

BACKWARD CLASSES, MOST BACKWARD CLASSES AND MINORITIES WELFARE

DEPARTMENT

DEMAND NO.9

POLICY NOTE 2006-2007

INTRODUCTION

Tamil Nadu has been formulating various welfare schemes which are necessary for the upliftment of people belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities and implementing them diligently and effectively and expeditiously. Having realised the importance of their sustained educational and economic development, this Government created the Department of Backward Classes in the year 1969 itself. It would be worth mentioning here that this Government only created a separate Department for the welfare of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities in the year 1989. Of the total population of Tamil Nadu, two third of the people belong to the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities. The provision of reservation is imperative for their educational and economic upliftment. The Government has steadfast faith in the ideology that only through the implementation of indubitable policy of reservation, creation of proper infrastructure facilities for providing quality education, creation of appropriate institutional structure required for economic development and through implementation of job-oriented training schemes, for amelioration of these depressed classes, development could be possible to these people.

RESERVATION:

2 (i) The Government, strongly believes that sustained Socio-Economic development of these people could be possible and achieved interalia only through adopting reservation policy in educational institutions and employment in Government services. Tamil Nadu is a forerunner to other States in the implementation of Reservation Policy for Backward Classes as early as in 1921.

(ii) The extent of reservation has increased in phases as per the needs of the people, which at present stands at 69% of which 30% reserved for Backward Classes and 20% for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities. Insofar as educational institutions are concerned the policy of reservation is implemented only in Government and Government aided institutions. As soon as the present Government assumed office, this Government has changed the scenario and

enacted legislation on 31.5.2006 to implement the policy of reservation even in the private educational institutions excluding Minorities institutions.

(iii) Further, the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly has unanimously passed a resolution on 31.5.2006 urging Government of India to go ahead with the 27% reservation of other Backward Classes in all the educational institutions controlled and financed by Government of India. In this connection, the Legislative Assembly has also suggested that an ordinance may be proposed to implement this reservation.

(iv) The Government bestows special interest on the welfare of Muslims and Christians for their educational and economic upliftment for which it would introduce necessary Legislation for providing reservation in all educational institutions and employment opportunities in Government services.

(v) This Government have been urging the Union Government continuously to bring a constitutional amendment empowering the states to determine the percentage of reservation according to their own needs.

(vi) At present there is no provision in the Constitution to provide reservation in private sectors. Hence this Government is taking all earnest efforts to request the Government of India to bring in an amendment to Article 16 of the Constitution to realise this goal.

(vii) The cases questioning the validity of the Tamil Nadu Act 45/1994 providing 69% reservation of seats in educational institutions and appointment in Public services have been pending in the Supreme Court of India since 1994. This Government have taken all efforts for expeditious disposal of these cases pending before the Supreme Court.

EDUCATION

KALLAR SCHOOLS

3 (i) Education is an indispensable tool for achieving economic development and Social upliftment. Hence, the Government is running 260 co-educational schools in Madurai, Theni and Dindigul Districts for the educational upliftment of students belonging to Piramalai Kallar Community. 49,633 students have been enrolled in these schools in 2005-06. Government is also running 1081 hostels for the welfare of students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities taking into account the low level of literacy rate and the high level of drop-out rate in rural areas. Out of these 1081 hostels, 13 college hostels and 130 school

hostels are functioning exclusively for the welfare of students belonging to Denotified Communities. 10,407 students have benefited from these hostels during 2005-06.

(ii) This Government has allotted nearly 76% of funds exclusively for education out of the total allocation provided in the Budget for the welfare of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities during the current year. This allocation clearly shows the importance accorded to education sector by this Government. The Government is taking various measures to provide all facilities to the Kallar schools to bring them on par with the schools functioning under the control of Education Department. To keep pace with the advancement in Information Technology, the students studying in the Kallar Reclamation Higher Secondary Schools and High Schools are imparted Computer Education. The Government is very particular in providing basic amenities and maintenance of these schools. For the maintenance of these schools, **Rs.2682.31 lakhs** has been provided for this year. Facilities such as drinking water, electricity, toilets etc., have been provided to these schools. Further electrically operated Roneo machines are being provided to all the Higher Secondary Schools and High Schools.

