



**BACKWARD CLASSES, MOST BACKWARD CLASSES
AND MINORITIES WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

**POLICY NOTE
2017-2018**

DEMAND No. 9

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Minster for Backward Classes
and Minorities Welfare**

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Government of Tamil Nadu
2017

INDEX

SL. No.	Contents	Page
1.	Introduction	1
2.	Reservation	3
3.	Education	5
4.	Incentive scheme for rural girl students of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities	18
5.	Hostels	19
6.	Kallar Reclamation Schools	29
7.	Uniforms	33
8.	Bi-cycles	34
9.	Prizes and Awards	36
10.	Livelihood Promotion	37
11.	Distribution of house sites	39

12.	Welfare Boards	40
13.	Vanniyar Public Property Welfare Board	46
14.	Thanthai Periyar Award for Social Justice	46
15.	Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation	47
16.	Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission	53
17.	Minorities Welfare	56
18.	Tamil Nadu State Minorities Commission	69
19.	Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation	70
20.	Tamil Nadu Waqf Board	76
21.	Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee	79
22.	Annexure	86

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INTRODUCTION

The Government is implementing various welfare schemes for the educational, economic and social upliftment of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities.

The Government provides scholarship, hostel facilities, bi-cycles for the educational advancement of students of these communities. The Government also runs Kallar Reclamation schools for the educational upliftment of the Piramalai Kallar Community. In order to promote

livelihood opportunities of the poor of these communities, the Government implements schemes such as distribution of sewing machines, iron boxes, house sites and loan schemes through the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation and the Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation. Further, the Government provides various social welfare assistance to the people of Narikuravar Community and Denotified Communities through the Welfare Boards constituted for the communities.

The Government implements various schemes for the welfare of the Minorities, such as assistance to Hajj pilgrimage, financial assistance to Jerusalem pilgrimage, grant of Rs.1 crore to take up maintenance and renovation works in churches and pension for Ulemas. The Ulema pension has been enhanced from Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,500 per month, from the year 2016-2017.

2. RESERVATION

Tamil Nadu has been a pioneer State in implementing reservation policy in appointments to Government jobs and admissions in educational institutions since 1921. The Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified communities and Minorities account for over two third of the State population. The extent of reservation for the above communities along with the reservation for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been enhanced steadily to 69% in the State. The details are as follows.

Sl. No.	Category	Percentage of reservation
1	Backward Classes	26.5
2	Backward Class Muslims	3.5
3	Most Backward Classes / Denotified Communities	20
4	Scheduled Castes	18
5	Scheduled Tribes	1
Total		69

Consequent to the judgement delivered by the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court of India in Indira Sawhney Vs Union of India (Mandal Commission cases), restricting reservation to 50%, the Government of Tamil Nadu has enacted the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of seats in Educational Institutions and of appointment or posts in the Service under the State) Act, 1993 (Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1994) to continue the 69% reservation in the State. Subsequently the Act was included in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution to get protection under Article 31-B of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court in its judgement on 13.07.2010 in the case challenging the Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1994 has directed the State Government to provide all quantifiable data to the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission and on the basis of the data, the Commission

should decide the quantum of reservation to be provided to various communities in the State. Accordingly the Government provided necessary data to the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission and the Commission after analysing the data has recommended 69% reservation without excluding creamy layer. Accordingly the Government on 11.07.2011 has passed orders continuing the 69% reservation without exclusion of the creamy layer, which is a mile stone in history of social justice in Tamil Nadu.

3. EDUCATION

Education is the prime mover of economic and social upliftment of the society. The Government provides hostel facilities for students belonging to Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities across the State and runs Kallar Reclamation schools in Madurai, Theni and Dindigul districts. The Government has taken up

a massive programme for providing own buildings to all the hostels functioning in rental buildings. The Government also implements schemes to provide scholarship, uniform, books and bicycles for the students belonging to these communities. Major portion of the budget allotment of the department is spent on schemes related to educational advancement of these communities.

3.1 Educational Scholarship Schemes

The Government implements three types of scholarship schemes, namely Prematric, Postmatric and Free Education to the poor students of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities to continue their studies uninterruptedly. The Government has enhanced the ceiling of annual income of parents for availing scholarships from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.2 lakh from the year 2013-2014.

3.1.1 Prematric Scholarship

Under the scheme, tuition fee is sanctioned to the students of Backward Classes studying in English medium in Government and Government aided schools at the rate of Rs.200 per annum from 6th to 8th standard and Rs.250 per annum for 9th and 10th standard, subject to the conditions that the annual income of parents should not exceed Rs.2,00,000 and there should not be any graduate in the family. Examination fee for the Backward Classes students studying 10th standard in English Medium is reimbursed to the Director of Government Examinations subject to the above conditions. Tuition fee for students belonging to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Community studying in English medium in the above standards, is sanctioned without any conditions on par with the students of Backward Classes. Similarly, examination fee for students of Most Backward Classes and

Denotified Communities studying in 10th standard in English medium is reimbursed to the Director of Government Examinations without any conditions.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure to the tune of Rs.303.27 lakh has been incurred benefitting 1,28,210 students. The details are as follows.

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
70,527	57,683	1,28,210	167.55	135.72	303.27

A sum of Rs.159.05 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.159.77 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department, totalling Rs.318.82 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

3.1.2 Postmatric Scholarship for school students

Under the scheme, tuition fee is sanctioned to the students of Backward Classes studying 11th and 12th standard in English medium in Government and Government aided schools at the rate of Rs.500 per annum subject to the conditions that the annual income of parents should not exceed Rs.2,00,000 and there should not be any graduate in the family. Examination fee for the Backward Class students studying 12th standard in English medium in Government and Government aided schools is reimbursed to the Director of Government Examinations subject to the above conditions. Tuition fee for students belonging to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Community studying in English medium in the above standards, is sanctioned without any conditions on par with the students of Backward Classes.

Similarly, examination fee for students of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying in 12th standard in English medium is reimbursed to the Director of Government Examinations without any conditions. In addition to the scholarship amount, Boarding and Lodging charges at the rate of Rs.175 per month for 10 months in a year is sanctioned to students who are staying in hostels attached to Educational Institutions.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.375.56 lakh benefitting 90,761 students under the scheme. The details are as follows.

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
52,110	38,651	90,761	246.73	128.83	375.56

3.1.3 Postmatric Scholarship for college students

Under the scheme, students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying Diploma in Polytechnic, Post Graduate, Professional and Ph.D. courses are sanctioned Special fee, Tuition fee, Book Money and examination fee. Special fee and Tuition fee are sanctioned as fixed for the Government educational institutions, book money is sanctioned as fixed in the scholarship notification and examination fee is sanctioned in full. The ceiling of annual income of parents for availing scholarships has been enhanced from Rs.1,00,000 to Rs.2,00,000 from the year 2013-2014. Students studying in the second shift in Government and Government aided colleges are also eligible for the scholarships. In addition to the scholarship amount, Boarding and Lodging charges are sanctioned to students who are staying in hostels attached to Educational

Institutions. Boarding and Lodging charges are sanctioned at the rate of Rs.350 per month for professional courses, Rs.225 per month for ITI / Diploma and Post Graduate courses for 10 months in a year.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.8493.10 lakh benefitting 2,28,862 students under the scheme. The details are as follows.

