



PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE ON DEMAND No. 38

2016-2017

**Selvi J JAYALALITHAA
CHIEF MINISTER**

©
**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
2016**

DEMAND NO. 38

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE

2016-2017

The Public Department functions under the direct supervision of the Chief Minister and deals with several important matters concerning the general administration of the State. Some of the crucial subjects handled by the Department include: -

- Matters relating to the Office of the Governor and establishment matters of the Governor's Household
- Appointment of Ministers and allied matters

- Establishment matters relating to the Office of the Chief Minister and the Council of Ministers
- Arrangements for Cabinet Meetings
- Protocol and security arrangements in connection with the visits of dignitaries of high stature to the State
- Issues concerning Centre-State relations including the National Integration Council, Inter-State Council and Southern Zonal Council
- Liaison with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and the Foreign Consulates
- Administration of the State Guest Houses in Chennai, Udthagamandalam and New Delhi
- Administration and management of the Aviation Wing of the Government

- Establishment matters of officers of the Indian Administrative Service and District Revenue Officers
- Appointment of District Judges and Law Officers to the High Court
- Maintenance of Law and Order
- Implementation of National Security Act, 1980 and Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 (COFEPOSA)
- Issues pertaining to Human Rights - Implementation of Protection of the Human Rights Act, 1993 and matters relating to the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
- Liaison with military authorities i.e. the Indian Army, the Indian Navy, the Indian Air Force and the Indian Coast Guard

- Implementation of Foreigners Act, 1946, registration of foreigners, granting extension of stay and issue of Exit Permit to foreigners who come to Tamil Nadu with a visa
- Welfare of Ex-Servicemen and their families and the administration of the Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen Corporation (TEXCO)
- Welfare of the Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees who are accommodated in various camps in the State
- Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils
- Grant of pension and implementation of welfare schemes for freedom fighters and ex- INA personnel
- Processing and disposal of petitions received at the Chief Minister's Special Cell
- Declaration of Public and Local Holidays

- Maintenance and administration of the buildings in the Secretariat

NATIONAL FUNCTIONS, SPECIAL DAYS AND AWARDS

2. The Public Department coordinates the celebration of National Days such as Republic Day and Independence Day throughout the State with requisite patriotic fervour. Every year, the Department also facilitates and makes arrangements for the celebration of Republic Day at Marina, Chennai where the Governor of Tamil Nadu hoists the National Flag. This is followed by ceremonial march past and cultural events from different parts of the country to foster a spirit of national integration. Further, arrangements are also made for the celebration of Independence Day where the Chief Minister hoists

the National Flag at the ramparts of Fort St. George, Secretariat, Chennai.

3. This Department also arranges for administering pledge on special days declared by the Government of India such as Martyrs' Day where the Chief Minister administers the pledge to Ministers, Secretaries to Government and other staff of Secretariat. It also processes the nominations for the State Level Awards such as the Anna Medal for Gallantry and Kalpana Chawla Award for 'courage and daring enterprise'.

4. In addition to the above, recommendations for the civilian awards of the Government of India, such as Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, Padma Shri, Jeevan Raksha

Padak, Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration, Kabeer Puraskar Award for Communal Harmony, Gandhi Peace Award etc. are also handled by this Department.

IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREIGNERS ACT, 1946

5. The Public Department is the Nodal Department in the State for all matters pertaining to foreigners including permission for extension of stay in India, issue of Exit Permit, Deportation Order/Leave India Notice etc. The Immigration, Visa, Foreigner's Registration and Tracking (IVFRT) System has been implemented in the State by this Department in active coordination with the Foreigner Registration Offices (FROs) located in the offices of the District

Superintendents of Police. This has facilitated online handling of the work related to registration of foreigners and grant of various permits. The system will help the police to keep a track on the movement of foreigners within the State. In addition, this Department also authenticates the certificates of those who desire to go abroad on employment or for education after verifying the genuineness from the issuing authorities. During the past year, the process of verification of certificates issued by various educational institutions in the State has been streamlined with an active feedback mechanism backed by a real time online transfer of documents. This has resulted in greater accountability, reduced cost of handling and faster and hassle free disposal.