(iii) In order to promote healthy competition among the students of Kallar schools, a scheme of award of prizes is implemented for the students who secure high marks in 10th and 12th standard Public examinations. Accordingly students are awarded a prize of Rs.3,000/- for securing first place, Rs.2,000/- for securing second place and Rs.1,000/- to three students, boys or girls for securing third place.

DISTRIBUTION OF SLATES, NOTE BOOKS AND TEXTBOOKS IN KALLAR SCHOOLS

4 (i) In Kallar Reclamation schools, slates are supplied to students studying in 1st to 3rd std. Note books are supplied to students studying in 3rd to 10th Std; Text Books are supplied to students studying in 1st to 12th Std.

(ii) In the current year, **Rs 45.00 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

DISTRIBUTION OF UNIFORMS

5 (i) Each year, two sets of Poly Cotton uniform material along with stitching charges are provided to students studying in 1st to 8th standard in Kallar Reclamation Schools.

(ii) The boarders of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities hostels studying upto 10th standard are provided with two sets of poly cotton uniform material along with stitching charges. During the year 2006-07, **Rs.181.05 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

(iii) At present, the students in 1st standard to 8th standard in Kallar schools sit on the floor. Hence, it has been proposed to provide benches and desks to these students. In the first phase, a sum of **Rs.269.67 lakhs** has been allotted for the provision of four seater combined desk and bench to the students studying from 5th to 8th standards during the year 2006-07.

SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

6 (i) The following scholarship schemes are implemented for the educational upliftment of students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities,

- (1) Prematric Scholarship Scheme
- (2) Postmatric Scholarship Scheme
- (3) Free Education (Degree courses)
- (4) Free Education (Polytechnic courses)
- (5) Free Education (Professional courses)

(ii) The scheme for the provision of Free Education without any condition to students belonging to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities from 10th standard to Degree level was first introduced by this Government in the year 1989-90 and the scheme is still in existence. This scheme has been extended to the students belonging to Backward Classes with some conditions. This free Education scheme with some conditions has been extended to the students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying in Polytechnic courses and Professional courses such as Medicine, Engineering, Law, Agriculture and Veterinary Science.

(A) PREMATIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

(i) REIMBURSEMENT OF SPECIAL FEES

This scheme of reimbursement of special fees for the students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying in Government and Government aided-schools, under the prematric scholarship scheme is as follows: -

Special fees at the rate prescribed in the scholarship notification are reimbursed to the students belonging to Denotified Communities studying from 6th to 8th standard and to the students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying in 9th standard.

(ii) DISTRIBUTION OF FREE TEXTBOOKS

The students studying from 1st standard to 12th standard in Government and Government-aided schools are supplied with free textbooks. The expenditure incurred under the scheme by the School Education Department for Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students is reimbursed to Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation by this Department.

(iii) EXAMINATION FEES

The Public Examination fees payable by the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying in 10th standard are directly reimbursed to the Department of Government Examinations by this Department.

(iv) TUITION FEES FOR ENGLISH MEDIUM EDUCATION

The Backward Classes students studying from 6th to 10th standard in Government schools and Government-aided schools in English Medium of education are reimbursed with the tuition fees as per notification, subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/- and no one should be a graduate in the family. However, the students belonging to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities are reimbursed with the tuition fees without any conditions.

For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.2147.65 lakhs** has been allotted for prematric scholarship scheme.

(B) POSTMATRIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

(i) BACKWARD CLASSES

The Backward Class students studying in Higher Secondary classes, Degree courses, Post-Graduate courses, Industrial Training courses, Polytechnic courses and pursuing Research studies are reimbursed with the tuition fees, special fees and book fees as prescribed in the Scholarship Notification, and the examination fees are reimbursed in full, subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/-.