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
1,70,292	58,570	2,28,862	5,499.55	2,993.55	8,493.10

A sum of Rs.6,300 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.3,345.58 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.9,645.58 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

3.1.4 Free education - Degree Courses

Under the scheme, students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying in three year Degree Courses in Government and Government aided Arts and Science colleges are sanctioned special fee and other non-refundable compulsory fee as prescribed by the Government, book money as fixed in the scholarship notification and examination fee in full without any condition. In addition to the scholarship amount, Boarding and Lodging charges at the rate of Rs.175 per month for 10 months in a year is sanctioned to students who are staying in hostels attached to Educational Institutions.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.3,340.39 lakh benefitting 2,03,586 students. The details are as follows.

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	Total	BC	MBC / DN	Total
1,15,360	88,226	2,03,586	1,930.45	1,409.94	3,340.39

A sum of Rs.2,050 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.1,358.04 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.3,408.04 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

3.1.5 Free education - Diploma Courses

Under the scheme, students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying diploma courses in Government and Government aided Polytechnics are sanctioned tuition fee, special fee and non-refundable compulsory fee as prescribed by the Government, book money as fixed in the scholarship notification and examination fee in

full, subject to the conditions that the annual income of parents should not exceed Rs.2,00,000 and the beneficiary should be the first diploma holder / graduate in the family. In addition to the scholarship amount, Boarding and Lodging charges at the rate of Rs.225 per month for 10 months in a year is sanctioned to students who are staying in hostels attached to Educational Institutions.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.268.45 lakh benefitting 7,160 students. The details are as follows.

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	Total	BC	MBC / DNC	Total
4,397	2,763	7,160	167.05	101.40	268.45

A sum of Rs.260 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.275.82 lakh for Most

Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.535.82 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

3.1.6 Free education - Professional Courses

Under the scheme, students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities selected under Government quota through single window system and studying professional courses in Government, Government aided and Self-financing Colleges, are sanctioned special fee and non-refundable compulsory fee as prescribed by the Government, book money as fixed in the scholarship notification and examination fee in full, subject to the conditions that the annual income of parents should not exceed Rs.2,00,000 and the beneficiary should be the first graduate in the family. In addition to the scholarship amount, Boarding and Lodging charges at the rate of Rs.350 per month for

10 months in a year is sanctioned to students who are staying in hostels attached to Educational Institutions.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.9,807.41 lakh benefitting 1,93,930 students. The details are as follows.

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	Total	BC	MBC / DNC	Total
1,18,351	75,579	1,93,930	5,962.12	3,845.29	9,807.41

A sum of Rs.7,086.28 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.4,386.95 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.11,473.23 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

3.1.7 Web enabled sanction of Scholarship

Sanction and disbursement of scholarship to the college students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities is implemented through the web application www.escholarship.tn.gov.in developed by the National Informatics Centre. From the year 2013-2014 scholarship amount is being directly credited into the bank account of the students through ECS by the District Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Officers. During the year 2016-2017, the system has been modified so that scholarship is directly disbursed by the respective heads of departments.

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

This scheme is implemented to improve rural girl students enrolment in schools. Under

the scheme Rs.500 per annum is given to rural girl students of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, studying in III to V standard and Rs.1,000 per annum is given to girl students studying VI standard. Allotment for this scheme has been doubled to Rs.1,400 lakh from the year 2012-2013.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.1,361.55 lakh benefitting 2,25,899 girl students.

A sum of Rs.1,434.50 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

5. HOSTELS

1,338 Government hostels are run across the State to enable the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities to pursue their studies without any hindrances. Out of this, 731 are functioning under the control of the

Backward Classes Welfare Department, 591 are functioning under the control of the Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department and 16 are functioning under the control of the Minorities Welfare Department. Total sanctioned strength of the hostels is 84,314. Students whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.1 lakh are eligible for admission in the hostels. No charges, including food charges, are collected from the hostel boarders. Entire hostel expenditure of the boarders is borne by the Government.

From the year 2011-2012 the District Collectors have been empowered to admit, 10% additional students to these hostels, over and above the sanctioned strength. If demand for hostel admissions exists even after sanctioning additional seats by District Collectors, the Heads of the Departments have been empowered to admit 2,185 students additionally over and above

the sanctioned strength of the hostels in the State. Apart from this, 5 additional seats are allotted to each hostel to accommodate children of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees who reside in camps.

Children of plantation workers who have their native places in Tamil Nadu but working in plantations in Kerala border adjacent to Theni District have been exempted from producing community and income certificates for admission in the hostels in Theni District from the year 2012-2013. Instead, students are admitted in the hostels, on the basis of self declaration of the parents.

5.1 Food Charges

The Government has enhanced the monthly food charges of the school hostel boarders from Rs.755 to Rs.900 and college hostel boarders from Rs.875 to Rs.1,000 from

1.6.2017. Monthly miscellaneous charges have been enhanced from Rs.25 to Rs.50 per student for school hostels and from Rs.35 to Rs.75 per student for college hostels from 01.02.2012. Charges for special food provided to the boarders during festivals has been increased from Rs.2 to Rs.20 per student for school hostels and from Rs.3 to Rs.40 per student for college hostels from the year 2013-2014.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.21,278.76 lakh towards food charges, administration and maintenance of hostels.

A sum of Rs.14,119.43 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.11,606.08 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.25,725.51 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

5.2 Other benefits provided to the boarders of hostels

1. During 2016-2017 career guidance programmes were conducted to make 10th standard, 12th standard and college hostel students aware of the various job opportunities available and make them employable. The programme was implemented through the Employment and Training Department and covered 36,224 students.
2. One English and two Tamil dailies are subscribed for each hostel.
3. The boarders of hostels studying upto XII standard are provided with all text books free of cost by the Department of School Education.
4. Special guides at free of cost are provided to the hostel boarders studying

in 10th and 12th standard to improve their performance in Public Examinations.

5. Four sets of uniforms at free of costs are given to the hostel boarders studying from IV to X standard as per the colour and pattern adopted under Noon Meal Scheme from the year 2013-2014.
6. Colour television, play materials, water purifier, book shelves, wet grinder, mixer, napkin incinerator, fire extinguishers, idly steamer, library books and electric insect destroyer are supplied to the hostels. In addition, inverter, reference books and two tier bunk cots are supplied to the college hostels.
7. Mats / Jamukalam, bed sheets, stainless steel plates and tumblers are provided

to all hostel boarders. Woolen sweaters are provided to the boarders of hostels located in hill stations. Supply of mats every year and bed sheets in alternate year to hostel boarders have been regularised from the year 2013-2014.

