

BACKWARD CLASSES, MOST BACKWARD
CLASSES AND MINORITIES WELFARE
DEPARTMENT
DEMAND NO. 9

POLICY NOTE 2016-2017

INTRODUCTION

This Government is implementing various welfare schemes for the educational and economic upliftment of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities. As education is a basic requirement for socio-economic development, the Government places greater emphasis on educational advancement. To achieve educational advancement, the Government provides hostel facilities, scholarships, prizes, incentives, bi-cycles etc., for the benefit of students of these communities. The Government also runs schools for the educational upliftment of Piramalai Kallar Community people. The Government implements schemes such as, distribution of sewing machines, iron

boxes, free house sites and loans for self employment through the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation and the Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation, for promoting livelihood opportunities of the poor of these communities. Further, the Government provides financial assistance for Jerusalem pilgrimage, facilitates Hajj pilgrimage and provides pension to Ulemas.

2. RESERVATION

Tamil Nadu is a pioneer State in implementing the reservation policy, in appointments to Government jobs and admissions in educational institutions. The policy of reservation has been implemented in Tamil Nadu from the year 1921. Reservation has paid good dividends and contributed to substantial socio, economic and educational advancement of these classes. Since Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified communities and Minorities account for over two third of the State's population, the extent of reservation has

made steady upward movement and 69% reservation is followed in the State as detailed below:-

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 Supreme Court in Indira Sawhney Vs Union of India (Mandal Commission cases) restricting the reservation to 50%, the Government of Tamil Nadu, under the guidance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, 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 and subsequently included the same in the Ninth Schedule to the Constitution to get protection under Article 31-B of the Constitution. The Tamil Nadu Act 45 of 1994 was challenged in the Supreme Court and as per the Judgement delivered by the Supreme Court on 13.07.2010, the State Government was directed to supply the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission all quantifiable data and on the basis of the data furnished by the Government, the Commission should decide the quantum of reservation to be provided to the various categories in this State. Based on the quantifiable data provided by the State Government, the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission submitted its report justifying 69% reservation without excluding the creamy layer.

The Government accepted the recommendation of the Commission and passed orders on 11.07.2011 continuing the 69% reservation without the exclusion of the creamy layer in admission of students to educational

institutions and appointments in the services in the State which is a historical achievement.

3. EDUCATION

Education is indispensable for economic and social upliftment. Hence the Government pays special attention to promote literacy and educational standards of the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities. A major portion of the budget allotment of the department is provided for schemes related to educational advancement of these people.

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. This Government has taken up a massive programme of construction of own buildings for all the hostels which are functioning in rental buildings. In addition, the Government also implements various schemes such as scholarships,

supply of uniforms, books and bicycles for the benefit of students belonging to these communities.

4. EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

The Government implements three kinds of Scholarship schemes viz., Prematric, Postmatric and Free Education scheme to enable the poor students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities to continue their studies without interruption. The Government has enhanced the annual income ceiling of parents for availing scholarships from Rs.1 lakh to Rs.2 lakh from the year 2013-2014.

4.1 Prematric Scholarship

The Government has waived payment of special fee for students studying in Tamil and English medium in Government and Government aided schools. Students studying in Tamil medium in Government and Government Aided Schools are also exempted from paying tuition fee. Apart from these, examination fee has also been waived for 10th standard Tamil medium students.

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 for 6th to 8th standard and Rs.250 per annum for 9th and 10th standard subject to the conditions that the annual parental income 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 is reimbursed to the Director of Government Examinations based on the same conditions. With respect to Most Backward Classes and Denotified Community students studying in English medium in the above standards, the tuition fee is sanctioned without conditions on par with the rate sanctioned to the students of Backward Classes. 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 2015-2016 expenditure to the tune of Rs.298.83 lakh has been incurred benefitting 1,01,835 students as given below :-

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
52,736	49,099	1,01,835	154.97	143.86	298.83

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 2016-2017.

4.2 Postmatric Scholarship

The Government has waived payment of special fee for the students studying in 11th and 12th standard in Tamil and English medium in Government and Government aided schools. Students studying in 11th and 12th standard in Tamil medium in Government and Government Aided Schools are also exempted from paying tuition fee. Examination fee has been waived for students studying in 12th standard in Tamil medium and reimbursed to the Director of Government Examinations.

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.500 per annum for 11th and 12th standard subject to the conditions that the annual parental income 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 is reimbursed to the Director of Government Examinations based on the same conditions. With respect to Most Backward Classes and Denotified community students studying in English medium in the above standards, tuition fee is sanctioned at the same rate as sanctioned to the students of Backward Classes without any conditions. Examination fee for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students studying in 12th standard in English medium is reimbursed to the Director of Government Examinations without any conditions.

