ₹2,163.90 crore will be provided for continuation of the ongoing programmes/schemes, which are mainly around the following activities:

- Maintenance of schools and hostels.
- Grant of scholarships, awards to bright students. Free supply of bicycles, uniforms and text books.

![Fig. 14.1.2 : Free supply of Bicycles](image)

- Free education for degree, diploma and polytechnic courses.
- Incentives to girl students studying in standards 3rd to 6th.
- Incentives to meritorious students.
- Special training institute for coaching candidates to appear for civil services examinations.
- Supply of sewing machines to poor families.
- Job Oriented training programmes.
- Distribution of house-site pattas and provision of infrastructural facilities in the layouts already formed.
New Programmes/ Schemes

The total allocation for new schemes will be ₹1,613.27 crore. The new schemes will be carried out under the existing heads of education, economic empowerment and housing activities.

Education

- Extending the sanction of scholarships to students of self financing Arts and Science Colleges and Polytechnics.
- Increasing Post-Matric Scholarships.
- Enhancement of parental annual income limit from the present ₹1,00,000/- to ₹2,00,000/- for sanction of Scholarships.
- Removing the existing conditions (annual income level/ first graduate) for sanction of tuition fees to BC students studying in English Medium in standards 6th to 12th to be removed.
- Government has waived the tuition/ special fees to the students of BC, MBC/ DNC on par with SC/ST students.
- The conditions required for granting scholarships under the free education scheme for students studying in polytechnics would be relaxed to match those of the undergraduate scholarships.
- Enhancement of boarding and lodging charges under scholarship scheme to students staying in hostels run by educational institutions.
- Provision of additional funds for the incentive scheme for rural girls in order to cover all eligible girl students.
- Increasing the amount of the prize money awarded to the meritorious students under the ‘Thanthai Periyar’ and ‘Perarignar Anna’ memorial awards from ₹5,000/- to ₹10,000/- per annum.
- Extending the free bicycle scheme to the BC, MBC/DNC students studying in the 9th standard and ITI students.
- It is proposed that during the Twelfth Plan, 250 new college hostels will be opened in a phased manner, with a target of 50 hostels per year. 50 new private hostels will be identified for sanction of boarding grants. Cots will also be provided to BC, MBC/ DNC college hostels.
- Construction of own buildings for all the 148 hostels functioning in rental buildings will be taken up.
- With regard to admission of students in BC, MBC/DNC boys hostels, existing criteria of distance limitation will be reduced from 8 km to 4 km.
- Training in English language speaking skills to the students staying in the college hostels.
- Establishment of Solar Photo Voltaic Power Plant in college hostels.

During the Twelfth Plan, additional improvements of the following nature will be undertaken:

- Establishing 3 Polytechnics / Industrial Training Institutes.
- Opening of English Medium classes in 30 Kallar Reclamation Schools (with a target of 5 schools per year).
- Upgradation of Kallar Reclamation Schools.
- Construction of compound walls, provision of water supply and toilet blocks, providing outdoor and indoor play materials.

Special Focus on 8 backward districts (Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Perambalur, Sivagangai, Cuddalore and Dindigul) with regard to the following schemes to be taken up during Twelfth Plan.

- Extension of rural incentive scheme to MBC/DNC boys and BC boys and girls studying in standards 3rd to 6th.
• Assistance to 25 students to pursue higher secondary education in reputed private schools.

• Supply of special guides to BC, MBC/DNC students studying 10th and 12th std. in Government/ Government Aided Schools to secure high marks.

• Special incentive to BC, MBC/DNC hostel students who pursue higher studies in Professional, Arts and Science Courses for the entire duration of their course (Professional Course: ₹20,000/- per student; Arts and Science: ₹10,000/- per student).

• Opening of 40 new college hostels (5 per district), opening of 40 new Polytechnic / ITI hostels (5 per district)- (30 for Girls and 10 for Boys)

• Increasing the allotment in the number of sewing machines.

Economic Empowerment

Provision of additional funds (₹25 crore per year) for implementation of various skill development training programmes for unemployed youth belonging to BC, MBC/DNC and Minority communities. During the course of the training, the trainees will also be provided with a stipend of ₹400/- per month/ per student.

Housing

With regard to providing housing assistance, the existing strategy of distributing house-site patta to houseless poor in rural areas and providing infrastructural facilities in designated layouts will be continued during the Twelfth Plan period.

Other Schemes

• The annual administrative grant to the Hajj Committee has been increased from ₹10 lakh to ₹20 lakh.

• The monthly pension of Ulemas enhanced from ₹750/- to ₹1,000/-.

• A new scheme of providing special financial assistance of ₹20,000/- to Christian pilgrims visiting Jerusalem has been introduced.

Physical Targets for Twelfth Plan

The Physical Targets fixed to be achieved during the Twelfth Plan period for the welfare of BC, MBC/DNC and Minorities are given in the Table 14.1.8.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Details of Schemes</th>
<th>Targets ***</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pre-Matric Scholarship</td>
<td>3.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Post-Matric Scholarship</td>
<td>6.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Free Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Degree Courses</td>
<td>6.35</td>
<td>3.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Polytechnic</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>0.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Professional</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td>1.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hostels (in nos.)</td>
<td>692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Boarding Grants</td>
<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 14.1.8: Physical Targets for the Twelfth Plan (contd..) (Numbers in lakh)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Details of Schemes</th>
<th>Targets ***</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Peraringar Anna Award</td>
<td>0.03 0.03 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Free Supply of Bi-cycles (Boys &amp; Girls)</td>
<td>14.34 11.12 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Free Supply of Bi-cycles (Boys &amp; Girls)-9th std.</td>
<td>- 7.34 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>GOI-Pre-Matric Scholarship based on merit</td>
<td>2.21 2.21 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>GOI-Post-Matric Scholarship based on merit</td>
<td>2.43 2.43 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Incentive to rural MBC/DNC girl students</td>
<td>- 5.25 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Opening of new hostels for colleges (in nos.)</td>
<td>125 125 -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Economic Empowerment**

| 13    | Skill Development Training Programme                | 0.30 0.30 0.25 |
| 14    | Supply of Sewing Machines                          | 0.07 0.05 - |
| 15    | Supply of Iron Boxes                               | - 0.20 - |

**Housing & Other Activities**

| 16    | Supply of Free House Sites                         | 0.05 0.03 - |

Source: Dept. of BC, MBC/DNC & Minorities, GoTN

*** Note: Physical targets given for the Twelfth Plan in the above table are lesser than those in the Eleventh Plan under Pre/Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes. The reasons stated by the department is that, in certain scholarship schemes viz., Pre and Post-Matric, the physical targets have come down, since the Government has abolished the payment of examination fees for 10th and 12th std Tamil Medium students. Hence, the department need not reimburse the examination fees. Further, the Government has also exempted the payment of special fees upto 12th std.
Outlay for the Twelfth Plan

During the Twelfth Plan, ₹3,777.17 crore will be allocated for the welfare of BCs, MBCs/DNCs and Minorities. Out of which ₹1,900.09 crore will be for BCs, ₹1,803.27 crore will be for MBCs/DNCs and ₹73.81 crore will be for Minorities as shown in the Table 14.1.9.

Table 14.1.9: Twelfth Plan Outlay - Welfare and Empowerment of BC, MBC/DNC and Minorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Ongoing Schemes</th>
<th>New Schemes</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Backward Classes</td>
<td>1147.93</td>
<td>752.16</td>
<td>1900.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities</td>
<td>942.16</td>
<td>861.11</td>
<td>1803.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minorities Welfare</td>
<td>73.81</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>73.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2163.90</strong></td>
<td><strong>1613.27</strong></td>
<td><strong>3777.17</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 14.1.2: Twelfth Plan Outlay for BC, MBC/DNC & MW
Introduction

An integral aspect of ensuring equity for all is to guarantee the differently abled persons, equal rights for participation in society as equal citizens. Ensuring social and economic justice for the differently abled persons entails equality of economic opportunity, access to services and prevention of social discrimination. The Eleventh Union Plan reiterates that, as per the Indian Constitution, no person will be denied equality before law and that the State must provide relief and help to the differently abled by making effective provisions for securing the right to work, education and public assistance. There are four legislations specifically directed towards the protection, welfare, rehabilitation and development of people with disabilities:

- The Mental Health Act, 1987;
- Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995;
- The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability Act, 1999

In addition to the legal framework, a comprehensive National Policy for Persons with Disabilities was announced in February, 2006.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is committed towards empowering the differently abled persons by ensuring 3 percent reservation in employment, imparting special training, encouraging the private sector to employ them as part of their corporate social responsibility and expanding the provision of a barrier free environment for the DAPs.

As per Population Census 2001, the total number of differently abled persons in Tamil Nadu stood at 16,42,497, which is 2.63 percent of the total population of Tamil Nadu. Out of this, 9,64,063 are visually impaired (58%), 3,53,798 are orthopaedically challenged (22%), 1,97,115 are hearing impaired (12%) and 1,27,521 are mentally challenged (8%).

**Graph 14.2.1: Population of Differently Abled Persons – 16.42 lakh**

*Source: Census 2001*
Review of Eleventh Plan

The thrust areas of the Eleventh Plan were early intervention schemes, special schools, rehabilitation programmes, social security schemes, employment, vocational training and provisioning of aids and appliances. To provide all services to the DAPs at their door step, the “Vazhi Kattum Thittam” is being implemented in all the districts through NGOs. Through this scheme, a house-to-house survey is being conducted and a data base of the DAPs will be made available, so that location-specific schemes may be formulated.

Though the total outlay for the Eleventh Plan period was ₹78.58 crore, the actual expenditure during the Plan period was ₹107.47 crore. An additional expenditure of ₹19.00 crore was incurred in the last year of the Plan owing to the announcement of various schemes for the DAPs.

Twelfth Five Year Plan

The State’s Twelfth Plan has taken cognizance of the commitments made by the Union Planning Commission and has evolved its policies for the differently abled. Development programmes for differently abled people are implemented generally in metropolitan cities and other urban centres by NGOs, while rural and tribal areas, by and large remain unattended. Tribal and hilly areas would therefore be given more focused attention, especially targeting women with disability. Performance of the NGOs working for differently abled persons needs to be evaluated so as to ascertain their prominence in the sector and involve them effectively in planning implementation in the rural and urban areas. SC/ST disabled people would be given priority under all welfare and developmental activities.