8. Three medical checkups are conducted for all hostel boarders and Kallar Reclamation school students every year.
9. Boiled eggs are provided at the rate of one per student per day for five days in a week. Bananas are given to the boarders who do not take eggs.
10. Mutton and chicken are respectively provided on the first and third Wednesday and second and fourth Wednesday every month.
11. Sundal and coffee/ tea are provided to the boarders, daily in the evening.

5.3 Boarding Grant to the Government Recognised Private Hostels

Boarding grant at the rate of Rs.650 per month per student for 10 months in a year is sanctioned to the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities staying in 39 Government recognised private hostels subject to the condition that their parental annual income does not exceed Rs.50,000.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.76.73 lakh for 1,179 students. The details are as follows.

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
639	540	1,179	41.58	35.15	76.73

A sum of Rs.52 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.50 lakh for Most

Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.102 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

5.4 State Level Awards to Best Wardens/ Matrons

State level prizes are awarded to the wardens / matrons based on their overall performance including effective administration of hostels and performance of students in examinations. The prizes are awarded at the rate of Rs.5,000, Rs.3,000 and Rs.2,000 respectively for the first, second and third places. During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.0.10 lakh.

A sum of Rs.0.10 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

5.5 Construction of own Buildings for Hostels

Out of the 1,338 Government hostels, 1,252 hostels have been housed in own

buildings. Out of the 86 hostels functioning in rented buildings, orders have been issued for construction of 50 hostels and works are in progress. Action has been taken to construct buildings for the remaining 36 hostels. Solar photo voltaic power plant and solar water heater are being installed in the new hostel buildings.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.1476.78 lakh for construction of hostel buildings.

A sum of Rs.449.50 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.279 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.728.50 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

5.6 Maintenance of Hostels

Maintenance of hostels functioning in Government buildings is taken up through the

Public Works Department. An allotment of Rs.600 lakh is being provided every year for taking up maintenance works.

6. KALLAR RECLAMATION SCHOOLS

To improve the educational level of Piramalai Kallar community, 292 Kallar Reclamation schools are run by the Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department, in Madurai, Theni and Dindigul districts which have predominant population of the community. This includes 214 Primary Schools, 21 Middle Schools, 22 High Schools and 35 Higher Secondary Schools which totally benefit 27,227 students. During the year 2011-2012, Lower Kindergarten English medium classes were started in 15 Kallar Primary Schools in Madurai, Theni and Dindigul districts at the rate of 5 in each district. At present these schools have LKG to 4th standard English medium classes with 413 boys and 452 girls.

Students of Kallar Reclamation schools are given special cash incentive, foot wear, lap-top, school bag, geometry box, crayons and Atlas by the School Education department as provided to the students studying in Government / Government aided schools. During the academic year 2016-2017, Kallar Reclamation schools have recorded a pass percentage of 94.8% and 92.8% in 10th and 12th standard respectively, in the public examinations.

The Government has ordered for upgradation of middle schools functioning in Keeripatti and Ayyanarkulam villages of Madurai district as high schools and high schools functioning in Perungamanallur village of Madurai district and Mallanampatti village of Dindigul district as higher secondary schools, at a cost of Rs.1.47 crore during the year 2016-2017, in order to enable students of these

schools to pursue their higher classes in the same schools.

During the year 2016-2017, expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.7,894.68 lakh for the administration of Kallar Reclamation schools.

A sum of Rs.9,824.68 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

6.1 Maintenance of Kallar Reclamation School Buildings

The Government allocates Rs.1 crore annually, from the year 2011-2012, for carrying out maintenance and repair works in Kallar Reclamation schools. Apart from this, furniture has been supplied at a cost of Rs.9.67 lakh to 5 Kallar Reclamation Higher Secondary Schools during the year 2016-2017.

6.2 Prize scheme for the Headmasters / Teachers of Kallar Reclamation schools

The scheme of awarding prizes to headmasters of Kallar Reclamation High Schools and Higher Secondary Schools was introduced in the academic year 2011-2012. The Headmasters of those schools which achieve pass percentage of 95% and above in 10th and 12th standard public examinations are selected for the award, which consists of Rs.10,000 and a Certificate of Appreciation.

Similarly the scheme of awarding cash incentive of Rs.5,000 to PG / B.T Teachers of Kallar Reclamation Schools, who achieve 100% result in their subject in 10th and 12th standard public examinations, is being implemented from the academic year 2014-2015.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.25.95 lakh

for awarding prizes to 458 Headmasters / Teachers.

A sum of Rs.18 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018 under the scheme.

7. UNIFORMS

Four sets of uniforms are supplied at free of cost every year to the boarders of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minority hostels studying upto 10th standard. Similarly four sets of uniforms are supplied to the students of Kallar Reclamation schools studying upto 8th standard by the Social Welfare Department. Colour and pattern of the uniforms have been changed from the year 2013-2014. Clothes for uniforms are procured from the Co-optex and stitched by the District Women Weavers Co-operative Societies functioning under the control of the Social Welfare Department.

During the year 2016-2017, uniforms have been supplied to 49,187 boarders at a cost of Rs.456.58 lakh. The details are as follows.

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
26,742	22,445	49,187	286.48	170.10	456.58

A sum of Rs.245.73 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.174.73 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.420.46 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

8. BICYCLES

Bicycles are supplied free of cost to the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities, studying 11th standard in Government,

Government aided and partly aided schools, without any condition. Bicycles are not supplied to the students staying in hostels situated in school premises and students of residential schools. Distribution of bicycles is monitored through online (www.agaram.tn.gov.in/freecycles).

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.17,315.48 lakh for distribution of bicycles to 4,40,869 students. The details are as follows.

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
2,30,444	2,10,425	4,40,869	9,319.05	7,996.43	17,315.48

A sum of Rs.9,327.78 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.8,664.49 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling

Rs.17,992.27 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

9. PRIZES AND AWARDS

Based on the rank list furnished by School Education Department, this Department has implemented various prize schemes at State and District level to encourage the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minority students to get higher marks in 10th and 12th standard public examinations.

In order to reduce the psychological stress to the students and avoid unhealthy competition among the Educational Institutions, it was decided by School Education Department to do away with the ranking system from 2016-2017.

In these circumstances, since the prize money is sanctioned to the students till the completion of their courses under the following prize schemes implemented by this Department, viz. Perarignar Anna Memorial award, Thanthai Periyar Memorial award, Chief Minister's Merit award scheme and Financial assistance for pursuing 11th and 12th standard in best private schools, the students who have got the prizes earlier i.e. during the academic 2015-2016 or before, will continuously be sanctioned the prize money till the completion of their courses.