(ii) MOST BACKWARD CLASSES & DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES

The Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students studying P.G. courses, Polytechnic courses, Industrial Training courses and Research studies are reimbursed with the tuition fees, special fees and book fees as prescribed in the Scholarship Notification and the examination fees are reimbursed in full, subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/-.

(iii) EXAMINATION FEES

The Public Examination fees payable by the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying in 12th standard are directly reimbursed to the Department of Government Examinations by this Department.

(iv) TUITION FEES FOR ENGLISH MEDIUM EDUCATION

The Backward Classes students studying in 11th and 12th standards in Government and Government-aided schools in English Medium of education are reimbursed with the tuition fees as per notification, subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/- and there are no graduates in the family. However, the students belonging to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities are reimbursed with their tuition fees without any conditions.

For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.3059.07 lakhs** has been allotted for Postmatric Scholarship Scheme.

FREE EDUCATION (DEGREE COURSES)

7 (i) The students belonging to Backward Classes, studying from 10th standard to 3 year Degree courses are provided with Free Education, subject to the condition that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/- and the beneficiary is the first graduate in the family. Under

this scheme, course fees, special fees, examination fees and other non-refundable fees are reimbursed. For Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students, these conditions do not apply.

(ii) During the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.2541.70 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

FREE EDUCATION (PROFESSIONAL AND POLYTECHNIC COURSES)

8 (i) The students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities who are studying Polytechnic courses and Professional courses such as Medicine, Engineering, Law, Agriculture, Veterinary Science are provided with Free Education, subject to the conditions that their parental annual income should not exceed Rs.50,000/- and the beneficiary is the first graduate in the family. Under this scheme, course fees, special fees, examination fees and other non-refundable compulsory payable fees, as prescribed by the Government, are reimbursed.

(ii) For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.2010.23 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

PREMATRIC SCHOLARSHIP

9 (i) In order to improve the Educational standard of the Other Backward Classes students of Tamil Nadu studying in schools, the Government of India Prematric Scholarship Scheme on 50:50 basis between the State and Centre is being implemented from the year 2003-04. Under this scheme parental annual income limit should not exceed Rs.44,500/-.

During the year 2005-06, a sum of **Rs.400.00 lakhs** has been received from the Government of India as its share and spent under this scheme.

POSTMATRIC SCHOLARSHIP

(ii) In order to improve the Educational standard of the Other Backward Classes students of Tamil Nadu studying in Higher Secondary Schools, Degree courses, Polytechnic Diploma courses and Professional Degree Courses, the Government of India Postmatric Scholarship Scheme on 100% financial assistance from the Centre is being implemented from the year 2003-04. Under this Scheme parental annual income limit should not exceed Rs.44,500/-.

During the year 2005-06, a sum of Rs.290.00 lakhs has been received from the Government of India and spent under this scheme.

RURAL INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR MOST BACKWARD CLASSES AND DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES GIRL STUDENTS

10 (i) Poverty is the main reason for the high level of school drop-out rate in the rural areas. Particularly, this situation is prevalent among the girl students of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities. In order to overcome drop out owing to poverty and to encourage the girl students of rural areas to continue their studies up to middle school level, the Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities girl students of rural areas who are studying 3rd to 5th standards are given an incentive of Rs. 500/- per annum and studying 6th standard are given an incentive of Rs.1000/- per annum at the rate of Rs.100/- per month for ten months. The scheme which was introduced by this Government during 1999 - 2000, still continues to be implemented. To avail benefit under this scheme, parental annual income should not exceed Rs.25,000/-. Under this scheme 90,000 girl students of Most Backward Classes and Denotified communities are benefited every year.

(ii) For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.600.00 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

SCHEME FOR AWARD OF PRIZES

STATE LEVEL PRIZES

11 (i) Under this scheme, two first prizes (one boy and one girl student) are awarded to the students who secure highest mark in 10th and 12th standard Public Examinations at State level. First prize for 12th standard is Rs.3,000/- in the case of Backward Classes and Rs.5,000/- in the case of Most Backward Classes/ Denotified Communities. First prize for 10th standard is Rs.1,500/- in the case of Backward Classes and Rs.3,000/- in the cases of Most Backward Classes/ Denotified Communities.