Box 14.2.1: Commitments for Persons with Disabilities in the Twelfth Plan

- Adopting of a four-pronged approach:
  1. Defining responsibilities between the Ministries/Departments concerned;
  2. Ministries/Departments to formulate detailed rules and guidelines for inclusive access;
  3. Ensure that each Ministry/Department reserves not less than 3 percent of its annual outlay for the benefit of differently abled persons as enjoined in the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 and
  4. Setting up of monitoring mechanisms at various levels and developing a review system to monitor the progress made on a regular and continuing basis.

- Enhancing the production capacity of aids and appliances for those with disabilities.

- Loans for disabled people through Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Cooperatives on concessional terms for undertaking self-employment ventures.

- Every disabled person to be issued a disability certificate within 30 days of application.

- Setting up of disability units in the apex educational bodies to monitor existing difficulties in mainstreaming them with the regular stream.

- Backlog vacancies to be filled up at the Centre and States. Employment for disabled people in the private sector as per the provision of Section 41 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.

- Barrier-free movement in all public buildings and facilities such as schools, hospitals and public transport.

- Multi-pronged cross-sectoral approaches to identify, prevent, manage, treat and rehabilitate persons with mental disabilities. Issues relating to hearing and/or speech impairment to receive focused attention.

- To promote greater accessibility and a barrier-free environment.

- To encourage design and implementation techniques.

Source: Mid-Term Appraisal, UPC
Thrust Areas

- Prevention of disabilities
- Early detection and intervention
- Rehabilitation measures
- Providing special education
- Development of professionals for rehabilitation
- Provision for assistive devices
- Education and economic empowerment including self-employment
- Creation of barrier free environment
- Social security

Strategies

Screening and Early Detection

- To ensure early detection of disabilities in newborn babies, children and adolescent groups with physical and mental deviations.
- To create community support and facilities for early mainstreaming of children with disabilities.
- To provide community based counselling facilities and support for families with disabilities.

Infrastructure facility

- It is proposed to strengthen and streamline infrastructural facilities available for early detection and timely intervention in providing medical and therapeutic treatment.
- To provide easy access to the services to every differently abled person, that would decrease their degree of impairment.
- To develop and arrange to supply simple aids/appliances suited to the needs of the individual in order to improve mobility and physical capacity.
- To create barrier free environment in public places and transport.

Box 14.2.2: City Buses become Differently Abled Friendly

Tamil Nadu initiates the first ever programme in India for providing barrier free transport facilities. The City Metropolitan Bus Services have been included with a fleet of seven buses at the cost of ₹18 lakh per bus and at a total cost of ₹1.26 crore. In these special buses, the differently abled can board the bus with their wheel chairs by electrically operated lift mechanism provided in the front entrance of the bus. These are specially designed by the Government State Transport for the Differently Abled Person and is the first of its kind in the country.

Source: Tamilarasu - December 2011

Education

- It is proposed to ensure that every differently abled child is given free and compulsory primary education either special education or integrated education based upon the level of disability of the individual.
- To promote integration of differently abled students with normal students at every stage depending upon the capacity/level/need of such differently abled child.
- To develop the required skilled manpower by establishing Teacher Training Centres and post competent teachers in Educational Institutions / Training Centres, who have developed a deep understanding of the problems of the differently abled persons.
- To arrange to provide proper education to the parents of differently abled on taking
care of their children and help them in learning.

• To promote special supportive facilities like scholarship, transport, supply of teaching aids, appointment of Resource Teachers, hostel facility etc. and help the DAPs to pursue appropriate higher education.
• To establish Resource Centres for information dissemination, counselling and guidance.

**Vocational Training**

• New steps will be launched to provide Vocational Training to every DAP, depending upon the aptitude to learn a trade or carry the same job they were doing before the disability.
• To identify the trades suited to each category of differently abled, particularly in specific industries and to establish training centres for the DAPs.
• To encourage entrepreneurs and NGOs to start training centres for the differently abled persons, by giving them adequate financial support to use their varied competences.
• To review the reservation of percentages of vacancies for the differently abled persons in Government Departments.

• To initiate measures for establishment of sheltered workshops for providing employment to severely disabled.
• To enable banks and other institutions to assist liberally for self employment ventures.
• To foster agencies for promotion of employment to the differently abled persons in innovative ventures.

**Awareness Campaign**

• Intensive measures will be undertaken to kindle social consciousness in the community for the rehabilitation needs of the DAPs and their needs to be understood and accepted as they are.
• To create a positive and favourable healthy attitude through Media.
• To prepare material highlighting the special abilities of the DAPs.

**Box 14.2.4: Awareness Creation**

Awareness is being created among public to accept them as natural partners of growth and provide them access to various services and equal participation in social life to create an inclusive society.

*Source: Policy Note 2011-12, Dept. for the Welfare of DAPs*

**Box 14.2.3: Private Sector Initiative for Inclusive Employability**

Wipro has created a comprehensive framework for an inclusive environment for people with disabilities. Wipro’s Disabilities Framework consists of six core areas:

• Policies
• Talent acquisition – recruitment
• Talent transformation - training
• Civil infrastructure and facilities
• Information systems
• Awareness creation

*Source: Ability Foundation*

• To educate all sections of society on the possibilities of prevention and reduction of disability, cure and rehabilitation of the DAPs.
• To highlight success stories of the DAPs.

**Intensive steps for Database Creation**

• To assess the nature and extent of the problem of the DAPs.
• To facilitate registration of every DAP
• To persuade and require every head of the family to indicate to the authorities concerned, the birth of any child with disability that could be noticed.
• To undertake extensive studies and surveys to identify and assess the problems of the DAPs and update ameliorative measures.
Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare

**Maintenance of Mentally Challenged Persons**

As a special initiative, the Government has enhanced the monthly maintenance allowance for mentally challenged persons from ₹500/- to ₹1000/-. Eligibility criteria on the percentage of disability for the maintenance allowance are proposed to be decreased from 60 percent to 45 percent. Families with even one member suffering from disability will be included under the Chief Minister’s Comprehensive Health Insurance Programme irrespective of income limit.

**Schemes for Twelfth Plan**

Based on the strategy, in order to achieve the objectives of the Twelfth Plan along with the ongoing schemes, many new schemes have been proposed with the following focus areas for the differently abled persons:

- Visually Impaired/ Low Vision
- Speech and Hearing Impaired
- Locomotor Disabilities/ Muscular Dystrophy
- Mentally Challenged/ Autism
- Cerebral Palsy
- Multiple Disability
- Leprosy Cured

The ongoing schemes for Social Security, Education, Employment, Vocational Training, Screening and Awareness will also be continued during the Twelfth Plan.

**Improvement to Ongoing Schemes**

In some of the ongoing schemes, improvements have been made during the Twelfth Plan period which are given below:

- Establishment of Early Diagnostic Centres for the Hearing impaired in 32 District Differently Abled Welfare Offices during Twelfth Plan.

- At present, Early Intervention Centre for Hearing Impaired, Mentally Retarded and Visually Impaired are functioning at District Headquarters. Considering the usefulness of Early Intervention Centres, two additional Early Intervention Centres for each of these three categories will be established in 20 districts.

- Instead of pocket model hearing aids, Behind the Ear Digital Hearing Aids will be distributed.

- Modular Functional Limbs will be distributed to all students and needy persons who move from one place to another for livelihood.

- Retrofitted Petrol Scooters will be provided to 50,000 persons at free of cost to both limbs affected differently abled students / self employees/ employees.

- Beggar home in each district will be established during the Twelfth Plan to accommodate atleast 100–200 inmates to eradicate beggary. At present, Government Care Camp is available at Thiruvallur district.
• To provide barrier free environment in all public places, modification will be done to existing structures in the buildings and public places for free movement of differently abled persons.

• Upgradation of State Resource-cum-Training Centre (SRTC).

New Schemes

Establishment of Regional Training Centres for the Differently Abled Persons

Regional Training Centres will be established at Trichy, Madurai and Coimbatore for the Differently Abled persons to enable them to get job-oriented training cum placement services in the model of Regional National Institute for Visually Handicapped at Chennai. The Hostel and Training Centre will be constructed and the candidates will get residential training and upgrade themselves.

Establishment of Resource Centres for Visually Impaired Persons and other categories of Differently Abled Persons at District Libraries

In order to deploy modern and appropriate technologies for various differently abled learners in a centrally located place and to provide learning materials and general information in accessible format and also guidance and counselling to differently abled students, Resource Centres will be created at District Libraries.

Livelihood activities for Mentally Challenged Persons

The Government will launch concrete vocational activities for the livelihood of persons with mental retardation to attain economic empowerment. Hence, Vocational Training Centres for the mentally challenged persons will be started in all the 32 districts.

Establishment of Day Care Centres for Mentally ill Persons

At present there is no day care programme for mentally ill persons. Through Day Care Centres, group therapy, individual counselling, occupational therapy, vocational training, income generating activity, referral and awareness on mental health issues will be provided in all the districts.

Establishment of Day Care Centre for Persons with Multiple Disabilities

Persons with more than one disability cannot be integrated and managed by professionals of one area. Hence, it is very much essential to have all specialists in a single place to assess them in a comprehensive manner. For this purpose, a Day Care Centre will be established in all the districts.

Establishment of Model Centre for persons affected by Muscular Dystrophy in Chennai.

Muscular Dystrophy is the most common neuromuscular disease of childhood, which is caused by genetic disorder. The Department for the Welfare of Differently Abled Persons runs 6 MD Day Care Centres in Tamil Nadu. However, since MD requires greater annual per capita cost for outpatient rehabilitative treatment, it has been proposed to establish a Model Centre for persons affected, which will provide medical, physical, orthotic and psychosocial care to them.

Maintenance Allowance to Leprosy Cured Persons

Due to the severity of the disability and social stigma attached to leprosy-affected persons, it is difficult to integrate them into society. During the Twelfth Plan period, maintenance allowance of ₹1000/-p.m. to the leprosy cured persons will be provided.
Creation of “Credit Guarantee Trust Fund” for Self Employment Loans availed by Differently Abled Persons

Differently Abled Persons find it very difficult to avail loans from Banks for want of guarantee or collateral security. Tamil Nadu Government will establish Credit Guarantee Trust Fund for the DAPs on the lines of “Credit Guarantee Trust Fund for Small Scale Industries”.