HUMAN RIGHTS

6. "All men are created equal with all human beings born free and equal in dignity and rights and that they are endowed with reason, conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brother hood". ¹

In consonance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948 and under the provisions of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, the State Human Rights Commission of Tamil Nadu was constituted. The Commission consists of Law, Investigation and Administrative wings. Complaints of violation of Human Rights can be filed in any language with the Commission

¹ Article 1, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948

free of cost by the victim or by any person on his behalf for redressal. It may also *suo-moto* inquire into instances of Human Rights violations and recommend to the Government or the authority concerned for the grant of immediate/interim relief to the victim or to the member of his/her family. The Commission has also been actively engaged in creating awareness on Human Rights especially among students.

REHABILITATION OF REFUGEES AND WELFARE OF NON-RESIDENT TAMILS

7. The Commissionerate of Rehabilitation and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils caters to the relief and welfare measures for the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees residing in various refugee camps in the State and also the welfare of Non-Resident

Tamils. The primary role of this Commissionerate is to provide relief and ensure the well being of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees. A total of 3,04,269 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees have come to Tamil Nadu after the eruption of ethnic violence in Sri Lanka in the year 1983. As per data collected from the District Collectors, as on 01.07.2016, 19,388 families consisting of 63,649 persons are staying in 108 refugee camps (including 1 special camp at Tiruchirappalli) located in 24 Districts in the State. In addition, 36,651 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees are staying outside the camps as per the report received from the 'Q' Branch, Chennai. The Sri Lankan Tamils living in the refugee camps are being provided with various relief measures as per the guidelines and norms stipulated by the

Government of India and the Government of Tamil Nadu.

WELFARE SCHEMES FOR SRI LANKAN TAMILS IN CAMPS

8. It is the endeavour of this Government to ensure that the Sri Lankan Tamils living in Refugee Camps are enabled to live a life of dignity, safety and security. Therefore, in addition to the welfare assistance given by the Government of India, this Government took a major policy decision to extend all welfare schemes being implemented for the benefit of the people of Tamil Nadu to the Sri Lankan refugees residing in camps from June, 2011.

RELIEF

9. The Sri Lankan Tamils living in the camps are provided with clothes, blankets, mats, cooking utensils, aids and equipment for differently-abled persons, drinking water facility, toilet facility, electricity and accommodation free of cost. The Sri Lankan Tamils accommodated in the camps are given enhanced monthly cash doles at the following rate with effect from 04.08.2011:-

1.	Head of Family	Rs.1,000
2.	Each additional member (aged 12 year and above)	Rs. 750
3.	Children (below 12 years)	Rs. 400

Every month up to 20 kg of rice is provided at no cost and other essential commodities such as sugar, wheat, maida, sooji etc. are supplied at subsidized rates through the Public Distribution System outlets.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE

10. Sri Lankan Tamil Students studying in Government and Government Aided schools are provided free education up to 12th standard. Further, they are provided with note books, text books, uniforms, noon meals, bus passes and laptop computers free of cost as in the case of local students. During the current year, 29,351 students have enrolled in various educational institutions as detailed below: -

Sl. No.	Level	No. of Students
1.	Nursery	3,655
2.	Primary	11,713
3.	Middle	6,205
4.	High School	3,903
5.	Higher Secondary School	3,022
6.	College	853
	Total	29,351

11. Sri Lankan Tamil Students have been admitted in Arts and Science Colleges, Professional Colleges, Polytechnics and Universities based on merit through single window counseling system under the general category. They are eligible for all types of educational assistances that are being given to local students. Further, orders have been issued to reserve five seats in each hostel run by the BC, MBC and

Minorities Welfare and Adi-dravidar and Tribal Welfare Departments in the State to enable the deserving students from the families of Sri Lankan Tamils to pursue their education. During the year 2015-2016, accommodation has been provided to 57 students in Government Hostels.