DISTRICT LEVEL PRIZES

(ii) Two first prizes (one boy and one girl) are awarded to students who secure highest mark in the 12th Standard Public Examination at the District Level. In the case of Backward Class student Rs.1500/- and in the cases of Most Backward Class/Denotified Community student Rs.3000/- is awarded as cash prize. Similarly two first prizes, two second prizes and two third prizes (one boy and one girl student) are awarded to students who secure highest marks in the 10th standard Public

Examination at the District Level. In the case of Backward Classes student Rs.500/-, Rs.250/- and Rs.150/- are awarded as first, second and third prizes respectively. In the case of Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities student Rs.1000/-, Rs.500/- and Rs.300/- are awarded as first, second and third prizes respectively.

For the year 2006-07, a sum of Rs.2.35 lakhs has been allotted for this scheme.

PERARIGNAR ANNA MEMORIAL AWARD

(iii) A cash prize of Rs.3000/- each is awarded as Perarignar Anna Memorial Award per annum, for two boys and two girls belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, who secured the highest and the next highest marks in the 12th standard Public Examination at the District level and joining professional courses. The Cash prize is awarded to them for four/five years.

For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.14.00 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

THANTHAI PERIYAR MEMORIAL AWARD

(iv) A cash prize of Rs.3000/- per annum is awarded, as Thanthai Periyar Memorial Award, for two boys and two girls belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, admitted in Polytechnic Courses in each District who have the highest and the next highest marks in the 10th standard Public Examination for three years.

For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.9.60 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

DISTRIBUTION OF FREE BI-CYCLE

12 (i) Free Bi-cycles are distributed to students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities who study in Higher Secondary classes in Government, Government aided and Partly aided schools without income ceiling.

(ii) For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.6035.55 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

HOSTELS

13 (i) 1081 hostels are functioning all over Tamil Nadu for the welfare of poor students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities. Of this, 601 hostels under the control of Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department and 480 hostels under the control of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department are functioning. 61,989 boys and girls students are benefitted by staying in these hostels. Students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.50,000/- are admitted into these hostels.

(ii) Of the 1081 hostels, 511 hostels are functioning in Government buildings. Sufficient basic facilities, such as drinking water, toilet, bathroom etc., have been provided in these hostels for the convenience of the students. Further, construction of buildings to 461 hostels are under various stages. Besides, the Government have decided to construct own buildings in a phased manner for the remaining 109 hostels functioning in private buildings.

(iii) The boarders of these hostels are provided with food as per weekly menu. For quick preparation and timely serving of food to the students, wet grinders and LPG connections have been provided to these hostels. To school hostel boarders at the rate of Rs.300/- per month per student and the College hostel boarders at the rate of Rs.400/- per month per student are sanctioned.

(iv) The following additional facilities have also been provided for the welfare of the boarders of these hostels:-

1. All the college hostels have been provided with colour Television sets.
2. All the hostels have been provided with sports materials.
3. In order to develop the General Knowledge and General Awareness of the boarders, Library facilities and daily News papers (one English and two Tamil dailies) are provided to all the hostels.
4. In order to encourage the boarders to score high marks in the 10th and 12th standard Government Public Examinations, special guides in all the subjects are provided.

(v) During the year 2006-07, **Rs.60.38 lakhs** has been allotted for the provision of blankets to the boarders of these hostels and **Rs.10.90 lakhs** has been allotted for provision of reference books to the libraries of the college hostels in order to encourage the boarders to excel in their studies.

(vi) A sum of **Rs.5637.01 lakhs** has been provided for the administration and maintenance of these hostels including food charges for the boarders for the year 2006-07.

(vii) Further a sum of **Rs.4319.00 lakhs** has been allotted for the construction of buildings to hostels during the current year.

BOARDING GRANTS TO GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED PRIVATE HOSTELS

14 (i) Apart from the hostels run by the Department, 39 private hostels have been recognised by the Government for the benefit of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students. Boarding grant of Rs.200/- p.m. per student for 10 months is sanctioned to the boarders of these hostels whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.50,000/-.