Immunisation of Adolescent Girls against Rubella for prevention of disabilities

The incidence of babies born with hearing impairment and mental retardation is still high in India. One of the major causes of these disabilities is the infection of pregnant women by the Rubella Virus. In order to prevent the occurrence of hearing impairment and mental retardation, universal coverage of administering Rubella Vaccine to all the Adolescent Girls are very much needed. Action will be taken for immunisation against Rubella in coordination with the Health Department.

Awareness creation, conduct of Special Camps and Procurement of publicity materials

There is lack of awareness among the persons with disability in rural areas regarding various concessions and benefits extended by the Government for their rehabilitation. Hence, special camps will be conducted in rural areas to provide Information, Education and Communication services for creating awareness among the public.

Establishment of Satellite Rehabilitation Centres at the Block Level

In order to avail any assistance offered by the Government, the DAPs have to come to the District Headquarters from the farthest end of the districts. In order to reduce the burden of the DAPs, Satellite Rehabilitation Centre at Block Level will be established to provide counselling, guidance, fitment, repair of aids & appliances and therapeutic services, if required.

During 2012-13, the first year of the Twelfth Plan, the following initiatives have been undertaken:

- Four sets of uniforms provided to students of the 23 Government Special Schools for the Differently Abled and 55 students of the Vocational Stream of the Government Higher Secondary Schools for the Visually Impaired.
- Food Allowance of ₹450/- given to Differently Abled students in Government and Government Recognised special schools hiked to ₹650/-. 
- Cash awards given to visually-impaired and hearing-impaired students, who secure top three ranks in public examinations of 10th and 12th std. at the State level, increased substantially. In respect of the 12th std., for the first three rank holders at the State level, the cash award (₹18,000, ₹12,000 and ₹9,000 respectively) hiked to ₹50,000, ₹30,000 and ₹20,000 respectively and in the case of the 10th std., the amounts of ₹12,000, ₹9,000 and ₹6,000 enhanced to ₹25,000, ₹20,000 and ₹15,000 respectively.
- One escort to each of the students of early intervention centres given travel concession in Government run buses.
- Scribe allowance of ₹100/- given for each paper appeared by visually impaired students of the special schools from 9th to 12th standard hiked to ₹250/-. 
- To ensure that differently abled students in the 10th to 12th std. of Government and aided special schools do not discontinue their studies, an incentive of ₹1,500/- is given to 10th and 11th std. students and ₹2,000/- to 12th std. students.
- The monthly salary of ₹5,000/- given to special educators increased to ₹10,000/-. 
- Folding stick with Reflective Stickers given to Visually Impaired.
Twelfth Five Year Plan Tamil Nadu

- Magnifier given to students with low vision.
- The diploma/degree holders, even if they are normal or differently abled, while marrying a DAP are encouraged with a cash assistance of ₹50,000 along with 4 grams of gold for Thirumangalyam.

Outlay for the Twelfth Plan

For the Welfare and Empowerment of Differently Abled Persons ₹1,617.27 crore has been proposed for the Twelfth Plan as shown in the Table 14.2.1.

Table 14.2.1: Twelfth Plan Outlay - Welfare and Empowerment of Differently Abled Persons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Ongoing Schemes</th>
<th>Improved Schemes</th>
<th>New Schemes</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Differently Abled Persons</td>
<td>749.07</td>
<td>416.49</td>
<td>451.71</td>
<td>1617.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>749.07</td>
<td>416.49</td>
<td>451.71</td>
<td>1617.27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 14.2.2: Twelfth Plan Outlay for Welfare of Differently Abled Persons
14.3 WELFARE AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN, AGED, DESTITUTE AND CHILD RIGHTS

This section underlines the overreaching approach to the Twelfth Five Year Plan, which encompasses human rights, women and child rights. It emphasises social inclusion and focuses on the most marginalised and vulnerable groups of the society, including the hitherto severely marginalised transgender population.

14.3.1 Women’s Welfare and Empowerment

Introduction

Achievement of human development is dependent on the development and empowerment of women. In Tamil Nadu, women constitute 49.8% of the total population as per Census 2011 and women’s welfare and empowerment have remained at the heart of the development agenda of the State. In alignment with the Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), the National Policy for Empowerment of Women and the State’s Vision 2023 for a gender inclusive society, the various schemes and programmes which were initiated for empowering women and girl children have resulted in positive impacts and have addressed both practical and strategic gender needs.

The Tamil Nadu Government’s Cradle Baby Scheme was directed against the scourge of female infanticide. The evidence of success of the scheme can be seen from the improvement in the Child Sex Ratio in the State as a whole and particularly in the districts in which the scheme was introduced. Also, the State’s girl child protection scheme effectively addresses the issue of sex selection at birth and the issue of girls dropping out of schools due to prevailing gender norms and inadequate sanitation facilities in the schools. The various marriage assistance schemes for women mitigate the hardship of poor parents to get their daughters married.

The Government is running service homes so that women can live in a secured environment with an opportunity to pursue their education and also acquire other skills like teachers training etc., to enhance their livelihood. Working women’s hostels run by the Government provide safe, secure and affordable accommodation to women from rural areas belonging to low income groups.

Review of Eleventh Plan

During the Eleventh Plan, an outlay of ₹4,349.60 crore was allocated for Social Welfare Schemes. However, an amount of ₹8,588.00 crore was spent on women’s welfare and empowerment. During the final year (2011-2012) of the Eleventh Plan, various special initiatives have been taken up and they are discussed in the ongoing schemes under the Twelfth Plan.

Twelfth Five Year Plan

The approach to Twelfth Plan is to continue the programmes and schemes which have resulted in positive impact and to introduce new ones/ schemes to effectively mainstream gender in the development agenda for the Twelfth Plan. An allocation of ₹1.26 crore has been proposed towards direction and administration of the Social Welfare Department.

Ongoing Schemes

Marriage Assistance Scheme

The scheme of giving four grams 22 carat gold coin (1/2 sovereign) for making ‘Thirumangalyam’ in addition to the financial assistance given through the existing marriage assistance scheme of ₹25,000/- was implemented during the year 2011-12. The
financial assistance has been increased to ₹50,000/- in respect of Graduates / Diploma holders. This innovative scheme has set a new trend among parents to provide higher education to their daughters.

An allocation of ₹1,569.25 crore has been proposed for this scheme in the Twelfth Plan.

**Girl Child Protection Scheme**

This Government has enhanced the monetary incentive under the Girl Child Protection Scheme from ₹22,200/- to ₹50,000/- in the case of the parents undergoing family planning surgery after the first girl child and from ₹15,200/- to ₹25,000/- to each child in the event of the parents undergoing family planning surgery after the second girl child. The benefit accrued to the beneficiaries will substantially increase and go a long way to help the girl child to complete her education.

The unfavourable sex ratio in the districts has been a source of concern in Tamil Nadu. The earlier Plan periods had focused on the districts and the inter-census data reveals that the sex ratio disparity has reduced in the districts. However, the Child Sex Ratio has become unfavourable in 5 districts of Cuddalore, Ariyalur, Perambalur, Villupuram and Tiruvannamalai. Hence, Reception Centres have been started in these districts.

An allocation of ₹438.71 crore has been proposed for this scheme in the Twelfth Plan.

**Graph 14.3.1: District-wise Sex Ratio**

![Graph showing district-wise sex ratio](image)

*Source: Census 2011*
**Self Help Group Movement**

Self Help Group Movement is an effective instrument for social and economic change, which promotes group dynamism, saving habits, besides launching of micro economic enterprises which have niche market for their products. Self Help Groups are means to attack poverty, unemployment and a medium for creating self confidence and self reliance among the women folk. They have taken a deeper root in the State. This network is pervasive in all districts. The concerted efforts taken by the Government in establishing this movement both in rural and urban areas has brought in economic and social empowerment of women.

The products manufactured by the SHGs were marketed through district State Marketing Societies (SMS). Now, it has been proposed for creation of a State Level Supply and Marketing Society to promote the products manufactured by women SHGs to national and international markets.

A sum of ₹784.34 crore will be provided in the Twelfth Plan for Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women.

**New Initiatives during the Twelfth Plan**

During the Plan period, the following new initiatives will be taken up:

- The annual income ceiling of ₹24,000/- has been removed from the year 2012-13 to enable more number of orphan girls to avail the benefits. The orphan girls who have no family or abandoned in their life are accommodated in the 27 Government Children Homes and 7 Service Homes run by Social Welfare Department.

- To provide parental assistance to these orphan girls to get married, a new scheme of “MANGALA MALAI” has been introduced during 2012-13. This scheme will not only facilitate the orphan girls to get a suitable bridegroom, but also prevent them from being trafficked.

- All Service Homes and Children Homes will be provided with washing machines to reduce the tiresome work of children and help them to spend more time for their studies and leisure.

- Construction of new homes for the children in need of care and protection and staff quarters will be taken up.

- There are 98 Women Industrial Cooperative Societies functioning under the control of Directorate of Social Welfare. Of this, 80 Women Tailoring Industrial Cooperative Societies are engaged in stitching of uniforms to the school children benefitted under Puratchi Thalaivar MGR Nutritious Meal Programme (PTMGRNMP). The Government has decided to issue four sets of uniforms from the academic year 2012-13. Since the Government has increased stitching charges of the uniform sets on par with the market rates, the income of the 50,000 women members of the Industrial Cooperative Societies will be increased by four times. This will ensure the socio economic empowerment of not only 50,000 women but also 50,000 families.

- The future plans of Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd., include enhancing the sustainability of Self Help Group (SHG) movement through intensifying the federation activities and grooming them into full fledged community based organisations. It will further expand the SHG coverage to habitations and ward /slums in urban areas hitherto uncovered.

- There has been a growing recognition of the importance of policy level interventions in influencing welfare of women and their prospects for economic empowerment. Although gender related developmental issues have prompted serious debates, the absence of appropriate gender-awareness specific policy interventions has constrained implementation. The financial
and monetary systems and structures are closely linked with women’s multiple roles in an economy. Theories and strategies relating to gender mainstreaming often tend to neglect fundamental components that lie at the very basis of gender exclusion. The pivotal point, thereafter, needs to be the interlink between gender and the different policies that characterise the economy.