10. LIVELIHOOD PROMOTION

Sewing machines and iron boxes are distributed free of cost to the economically poor Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Community people for improving their livelihood. Annual family income of the beneficiaries should not be more than Rs.40,000 in rural areas and Rs.60,000 in urban areas.

10.1 Distribution of sewing machines

During the year 2016-2017 sewing machines have been distributed to 1,192 beneficiaries of Backward Classes and 1,275 beneficiaries of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, at a total cost of Rs.82.76 lakh.

A sum of Rs.40 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.42.80 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.82.80 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

10.2 Distribution of iron boxes

During the year 2016-2017 iron boxes have been distributed to 1,827 beneficiaries at a cost of Rs.84.96 lakh. A sum of Rs.85 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

11. DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSE SITES

Under the scheme house sites are assigned to the houseless of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities free of cost, subject to the condition that the annual income of the beneficiaries should not exceed Rs.40,000 in rural areas and Rs.60,000 in urban areas.

During the year 2016-2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.218.77 lakh covering 843 beneficiaries.

A sum of Rs.200 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.150 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.350 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

12. WELFARE BOARDS

The Government has formed Welfare Boards for the social, educational and economic development of the Denotified Communities and Narikoravar community. Members enrolled in the boards are sanctioned various welfare assistances as provided for the members of the Welfare Boards for the unorganized labourers, functioning under the administrative control of Labour and Employment Department.

12.1 Denotified Communities Welfare Board

Members enrolled in the Board are sanctioned various welfare assistances such as, accident relief, educational assistance, marriage assistance, maternity assistance and old age pension. So far, a sum of Rs.200 lakh has been provided to the Board.

Welfare assistance provided to members enrolled in the Denotified Communities Welfare Board

1	Accident Relief	
	a) Death due to accident	Rs.1,00,000
	b) Disability due to accident	Rs.10,000 to Rs.1,00,000
2.	Natural death	Rs.15,000
3.	Funeral expenses	Rs.2,000
4.	Educational assistance	
	a) Girls Studying X standard	Rs.1,000
	b) Students passed X standard	Rs.1,000
	c) Girls studying XI standard	Rs.1,000
	d) Girls studying XII standard	Rs.1,500
	e) Students passed XII standard	Rs.1,500
	f (i) Regular degree course	Rs.1,500
	(ii) Regular degree course with hostel facility	Rs.1,750
	g(i) Regular post graduate degree course	Rs.4,000

	(ii) Regular post graduate degree course with hostel facility	Rs.5,000
	h (i) Professional degree course	Rs.4,000
	(ii) Professional degree course with hostel facility	Rs.6,000
	i(i) Professional post graduate degree course	Rs.6,000
	(ii) Professional post graduate degree course with hostel facility	Rs.8,000
	j(i) ITI or Vocational Training	Rs.1,000
	(ii) ITI or Vocational Training with hostel facility	Rs.1,200
5.	Marriage assistance	Rs.2,000
6.	a) Maternity assistance of Rs.1,000 per month for 6 months. b) Abortion	Rs.6,000 Rs.3,000
7.	Reimbursement of Spectacle expenses	Upto Rs.500
8.	Old age pension per month	Rs.1,000

Upto 31.03.2017 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.52.33 lakh for providing various welfare assistances to the registered members of the board.

12.2 Tamil Nadu Narikoravar Welfare Board

Members enrolled in the Board are sanctioned various welfare assistances such as, accident relief, educational assistance, marriage assistance, maternity assistance and old age pension.

Financial assistance is provided to the registered members of the Board to take up self employment activities either individually or as a group, at the rate of Rs.7,500 for individual and a maximum back ended subsidy of Rs.1,25,000 for a group. So far a sum of Rs.815 lakh has been provided to the Board.

Welfare assistance provided to registered members of the Tamil Nadu Narikoravar Welfare Board

1.	Accident Relief	
	a) Death due to accident	Rs.1,00,000
	b) Disability due to accident	Rs.10,000 to Rs.1,00,000
2.	Natural death	Rs.15,000
3.	Funeral expenses	Rs.2,000
4.	Educational assistance	
	a) Students studying from 1 st to 5 th standard	Rs.500
	b) Students studying from 6 th to 9 th standard	Rs.1,000
	c) Girls Studying X standard	Rs.1,000
	d) Students passed X standard	Rs.1,000
	e) Girls studying XI standard	Rs.1,000
	f) Girls studying XII standard	Rs.1,500
	g) Students passed XII standard	Rs.1,500
	h (i) Regular degree course	Rs.1,500
	(ii) Regular degree course with hostel facility	Rs.1,750
	i (i) Regular post graduate course	Rs.4,000

	(ii) Regular post graduate course with hostel facility	Rs.5,000
j	(i) Professional degree course	Rs.4,000
	(ii) Professional degree course with hostel facility	Rs.6,000
k	(i) Professional post graduate course	Rs.6,000
	(ii) Professional post graduate courses with hostel facility	Rs.8,000
i	(i) ITI or Vocational Training	Rs.1,000
	(ii) ITI or Vocational Training with hostel Facility	Rs.1,200
5.	Marriage assistance	Rs.2,000
6.	Financial Assistance to Pregnant Women	
	a) Maternity Assistance of Rs.1,000 per month for 6 months	Rs.6,000
	b) Abortion	Rs.3,000
7.	Reimbursement of Spectacle expenses	Upto Rs.500
8.	Old age pension per month	Rs.1,000

Upto 31.03.2017, expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.684.65 lakh for providing various welfare assistances to the registered members of the Board.

A sum of Rs.100 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

13. VANNIYAR PUBLIC PROPERTY WELFARE BOARD

The Government has formed the Vanniyar Public Property Welfare Board to identify and integrate various charitable trusts bequeathed by the Vanniyar philanthropists and to find ways and means to fulfill the objectives of the trusts. So far, 79 Vanniyar Public Properties / Trusts spread over 18 districts in the State have been identified.

14. THANTHAI PERIYAR AWARD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Thanthai Periyar award is being given by the Government to honour those who have

made outstanding contribution for the cause of social justice. The award carries a gold medal of 1 sovereign and a cash prize of Rs.1 lakh. The award was instituted in the year 1994. The awardee is selected by the Hon'ble Chief Minister every year. Thanthai Periyar award for Social Justice for the year 2016 has been awarded to Thiru.Panruti S.Ramachandran.

A sum of Rs.1.50 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

15. TAMIL NADU BACKWARD CLASSES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation was established in the year 1982 with the objective of providing loan assistance to take up economic activities, at lower rate of interest to the poor of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes

and Denotified Communities. It is a State owned Corporation registered under the Companies Act, 1956. The Corporation has an authorised share capital of Rs.30 crore and a paid up capital of Rs.12.27 crore. The Corporation has been acting as the State channelising agency of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation and obtains loan from the latter upon the Guarantee given by the Tamilnadu Government for funding various loan schemes.