(ii) For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs. 40.78 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

15. In order to raise the standard of living of the oppressed people belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, schemes for their economic development such as distribution of free Sewing Machines and Iron Boxes, further Job Oriented Training Programmes are also implemented by this Department.

DISTRIBUTION OF SEWING MACHINES

16 (i) In order to provide self employment opportunities to the people belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities sewing machines are provided free of cost to the rural beneficiaries whose annual income does not exceed Rs.16,000/- and to the urban beneficiaries whose annual income does not exceed Rs.24,000/-.

(ii) For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.30.00 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

DISTRIBUTION OF IRON BOXES

17 (i) In order to improve the economic conditions of those who are involved in the occupation of laundry, Iron-boxes are distributed free of cost to rural beneficiaries whose annual income does not exceed Rs.16,000/- and to the urban beneficiaries whose annual income does not exceed Rs.24,000/-.

(ii) For the year 2006-07, a sum of **Rs.47.00 lakhs** has been allotted for this scheme.

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES

Special Training Institutes for All India Services

18 (i) To enable the talented and intelligent aspirants belonging Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities who are socially backward to compete and come out successfully in the All India Civil Service Examination, this Government have started Special

Training Institutes, thirty five years back in 1971 itself. In this institute, 100 candidates are offered special coaching annually. The aspirants belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities are admitted to these institutes without any income criteria. However, the admission to hostels attached to these institutes are offered only to the aspirants whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.50,000/-The boarders of these hostels are provided with Rs.500/- as food charges per month.

(ii) A similar institute was functioning at Chennai for the aspirants belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. However, based on the principle of Samathuvapuram that social solidarity and cohesion could be achieved only through living together of various communities, this Government merged both the institutes during the year 1999-2000 and the integrated institute is now functioning efficiently under the control of Anna Institute of Management, Chennai.

(iii) For the year 2006-07 a sum of Rs.33.56 lakhs has been allotted for this scheme.

JOB ORIENTED TRAINING COURSES

19 (i) To enable the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities who are economically backward, to get gainful Job opportunity or self employment for their economic amelioration, Job Oriented Training courses are conducted. These Job Oriented Training courses are being conducted, mostly through Government institutions and wherever such institutions are not available, through recognized private institutions. The entire training fee is borne by the Government. These training courses are provided in the fields of Computer, Cosmetology, Leather goods manufacture, Plastic machine operator, Certificate course in footwear production, certificate course in Leather goods manufacture, Preparation of food, serving of food and drinks, Hotel Management, Receptionist in Hotels, Interior Decoration, Bakery and Confectionery, Automobile Mechanic, Refrigeration mechanic, Air conditioning Mechanic, Call center training, Heavy vehicle Driver Training and other similar Job Oriented Courses. Further, in order to enhance the job opportunities, this Government decided to increase the number of institutions imparting Job Oriented courses and thereby increase the number of beneficiaries.

(ii) A sum of **Rs.164.80 lakhs** has been allocated for the implementation of these schemes during the year 2006-07.

ISSUE OF FREE HOUSE SITE PATTAS

20 (i) To enable the depressed classes people to construct houses on their own, the Government have formulated the scheme of issue of free house sites to the Most Backward Communities, particularly for the Barbers, Salavai Thozhilalar, Boyars and Narikuravars in the year 1981-82. This scheme was subsequently extended to all Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities in the year 1990-91. This Government during 1997-98, extended this scheme to Backward Classes and Forward Castes who are living below poverty line in rural areas and it was implemented till the year 2000-01. Under this scheme from its inception till 2000 -2001 1,93,300 free house site pattas had been distributed. Out of this during the period of five years from 1996-97 to 2000-01 a total allocation of Rs.6142.80 lakhs was made for this scheme and 1,54,099 free house site pattas have been distributed. This scheme was then dispensed with in the year 2001-02. Issue of free house site pattas to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities and Forward castes will be revived from the current year. A sum of **Rs. 525.00 lakhs** has been allocated for the implementation of this scheme during the year 2006-07.