An amount of ₹54.75 crore has been proposed for Women Welfare Schemes during the Twelfth Plan.

Women and Macroeconomic Policies

In India, the formal earmarking of funds for women began with the Women’s Component Plan in 1997–98. As per the Expert Group recommendations in 2004, a gender budgeting bureau was established in the Ministry of Women and Child Development for establishing Regional Resource and Training Centres for Gender Budgeting (RRTCGB) as well as for preparing training manuals for gender budgeting. In Tamil Nadu, initial training has been given to officials in gender budgeting. Gender Budgeting Cells will be created and collection of disaggregated data, based on the different sectoral allocations and expenditure would be initiated in this Plan period.

Financial Inclusion

Though rural credit is meant for women, in reality very few women have actual access to credit. Exclusion from the financial sphere is generally defined as involving two levels. First, keeping out the more vulnerable sections of the population especially women from payment systems and second, exclusion from the formal credit market itself compelling these groups to access non-institutional sources. The present approach to microfinance has two major issues:

1) Lending for self-employment is one of the several tools and not the sole strategy to empower women;

2) Microfinance targets women for credit and alleviating household poverty assuming that families are poor because their women are not working.

Though the Self Help Group is a very good system for rural women empowerment, it cannot help rural women acquire better skills, education and higher productivity. Increased feminisation of agriculture requires the gender component to be a part of the programming for the future. The fact that women are discriminated in the formal financial structure is generally accepted. Disaggregated gender data on apportioning of credit to the different socio-economic groups need to be studied and realigned so that it has to be more equitable.

Policy Recommendations

- Credit for women farmers can stimulate internal trade, increased agricultural supply, domestic agro-processing firm and at the same time reduce demand for imports.

- Another extremely important aspect that needs to be urgently addressed in order to engender monetary policy is the balance between financial and physical targets. This is especially important in the context of the fact that women generally take small loans, thus, while physical targets may be filled, the financial disbursements constitute an insignificant amount. Women entrepreneurs need to be mainstreamed in the development process.

Women and Labour Force

Trade liberalisation has opened up new employment opportunities for women, particularly in export based industries such as textiles & garments, food processing & handicrafts etc. However, women have been employed mainly as informal and largely as home-based workers. When producers
of export-based industries enter the global market, they need technological upgradation and flexibility in production in the highly competitive global market. To cut down their production costs, they tend to segment the labour market for women and employ them at the lowest possible wages and at the poorest terms of employment. They also prefer them to work at home to save on costs of building, energy, drinking water, toilets etc., as well as to pass on a part of their risk to these women workers by creating a possibility of rejecting their product. Trade liberalisation raises the rate of growth of the economy without giving due share to women.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS) being implemented by the State with Government of India support has seen large scale employment of women, nearly 90% in Rural Development work. This has ensured that the critical minimum wage in rural areas get increased with certain assured income for women.

**Policy Recommendations**

- Enforcement of labour standards in export industries.
- Bringing unorganised employment under the coverage of a set of comprehensive labour laws and
- Special promotion to Enterprises of home-based workers/small producers and identifying house hold units or home-based workers interested in developing healthy enterprises. The strategy would also include setting up common facility centres, to provide all important facilities including technology and skill training.

**Sectoral Concerns**

**Employment**

More women are engaged in informal work than men and hence are more vulnerable and they have limited or no social security or maternity benefits. This incognito nature of women’s work along with disparities in wages paid makes women the most disadvantaged of all the labour categories.

Employment of women in manufacturing sector is limited as employment in the sector is contingent on having a specific set of skills that are of a technical nature and often require special training. The Twelfth Plan policy needs to design gender sensitive skill training programmes to ensure that women become employable in larger numbers.

**Agriculture**

Feminisation of agriculture has been a distinct feature of women’s employment. Many of them belong to the socio-economically backward communities. The lack of access to land is reflected in their poor status. Programmes exist to devise women friendly tools and to support farmers including women growing high yielding varieties but there is no training available and tools and implements continue to be focused on men as users. Some pilot projects that were tried in the State like the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) assisted project for women farmers proved successful but has not been replicated or upscaled.

Some of the Policy recommendations are (i) Engendering Agricultural Systems / Policies (ii) Land rights to women and (iii) Adopting Group as a producer’s company or any such other institutional forms.

**Health and Nutrition**

Constraint on access to medicines and public healthcare is stronger constraint for women. The increased cost of medical care is the second most common cause of rural indebtedness. Women place their health needs last when cost is an issue seeking medical care too late or not at all. The privatisation of health care has made the situation worse for women. Most Health insurers stop insuring at the age of 70 years, thus the aged do not have access
to health insurance. The present health insurance system envisaged in the Twelfth Plan addresses this issue. The availability of services for women suffering from gender-based violence is either inadequate or non-existent. The weaker sections, especially the women are denied the physical care they deserve due to the increasing cost of drugs. Sky rocketing food prices and export-oriented cropping pattern in agriculture contributes to women’s declining access to food and nutrition.

The current trends are towards new and complex forms of labour movements such as temporary migration of contract labour, trafficking, flow of personnel, crisis-prompted population displacements with economic consequences affecting women the most. Poor working conditions also have serious health implications among women.

**Infrastructure**

Gendered infrastructural development has several layers of interconnections. The Twelfth Plan will focus on strengthening the Village Water and Sanitation Committees and ensuring that there is representation of women in these committees in management and implementation.

The issues that will be focused on transport sector are:

- Personal security risks at parking lots, buses, bus stops, airports, highways etc.
- Design improvements to meet women specific mobility needs.
- Demarcated exclusive services such as ladies special buses/trains.

**Natural Resources**

Environmental sector, an important area with serious gender implications is also to be taken into account. With the growing awareness about the limited stock of natural resources and the consequent need to use these resources in a sustainable manner, natural resources are recognised as natural capital, an important component of total capital stock in an economy and environmental services are recognised as a flow of income from the stock of natural capital. Twelfth Plan and subsequent policies would be designed to forge linkages between economic growth and natural capital and the losses and gains of the stock and flow of natural resources would be included in national accounting systems. Any deterioration in the livelihoods of majority of populations (more than half or more population in these economies depend on natural resources for their livelihoods) caused by declining status of natural resources does not appear anywhere in the database. Even irreversible damage to natural ecosystem goes unnoticed and unaddressed, causing serious damage to the sustainability of economic growth.

**Unpaid work – Care Economy**

Unpaid work primarily includes

1. Work related to household upkeep (for own household) such as cooking, cleaning, washing etc.
2. Care of children, aged, sick and disabled within the household and
3. Voluntary work.

There are three major sectors of a macro economy namely, the market economy, the Government Sector and the unpaid economy. Unpaid workers have lower chances of reaching their potential and this does not allow the overall economy to reach its potential either. It is important to add that, the division of labour between paid and unpaid work is not a matter of free choice, but is based on social norms and customs. It is important therefore, to bring unpaid work within the purview of macroeconomic policy formulation. It is also important to formulate and monitor the performance of macroeconomic policies based on their impacts on unpaid economy. The State providing free Grinders, Mixies and Induction Stove/Fans under its welfare schemes have
reduced the drudgery of unpaid work among women.

**Legislations**

*Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005*

This Act recognises a woman’s right to live in a violence free home. The issues are low awareness, indifferent attitude of police personnel and ineffective free legal aid. This may be addressed through dissemination of the act in simplified manner, training the stakeholders and providing free legal aid with competent and experienced gender sensitive judges. 33 Protection Officers have been appointed to implement this Act. 98 shelter homes have been notified to provide shelter to the victims and 1849 medical institutions have been notified to provide medical care. The awareness of the legal provisions with regard to domestic violence is increasing and there are more women seeking legal recourse.

*Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961*

This law is framed to combat the evils of dowry. The issues are (i) Misinformation about the Act (ii) Lack of gender perspective and low level of legal literacy. Habitation, Village Level Women’s Committees will be set up exclusively for dealing with these cases, trained by experts linked up with police station and protection officers within the district. The committees will provide support to women in terms of mobility, child care, receive complaints and support them in filing the complaints.

*Tamil Nadu Women Harassment Act, 2000*

The target population is not aware of the Act and its provisions. Provisions of the Act would be disseminated to all the schools, colleges, orphanages, shelter homes, work places and among all stakeholders.

*Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1975*

To implement the Act effectively, 100 percent registration of pregnancy is to be made compulsory and ways and modalities to be brainstormed in a workshop.

*Pre-conception (PC) and Pre-natal Diagnostic Technique (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 (PC and PNDT Act)*

Even though the Act has been implemented effectively, it has to be thoroughly reviewed to evaluate its progress and monitoring mechanism. Frequent inspection of scan centres without prior notice to be conducted in the districts with worst child sex ratio. Periodic Monitoring of scan centres will be taken up.

*Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1956*

Rehabilitation Homes are to be created with facilities for alternative livelihood trainings. Rehabilitative measures would be provided to trafficked women who are not in conflict with law.

*Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place*

This Act has not been enacted but the bill has been tabled in the Parliament. Action will be taken by the Department of Social Welfare, which is the nodal agency based on the Supreme Court Guidelines. Tamil Nadu is one of the states which has enacted various statutory provisions for the protection of women. Various capacity building initiatives and State level sensitisation workshops for Stakeholders have been held. IEC activities across the 32 districts have been conducted. There has been survey and research on the status of women with respect to different issues. In the Twelfth Plan, the District Social Welfare Officers (DSWO) propose to create awareness about the legal rights and remedies. Hand books for the dissemination
of information, display boards and pamphlets for the 4 legislations implemented by the department Viz., PWDVA 2005, DPA,1961, Child Marriage Prohibition Act, 2006(CMPA) and Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007(MPSCA) have been printed and distributed among the public.

Formation of Village Level Women’s Committees to deal with Legal issues, training of Panchayat Level Federations (PLF), preparation of manual for training of federation members would be initiated in coordination with Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd.(TNCDW Ltd.).

Policy Recommendations

Women need access (physical and economic) to quality health care at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels and it would be available for prevention, cure and rehabilitation without discrimination of age, socio-economic status, gender, caste, religion, residence etc. A woman friendly health care would be a system of health care which is comprehensive, universal, transparent, accountable and participatory that delivers quality, rational, appropriate care with protection of patients rights, patients choice and health equity, that is non-exclusive, non-discriminatory and portable, ensuring continuity of care with inter-sectoral support for health.