TABCEDCO has been awarded **Performance Award (Gold)** for the year 2015-2016 by the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC), New Delhi for its all India level best performance. The award was presented by the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India during the NBCFDC's Silver Jubilee celebration held on 13.1.2017 at New Delhi.

The Government has alienated Government land free of cost in Egmore Taluk, Chennai district, to the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation. Construction of own building to the corporation at a cost of Rs.2.84 crore was executed by the Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has inaugurated the office building on 16.5.2017.

15.1 Loan Schemes

Loans provided by the Corporation contains contribution of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, Tamilnadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation and the beneficiaries. District level Screening Committee consisting of the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, District Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Officer, General Manager of District Industries Centre and Managing Director of the respective

District Central Co-operative Banks, selects the beneficiaries for various loan schemes. The Corporation sanctions and disburses loans through Co-operative Banks / Societies.

Annual family income limit for all the loan schemes has been enhanced from Rs.81,000 to Rs.98,000 in rural areas and from Rs.1,03,000 to Rs.1,20,000 in urban areas, with effect from 29.07.2015.

15.1.1 General Term Loan Scheme

Under the scheme, loans upto Rs.5 lakh are sanctioned at 6% rate of interest per annum. Loans above Rs.5 lakh and upto Rs.10 lakh carry 8% rate of interest per annum. Repayment period vary from 3 to 5 years.

15.1.2 New Swarnima Scheme for Women

This scheme is implemented to inculcate the spirit of self-dependence among women.

Under the scheme, maximum loan of Rs.1,00,000 per beneficiary is sanctioned at 5% rate of interest per annum. Repayment period vary from 3 to 5 years.

15.1.3 Micro Credit for Women

Under the scheme, micro finance is provided to Women Self Help Groups for taking up small trade / business, either individually or as a group. Maximum loan limit is Rs. 50,000 per beneficiary which carries 4% rate of interest per annum. Repayment period is 3 years.

15.1.4 Micro Credit for Men

Under the scheme, micro finance is provided to Men Self Help Groups for taking up small trade / business, either individually or as a group. Maximum loan limit is Rs. 50,000 per beneficiary which carries 5% rate of interest per annum. Repayment period is 3 years.

During the year 2016-2017, an amount of Rs.10,604.79 lakh has been disbursed to 24,992 beneficiaries. The details are as follows.

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Micro Credit Schemes	23,517	9,494.29
2.	General Term Loan Scheme	994	900.18
3.	New Swarnima Scheme for Women	481	210.32
Total		24,992	10,604.79

For the year 2017-2018, it has been proposed to provide loans to the tune of Rs.10,000 lakh under various schemes.

15.1.5 Loan cum Subsidy Scheme for Small and Marginal Farmers for creating Irrigation Facility

Under the scheme, small and marginal farmers of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, are

provided loan assistance through Co-operative Banks / Nationalised Banks, to create irrigation sources upto a maximum of Rs.1,00,000 with 50% Government subsidy. So far subsidy to a tune of Rs.1,059.86 lakh has been disbursed benefitting 2,361 small and marginal farmers.

The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation has introduced new loan schemes such as Krishi Sampada (Micro Credit loan for small farmers / vegetable growers), Shilp Sampada (Term loan for traditional Artisans and Craft persons), Saksham (Term loan for young professionals) from the year 2012-2013.

16. TAMIL NADU BACKWARD CLASSES COMMISSION

The Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission has been constituted as a permanent body under Article 16(4) read with

Article 340 of the Constitution of India, pursuant to the directions of the Supreme Court of India in Indra Sawhney and others Vs. Union of India and others (J.T. 1992 (6) SC 273), known as Mandal case. The Commission functions from 15.3.1993 onwards, under the Chairmanship of a retired Judge of High Court.

The functions of the Commission are quasi-judicial in nature. The following are the terms of reference for the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission.

- (i) The Commission shall entertain, examine and recommend upon requests for inclusion and complaints of over-inclusion and under-inclusion in the lists of Backward Classes / Most Backward Classes.

- (ii) Periodic revision of list of Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes in the State as and when decided.
- (iii) The Commission shall base its recommendations in the light of the provision contained in Article 16(4) read with relevant provisions of the Constitution of India and the various decisions of the Supreme Court bearing on the subject.
- (iv) The Commission shall examine and make recommendations on any other matter relating to Backward Classes that may be referred to it by Government from time to time.

The Commission has been reconstituted under the Chairmanship of Justice Thiru M.S.Janarthanam, retired Judge of High Court, with eight Members for a term of 3 years with effect from 28.12.2015.

17. MINORITIES WELFARE

Tamil Nadu has been in the forefront in the upliftment of the Socio, Educational and Economic status of the minorities. This Government is implementing various welfare schemes effectively to bring the minority people on par with majorities.

17.1 Separate Reservation

A separate reservation of 3.5% has been provided to Backward Class Muslims out of the 30% reservation earmarked for Backward Classes.

17.2 Scholarships

The Government is implementing the following scholarship schemes of Government of India effectively to the students belonging to Christian, Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist, Parsi and Jain religions of the Minority Communities studying

from 1st Standard to Professional Degree / Research level courses in Government / Government Aided and all the Government Recognized Institutions.

1. Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme
2. Post-matric Scholarship Scheme
3. Merit-cum-means based Scholarship Scheme

The annual income of the parent / guardian shall not exceed Rs.1 lakh for Pre-matric scholarship, Rs.2 lakh for Post-matric scholarship scheme and Rs.2.50 lakh for Merit-cum-means based scholarship scheme. Students who secured minimum of 50% marks in the previous year final examination will get the benefit under these schemes. Out of the total beneficiaries, 30% is earmarked for girl students under these schemes.

17.2.1 Prematric Scholarship Scheme

This scholarship is sanctioned to the minority students studying from 1st to 10th standard with the 100% financial assistance of the Government of India. Scholarships are directly credited into the students' bank account under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

The students studying from 6th to 10th standard are sanctioned admission fee upto Rs.500 per annum and Tuition fee upto Rs.3,500 per annum. Apart from this, maintenance allowance of Rs.100 per month is granted to the day scholars studying from 1st standard to 10th standard and Rs.600 per month for the hostel boarders studying from 6th to 10th standard for a maximum period of 10 months in a year.

During the year 2016-2017, scholarship have been disbursed to the tune of Rs.5,643.36 lakh to 3,01,949 students.

17.2.2 Postmatric Scholarship Scheme

This scholarship is sanctioned to the Minority students studying from 11th Standard to research courses with 100% financial assistance of the Government of India. Scholarships are directly credited into the students' bank account under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

Under this scheme, scholarship ranging from Rs.3,000 to Rs.10,000 is sanctioned towards admission and Tuition fee per annum. Maintenance allowance ranging from Rs.3,800 to Rs.12,000 to the hostellers and from Rs.2,300 to Rs.5,500 to the day scholars per annum are sanctioned depending on the course of study.