4.3 Postmatric Scholarship to college students

Students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities studying Diploma in Polytechnics, Post Graduate, Professional and Ph.D. courses were being sanctioned Special fee, Tuition fee and Book Money as per the scholarship notification and examination fee in full till 2011-2012, subject to the condition that the annual income of the parents should not exceed Rs.1,00,000. From the year 2012-2013 Special fee and Tuition fee are being sanctioned as fixed for the Government educational institutions. Annual parental income ceiling for availing scholarships has been enhanced 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 scholarships.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.9,844.56 lakh benefitting 2,25,224 students as given below:-

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
1,34,759	90,465	2,25,224	6,592.52	3,252.04	9,844.56

A sum of Rs.6,425.92 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.3,725.44 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.10,151.36 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

5. FREE EDUCATION

5.1 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 and examination fee in full without any condition.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.2,800.73 lakh benefitting 1,70,276 students as given below:-

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
96,298	73,978	1,70,276	1,687.31	1,113.42	2,800.73

A sum of Rs.1,671.04 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.1,175.97 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.2,847.01 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

5.2 Diploma Courses

Under the scheme, students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities doing diploma courses in Government and Government aided Polytechnic Colleges are sanctioned tuition fee, special fee and non-refundable compulsory fee as prescribed by the Government and examination fee in full, subject to the conditions that the annual parental income should not

exceed Rs.2,00,000 and the beneficiary should be the first diploma holder / graduate in the family.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.540.09 lakh benefitting 14,756 students as given below:-

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
9,193	5,563	14,756	326.27	213.82	540.09

A sum of Rs.338.99 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.275.82 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs. 614.81 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

5.3 Professional Courses

Under the scheme, students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities selected under Government quota through single window system and doing professional courses in Government, Government aided and Self-financing Colleges, are

sanctioned special fee and non-refundable compulsory fee as prescribed by the Government and examination fee in full, subject to the conditions that the annual parental income should not exceed Rs.2,00,000 and the beneficiary should be the first graduate in the family.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.12,682.15 lakh benefitting 1,85,833 students as given below:-

Number of Students			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
1,17,282	68,551	1,85,833	8,239.92	4,442.23	12,682.15

A sum of Rs.8,139.09 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.4,089.16 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.12,228.25 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

5.4 Boarding and Lodging charges

Boarding and Lodging charges are provided under the scholarship scheme to Backward Classes, Most

Backward Classes and Denotified Communities students staying in hostels attached to educational institutions. These charges have been enhanced to Rs.350 per month for professional courses, Rs.225 for ITI / diploma and post graduate courses and Rs.175 for 11th and 12th standard and under graduate degree courses from the year 2013-2014.

5.5 Web Enabled Sanction of Scholarship

The web application, www.escholarship.tn.gov.in developed by NIC is used for sanction and disbursement of scholarship, to the college students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities. Scholarship amount is directly credited into the bank account of the students through ECS from the year 2013-2014.

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

An incentive of 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 in

VI standard. Allotment for the scheme has been doubled to Rs.1,400 lakh from the year 2012-2013. During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.1,419.78 lakh benefitting 2,35,288 girl students.

A sum of Rs.1,434.50 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

7. HOSTELS

1,338 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 hinderances. Out of this, 731 are functioning under the control of the Department of Backward Classes, 591 are functioning under the control of the Department of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities and 16 are functioning under the control of the Department of Minorities Welfare. These hostels totally benefit 84,314 students. Students with annual parental income upto Rs.1 lakh are admitted in the hostels. Students are staying in these hostels without

paying any fee. The Government bears the entire food charges.

The District Collectors have been empowered to sanction 10% additional strength to the needy hostels, from the year 2011-2012. Apart from this, 5 additional seats are created in each hostel to accommodate children of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees who reside in camps.

Children of plantation workers having 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 situated in Theni District from the year 2012-2013. In lieu of these, they are admitted in the hostels, on the basis of self declaration of the parents.

7.1 Opening of New Hostels

New hostels are opened for the benefit of students on need based requirements. 10 new college hostels and 3 school hostels have been opened during the year 2015-2016 benefitting 1,150 students.

7.2 Food Charges

The Government has enhanced the monthly food charges of the hostel boarders from Rs.450 to Rs.650 per student for school hostels and from Rs.550 to Rs.750 per student for college hostels with effect from 20.09.2011. The Government has further enhanced the monthly food charges from Rs.650 to Rs.755 per student for school hostels and from Rs.750 to Rs.875 per student for college hostels with effect from 01.03.2013. Similarly, monthly miscellaneous charges have also 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 Rs.3 to Rs.40 per student for college hostels from the year 2013-2014.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.19,700.88 lakh towards food charges, administration and maintenance of hostels.

A sum of Rs.13,342.98 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.12,369.85 lakh for Most

Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.25,712.83 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

7.3 Benefits provided to boarders of hostels

1. One English and two Tamil dailies are subscribed for each hostel.
2. The boarders of hostels studying upto XII standard are supplied with all text books free of cost by the Department of School Education.
3. Special Guides are provided free of cost to the boarders studying in 10th and 12th standard to improve their performance in public examinations.
4. Four sets of uniforms are provided 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.
5. Colour television, play materials, water purifier, book shelves, wet grinder, mixer, napkin incinerator, fire extinguishers, idly steamers, library books and electric insect destroyer are supplied to

hostels. In addition, inverter, reference books and two tier bunk cots are supplied to the college hostels.