(ii) Besides this scheme, in order to encourage the beneficiaries who have already received pattas under this scheme, to build houses in the habitation, infrastructural facilities viz., formation of streets, provision of street lights, drinking water facility, sanitation and other such basic amenities are being provided.

(iii) A sum of **Rs. 128.00 lakhs** has been allocated for this scheme for the year 2006-07.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PERFORMING FUNERAL RITES

21. This Government introduced the scheme of providing Rs.500/-as financial assistance for performing funeral Rites for the people belonging to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities who are living below the poverty line, in the year 2000-01 and the same is being implemented since then. A sum of Rs.100.00 lakhs has been allocated for this scheme for the year 2006-07.

OTHER SCHEMES

THANTHAI PERIYAR AWARD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

22. The Government have introduced the Thanthai Periyar Award for Social Justice to honor those who have struggled for Social Justice. The Award consists of one Sovereign Gold Medal and Rs.1.00 lakh cash. A sum of Rs.1.25 lakhs has been allocated for this scheme for the year 2006-07.

TAMILNADU BACKWARD CLASSES COMMISSION

23. In pursuance of the direction of the Supreme Court in the Mandal Commission case, the Government have constituted a Permanent Commission in 1993 called "The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission", to examine and to recommend the claims and requests relating to inclusion and exclusion of communities from the list of Backward Classes/ Most Backward Classes. Periodic revision of list of Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes is also entrusted to the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission. The Commission is now conducting enquires on the representations received from various community organizations and individuals for inclusion of their communities in the list of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and also objections thereto. The Commission has been reconstituted in G.O. Ms. No. 30, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department, dated 11.7.2006 under the Chairmanship of Justice Thiru M.S. Janarthanam.

Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation

24 (i) Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation (TABCEDCO), a State Government Undertaking was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 on 16.11.1981 and it commenced its operations on 22.5.1982. The main objective of the Corporation is to foster the economic development of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities by providing loans for the economically and financially viable schemes, trade or project to the individuals, groups, societies. TABCEDCO is also acting as State Channelising Agency for National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi and provide financial assistance by way of Term Loan.

(ii) The following institutions are acting as sub-channelising agencies for the disbursement and recovery of loan:-

- 1) Tamilnadu Industrial Cooperative Bank
- 2) Tamilnadu Handloom development Corporation
- 3) Co-operative Banks
- 4) Private and Nationalised Banks and
- 5) Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers Federation Ltd (Aavin)

(iii) Under the Chairmanship of Sub-Registrar of Co-operative Societies, an Inspection Committee has been formed in each district. This Committee will scrutinize the loan applications

select the eligible persons and send them to the concerned Banks for providing financial assistance. So far, Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation has received funds to the tune of Rs.6815.54 lakhs from 1993-1994 to 31.3.06 from the National Backward Classes Finance and development Corporation, New Delhi to provide financial assistance by way of Term Loan to the beneficiaries belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities and utilized in full.

(iv) Further, to provide loans to the Minorities a sum of Rs.464 lakhs was received as Term Loan from the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, New Delhi. In the case of Minorities, a sum of Rs.143.30 lakhs had been sanctioned as Term loan by TABCEDCO, prior to the commencement of business by Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation and balance amount transferred to TAMCO for utilisation.

(v) So far, this Corporation has released a sum of Rs.5099.98 lakhs to 43,291 beneficiaries in respect of Industrial Co-operative Societies, Members of District Co-operative Milk Producers Union and individual loans (including loans for improvement of basic amenities in Government hostels functioning in Private Buildings.)

(vi) Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation is also implementing the scheme of providing Rs.2000/- each to the women in self help groups for doing small trades and petty shops through Co-op Societies.

(vii) Under this scheme, Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation has so far provided loans to the tune of Rs.2131.76 lakhs benefiting 1,06,588 women with the assistance of loan provided by National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi.