Recommendations to address malnutrition among the poor, regardless of social groups include: (i) Increasing the income of the poor as they are essential to get balanced diets and access to health care (ii) Girls’ education and awareness of nutrition and health (iii) Reaching the unreached.

Discriminated groups also require specific measures to overcome obstacles that impede their access to health, food and other services. These measures include:

- Recruiting Anganwadi Workers (AWW) and Auxiliary Nursing Midwives (ANM) from SC, ST and Muslim communities will serve to improve coverage of these groups. For more of SC/ST/Muslim girls to qualify for these recruitments, increasing their education levels will be an important measure. Monitoring and using data disaggregated by social group at all levels to identify underserved communities/groups must be done. This data when available in the public domain may be used fruitfully by public and social interest groups.


Women’s Social, Economic & Political Issues and Strategies

- To tackle the unfavorable child sex ratio, stringent laws will be enacted and special courts/tribunal will be set up.
- To address the inadequate number of hostels, more hostels for working women with improved facilities will be provided.
- To reduce work burden of working women and to establish care taking centres for children, community kitchens to provide food at subsidised rates would be facilitated near work place for the migrant women workers.
- For skill upgradation, a scheme for women in the age group of 35-40 years will be introduced.
- To disseminate awareness on Women’s Domestic Violence Act among low level/legal illiteracy both in rural and urban, a simple easy to understand manual will be commissioned.
- Short term vocational courses in the fields like law, palliative care for elderly and disaster response trainer etc. will be started.
- The curricula of text books would be revised to remove gender stereotype
and funds would be allocated for gender sensitisation workshops for schools.

- For wide marketability of SHG products, branding and aggressive marketing tie ups would be taken up.

- To settle wage parity both in agriculture and non-agriculture sector, a gender audit would be taken up.

- Extension services will be availed from State Government Departments, Krishi Vigyana Kendra (KVKs) and Research Institutes to focus specifically on women farmers.

- To tackle the issues on poor land/technology/credit access to women farmers, access to land, collective land ownership, training on organic farming, added value to agri-products, micro food processing units could be improved and effectively linked.

- Gender budgeting workshops to be conducted on a regular basis and gender budgeting cell to be set up in State Finance Ministry and in all departments.

- To address women engaged in low pay occupations, skill building training in non-traditional occupations will be provided.

- To participate substantively in local governance, reservations for women members could be increased from the present 33.3 per cent to 50 per cent.

- Strict laws to be passed to prevent crimes against mentally ill/ vulnerable women and women in the clutches of mafia/ women begging at traffic signals and ensure rehabilitative measures for the women and children.

**Pudhu Vaazhvu Project**

Pudhu Vaazhvu Project is a pioneering effort of Government of Tamil Nadu in its endeavour to eradicate poverty and initiate an all inclusive development process. The objective of Pudhu Vaazhvu Project is socio-economic empowerment and upliftment of the very poor including vulnerable, by improving the standard of life through strong and responsive grass root level community based organisations. The project also aims to build the capacities of the poor and fund sustainable livelihood activities and employs the community driven development approach, adopting the key non-negotiable principles across all stakeholders of the project with well built mechanisms for social accountability and transparency. The total cost for the scheme will be ₹634.29 crore.

**Gender Mainstreaming**

In the Twelfth Plan, institutional mechanisms will carry forward the process of gender mainstreaming and will be strengthened. National Commission for Women (NCW) and State Commissions for Women will be strengthened to enable them to effectively play their role as the nodal agencies for the protection of rights of women. In addition to this, more functional and financial autonomy and a statutory base will be ensured for these organisations to strengthen their legal status. This will not only ensure that these bodies remain non-partisan, it will also increase their credibility. A mechanism will be created to periodically report to the National Development Council, the progress on Women’s Plans with respect to the National Policy for Empowerment of Women. State Action Plans for Women’s Empowerment will be drawn up in consultation with all sectoral agencies and civil society including women’s groups, lawyers, activists, women’s study centres etc. Cross-cutting issues such as unpaid work, land and asset entitlements, skill development and vocational training, child care, occupational health and wages would be given focus. Resource Centres for Women will be set up at National and State levels and linked with Women’s Study Centres.

**Gender Budgeting and Gender Outcome Assessment**

Gender Budgeting helps to assess the gender differential impact of the budget and takes forward the translation of gender
commitments to budgetary allocations. During the Twelfth Plan, efforts will be taken to create Gender Budgeting Cells in the ministries and departments. Data from these cells will be collated on a regular basis and made available in the public domain. At the All India Level, gender outcome assessment of funds flow has been made a mandatory part of the outcome budget prepared by every ministry/department as part of their budget document. In 2005–06, this exercise covered 10 departments and the total magnitude of the Gender Budget (ie, women specific allocations) was recorded at 4.8% of total Union Government expenditure. In 2006–07, 24 departments of the Union Government were included and the magnitude of the Gender Budget was 3.8% of total budget estimates. It was found that schemes which do not have a 100% women’s component also found a mention as women specific schemes.

The Twelfth Plan of the State will therefore, ensure that each Ministry/Department of the State would put in place a systematic and comprehensive monitoring and auditing mechanism for outcome assessment. In addition, the TNCDW Ltd., Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission will facilitate State Level Gender Outcome Assessments through spatial mapping of gender gaps and resource gaps. They will undertake gender audits of public expenditure, programmes and policies and ensure the collection of standardised gender disaggregated data (including data disaggregated for SC/ST and minority women) at state and district levels. In the Twelfth Plan period, the existing system of gender based planning will be extended to other Ministries and Departments and not confined only to those that have historically been perceived as ‘women related’. Ministries and Departments such as Education, Health and Family Welfare, Agriculture, Rural Development, Labour, Tribal Affairs, Social Justice and Empowerment, which have the potential to exceed the 30 percent WCP requirement will be encouraged to administer more women related programmes.

During the Twelfth Plan, efforts will be made to extend the concept of gender based plan component to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and to the 29 subjects transferred to them under the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act. Recognising that some women suffer greater deprivation and discrimination than others, the Twelfth Plan will refine the norms of WCP to prioritise the most vulnerable as beneficiaries, particularly SC/ST women, muslim women, single women, differently abled and HIV-positive women among others. The Twelfth Plan period will seek to make all National Policies and Programmes gender sensitive.

Fig. 14.3.2: Women Empowerment
14.3.2 Welfare and Empowerment of Transgenders

Introduction

Transgender population faces stigma from family and society on the whole and goes through different forms of harassment. The Tamil Nadu Government has taken several steps to institutionalise concerns of this marginalised and stigmatised population. The International Bill of Gender Rights adopted by the International Conference on Transgender, 1995 provides an ideal course to follow while formulating legal provisions for the transgender population. Legislation similar to that of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 is to be enacted to provide compensation which would safeguard the interests of transgender people.

Ongoing Interventions

The Transgender Welfare Board has been set up to provide welfare measures and address the issues of transgenders. Transgender SHGs have been formed in the year 2011-12. Government has provided with bank loan up to ₹0.15 crore with 25% subsidy to take up income generating activities by the SHGs. So far, 51 Transgender Self Help Groups have been provided with a subsidy of ₹0.55 crore for projects worth ₹2.20 crore. Efforts would be made to register, issue identity cards, house pattas to the transgenders. Ration cards and group houses will also be sanctioned.

Some of the sectors taken up for the income generating activities for Transgender SHGs are Catering, Sanitary Napkin Unit, Fashion Designing, setting up of Beauty Parlour, rearing of Cattle, Load Auto, Hollow block business, Fishing activities, Milch Animals, Readymade Garments, Provision Stores etc.

Twelfth Plan Initiatives

To improve the standard of living of the transgender people, the steps to be taken during the Twelfth Plan period are:

- Legislation similar to that of SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 would be enacted to provide compensation to safeguard the interests of transgenders.
- The nominated members in the board would be in the ratio of 50:50 from transgender and non transgender NGOs.
- New income generating activities to be explored where skilled transgender workers can be accepted.
- Reservation for employment and educational institutions can be made proportionate to their population in the State.
- National and State Level Human Rights Commissions would have a cell for protection of human rights of transgender population.
- A transgender person can be nominated for all levels of governance.
- The other sex/gender can be used to denote to the sex and gender categories other than male and female.
- The achievement of transgender persons in the field of education, vocation, art and culture would be documented, published and disseminated to break myths on their abnormality/ intellectual capacities.
- As a new initiative, Government has announced to provide pension of ₹1,000/- p.m. to the destitute transgender people above the age of 40 years taking into consideration their state of poverty, incapacity to earn income for their livelihood and social stigma faced by them.

An allocation of ₹7.50 crore has been proposed in the Twelfth Plan.
14.3.3 Welfare of the Aged and Senior Citizens

Introduction

Disintegration of the joint family structures, rapid expansion of the nuclear family system, migration to urban areas and out of the country has created challenges in the care of the elderly. As per census 2001, 8.82 percent of the population are aged above 65 and their health has become a major concern.

Graph 14.3.2: Geriatric Population

Source: Dept. of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme, GoTN

Geriatric Health care

There would be provision for Geriatric Units at every Sub-Centre, PHC, District Hospital and Teaching Institutions. Day Care for the elders at the PHC level, District level and Medical College Hospitals would be provided with comprehensive geriatric units which will have Out Patients, In Patients facility and all infrastructures under one roof. Health Card will be given to all senior citizens and health bank would be introduced, where they can avail drugs free for BPL elders and at concessional rates for paying patients. Regular health camps/eye camps would be organised by Government/ NGOs both at rural/urban areas. Palliative Care training and services would be given to the community volunteers/community health workers to take care of the senior citizens till their life time. Mobile Medicare, Special Ambulance Units with toll free number for transporting elders would be introduced in remote areas to reach unreached areas. Yoga and simple exercise, nutrient food would be made available for senior citizens. Certificates/Diploma courses would be introduced in medical colleges. Geriatric in-service training for doctors and para medical staff would be given to ensure availability of trained persons. There would be ‘In House Call Programme’ for elders who cannot move and want to avail home care services. The Chief Minister’s Health Insurance Scheme would be propagated and compulsory enrolment of all senior citizens under this scheme to avail services will ensure health security of elders.