6. Mats, 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 years to hostel boarders have been regularized from the year 2013-2014.
7. Three medical checkups are conducted for all hostel boarders and Kallar Reclamation school students every year.
8. 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.
9. Mutton and chicken are respectively provided on the first and third Wednesday and second and fourth Wednesday every month.

10. Sundal and Chukkumalli coffee/ tea are provided to the boarders, daily in the evening.

11. Idly cooker-cum-steam boilers and washing machines will be provided to all the hostels in the next two years during 2016-2017 and 2017-2018.

8. BOARDING GRANTS TO THE GOVERNMENT APPROVED PRIVATE HOSTELS

Students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities staying in any one of the 39 Government recognized private hostels are sanctioned boarding grant at the rate of Rs.650 per month for 10 months in a year subject to the condition that their parental annual income does not exceed Rs.50,000.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.78.59 lakh for 1,209 students as given below:-

Number of Students benefitted			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
655	554	1,209	42.59	36.00	78.59

A sum of Rs.72.22 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.50.00 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.122.22 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

9. CONSTRUCTION OF OWN BUILDINGS FOR HOSTELS

Out of 1,338 hostels functioning under the control of the Department, 1,195 hostels are housed in Government buildings and the remaining 143 are functioning in rented buildings. Orders have been issued for construction of own buildings for 107 hostels functioning in rented buildings and works are in progress. Construction of buildings for the remaining 36 hostels will be taken up during 2016-2017. Solar photo voltaic power plant and solar water heater are installed in the new hostel buildings.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.4,328.04 lakh for construction of hostel buildings.

A sum of Rs.4,058.07 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.3,294.28 lakh for Most

Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.7,352.35 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

9.1 Maintenance of Hostels

Maintenance works in the hostels functioning in Government buildings are taken up through Public Works Department. An allotment of Rs.600 lakh is being provided every year for taking up maintenance works. During the year 2015-2016 a sum of Rs.800 lakh including an additional amount of Rs.200 lakh as a special case has been allotted and works have been carried out.

10. KALLAR RECLAMATION SCHOOLS

To improve the educational level of Piramalai Kallars, 290 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 212 Primary Schools, 23 Middle Schools, 22 High Schools and 33 Higher Secondary Schools which totally benefit 28,790 students.

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 / Aided schools. During the academic year 2015-2016, Kallar Reclamation schools have registered a pass percentage of 94.1% and 90.4% in 10th and 12th standard respectively, in the public examinations.

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 3rd standard English medium classes with 394 boys and 388 girls.

During the year 2015-2016, expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.7,479.97 lakh for the administration of Kallar Reclamation schools.

A sum of Rs. 8,451.56 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

10.1 Maintenance of Kallar Reclamation school buildings

A sum of Rs.1 Crore is being allotted from the year 2011-2012, for carrying out maintenance and repair works in Kallar Reclamation schools.

During the year 2015-2016 furniture has been supplied at a cost of Rs.9.90 lakh to 5 Kallar Reclamation Higher Secondary Schools.

11. DISTRIBUTION OF UNIFORMS

Four sets of uniforms are supplied to the students of Kallar Reclamation schools studying upto 8th standard by the Social Welfare Department. The boarders of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minority hostels studying upto 10th standard are also supplied four sets of uniforms. The colour and pattern of the uniforms were changed from the year 2013-2014, as followed in schools. Clothes for uniforms are procured from the Co-optex and stitched through the District Women Weavers Co-operative Societies functioning under the control of the Social Welfare Department.

During the year 2015-2016, uniforms have been supplied to 38,698 boarders at a cost of Rs.355.76 lakh as given below:-

Number of Students benefitted			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
19,658	19,040	38,698	183.86	171.90	355.76

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 2016-2017.

12. DISTRIBUTION OF BICYCLES

Bicycles are supplied free of cost to the Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minority students studying 11th standard in Government, Government aided and partly aided schools without any condition. Bicycles are not supplied to students staying in the hostels situated

in the school premises and students of residential schools. Distribution of bicycles is monitored online (www.agaram.tn.gov.in/freecycles).

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.16,638.53 lakh for distribution of bicycles to 4,54,571 students as given below:-

Number of Students benefitted			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
2,47,131	2,07,440	4,54,571	9,158.18	7,480.35	16,638.53

A sum of Rs.9,005.32 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.7,277.52 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.16,282.84 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

13. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PURSUING 11TH AND 12TH STANDARD EDUCATION IN THE BEST PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes / Denotified Communities, who secure high marks

in 10th standard public examination in Government schools at the district level are provided with financial assistance for pursuing their Higher Secondary Education in the best private schools of their choice in Tamil Nadu. Assistance is given at the rate of Rs.28,000 per year for a maximum of two years. Parental annual income limit for the scheme has been enhanced from Rs.1,00,000 to Rs.2,00,000 from the year 2015-16. The scheme supports 3 boys and 3 girls of Backward Classes and 2 boys and 2 girls of Most Backward Classes / Denotified Communities in each district.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs. 145.11 lakh benefitting 642 students as given below:-

Number of Students benefitted			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC/ DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
378	264	642	88.00	57.11	145.11

A sum of Rs.107.52 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.67.20 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.174.72 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

14. PRIZES AND AWARDS

State level and District level prizes are awarded, to motivate the students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities to secure high marks in 10th and 12th standard public examinations.