LOAN ASSISTANCE TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME TRAINED WOMEN (EDP)

(viii) To enable women entrepreneurship on par with the Men, TABCEDCO is implementing loan scheme Entrepreneurship Development Programme for trained women belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities and disbursing loan to the maximum project cost of Rs.10,000/- each. Under this scheme, so far loans have been disbursed to 315 women beneficiaries involving a sum of Rs.30.58 lakhs.

TAMIL NADU WAKF BOARD

25 (i) The Tamil Nadu Wakf Board has been re-constituted as per the provisions contained in the Wakf Act 1995 (Central Act 43 of 1995), which came into force with effect from 1.1.1996. It consists of 13 members. Twenty three Wakf Tribunals having jurisdiction over 30 districts have been constituted for determining any dispute relating to Wakf or Wakf property. The Government sanction administrative grant every year from the State funds to meet the operative expenses of the Tamil Nadu Wakf Board. A sum of **Rs. 45.00 lakhs** has been provided for the year 2006-2007.

Repairs and Renovation grant:

(ii) The Government sanction grant every year to the needy and eligible wakf institutions through the Tamil Nadu Wakf Board for the renovation of Mosques / Dargahs and for the construction of compound wall / barbed wire fencing around the Muslim burial grounds (Kabarasthans). A sum of **Rs.10.00 lakhs** has been provided under this scheme for the year 2006-2007.

ULEMA PENSION SCHEME:

(iii) The Ulemas who have rendered service as Pesh Imam, Muazzin, Arabic Teacher or Muzawar (Muslim) and who have attained the age of 60 years after serving for 20 years in any surveyed and notified Wakf paying annual contribution, and who are in indigent circumstances are paid a sum of Rs.750/- per month, as pension. In case of Physically Handicapped persons the age limit and service required were relaxed to 50 years and 10 years respectively. Powers have been delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, Tamil Nadu Wakf Board, to sanction Ulema Pension on the recommendation of the Ulema Pension Sanction Committee. The sanctioned strength of the beneficiaries under the scheme is 2200. At present, the number of beneficiaries receiving Ulema Pension is 1870. A sum of **Rs. 100.00 lakhs** has been provided for this scheme for the year 2006-2007.

ANNADANAM SCHEME

(iv) The Tamil Nadu Wakf Board is implementing Annadanam Scheme in 12 Darghas in Tamil Nadu. Under this scheme, the poor Muslim devotees are fed at Darghas every Thursday from out of the public donations received from the philanthropists.

TAMIL NADU STATE HAJJ COMMITTEE

Constitution of the Committee:

26 (i) The Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee was constituted for the first time in 1958 by an executive order of the Government as per the Hajj Committee Act 1958. Subsequently, the Government of India notified a new Hajj Committee Act, 2002 on 12.6.2002 and asked the State Governments to take steps for the constitution of the State Hajj Committee under the provisions of the new Hajj Committee Act, 2002. In G.O. (Ms). No.34, Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department, dated 27.6.2003, the Government constituted, the Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee and notified the appointment of 16 members including the Executive Officer of the Committee who is an ex-officio member.

The proposal for re-constitution of Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee is under consideration of the Government.

Sanction of Grants:

(ii). The Government sanction a grant of Rs.10.00 lakhs every year to the Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee to meet its administrative expenses. The Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee takes care of the welfare of the Hajj pilgrims during their pilgrimage and makes necessary arrangements for providing assistance like transit accommodation to the out station pilgrims at Chennai, transport facilities from the transit point to the Air Port and supporting arrangements for operation of flights from Chennai to Jeddah. A sum of **Rs. 10.00 lakhs** has been provided under this scheme for the year 2006-2007.

(iii) In addition to the administrative grant, the Government sanction grants to the Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee every year to meet the expenditure on deputation of Hajj Volunteers to Saudi Arabia and for deputation of representatives to Saudi Arabia for selection of buildings to accommodate the pilgrims. A sum of **Rs. 6.75 lakhs** has been provided for this purpose for the year 2006-2007.