Social Security Schemes

The Government of Tamil Nadu implements Social Security Pension Schemes by providing monthly pension to various vulnerable sections of the population such as Old Aged Persons, Differently Abled Persons, Widows, Destitute Agricultural Labourers, Destitute / Deserted Wives and Unmarried,
Poor incapacitated Women of age 50 years and above. The monthly pension under various Social Security Pension Schemes have been enhanced from ₹500/- to ₹1,000/- which is double the National Pension Scheme. This has given substantial relief to these vulnerable sections of the society. For the beneficiaries under the Social Security Net, the distribution is also being streamlined through direct transfer to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries, thereby plugging the leakages. The pilot project for disbursing the social security pension through bank accounts to all villages with a population of above 2,000 is under implementation. The accounts can be accessed by the beneficiaries only through tamper-proof biometric smart cards. In the next phase, all other villages and urban areas will be covered.

The major pension schemes viz., Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme, Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme, Destitute Differently Abled Pension Scheme, Destitute Widow Pension Scheme, Destitute/ Deserted Wives Pension Scheme, Pension to unmarried, poor, incapacitated women of age 50 years and above and Destitute Agricultural Labourers Pension Scheme will constitute to be supported in the Twelfth Plan.

Old Age Pension of ₹1,000/- per month is given to all eligible BPL elders. An amount of ₹50/- may be allotted per senior citizen and tied-up with insurance companies to avail insurance for senior citizens. District Level Committee (MWPSC Act) would address the pension grievances monthly once.

A sum of ₹13,746.06 crore will be provided in the Plan period for Social Security Schemes.

**Annapoorna Scheme**

The ongoing programme Annapoorna Scheme ensures food security for the vulnerable aged and each beneficiary is given 10 kgs of rice per month free of cost. The beneficiaries are selected from among the National Old Age Pensioners.

An amount of ₹27.65 crore has been proposed during the Twelfth Plan period.

**Shelter**

In Tamil Nadu, 28 Voluntary Organisations are receiving the State Government grants to run Old Age Homes in 26 districts accommodating a maximum of 40 inmates in each home. A sum of ₹2 lakh per annum is given per home as grant. The GoI also provides grants to 50 Old Age Homes in our State. 64 Integrated Complex of Special Homes for senior citizens and destitute children at block level and night shelters for homeless senior citizens in the city at district level would be established. Separate Home of shelter for BPL Pensioners would be established.

The Old Age Homes would provide medical facilities, palliative care, nutritional food, recreational facilities and encourage spiritual values. Day Care Centre for community elders can be attached to Old Age Homes to encourage mutual bonding among the senior citizens. OAH would have ramp-eco friendly (handrails) for elders to move around.
Welfare and Protection of Senior Citizens

Senior Citizen Associations in villages and panchayat level would be formed and the existing associations would be strengthened. Second Career Programme for senior citizens who are experienced will be taken up through Government and NGOs. Free transport facilities for elders would be given. The NGOs, Government, Private Sectors, Schools and Hospitals would be encouraged to celebrate 1st October as International Day of Older Persons. Gero-sensitive public spaces with provisions for accommodating the needs of the elderly should be created. Cost-effective health insurance needs to be created for coverage of the elderly, especially women.

Involvement of NGOs/PRIs in the Planning and Implementation

Local NGOs would be involved in the development and implementation of programmes for elders. They would be given special training in running welfare programmes. NGOs serving other age groups would be sensitised about welfare programmes for the elderly. Guidelines would be set up for NGOs in the planning, development and implementation of programmes for elder persons. The NGOs would be guided to work with PRI and Community locally. NGOs network would be set up and used as resources on aged care. Periodical meetings of NGOs with Government would be conducted to review activities.


- A Tribunal presided over by the Revenue Divisional Officer has been constituted in each sub division for speedy disposal of petitions under the Act. District Social Welfare Officers are the maintenance and conciliation officers. The District Collector has been designated as the Appellate Tribunal in each district.
- Government of Tamil Nadu has conducted sensitisation workshops to NGOs and District Social Welfare Officers. The goal is to protect the well being of the senior citizens. The Objectives of the Act are:
  - The Older Persons to live their last phase with purpose, peace and dignity.
  - Extend support towards financial security, healthcare, shelter and general welfare.
  - Ensure that the rights of the older persons are not violated.
  - Provide more care to older females.
  - Utilise their experience and capacity.
  - Provide more attention to the older persons living in rural areas.

Implementation of MWPSC Act, 2007

- Greater awareness would be given to the younger generation on caring elders and MWPSC Act.
- Value education on age care would be added in the curriculum of schools and colleges.
- Free legal aid would be given to the elders suffering on elder abuse.
- Government and NGOs would create awareness on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day – 15th June (WEAAD).
- Training would be given to the stakeholders of the Act.

Twelfth Five Year Plan

Objectives

- To ensure good physical, mental health for the elderly.
- To provide financial and social security.
- To protect elders from abuse and exploitation and to lead a safe and secured life.
- To improve the quality of life of senior citizens.
**Strategies**

- Awareness Campaigns through seminars, workshops, media etc.
- Involving community, stakeholders in elder’s programmes.
- Elders Participation in community activities.
- Government, NGOs, Schools etc. to coordinate in age care activities.
- Involvement of PRIs in local community activities for elders.
- Organise Training Programmes for Personnel involved in age care.

**Programmes**

- Regional Resource Centre Programme for Older Persons at the State level.
- Day Care Centre for elders.
- Night Shelter for homeless elders.
- Geriatric and Palliative Care Training.
- Integrated Complex of Special Homes (Elders & Destitute Children).
- Day Care Hospital in PHCs.
- Concessions and discount services for senior citizens.
- Formation of Senior Citizens Associations.
- Value Education in Schools – inclusion of curriculum on age care.
- Geriatric Wards in all Government District Hospitals.
- Including geriatrics/gerontology in the regular medical curriculum.
- Geriatric Training for caregivers and paramedical staff.

During the final year (2011-12) of the Eleventh Plan, establishing 64 Integrated Complex of Special Homes in all 32 districts in the State have been undertaken. Each Integrated Complex will have an in-house capacity of 25 children and 25 elders. The Scheme will be implemented in a phased manner in all blocks of 32 districts.

An allocation of ₹96.50 crore has been proposed for the Welfare of the Aged and Senior Citizens in the Twelfth Plan.

**14.3.4 Child Rights**

**Introduction**

A child’s development is largely determined by the services, protection, care and affection extended by the family, the wider community and the State. United Nations Convention on the Rights of Child (herein after UNCRC or CRC) emphasises that the State shall own the responsibilities to ensure a favourable climate for children based on principles of non-discrimination, the best interest of children, survival and development, participation of children in matters affecting their own future and protection from violence, abuse and exploitation.

The Constitution of India guarantees several rights to the children including equality before law, free and compulsory education to all children between the age group of six to fourteen years, prohibition of employment of children below the age of 14 years in factories, mines or hazardous occupations. The Constitution enables the State to make special provision for children and directs that the policy of the State shall be such that, their tender age is not abused. The child rights enshrined in the UNCRC have had an impact on State legislations, schemes and programmes to ensure that the State plays a crucial role in providing care and protection to all children below 18 years of age.
The State Government is running 27 Children Homes by providing food, shelter, clothing, education and health care with a noble cause of bringing up destitute and orphan children as good citizens of the nation. There are 15 Non-Governmental Adoption Agencies functioning in Tamil Nadu in the field of in-country adoption. Among them, 5 agencies have been recognised by Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) to handle inter-country adoption.

**Initiatives of Tamil Nadu**

- Tamil Nadu is pioneer in relation to Nutritional supplements to children. Children upto Higher Secondary are covered.

- A separate Cell to address the issues of Child Labour is functioning in the office of the Commissioner of Labour.

- Amending the existing Tamil Nadu Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2001 in conjunction with the amendment to the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2006, the State has constituted the State Commission for the Protection of Child Rights. The State formed the State Child Protection Society (SCPS), which is the fundamental unit at the State level for the implementation of the Integrated Child Protection Scheme and the Government has also issued orders for the formation of District Child Protection Societies (DCPS) in all districts.

- Child Protection strategies and intervention initiatives have been made to formulate Child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Boards in all the districts.

- District Level Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice, Prevention of trafficking, Combating Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children, Village Level Watchdog Committees, Village Level Educational Committees etc. have been formed.

- The High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary is reviewing the trafficking related issues and also child protection issues.

**Child Protection**

United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) uses the term “Child Protection” to refer to preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse against children including child sexual exploitation, trafficking, child labour, child marriage and harmful traditional practices. Therefore, child protection initiatives mean the measures and structures formulated to protect children from vulnerability, which is related to the unfavourable living conditions and situations.

Successful child protection system increases the child’s chances to grow into a complete adult and decreases the inherent vulnerability. Child protection refers not only to the varied groups of children termed as “children in especially difficult situation” but is about protecting the rights of every child.

Children are more vulnerable to various forms of abuse and exploitation viz., sexual abuse, verbal abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse etc. The State offers protection under Indian Penal Code (IPC) and other legislations to punish the offenders for physical abuse. To prevent the children against sexual offences, Government of India will enact a separate legislation. Once the bill is enacted by the Parliament, it will definitely curtail sexual offences against children.

**Issues in Child Protection**

- Children get into the justice delivery system as victims or as offenders and sometimes as witness. Such children are grouped as children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law.

- These children face secondary victimisation at the hands of care givers, policy planners and the implementing authorities at various levels.
• Child abuse and neglect happen at every stage of intervention resulting in the violation of their right to survival, development, participation and protection.

• Children in custodial care are deprived of basic amenities such as spacious and airy accommodation, safe drinking water, good sanitation, health care etc. Right to life including a minimum standard of health, nutrition and sanitation is fundamental for survival of children.

• Protection against all forms of exploitation, abuse, inhuman discrimination or degrading treatment, neglect or abandonment must be ensured.

• Low priority for children’s participation, absence of mechanisms to hear their voices and grievances contribute their idleness resulting in the tendency of slipping away from the custodial care.

• In the absence of right based and child friendly approach in judicial proceedings, unfriendly police, prosecutors and probation officers are the stumbling blocks at various levels in the protection issues of children.

• Rehabilitation and social reintegration take a back seat and proceedings in justice delivery systems are more on the adversarial style.