During the year 2016-2017, scholarship have been disbursed to the tune of Rs.2,091.23 lakh to 37,779 students.

17.2.3 Merit-Cum-Means Based Scholarship Scheme

This scholarship scheme is implemented with 100% financial assistance of Government of India with a view to encourage the Minority students to score higher marks and pursue Professional/Technical courses. Scholarships are directly credited into the students' bank account under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

Under the scheme course fee upto Rs.20,000 per annum is sanctioned for students pursuing Professional and Technical courses in Government, Government aided and Private colleges recognized by the Government. Maintenance fee is sanctioned at the rate of Rs.10,000 for hostel boarders and Rs.5,000 for day scholars per annum.

During the year 2016-2017, scholarship have been disbursed to the tune of Rs.1,139.12 lakh to 4,556 students.

17.3 Minorities Hostels

For the benefit of Minority students 16 Minority hostels are functioning at Chennai, Vellore, Krishnagiri, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli, Dindigul, Madurai, Theni, Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram and Kanniyakumari districts with free boarding and lodging facilities.

As provided to the inmates of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities hostels, Minorities hostel boarders are also provided with two Tamil and one English Dailies in order to develop general knowledge. Library facilities are made in these hostels. Four sets of uniforms, mats, jamukalam, bedsheets, Stainless steel plates and tumblers are supplied. Special Guides are also supplied every year to the X and XII standard students to get good marks in Public Examinations. In order to safeguard the health of the inmates, medical

check-ups are conducted for all hostel boarders three times in a year. Colour Television, Water purifier, Solar water heater, Invertors are provided to the hostels.

For the maintenance of the above hostels Rs.194.69 lakh has been spent during the year 2016-2017.

A sum of Rs.323.08 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

17.4 Muslim Women Aid Society

In order to provide assistance to the poor destitute and aged Muslim Women, Muslim Women Aid Societies have been formed in all the District Head Quarters headed by the District Collector as Ex-officio Chairman. These societies are registered under Societies Registration Act. Matching grants which were sanctioned by the Government equivalent to the amount of donation collected by the societies upto

Rs.10 lakh per annum at 1:1 ratio has been doubled from the year 2012-2013 and granted at the rate of 1:2 ratio upto Rs.20 lakh per annum.

Under this scheme financial assistance and free training in the field of tailoring embroidery, shoe making, artisan and other need based training are being given to the destitute widow, poor and aged Muslim women.

The Government has sanctioned Rs.141.18 lakh as Matching grant to the Muslim Woman Aid Societies for the year 2016-2017.

A sum of Rs.50 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018. The Government allotment will be increased by providing matching grant equivalent to double the amount of donations collected by the Muslim Women Aid Societies.

17.5 Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme

In Tamil Nadu, Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme is being implemented

in order to ensure that equitable share under various schemes is extended to minorities in proportion to their population, and the progress is being monitored.

Benefits of Integrated Child Development Services, job opportunities, grant of scholarship, self-employment programme, upgradation of skills through technical Training, recruitment to State-Central Governments, improvement in condition of slums inhabited by Minority Communities, providing rehabilitation assistance to the victims of the communal riots and prevention and controlling of communal riots are important purpose of this scheme.

A State level Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government and District level Committee under the Chairmanship of the District Collector have been constituted to monitor the proper implementation of this programme.

17.6 Rehabilitation Assistance

Minority families who have lost their livelihood due to communal riots and discharged prisoners of petty offences are given financial assistance upto Rs.10,000 per family to set up petty trades and lead a decent life in the society.

17.7 Financial Assistance for Jerusalem Pilgrimage

A scheme of providing financial assistance for Jerusalem pilgrimage by all sects of Christians in Tamil Nadu has been initiated during the year 2011-2012 and Rs.1 crore per annum has been allotted for sanction of financial assistance to 500 pilgrims at the rate of Rs.20,000 per pilgrim. So far 2,800 Christians have performed this pilgrimage.

A sum of Rs.100 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018.

17.8 Grant in Aid for Repair and Renovation of Churches

A scheme of providing financial assistance to repair and renovation of Christian Churches has been introduced by the Government from the year 2016-2017. A sum of Rs.1 crore has been allotted for this Scheme.

17.9 Ulemas and Other Employees Welfare Board

The Ulemas and Other Employees Welfare Board was formed and functioning for the upliftment of educational and economic status of the Ulemas, Aalims, Pesh-Imams, Arabic Teachers, Mothinars, Bilal and other Employees working in Mosques, Madarasas, Darghas, Ashurkhanas, Burial grounds, Thaikas, Muslim Orphanages etc.

So far 13,464 members have been enrolled in this Welfare Board and identity cards have been issued to them.

The details of financial assistance provided to the members enrolled in this Board.

Sl. No.	Details of Assistance	Amount of Assistance Rs.
1	Accidental Relief	
	a) Death due to accident	1,00,000
	b) Disability due to accident	10,000 to 1,00,000
2	Natural Death	15000
3	Funeral Expenses	2000
4	Scholarship	
	a) Girl student studying in X Std.	1000
	b) Student passed in X Std.	1000
	c) Girl student studying in XI Std.	1000
	d) Girl student studying in XII Std.	1500
	e) Student passed in XII std.	1500
	f) Student studying Degree Courses (Day Scholar)	1500
	g) Student studying Degree courses (Hosteller)	1750
	h) Student studying Post Graduate Courses (Day Scholar)	4000

	i) Student studying Post Graduate Courses (Hosteller)	5000
	j) Student studying Under Graduate Professional Courses (Day Scholar)	4000
	k) Student studying Under Graduate Professional Courses (Hosteller)	6000
	l) Student studying Postgraduate Professional Courses (Day Scholar)	6000
	m) Student studying in Postgraduate Professional Courses (Hosteller)	8000
	n) Student studying in ITI/ Vocational Training	1000
	o) Student studying in ITI/ Vocational Training (Hosteller)	1200
5	Marriage assistance	2000
6	Maternity Assistance	
	a) Maternity Assistance of Rs.1,000 per month for six months	6000
	b) Abortion	3000
7	Spectacle	upto 500
8	Old Age Pension	1000 per month

So far Rs.74.25 lakh has been incurred for various welfare schemes benefitting 3,156 beneficiaries.

18. TAMIL NADU STATE MINORITIES COMMISSION

The Tamil Nadu State Minorities Commission is a statutory body, constituted for safeguarding the rights and interests of religious and linguistic minorities.

The Commission is undertaking the functions like examining and monitoring the working of various safeguards provided in the Constitution of India and the laws enacted by the State Government for the protection of minorities, making appropriate suggestions to the State Government regarding the proposed legislations and welfare schemes to be

undertaken in respect of minorities and also making recommendations for ensuring, maintaining and promoting communal harmony in the State.