14.1 State Level Prizes

Under the scheme, totally four first prizes of Rs.50,000 each, four second prizes of Rs.30,000 each and four third prizes of Rs.20,000 each, are awarded to students securing high marks in 12th standard public examination at State level at the rate of one boy and one girl from Backward Classes and one boy and one girl from Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities.

Similarly, four first prizes of Rs.25,000 each, four second prizes of Rs.20,000 each and four third prizes of Rs.15,000 each, are awarded to students securing high marks in 10th standard public examination at the State level at the rate of one boy and one girl from Backward Classes and one boy and one girl from Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities.

14.2 District Level Prizes

Under the scheme, totally four first prizes of Rs.6,000 each, four second prizes of Rs.4,000 each and four third prizes of Rs.2,000 each, are awarded to students securing high marks in 12th standard public examination at district level at the rate of one boy and one girl from Backward Classes and one boy and one girl from Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities.

Similarly, four first prizes of Rs.3,000 each, four second prizes of Rs.2,000 each and four third prizes of Rs.1,000 each, are awarded to students securing high marks in 10th standard public examination at the district level at the rate of one boy and one girl from Backward

Classes and one boy and one girl from Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.54.23 lakh benefitting 1,311 students as given below:-

Number of Students benefitted			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
719	592	1,311	35.50	18.73	54.23

A sum of Rs.23.18 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.22.25 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.45.43 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

14.3 Perarignar Anna Memorial award

Under the scheme a sum of Rs.10,000 per year is awarded to 2 boys and 2 girls from Backward Classes and 2 boys and 2 girls from Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities, who secure first and second rank in 12th standard public examination at the

district level and pursue professional studies. The award is given for a maximum period of five years.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.124 lakh benefitting 1,240 students as given below:-

Number of Students benefitted			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
649	591	1,240	64.90	59.10	124.00

A sum of Rs.65 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.61 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.126 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

14.4 Thanthai Periyar Memorial award

Under the scheme a sum of Rs.10,000 per year is awarded for the period of three years to 2 boys and 2 girls from Backward Classes and 2 boys and 2 girls from Most Backward Classes/Denotified Communities, who secure first and second rank in 10th standard public

examination at the district level and pursue diploma courses in Polytechnics.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.78.10 lakh benefitting 781 students as given below:-

Number of Students benefitted			Amount Spent (Rs. in lakh)		
BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL	BC	MBC / DNC	TOTAL
404	377	781	40.40	37.70	78.10

A sum of Rs.43 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.45 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.88 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

14.5 Chief Minister's Merit award scheme

This award is being given from the year 2012-2013 to 500 girls and 500 boys of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified and Minority communities, who secure high marks in 12th standard public examination at the State level, at the rate of Rs.3,000 per

annum till completion of their Degree / Diploma / Professional courses, for a maximum period of 5 years.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.122.25 lakh covering 4,075 students.

A sum of Rs.140 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

14.6 State level prize scheme to the 10th and 12th standard hostel boarders securing first three places in the public examinations

Backward Class students who stayed in the Backward Classes hostels and secured first three places in 10th and 12th standard public examinations and students of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities who stayed in Most Backward Classes and Denotified Community hostels and secured first three places are awarded prizes separately from the year 2011-2012 as detailed below:-

Prize	10th Standard	12th Standard
First prize	Rs.10,000	Rs.10,000
Second prize	Rs.7,000	Rs.7,000
Third prize	Rs.5,000	Rs.5,000

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.49,000 for 7 Backward class students and Rs.44,000 for 6 Most Backward class/Denotified community students.

A sum of Rs.1.40 lakh for Backward Classes Welfare Department and Rs.1.20 lakh for Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities Welfare Department totalling Rs.2.60 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

14.7 State Level Awards to Best Wardens/ Matrons

State level prizes are awarded to the wardens / matrons based on their overall performances. 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 2015-2016 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 2016-2017.

14.8 Prize scheme for the students of Kallar Reclamation schools

The scheme of awarding prizes to the students of Kallar Reclamation schools securing high marks in 10th

and 12th standard public examination is being implemented from the year 1995. The scheme consists of one first prize, one second prize and three third prizes. The prize money (for both 10th and 12th standard) has been enhanced to Rs.10,000, Rs.7,000 and Rs.5,000 respectively for first, second and third places from the year 2011-2012.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.0.74 lakh benefitting 11 students.

14.9 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 post graduate/ B.T Teachers of Kallar Reclamation High / Higher Secondary 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 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.17.95 lakh for awarding prizes to 331 Headmasters / Teachers.

A sum of Rs.18 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017 for the prize schemes to Kallar Reclamation school students and Headmasters / Teachers.

14.10 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 in Tamil Nadu. This award was instituted in the year 1994. The awardee is selected by the Hon'ble Chief Minister every year. The award carries a gold medal of 1 sovereign and a cash prize of Rs.1 lakh. Thanthai Periyar award for Social Justice for the year 2015 has been awarded to Thiru V.R. Vengan of Dharmapuri district.