Strategies for Child Protection

• Create a comprehensive training programme for all the personnel involved in child protection issues and all the child protection cases can be attended to, by one directorate. A multi-disciplinary team for responding to cases of child abuse would be introduced in all districts.

• Extending the services of Childline to all districts of the State in close coordination with Childline, Chennai and Government of India.

• Creating Crisis Intervention Centres in various parts of the State in collaboration with NGOs as grant-in-aid programme.

• Training of police personnel and all those groups of officials who care for children.

• The registration of all residential care facilities for children, irrespective of whether they receive Government grants or not.

• Protecting the abused children and their privacy.

• Launching an extensive training programme to train children in self care. Information in Tamil (leaflets, booklets) must be generated and widely distributed to children.

• Introducing specific protective measures for identifying and helping the most vulnerable groups of children. i.e. children of commercial sex workers and life convicts, children in child headed families etc.

• Introduction of special protective measures for dealing with older children charged with child abuse. Their cases must be presented only before Juvenile Justice Board.

• Introducing a module on child abuse and positive discipline in the curriculum for teachers both at secondary level and at B.Ed level. A reporting system in every school would be introduced, so that children can report physical / sexual abuse by teachers. The proposed school management committee can be trained to receive complaints of abuse and respond to situations.

• Procedure for taking action against employers for abusing children employed needs to be simplified.

• Sensitising the elected leaders at Panchayat / Municipal Level about the vulnerability of children. Every Panchayat and Urban local bodies must create a database about children in their villages /towns.

• Publicising the Child Marriage Prohibition and stringent action should be taken against those breaking the rules of the Act. A Child Protection Policy being applicable
to all the stakeholders including the policy planners at the Government has to be formulated.

- Formulating manuals and standard operational procedures on various issues of child protection.
- Tamil Nadu Panchayat Raj Act should be amended and incorporated with an exclusive chapter in relation to their obligation to children including the implementation of child laws and accountability towards child protection issues.
- The State Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) will take cognizance of the matters relating to the violation of Child Rights.
- Exclusive Children’s Court to be formed with District / Sessions Judge to handle cases of child abuse and child sexual exploitation.
- The guidelines released by the National Human Rights Commission in 2007 for the speedy disposal of child rape cases must be adopted. Fast Track Courts presided by a lady judge need to be introduced. The State can introduce at least one fast track court for every region.
- To prevent alcoholism and substance abuse among children, De-addiction Centres established under Government of India’s scheme shall be linked to schools to avail the counselling services of the centres.

Administration of Juvenile Justice

The Juvenile System in India deals with two categories of children namely, children in need of care and protection and the children who are in conflict with law and has created two separate systems of justice dispensation for such children. The Child Welfare Committees and the Juvenile Justice Boards are two respective competent authorities created under this Act to pass orders.

Juvenile delinquency, also known as juvenile offending or youth crime is participation in illegal behaviour by minors (Juvenile) who fall under the statutory age. Most legal systems prescribe specific procedures for dealing with juveniles such as juvenile detention centres and courts.

Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency

- Delinquency prevention is the broad term for all efforts aimed at preventing youth from becoming involved in criminal or other anti-social activity.
- Prevention services may include activities such as substance abuse, education and treatment, family counselling, youth mentoring, parenting education, educational support and youth sheltering.
- The most efficient interventions are those that not only separate at-risk teens from anti-social peers and place them instead with pro-social ones, but also simultaneously improve their home environment by training parents with appropriate parenting styles.
- It is appropriate to establish police boys clubs in high juvenile delinquency areas like youth associations/clubs to make the youth productive and establish a positive attitude towards doing services to the society.
- Special Juvenile Police Units as enshrined by the Juvenile Justice Act shall be established under the police department for providing better services as well as moral policing. They shall coordinate with the Juvenile Justice Boards and Probation Officers to ensure further apprehension of Juveniles under the supervision orders of the Boards.
- Under Integrated Child Protection Schemes (ICPS), the different forms of service delivery structure will be in place soon. By using these structures, the Child Protection Units have to identify the Juvenile in vulnerable situation to delinquency. They have to be educated to
avail various benefits under Government Schemes through the counsellors to overcome their delinquent attitude and for their future decent and dignified life.

- The Juvenile Justice Boards would be sensitised to deal the cases in child friendly manner.
- As Self Help Groups are playing a vital role in community development programmes, they shall be involved in prevention of juvenile delinquency. They will be associated with District Child Protection Units as outreach programme in their respective districts.

Special Juvenile Police Unit

- A Special Juvenile Police Wing with necessary supervisory officers similar to CB-CID shall be established in the State. In every district, Special Juvenile Police Unit to be established with adequate manpower and infrastructure.
- In the case of Children in Conflict with Law, an assessment centre similar to the practice in USA to be established as an expert body to help the Juvenile Police Unit. There shall be one or two social workers with adequate academic specialisation and professionally trained personnel to be appointed.

Professional Services

- In every district, Juvenile Guidance Centre will be established with experts specialised in the fields of clinical psychology, psychiatric social work and community social work.
- Services for de-addiction of alcohol and substance abuse to be made available.
- Intense Counselling and Psychological Counselling to deal with the criminal behaviour of the juveniles to be undertaken and individual care plan for every juvenile who has come in Conflict with Law to be developed.
- Mentorship programme and modules for group counselling developed with adequate professional support to be made available to the JJB to refer Juveniles as envisaged in the Act.
- Fund allocation to access professional counsellors to interact individually in a sustained manner whenever required.
- Community Service Centres to be enlisted with public cooperation with individuals in the centre assuming the role of mentors.
- Providing adequate counselling support to the family members of the juveniles is critical in reforming them and to prevent repeated offences committed by them.

Institutional Services

Children Homes functioning under J.J.Act

- Children Homes need to be child friendly. Using the funds from ICPS, the institutions are to be restructured aesthetically providing a cheerful and stimulant environment with lots of recreational activities and outdoor facilities.
- Libraries with adequate facilities for reading and self-learning through e-programming.
- Efforts to be taken to ensure that children do not get alienated from their families and the family members to be asked to visit them periodically and take them home during holidays.
- To impart high quality formal education, job oriented vocational training and higher educational services.

One critical area which requires immediate attention is pertaining to those children who lost contact with their families permanently or whose parentage is not known. A committee of professionals would be formed to reopen their files periodically to explore the possibility of tracing their families. Children who practically have nobody would be considered for adoption, if they are in suitable age for such rehabilitation. Other children should receive special attention and they could be linked with NGOs whose representatives could visit them on a regular basis and play the role of a mentor.


**Siblings in need of Care and Protection**

When siblings are brought under the purview of the Act needing care and protection, they immediately get separated agewise and sexwise and put into separate institutions. If they are total orphans, they may never get to see each other until they become major. The rule should have provision to set up appropriate mechanism or specialised committees in every region who will periodically review their records and compulsorily arrange for the meetings of the siblings at least once in three months.

**Reception Centre for Children in Need of Care and Protection**

- Reception Homes to be decentralised, children classified, help from civil society and NGOs to be obtained to elicit information about their background and to entertain them.
- Age appropriate transit care programme to be developed to keep the children in a stimulant environment with non-formal education, art, music, dance and recreational outdoor & indoor activities.
- Educational and other reading materials to be multi-lingual and non-formal education to be imparted with part time teachers who could teach in other vernacular languages depending on requirements.
- Children’s stagnation in the Short Stay Home to be reduced by providing adequate probation officers, escorts and other social work and counselling professionals. These facilities could be outsourced through adequate funding to NGOs.
- Mental health services that can be provided to the youth include, individual counselling, group counselling, crisis counselling, family intervention, medication management and transition planning.

**Special Homes for Children in Conflict with Law**

Juvenile detention is not intended to be punitive. Rather, juveniles held in secure custody ought to be receiving consistent care with the “doctrine of parenspatriae, i.e., the state as parent.” The State is responsible for providing education, recreation, health care, counselling and other intervention services with the intent of maintaining a juvenile’s well-being during stay in custody.

- Children’s Homes and Special Homes should not look like prisons. Using the funds from ICPS, the institutions are to be redesigned in aesthetic manner, along with necessary safety and security concepts and also without compromising on the self-esteem of children.
- The purpose of detention is to ensure that the juvenile is reformed and the intervention produces positive effect on the mindset of the individual to refrain from committing offence in the future. Generous fund allocation and investment in this effort would go a long way for future protection of the society with reduction in crime rate.

**Observation Homes**

- Observation Homes to be decentralised and classified.
- Appropriate Professional services to be made available not only for the benefit of the young persons who are alleged to have come in Conflict with Law, but also to help the Juvenile Justice Boards with additional inputs so that they could adjudicate the matter more efficiently.
- The Observation Home inmates should have free access to a well-equipped library stocked with multi-lingual reading materials that include educative and recreational books, periodicals, self-improvement books that are suitable to the juveniles.
- Remedial physical therapy such as yoga, meditation and non-formal education
Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare

classes, life skill training, classes with moral and social responsibility concepts, stress and anger management therapy etc. to be imparted.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- There has to be an upgraded monitoring cell to monitor and evaluate the schemes to conduct inspection of the institutions run by the department and for immediate rectification of lapses.
- Inspection and social auditing committees shall also be informative, explorative and helpful in changing the positive developments.
- District Administration to make a quarterly report on the status of children related initiatives and respond to the State Level Advisory Board quarterly.
- As a special case, ICPS functionaries may map the reasons for high prevalence of juvenile delinquency in Cuddalore and Villupuram districts for further intervention to reduce the delinquency rate among juvenile in these districts.

Training and Orientation

Systematic training, orientation and capacity building programmes shall be conducted periodically by academic institutions with appropriate resource persons and materials. IEC materials in the vernacular language on the responsibilities of different stakeholders shall be developed and published.

- All Child Welfare Committee Members and Juvenile Justice Board Members to meet periodically to address all deficiencies.
- Training to be imparted to personnel of various categories before their appointment and modules of training have to be developed. Pre-service training should be intensive, effective, explorative, educative and task specific.
- The security staff to be given proper orientation and training to meet any eventuality. They shall have motivation and commitment to honour the human rights of children and Staff Grievance redressal system should be actively implemented.