MUSLIM WOMEN AID SOCIETY

27. Muslim Women Aid Society, registered under the Societies Registration Act was founded at Chennai on 1st October 1892. The Collector of Chennai district is the President of the above Society. The main object of the Society is to help destitute Muslim widows by sanctioning monthly allowance and to help deserving Muslim women and girls and to organise a home for training destitute Muslim women in handicrafts and small scale industries. The Society raises its funds by accepting donations from volunteers. The Government have been sanctioning grant every

year to the Muslim Women Aid Society, matching the amount raised by the society. A sum of **Rs. 2.50 lakhs** has been allocated for the year 2006-2007. The proposal in regard to implementing this scheme in other Districts of Tamil Nadu is under consideration of the Government.

NEW SCHEMES

28. The following new schemes will be implemented during 2006-07.

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Sl. No	Details of Schemes	Ultimate Cost	Cost during 2006-07
Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare			
1.	Provision of Telephone line, Fax and Copier to 18 Districts Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare officers	12.06	12.06
2.	Replacement of one copier machine for Director of Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare.	0.54	0.54
3.	Computerisation of the Directorate of Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare.	2.78	2.78
4.	Supply of Bed sheets to boarders in School & College BC Hostels	32.66	32.66
5.	Supply of Wet Grinders to 100 Backward Classes Hostels.	8.00	8.00
6.	Provision of Water Purifiers in 200 BC Hostels	22.00	22.00
7.	Purchase of reference books to 71 Backward Classes College hostels.	7.10	7.10
8.	Provision of Compound Walls to 2 Backward Classes Girls hostels.	5.50	5.50
Total for Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare		90.64	90.64
Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities			
9.	Provision of Fax and Copier to Directorate of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities	0.67	0.67
10.	Supply of Bed sheets to Boarders in Most Backward Classes / Denotified Communities Schools and College Hotels	27.72	27.72
11.	Supply of Wet Grinders to 75 Most Backward Classes and 25 Denotified Communities hostels	8.00	8.00
12.	Provision of Water Purifiers to 200 Most Backward Classes / Denotified Communities hostels	22.00	22.00
13.	Provision of Compound walls to 2 Most Backward Classes Girls hostels.	6.98	6.98
14.	Provision of 10 Computers each to 8 Kallar Reclamation Higher Secondary School	24.00	24.00
15.	Provision of 5 Computers each to 23 Kallar Reclamation High Schools.	34.50	34.50
16.	Provision of four-seater combined wooden bench and desk to students studying from Std V to VIII	269.67	269.67
17.	Provision of subject reference books to 25 Most Backward Classes and 13 Denotified Communities College hostels	3.80	3.80

Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities		397.34	397.34
Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee			
18.	Purchase of Computers to Hajj Committee	1.40	1.40
Total for Hajj Committee		1.40	1.40
Tamil Nadu Wakf Board			
19	Purchase of Copier Machine to Wakf Board	0.60	0.60
20	Purchase of furniture to Wakf Board	10.00	10.00
21.	Grants to Wakf Board for Maintenance of Divorced Muslim Women.	1.00	1.00
Total for Wakf Board		11.60	11.60
Grand Total		500.98	500.98

Conclusion:

This Government consider as its prime duty to protect and promote the interests of welfare of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes Denotified Communities and Minorities. With a view to fostering the upliftment of these groups, this Government is firm in following the effective implementation of the reservation policy and implementing the welfare programmes intended for the benefit of these groups and thereby stand foremost among all other States in this regard.

M.R.K. PANNEERSELVAM,
MINISTER FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

ANNEXURE

ALLOTMENT FOR 2006-07

(Rs. in lakhs)

Department	Revenue	Capital	Loan	Total
Secretariat	166.63	-	-	166.63
Wakf, Hajj and Muslim Women Aid Society	177.27	-	10.00	187.27
Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare	14425.21	2483.44	-	16908.65
Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities	12840.60	1835.57	-	14676.17
Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission	35.16	-	-	35.16
Tamil Nadu State Minorities Commission	22.40	-	-	22.40
Total	27667.27	4319.01	10.00	31996.28