A sum of Rs.1.50 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

15. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

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

15.1 Distribution of sewing machines

During the year 2015-2016 sewing machines have been distributed to 1,181 beneficiaries of Backward Classes and 1,263 beneficiaries of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities, at a total cost of Rs.82.77 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 2016-2017.

15.2 Distribution of iron boxes

During the year 2015-2016 iron boxes have been distributed to 1,864 beneficiaries at a cost of Rs.85 lakh. A sum of Rs.85 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

16. DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSE SITES

Houseless persons of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities are allotted house sites 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 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs. 246.09 lakh covering 656 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 2016-2017.

17. WELFARE BOARDS

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

17.1 Denotified Communities Welfare Board

Members enrolled in this 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 for the Board.

Welfare assistance provided to members of 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 in X standard	Rs.1,000
	b) Students who have passed X standard	Rs.1,000
	c) Girls studying in XI standard	Rs.1,000
	d) Girls studying in XII standard	Rs.1,500
	e) Students who have 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 31.03.2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.46.85 lakh for providing various welfare assistances to the registered members of the board.

17.2 Tamil Nadu Narikoravar Welfare Board

Members enrolled in this 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 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.740 lakh has been provided for the Board.

Welfare assistance provided to members of 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.	Education	
	a) Students studying from 1 st to 5 th standard	Rs.500
	b) Students studying in 6 th to 9 th standard	Rs.1,000
	c) Girls Studying in X standard	Rs.1,000
	d) Students who have passed X standard	Rs.1,000
	e) Girls studying in XI standard	Rs.1,000
	f) Girls studying in XII standard	Rs.1,500
	g) Students who have 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
	l (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 31.03.2016, expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.624.36 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 2016-2017.

18. VANNIYAR PUBLIC PROPERTY WELFARE BOARD

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

19. 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 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's channelizing agency of the National

Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation and obtains loan from the latter upon guarantee given by the State Government for funding various loan schemes.

The Government has alienated Government land measuring 3 grounds and 154 square feet comprised in S.No.465/10 (part)Block No.29 of Egmore free of land cost to the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Economic Development Corporation and sanctioned construction of own building to the Corporation. Construction works are being executed by the Tamil Nadu Police Housing Corporation.

19.1 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 beneficiaries. District level Screening Committee consisting of 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 and select beneficiaries for various loan schemes. The Corporation sanctions and disburses loans through Co-operative Banks / Societies.

Annual family income limit has been enhanced for all the loan schemes 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.

19.1.1 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 will carry 8% rate of interest per annum. Repayment periods vary from 3 to 5 years.

19.1.2 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.

19.1.3 Micro Credit for Women (Mahila Samridhi Yojana)

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 and the loan carries 4% rate of interest per annum. Repayment period is 3 years.

19.1.4 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 and the loan carries 5% rate of interest per annum. Repayment period is 3 years.

During the year 2015-2016, an amount of Rs.7,905.12 lakh has been disbursed to 22,808 beneficiaries as given below:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Micro Credit Scheme	21,656	7,347.76
2.	General Term Loan Scheme	910	437.43
3.	New Swarnima Scheme for Women	242	119.93
Total		22,808	7,905.12

For the year 2016-2017, it has been proposed to provide loans to the tune of Rs.10,000 lakh under various loan schemes.

19.2 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 being provided loan assistance upto the maximum of Rs.1,00,000 with 50% Government subsidy subject to a maximum of Rs.50,000. Loans are sanctioned by Co-operative Banks / Nationalised Banks, to create irrigation sources. 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.

20. 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.

21. MINORITIES WELFARE

Tamil Nadu has been at the forefront in the upliftment of the Minorities. This Government is implementing various welfare schemes effectively for the social, educational and economic development of the Minorities.

21.1 Separate Reservation

Separate reservation of 3.5% has been provided in Tamil Nadu to the Backward Class Muslims, out of the 30% reservation earmarked for the Backward Classes.

21.2 Scholarship

The Government has been implementing, the following scholarship schemes of Government of India, effectively benefiting students of Christian, Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist, Parsi and Jain communities, studying from 1st standard to professional degree / research courses in Government / Government aided and Government recognized institutions.

1. Pre-matric scholarship scheme
2. Post-matric scholarship scheme
3. Merit-cum-means based scholarship scheme

Students who secure a minimum of 50% marks in the previous year final examination are benefitted under these schemes, subject to the condition that the annual income of their parents/guardian shall not exceed

Rs.1 lakh for prematric, Rs.2 lakh for postmatric, and Rs.2.50 lakh for merit-cum-means scholarship schemes. Out of the total number of beneficiaries, 30% is earmarked for girl students.

21.2.1 Prematric Scholarship Scheme

Under the scheme, scholarship is sanctioned to the Minority students studying from 1st to 10th standard with 100% financial assistance from Government of India. Students studying from 6th to 10th standard are sanctioned admission fee upto Rs.500 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 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 2015-2016 scholarships have been disbursed to the tune of Rs.4,557.39 lakh through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to 4,02,583 students.