Trafficking in human beings

Human Trafficking has not been defined clearly in any of the law and in the absence of specific definition of trafficking, the various dimensions of trafficking have not been addressed adequately. In all forms of trafficking, whether it is for commercial sex work, for involuntary servitude or for any other purpose, the State has a major role to play in combating such exploitation of women and children. The State should formulate a policy to address the menace and indicate the roles and responsibilities of different departments. Women and Child Protection requires a multidimensional approach to be performed by every department in a coordinating effort on a partnership basis. Capacity building of functionaries, awareness generation activities and resources mobilisation are the important functions of Government.

According to NCRB data, there were 8,765 cases of trafficked women and children in the country in 2001, which has declined to 3,133 cases in 2008. On an average, 5,804 cases of trafficking are reported every year since 2001. At present, the Government of Tamil Nadu collaborates with the Centre and implements the Swadhar Scheme and Ujjawala Scheme for specifically combating trafficking of women and children.

An allocation of ₹84.42 crore has been proposed for the Social Defence Department to cater to the Child Rights and Protection Schemes in the Twelfth Plan.

Strategies to Combat Trafficking of Children

- Registry of children in every village. The children are expected to be in the village till they complete 14 years of age. This is mandated as per the RTE Act.
• Identifying and mapping vulnerable areas in the districts that are acting as source districts. The allocation of funds under different schemes of the Government for these districts to be enhanced to address the poverty needs of the people, as poverty is a major cause for trafficking.

• Initiating a special project for the prevention of trafficking of children especially for domestic work.

• Undertaking a special study of the conditions of children in the coastal villages to assess the magnitude of the problem of sex tourism and the use of children for sexual purposes by tourists.

• The Government of Tamil Nadu has already formed the Village Level Watch Dog Committees for prevention of trafficking. These Committees need to be revived and given extensive training so that, it can monitor the movement of children out of the respective villages.

• Conducting monthly review by Collectors about the functioning of the Committees. Due to the importance of this issue, the subject matter has to be regularly reviewed at Collectors’ Conference convened by the State Government.

• Strengthening the Missing Children’s Bureau and the web site.

• Taking special efforts for preventing child begging.

• Introducing special scheme of Assistance for supporting the education and training of children of commercial sex workers.

• Providing specified financial assistance in terms of monetary relief to the children released from bondage.

• Strengthening the networking and information sharing system between different stakeholders within the State and inter-State.

• Recognising the NGOs working in the field of Rescue and Rehabilitation.

### Adoption

Adoption is the transfer of rights and responsibilities of a child from its natural parents to adoptive parents.

### Strategies for Adoption

• State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA) would be enforced.

• While selecting personnel to SARA and DCPS, norms and guidelines as stipulated in ICPS would be strictly adhered to without any deviation. Including enlisting of professional persons with previous experience in adoption for SARA.

• The recruitment of Staff for ICPS should lead to a cadre of child care professionals whose services will be utilised for all child care and protection related services across the State.

### Child Labour

In Tamil Nadu, child labour is declining owing to the concerted efforts taken by the State Government. As per census data, 5.78 lakh number of child workers in 1991 census has declined to 4.18 lakh in 2001 census. In 2003, Sarva Skisha Abhiyan (SSA) was directed by Government of Tamil Nadu to undertake a survey on Child Labour from among the out of school children. A household survey conducted by the SSA identified a total of 70,344 child labourers from among 2.12 lakhs of out-of-school children. As per 2011 SSA data, there are 14,000 children out-of-school for ‘economic compulsion’.

The State Action Plan formulated by the Government of Tamil Nadu during 2003 aimed at eradicating child labour in all employments by the year 2007. This timeline was extended upto December 2010 by the State Authority on elimination of child labour under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government. Due to implementation of the State Action Plan for elimination of child labour with the active participation of all stakeholders, presence of child labour in
the organised sector has become negligible. However, Child Labour is still prevalent in deceptive and hidden form in unorganised sectors such as agriculture, domestic work, rag picking, hospitality industry and so on.

**Strategies for Elimination of Child Labour during Twelfth Plan**

**State Policy**

Given the stage of development in Tamil Nadu and irreversible trend of near universal enrolment of children in elementary education, State would adopt a comprehensive and inclusive definition of child labour to include all forms of child labour and all out of school children who are otherwise potential child labourers. All children below 14 years would be prohibited from all forms of employments without providing any exemptions in employing children in families as well as in Government run institutions.

**Data on Child Labour**

As realistic estimates on the magnitude and forms of child labour are not available, there is a need for developing a comprehensive data base on child labour. In order to have a current and realistic estimate of child labour, a survey in all the districts of the State would be undertaken.

**National Child Labour Project**

NCLP, a central scheme is a consequence of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 and focuses on the release and rehabilitation of only such children who are employed in those industries as notified in the Act. As a result, many children working in other occupations and processes are left uncovered. Further, in the present context, the NCLP needs to be aligned with the RTE Act, 2009 and RTE State Rules 2011.

**Convergence**

All sectoral plans in their welfare schemes should reflect and address the issue of child labour. In other words, child labour issue should be mainstreamed in all sectoral policies and plans of the line departments.

**Monitoring and Tracking of Child Labour**

Under the RTE, 2009 and the Tamil Nadu RTE rules, 2011 every local authority shall maintain a record of all children in its jurisdiction through a household survey from their birth till they attain the age of 14 years and of children with disabilities, till they attain the age of 18 years and shall maintain such other particulars in respect of each child so as to monitor her/his enrolment, attendance, learning achievement and transition to next higher classes. Therefore, local bodies would be the appropriate authorities to track and monitor the status of schooling of children and prevent child labour and trafficking of children.

**State Child Labour Rehabilitation cum Welfare Society**

This Society and the Child labour Monitoring Cell at the State level may be equipped to coordinate and monitor the progress of schemes meant for elimination of child labour.

**Vocational Training for children in 15-18 years age group**

As the access to higher education for children those who complete secondary education is limited, it is necessary to provide scope for skill development of these children. The vocational courses should match with the market demands for skills.

**Awareness**

In order to sustain the efforts of the Government to address child labour, planned awareness and orientation
programmes are to be organised to various stakeholders. Activities in this regard may include sensitisation programmes for various stakeholders, including local bodies, enforcement officials, judicial authorities and officers of the line departments and parents of child labour. Awareness programmes may be carried out through mass media, advertisements, short films, radio jingles, leaflets, poster and sticker campaign, rallies, human chain etc.

Child Help Line

Presently, the Child Help Line toll free number 1098 is operational in few districts. The Childline should be extended to all districts so that the services of Childline may be utilised by children and public to protect the rights of children.

Evaluation

Periodic evaluation of implementation of the State Plan of Action needs to be carried out by independent agency.

Children of Migrant Labour Families

Tamil Nadu is among those states which have in the recent past, witnessed considerable investment in the infrastructure sector in general and the construction industry in particular and this is particularly evident in the region adjoining city corporations across the State. As a subsidiary to this, brick making industry is also growing. Following this, there has been a large inflow of migrant workers from the States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Bihar among others. The lack of employment opportunities and the resultant economic vulnerability has had the effect of forcing these people to travel several hundreds of miles in search of employment. The Education Department and SSA in particular, the Health, Social Welfare, Civil Supplies and Labour Departments among others, should include the needs of the migrant children and their families as a special component of the respective sectoral planning exercise and provide the necessary budgetary allocation for the same.

Strategies for addressing the issues of children of migrant labour during the Twelfth Plan

- Setting up of an Inter-State Coordination Committee on Migrant Labour under the Chairmanship of the Principal Secretary, Labour & Employment with Secretaries of Labour Departments, State Project Directors of SSA and Officers drawn from other line departments of the source States as its members. This Committee can focus exclusively on problems of such migrant households and children rights, protection and welfare.

- A Migrant Labour Cell has been already constituted in the office of the Commissioner of Labour under his Chairmanship, entrusting with the responsibility of overseeing and coordinating with other departments on matters relating to Migrant Labour and Children. Similar Migrant Labour Cells may be set up at the district level under the Chairmanship of the District Collector.

- Registration of migrant worker households to be made mandatory and the District Revenue Authorities will be responsible for registration in our State. All employers engaging migrant labour in manufacturing or service sectors should be required to furnish details of migrant labour families working under them to the appropriate district authority. This should also be one of the preconditions for the issue /renewal of license of the establishment.

- Issuing temporary ID cards to the migrant labour households to enable them to access subsidised food, health facilities and education for migrant children. Issue of special ID cards to all migrant children in the various age categories namely 0-5, 6-14, to enable them to access health care and education.
In the context of the ‘Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009’, it should be ensured that all migrant child labour, who were hitherto unable to enjoy the benefits of education are able to access schooling with ease.

- Setting up a toll free helpline staffed with persons proficient in the language of the migrants for attending to their emergency and distress related problems.

**Twelfth Plan Outlay**

For the Welfare and Empowerment of Women, Aged, Destitute and Child Rights, ₹17,444.73 crore has been proposed in the Twelfth Plan as detailed in the Table 14.3.1.

### Table 14.3.1: Twelfth Plan Outlay - Welfare and Empowerment of Women, Aged, Destitute and Child Rights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Ongoing Schemes</th>
<th>New Schemes</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I</strong></td>
<td>SW&amp;NMP Department</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Direction and Administration</td>
<td>1.26</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Marriage Assistance schemes</td>
<td>1569.25</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1569.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Women Welfare Schemes</td>
<td>27.79</td>
<td>26.96</td>
<td>54.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Child Welfare Assistance Schemes</td>
<td>438.71</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>438.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Welfare of the aged and senior citizens</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>93.50</td>
<td>96.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu Transgenders Welfare Board</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Social Security Schemes</td>
<td>13746.06</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>13746.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total – SW&amp;NMP</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>15791.07</strong></td>
<td><strong>122.96</strong></td>
<td><strong>15914.03</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II</strong></td>
<td>Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd.,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>784.34</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>784.34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>III</strong></td>
<td>Social Defence</td>
<td>18.11</td>
<td>66.31</td>
<td>84.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IV</strong></td>
<td>Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project – PUDHU VAZHUV</td>
<td>634.29</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>634.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>V.</strong></td>
<td>Annapoorna Scheme</td>
<td>27.65</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>27.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>17255.46</strong></td>
<td><strong>189.27</strong></td>
<td><strong>17444.73</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graph 14.3.3: Department-wise Twelfth Plan Outlay for the Welfare of Women, Aged, Destitute and Child Rights