The Commission has been reconstituted for a period of 3 years under the Chairmanship of Bishop Dr. M.Prakash with six members with effect from 1.1.2016.

19. TAMIL NADU MINORITIES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation is functioning with the objective of providing loan assistance to economically backward religious minorities viz., Muslims, Christians, Buddhists, Sikhs, Parsis and Jains at lower rate of interest. It is a State owned Corporation registered under the Companies Act, 1956. The authorized Share

Capital of this Corporation is Rs.5 crore and a paid up Share Capital is Rs.2.05 crore. The Corporation is acting as the State Channelizing agency of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC). The Corporation obtains loan from NMDFC upon guarantee given by the State Government for funding various loan schemes.

19.1 Loan Schemes

Loans provided by the Corporation contains contribution of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation, Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation and beneficiaries. The Corporation sanctions and disburses loans through Co-operative Banks / Co-operative Societies.

19.1.1 Individual Term Loan Scheme

Under this scheme, loans are provided for economically backward Minorities whose annual

income does not exceed Rs.81,000 in rural areas and Rs.1,03,000 in urban areas for carrying out business / trade. Loan assistance upto Rs.50,000 are sanctioned at 5% interest per annum and from Rs.50,001 to Rs.20 lakh at 6% interest per annum.

It has been provided to sanction loan assistance upto Rs.30 lakh to the minorities at 8% interest per annum for male beneficiaries and 6% interest per annum for women beneficiaries whose annual income exceeds Rs.1.03 lakh and not exceeding Rs.6 lakh.

Auto loan is sanctioned to Minorities who form Industrial Co-operative Societies under the Department of Industries and Commerce and this loan is sanctioned through TAICO Bank at 6% interest per annum.

A loan amount of Rs.50,000 for purchase of two cross breed cows or Rs.70,000 for two

graded Murrah buffalos is sanctioned at 6% interest per annum through AAVIN.

During the year 2016-2017, loan amount of Rs.541.94 lakh has been disbursed to 777 beneficiaries under these schemes.

19.1.2 Micro Financing through Self-Help Groups

Under the scheme, micro finance is provided through Co-operative Banks to members of self help groups for taking up small trade / business. Maximum loan of Rs. 1 lakh per individual is provided at 7% rate of interest per annum for both men and women self help groups, whose annual income does not exceed Rs.81,000 in rural areas and Rs.1,03,000 in urban areas for taking up small business activities such as, sweet stall, footwear, tiffin shop, textile business, manufacturing of pickles, appalam etc.

It has been provided to extend loans upto Rs.1.5 lakh at 10% interest per annum for men and 8% interest per annum for women beneficiaries whose annual income exceeds Rs.1.03 lakh and not exceeding Rs.6 lakh.

Under this scheme Rs.2,039.87 lakh has been disbursed to 5,368 beneficiaries through Self Help Groups during the year 2016-2017.

19.1.3 Education Loan

It has been provided to extend education loan for the students of the minorities, who pursue short term high skill development courses, professional courses (Under Graduate/Post Graduate level) and job oriented degree courses in the Government / private institutions recognized by the Government at the rate of Rs.3 lakh per academic year upto a maximum of Rs.15 lakh at 3% rate of interest per annum. Annual parental income of the

beneficiaries should not exceed Rs.81,000 in rural areas and Rs.1,03,000 in urban areas.

Those who study abroad are eligible for a loan amount of Rs.4 lakh per annum upto a maximum of Rs.20 lakh for a maximum period of 5 years at 3% rate of interest per annum as per the above income criteria.

Minority students who pursue their professional studies in India and whose parental annual income exceed Rs.1.03 lakh but not exceeding Rs.6 lakh, are eligible for a loan of Rs.4 lakh per annum upto a maximum of Rs.20 lakh for a maximum period of 5 years. Similarly, minorities students who study professional courses abroad, whose parental annual income exceed Rs.1.03 lakh but not exceeding Rs.6 lakh are eligible for a loan of Rs.6 lakh per annum upto a maximum of Rs.30 lakh for a maximum period of 5 years. The loan carries 8% interest

per annum for boys and 5% interest per annum for girls.

20. TAMIL NADU WAQF BOARD

The Waqf Act, 1995 (Central Act 43/1995) was enacted and came into force with effect from 01.01.1996 to maintain the Waqf properties properly and to administer the works relating to the waqf. As per the provision of the Act, Tamil Nadu Waqf Board is formed and reconstituted once in 5 years regularly.

Meanwhile, in the year 2013 the Waqf Act, 1995 has been amended by incorporating certain new provisions, to deal effectively in issues like retrieval of Waqf properties from encroachments, prohibiting sale and gift of Waqf properties and development of Waqf properties.

For the determination of disputes arising out of Waqfs and Waqf properties Subordinate courts are functioning as Waqf Tribunals in

25 districts. The work relating to survey of Waqf properties in Tamil Nadu by the Commissioner of Survey and Settlements is under progress.

20.1 Administrative Grant

As the income derived by way of contribution from the Waqf institutions is not sufficient to meet out the administrative expenses of Tamil Nadu Waqf Board, the Government of Tamil Nadu sanctions an administrative grant every year. From the year 2011-2012, the Government has enhanced the administrative grant from Rs.45 lakh to Rs.1 crore. For the year 2017-2018, Rs.1 crore has been allotted for the Tamil Nadu Waqf Board as administrative grant.

20.2 Ulema Pension Scheme

Ulema Pension Scheme is being effectively implemented since 1981. Under the scheme poor Pesh Imams, Mothinars, Arabic Teachers,

Mujawars and those who have served and retired after rendering service in Tamil Nadu Waqf institutions are paid pension. Under the scheme those who have attained 60 years of age and completed 20 years of service are eligible for the pension. The number of beneficiaries under the scheme till 2010-2011 was 2,400. During the year 2011-2012 the number of beneficiaries have been increased to 2,600 and also the pension amount was enhanced from Rs.750 to Rs.1,000 per month. The ulema pension has been enhanced from Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,500 per month from the year 2016-2017.

20.3 Maintenance Payments to Divorced Muslim Women

As per the Section 4(2) of the Muslim Women (Protection of rights on Divorce) Act, 1986 maintenance amount is paid to divorced Muslim women as per the orders of the Court by the Tamil Nadu Waqf Board.

20.4 Major Repair and Renovation Grant

The Government sanctions grant for renovation and repair of Mosques and Dargahs as Major Renovation Grant. A sum of Rs.60 lakh has been allotted for the year 2017-2018 for this purpose.

20.5 Corpus Fund for repair and renovation of Waqf Institutions

In order to carry out major repair and renovation work in Waqf institutions like Mosques and Darghas a corpus fund of Rs.3 crore has been created.