21.2.2 Postmatric Scholarship Scheme

Under the scheme, scholarship is sanctioned to the Minority students studying from 11th standard to research courses with 100% financial assistance from Government of India. Scholarship ranging from Rs.3,000 to Rs.10,000 is sanctioned, depending upon the course, towards admission fee and tuition fee. Maintenance allowance is sanctioned ranging from Rs.3,800 to Rs.12,000 to hostel boarders and from Rs.2,300 to Rs.5,500 to day scholars.

During the year 2015-2016 scholarships have been disbursed to the tune of Rs.2,466.65 lakh through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to 41,704 students.

21.2.3 Merit-Cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme

This scheme is being implemented with 100% financial assistance from Government of India to motivate Minority students to score high marks and pursue Technical / Professional courses in higher studies. Under the scheme, course fee is reimbursed to the students, subject to a ceiling of Rs.20,000. Maintenance fee is

sanctioned at the rate of Rs.10,000 for hostel boarders and Rs.5,000 for the day scholars per annum.

During the year 2015-2016 scholarships have been disbursed to the tune of Rs.1,378.75 lakh through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to 5,227 students.

21.3 Hostels

There are 15 hostels for girls and 1 hostel for boys functioning in the State for the Minority students, with free boarding and lodging. This includes 3 hostels in Vellore, 2 each in Tirunelveli and Ramanathapuram and 1 each in Tiruchirappalli, Dindigul, Coimbatore, Madurai, Krishnagiri, Thanjavur, Kanniyakumari, Chennai, and Theni districts.

Hostel boarders get a host of benefits including text books, special guides, four sets of uniforms, mats, bed sheets, stainless steel plates and tumblers free of cost as in the case of hostels run for students of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities.

During the year 2015-2016 a sum of Rs.216.47 lakh has been spent towards food charges, administration and maintenance of the hostels.

A sum of Rs.234.75 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

21.4 Awards and prizes

State and district level prizes are awarded every year to students of minorities securing top 3 positions in 10th standard and 12th standard public examinations.

21.4.1 State Level Prizes

State level prizes are awarded for 3 boys and 3 girls of minorities, securing top 3 positions in 12th standard public examinations at the rate of Rs.50,000, Rs.30,000, and Rs.20,000 respectively. Similarly, prizes are awarded for 3 boys and 3 girls of minorities, securing top 3 positions in 10th standard public examinations at the rate of Rs.25,000, Rs.20,000 and Rs.15,000 respectively.

21.4.2 District Level Prizes

District level prizes are awarded for top 3 boys and 3 girls of minorities, securing top 3 positions in 12th standard public examinations at the rate of Rs.6,000, Rs.4,000, and Rs.2,000 respectively. Similarly, prizes are awarded for 3 boys and 3 girls of minorities, securing top 3 positions in 10th standard public examinations at the rate of Rs.3,000, Rs.2,000, and Rs.1,000 respectively.

During the year 2015-2016 a sum of Rs.19.51 lakh has been spent for 552 students.

A sum of Rs.19.51 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

21.4.3 Award to Students Studying Urdu Language

State level Urdu Prizes are awarded to three boys and three girls who study Urdu as first or second language and securing first 3 places in 12th standard public examination at the rate of Rs.15,000, Rs.10,000 and Rs.5,000 respectively. Similarly, three boys and three girls securing first 3 places in 10th standard public

examination are awarded prizes at the rate of Rs.10,000, Rs.5,000 and Rs.3,000 respectively.

During the year 2015-2016 expenditure has been incurred to the tune of Rs.1.06 lakh benefitting 13 students.

A sum of Rs.0.96 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

21.5 Muslim Women Aid Society

For providing assistance to the poor, destitute widow and aged Muslim Women, Muslim Women Aid Societies have been formed in all the Districts headed by the District Collector as Ex-officio Chairman. Matching grant equivalent to the amount of donation collected by the societies upto Rs.10 lakh per annum at 1:1 ratio was sanctioned by the Government upto 2011-2012. This matching grant has been doubled from 2012-2013 and granted at the rate of 1 : 2 ratio upto Rs.20 lakh per annum.

Under this scheme free training in the field of tailoring embroidery, shoe making, artisan etc. and other

need based training are being given to the destitute widow, poor and aged Muslim women.

During the year 2015-2016 a matching grant of Rs.165.84 lakh has been released by the Government.

A sum of Rs.50 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017. The Government allotment will be increased for providing matching grant equivalent to double the amount of donations collected by the Muslim Women Aid Societies.

21.6 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.

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 the 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.

21.7 Rehabilitation assistance

Under the scheme, 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 setup petty trades.

21.8 Ulemas and Other Employees Welfare Board

The Ulema and Other Employees Welfare Board has been formed 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. Identity

cards have been issued to 13,464 individuals who have been enrolled in the Board.

Assistances provided to members of Ulemas and other Employees 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 in X standard	Rs.1,000
	b) Students who have passed X standard	Rs.1,000
	c) Girls studying in XI standard	Rs.1,000
	d) Girls studying in XII standard	Rs.1,500
	e) Students who have 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	Up to Rs.500
8.	Old age pension per month	Rs.1,000

So far Rs. 67.33 lakh has been sanctioned to 2,957 beneficiaries for providing various welfare assistance.

21.9 Financial Assistance for Jerusalem Pilgrimage

A new scheme of providing financial assistance for Jerusalem Pilgrimage by all sects of Christians in

Tamil Nadu has been initiated by this Government 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 2,340 Christians have performed this pilgrimage.

A sum of Rs.100 lakh has been provided for the year 2016-2017.

22. 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.

Functions of the commission includes monitoring of implementation of various safeguards provided in the constitution of India and laws enacted by the State Government for the protection of minorities, making appropriate suggestions to the State Government regarding proposed legislations and welfare schemes for the minorities and 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 01.01.2016.

23. TAMIL NADU MINORITIES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Tamil Nadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation was established with the objective of providing loan assistance at lower rate of interest to take up self employment activities by the economically backward religious minorities viz. Muslims, Christians, Buddhist, Sikhs, Parsis and Jains in Tamil Nadu. It is a State owned Corporation registered under the Companies Act 1956. The Corporation has an authorised share capital of Rs 5 crore and a paid up share capital of Rs.2.05 crore. The Corporation has been acting as the State's channelizing agency of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation and obtain loan

from the latter upon guarantee given by the State Government for funding various loan schemes.

23.1 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 the loans through Co-operative Banks / Societies.

23.1.1 Individual Term Loan Scheme

Under the scheme, loans are sanctioned for economically backward minorities whose annual income does not exceed Rs.81,000 in rural areas and Rs.1,03,000 in urban areas. It has been provided to sanction loans upto Rs.50,000 at 5% rate of interest per annum and loans from Rs.50,001 upto Rs.20 lakh at 6% rate of interest per annum. Repayment period varies from 3 to 5 years. It has been provided to advance loans upto Rs.30 lakh which will carry 8% rate of interest per annum for men and 6% interest per annum for women

beneficiaries, whose annual income exceeds Rs.1.03 lakh and not exceeding Rs.6 lakh.

Loans are sanctioned upto Rs.50,000 for purchase of two cross breed cows and Rs.70,000 for two Graded Murrah Buffaloes at 6% rate of interest per annum, through Aavin.

During the year 2015-2016, an amount of Rs.324.70 lakh has been disbursed to 492 beneficiaries.

23.1.2 Micro Financing through Self Help Groups

Under the scheme, micro finance is provided 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.

During the year 2015-2016, loans to the tune of Rs.2,648.43 lakh has been disbursed to self help groups covering 6,858 beneficiaries.

23.1.3 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 parentel 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 parentel 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.

24. 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.

24.1 Administrative Grant

As the income derived by way of contribution from the Waqf institutions is not sufficient to mete 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 2016-2017, Rs.1 crore has been allotted for the Tamil Nadu Waqf Board as administrative grant.

24.2 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 will be enhanced further from Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,500 per month from the year 2016-2017.

24.3 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. This amount is sanctioned to the Board by the Government by way of grant.

24.4 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 by the Government for the year 2016-2017 for this purpose.

24.5 Waqf Institutions Development Fund

During the year 2012-2013, the Government has created a new fund called "Waqf Institutions Development Fund" and has authorized the Tamil Nadu Waqf Board to receive contribution from donors for carrying out major repairs and renovation in the buildings belonging to Waqf Institutions in this State like Mosques, Darghas, Madrasas etc. A sum of Rs.3 crore was sanctioned as Government grant for this fund during 2012-2013.

25. TAMIL NADU STATE HAJJ COMMITTEE

25.1 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.

25.2 Functions of the Committee

The important functions of the Committee are as follows:-

- (i) Receipt of applications from the pilgrims of Tamil Nadu for Hajj pilgrimage and selection of pilgrims by conducting draw of lots using computer software.
- (ii) Issuing periodical instructions to the pilgrims about payment of advance hajj amount, balance hajj amount, airfare and other dues to be paid to the Hajj Committee of India, Mumbai.
- (iii) Sending officials 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 of Tamil Nadu during their stay in Saudi Arabia.

- (v) Liaise with the Regional Passport Offices for obtaining passports for the intending pilgrims, whenever necessary.
- (vi) Printing and supply of hand book on 'Hajj and Umrah' in Tamil free of cost every year to the pilgrims.
- (vii) Arranging transit accommodation to the out-station pilgrims and providing transport from accommodation centers 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) Conduct inoculation camps against meningitis in various districts based on the number of pilgrims.
- (x) Arrange for accommodation to the Hajj pilgrims at Makkah and Madinah.

- (xi) Coordinate with various agencies of Central and State Government, the Hajj Committee of India, Mumbai and other agencies such as Airports Authority of India, Immigration, Customs, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, Airlines and other voluntary organizations for smooth and successful Hajj flight operations.
- (xii) Other incidental activities relating to Hajj pilgrimage.

25.3 Administrative Grant for the Committee

The State Government sanctions an annual administrative grant to the Committee every year. 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., out of the grant sanctioned by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The Government of Tamil Nadu has enhanced the grant from Rs.20 lakh to Rs.30 lakh from the year 2013-2014. For the year 2016-2017, Rs.30 lakh has been allotted as administrative grant.