21. TAMIL NADU STATE HAJJ COMMITTEE

21.1 Constitution of the Committee

As per the Hajj Committee Act, 2002, (Central Act No.35 of 2002), the State Government is constituting the Tamil Nadu State

Hajj Committee for a period of three years to look after the welfare of the Hajj pilgrims and also for making necessary arrangements for the successful performance of Hajj pilgrimage with the guidance of Hajj Committee of India and Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi. The Hajj Committee has been reconstituted for the period of three years from 15.6.2017 by nominating 12 members.

21.2 Functions of the Committee

The main functions of the Committee are as follows:

- (i) Receiving of applications from the intending pilgrims and selection of applicants for Hajj pilgrimage from among the residents of Tamil Nadu, by draw of lots using computer software.
- (ii) Periodical instructions to the pilgrims about payment of advance hajj amount, balance

hajj amount, airfare and other dues to the Hajj Committee of India, Mumbai.

- (iii) Sending a official in Building Selection Team to Saudi Arabia for selection of suitable buildings at Makkah and Madinah in coordination with Consulate General of India.
- (iv) Deputation of Hajj volunteers to look after the welfare of the pilgrims from Tamil Nadu during their stay in Saudi Arabia.
- (v) Liaise with the Regional Passport Offices for obtaining passports for the intending pilgrims.
- (vi) Printing and supply of hand book on 'Hajj and Umrah' free of cost in Tamil language every year to the pilgrims.
- (vii) Arranging transit accommodation to the out-station pilgrims and providing transport

from accommodation centres to airport and back, etc., during operation of hajj flights from Chennai to Jeddah/Madinah and back.

- (viii) Holding of orientation / training programmes at various district/taluk headquarters to educate the selected pilgrims on travel formalities and procedures/rituals to be observed during the pilgrimage.
- (ix) Conducting inoculation camps for administering vaccination against meningitis and administering of Polio drops in various districts based on the number of pilgrims.
- (x) Arranging for accommodation to the Hajj pilgrims at Makkah and Madinah.
- (xi) Coordinating with various agencies of Central and State Government, the Hajj Committee of India, Mumbai etc, and other agencies such as Air India, Saudi Arabian

Airlines, Airports Authority of India, Immigration, Customs, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, etc., and the services of other voluntary organisations for smooth and successful Hajj flight operations.

(xii) Other incidental activities relating to Hajj pilgrimage.

21.3 Administrative Grant for the committee

Every year, the State Government sanctions annual administrative grant to the Committee. Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee meets the administrative expenses like payment of salaries to staff, settlement of charges like property tax, electricity charges, metro water and sewerage charges, etc., from out of the grant sanctioned by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The Government of Tamil Nadu enhanced the grant from Rs.20 lakh to Rs.30 lakh from

2013-2014. For the year 2017-2018 Rs.30 lakh has been allotted as administrative grant.

21.4 Sanction of grant for deputation of Hajj volunteers and members in Building Selection Team

The Government also sanctions grants to the Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee to meet expenses on deputation of Hajj volunteers to Saudi Arabia to assist the pilgrims and also for deputation of members in Building Selection Team to Saudi Arabia for selection of buildings. A sum of Rs.10.29 lakh has been provided for the year 2017-2018 for this purpose.

CONCLUSION

This Government is committed to protect and promote the interest and welfare of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities. Various welfare schemes are implemented by the Government for the Socio, Educational and

Economic upliftment of these people. This Government will continue to strive for the welfare of these people.

S. VALARMATHI
Minister for Backward Classes
and Minorities Welfare

ANNEXURE

ALLOTMENT FOR THE YEAR 2017-2018

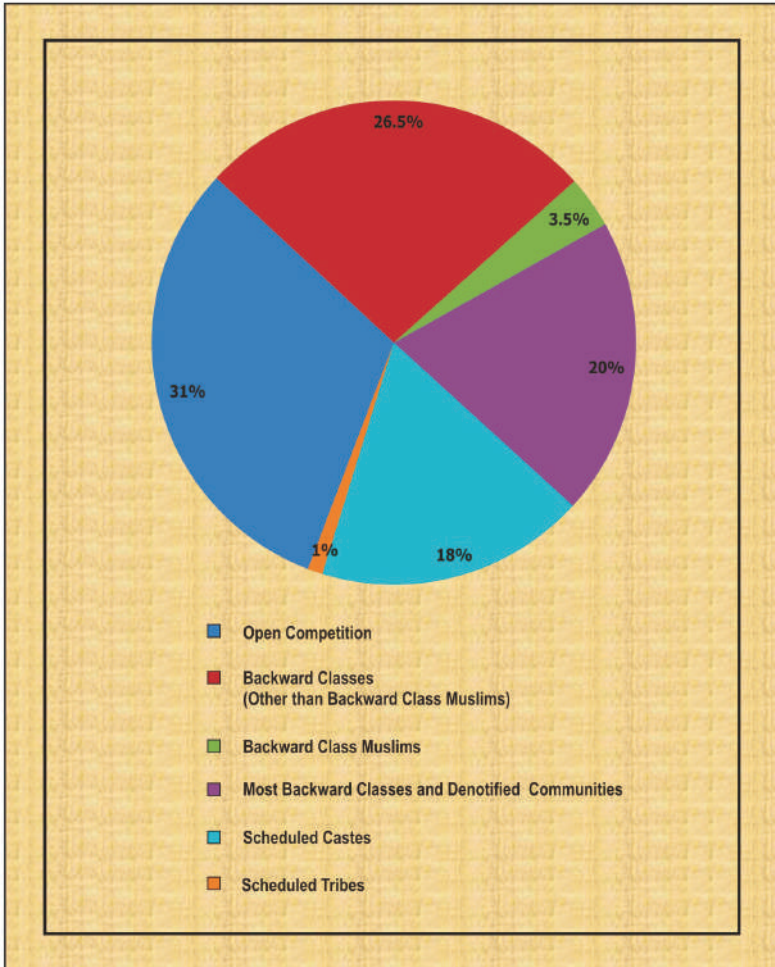
(Rs. in lakh)

Department	Revenue	Capital	Loan	Total
Secretariat	402.95	--	0.01	402.96
Wakf and Hajj Committee	517.09	--	--	517.09
Backward Classes Welfare	47053.92	449.51	--	47503.43
Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities	47488.88	1639.02	--	49127.90
Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission	116.78	--	--	116.78
State Minorities Commission	52.07	--	--	52.07
Minorities Welfare	765.48	290.56	--	1056.04
Total	96397.17	2379.09	0.01	98776.27

DISTRICT WISE DETAILS OF HOSTELS (1338)



DETAILS OF RESERVATION





Hon'ble Chief Minister has inaugurated the newly constructed School and College Hostel Buildings on 16.5.2017



TABCEDCO has been awarded **Performance Award (Gold)** for the year 2015-16 for it's All India Level best performance