25.4 Sanction of Grant for Deputation of Hajj Volunteers and Members in Building Selection Team

The Government also sanctions a grant to the Tamil Nadu State Hajj Committee to meet expenses on deputation of Hajj volunteers to Saudi Arabia who assist the pilgrims and for deputation of members in Building Selection Team to Saudi Arabia for selection of buildings to provide accommodation to pilgrims. The Government has provided a sum of Rs.10.29 lakh for this purpose for the year 2016-2017.

CONCLUSION

Under the able guidance of Hon'ble Chief Minister, this Department is implementing various welfare schemes with the objective of improving the living standard of Backward Classes, Most Backward Classes, Denotified Communities and Minorities. This Government will continue its efforts for the socio, educational and economic development of these people.

S. VALARMATHI
Minister for Backward Classes
and Minorities Welfare

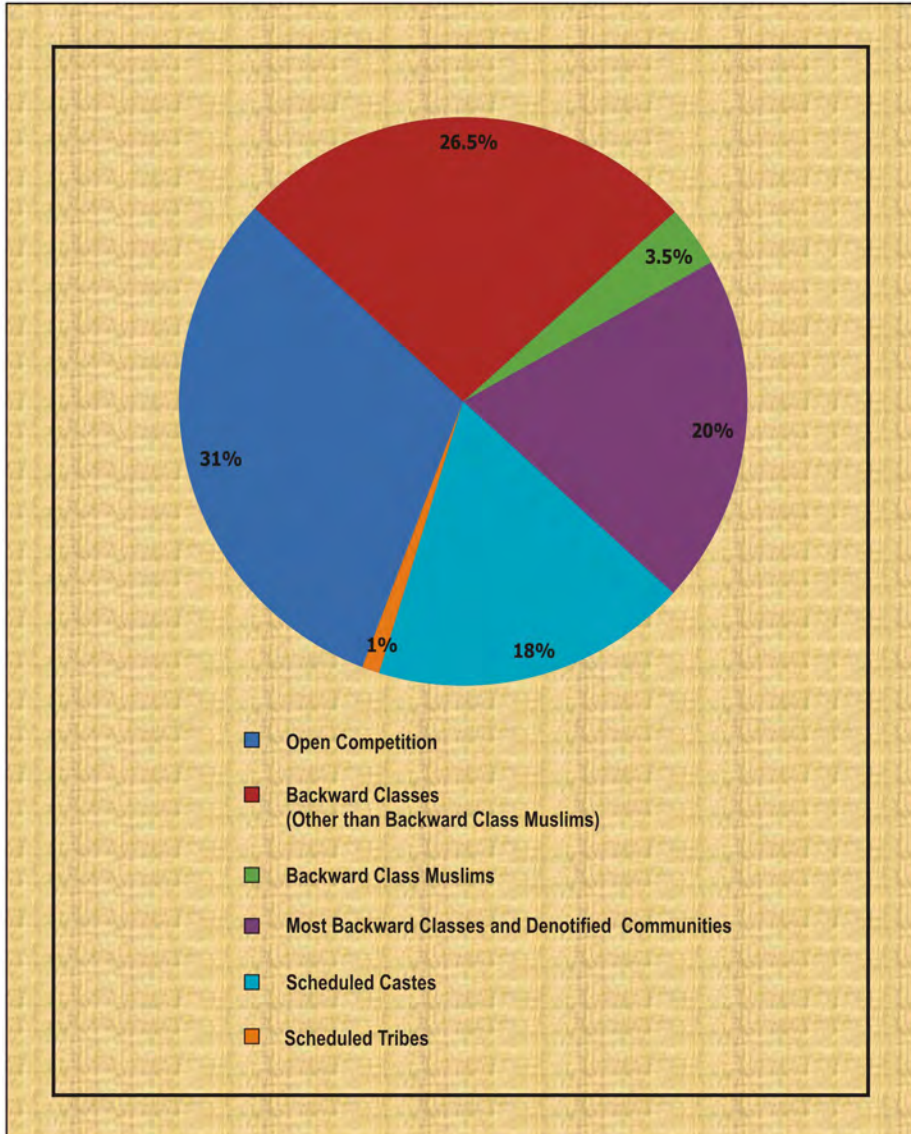
ANNEXURE

ALLOTMENT FOR THE YEAR 2016-2017

(Rs. in lakh)

Department	Revenue	Capital	Loan	Total
Secretariat	476.29	--	0.01	476.30
Waqf and Hajj Committee	517.09	--	--	517.09
Backward Classes Welfare	47167.93	4058.07	--	51226.00
Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities	45325.92	6171.15	--	51497.07
Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission	138.63	--	--	138.63
State Minorities Commission	51.78	--	--	51.78
Minorities Welfare	512.42	345.55	--	857.97
Total	94190.06	10574.77	0.01	104764.84

DETAILS OF RESERVATION



(i)

BACKWARD CLASSES HOSTELS (731)



MOST BACKWARD CLASSES AND DENOTIFIED COMMUNITIES HOSTELS (591)



MINORITIES HOSTELS (16)



DISTRICT WISE DETAILS OF HOSTELS (1338)