12. The Government has extended scholarship ranging from Rs.850/- to Rs.4,700/- to the children of Sri Lankan Tamils residing in camps in the State to pursue higher education, as detailed below: -

Sl. No.	Name of the course	Amount of Scholarship per annum (Rs)
1.	B.A.	1,200
2.	B.Sc.	1,250

3.	M.A.	1,330
4.	M.Sc.	1,650
5.	Diploma	850
6.	B.E./ B.Tech.	2,750
7.	MBBS, BDS	4,700
8.	B. VSc.	1,400
9.	B.L.	860
10.	B.Sc., (Agri)	2,850

During the year 2015-2016, 597 students have availed these scholarships.

13. This Government has issued orders vide G.O.(Rt) No.11, Public (RH.II) Department, dated 07.01.2015 that Cash Awards be given to the students who have secured first three places in 10th and 12th Standard (separately for boys and girls) at the State level among Sri Lankan

Refugee children, who are housed in the camps in Tamil Nadu as detailed below:

10th Standard	
Position	Cash Award (in Rs.)
First	25,000
Second	20,000
Third	15,000
12th Standard	
First	50,000
Second	30,000
Third	20,000

OTHER WELFARE MEASURES

14. This Government has also decided to permit issue of driving licenses to the eligible Sri Lankan Tamils staying in camps. Sewing

machines are provided free of cost to poor women who have undergone the requisite training in an effort to augment their income. During the year 2015-2016, 216 women have benefited under this scheme. Further, to encourage and empower enterprising women, a revolving fund of Rs.10,000/- was allotted as a onetime grant to 416 Women Self Help Groups in the camps during 2014-2015.

15. In addition to the monthly cash assistance, monthly pension at the rate of Rs.1,000/- is being paid under the Social Security Scheme to destitute persons in the category of widows, old aged persons, differently-abled persons, deserted wives and unmarried women living in camps. During the year 2015–2016,

3,867 persons were given pension under these schemes. This Government has enhanced the grant given to the family of the deceased in camps to meet expenses on funeral rites from Rs.2,500/- to Rs.5,000/-. During 2015-2016, this grant has been disbursed to 369 families. Similarly, the relief amount being given in the case of death due to accident, has been enhanced from Rs.15,000/- to Rs.25,000/- in 2012-2013 and is paid to the family of the deceased from the Chief Minister's Sri Lankan Refugees' Relief Fund. This has been given to six families during 2015-2016.

16. For the welfare of women and protection of girl children, the benefits under the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiya Marriage Assistance

Scheme and the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance Scheme have been extended to Sri Lankan Tamils. Under the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Marriage Assistance Scheme, an amount of Rs.50,000/- and 4 grams of gold for Thirumangalyam was given to women who are graduates and diploma holders, and Rs.25,000/- with 4 grams of gold to women who have studied up to the 10th standard. In 2015-2016, 16 and 63 women have availed benefit under this scheme respectively. The Government has now ordered the enhancement of gold given for Thirumangalyam from 4 grams to 8 grams. This will also benefit the Sri Lankan Tamils living in camps.

17. Pregnant women are given Maternity Assistance of Rs.12,000/- under the Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance Scheme. In 2015-2016, 526 women have benefited from this scheme. Similarly, the Girl Child Protection Scheme has been extended to Sri Lankan Tamils. Under this scheme, a sum of Rs.50,000/- is put up in fixed deposit for a period of twenty years in the name of the girl child, in case of the families with only one female child. In case of families with only two female children, a sum of Rs.25,000/- is invested in fixed deposit for 20 years in the name of each child. Eight children have benefited from this scheme during the year 2015-2016.

18. Further, all Sri Lankan Tamils living in camps have been covered under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme. This facility has also been extended to all Sri Lankan Tamils living outside the refugee camps from 2012-2013.

SPECIAL CAMP

19. A special camp functions in Tiruchirappalli district to accommodate the Sri Lankan Tamils who have come to the adverse notice of the Police and therefore cannot be allowed to move freely in the State. As on 1st July 2016, 14 Sri Lankan Tamils have been lodged in this special camp under section 3(2)(e) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. As their movements

are restricted, they are provided with cooked food at the rate of Rs.100/- per day.

REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES

20. The refugees who are willing to go back to Sri Lanka on their own accord are issued Exit Permits by the District Collectors concerned, for which, to expedite the process, a simplified procedure has been formulated and implemented. With the assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 396 persons left for Sri Lanka in the year 2014-2015 and 452 persons in 2015-2016.

NON-CAMP SRI LANKAN REFUGEES

21. There are 14,542 families consisting of 36,651 persons, duly registered in the local Police

Stations, residing outside the refugee camps. Some of these non-camp refugees, though willing to go back to Sri Lanka on their own accord, were not in a position to do so because of the enhanced overstay fee and visa fee. Based on the proposal of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Government of India has authorized a committee to consider such proposals for waiver of visa and penalty fees on a case to case basis.

A sum of Rs.108.70 crores was spent on Sri Lankan Tamils in the year 2015-2016.

WELFARE OF NON-RESIDENT TAMILS

22. A large number of Tamils have migrated to different parts of the world in pursuit of employment and education. During their stay

abroad, these Non-Resident Tamils encounter several problems which need to be addressed at the level of the Government. To cater to their needs, the Government has included a Non-Resident Tamils Wing in the Commissionerate, and it has been re-named as “Commissionerate of Rehabilitation and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils”. Some of the major issues faced by them are the repatriation of the mortal remains of Non-Resident Tamils dying abroad, settlement of claims, detention of Tamils abroad and disputes regarding service conditions with the employers. The Non-Resident Tamils wing seeks to address these issues by coordinating with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and the respective Indian Missions.

23. In every district, the Personal Assistant (General) to the District Collector has been designated as "District Welfare Officer (NRTs)" and the section under the Magisterial Head Assistant has been designated as "District Welfare Centre (Non-Resident Tamils)". This cell receives representations and grievances from Non-Resident Tamils and their family members, registers them in a prescribed register and takes follow-up action. Further, instructions have been issued to all District Collectors on regulating advertisements for the employment of Non-Resident Tamils in foreign countries, with directions to initiate criminal cases against unregistered agents. Recently the Government of India has launched a website "madad@mea.gov.in" for redressal of grievances of Non-Resident Indians.

Necessary training has been imparted to the officials on handling this website.

MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE

24. A Migrant Resource Centre has commenced functioning in the Commissionerate of Rehabilitation and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils from 15-06-2015 onwards, to assist Tamils, who wish to go abroad for employment and the families of Non-Resident Tamils. The Resource Centre offers clarification on issues like: -

- Verification of genuineness of Recruiting Agents
- Checking the genuineness of visa

- Documents required for getting immigration clearance
- Agreement between employer and employee
- Details of work environment, creation of awareness about the host countries and their local laws
- Details of Indian Missions in the host countries, documents to be kept in the house before leaving for employment etc.

REVOLVING FUND

25. A Revolving Fund with a corpus of Rupees one crore has been set up to facilitate transporting the mortal remains of Non-Resident Tamils who die abroad, to bring back Non-Resident Tamils in distress and also to

repatriate the Non-Resident Tamils who are medically affected.

26. The Government also extend help to the Indian Nationals from Tamil Nadu when they are in distress while visiting other countries. Recently when 10 persons from Kancheepuram District of Tamil Nadu were stranded in Nepal on their way to Mukthinath Temple due to inclement weather, they were rescued by availing the services of a chopper by the Indian Mission in Nepal on the request of the Government of Tamil Nadu and a sum of Rs.2.10 lakh was sanctioned for hiring the chopper to bring them back to India. Likewise, an amount of Rs.9.50 lakh was sanctioned on the request of the Indian Mission in Qatar on humanitarian grounds

for providing legal assistance to three Tamil Migrants by filing appeal in the Supreme Court of Qatar, thereby ensuring that their right to a fair trial is not denied.

REPCO BANK (THE REPATRIATES CO-OPERATIVE FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT BANK LTD.)

ORIGIN

27. The Repatriates Co-operative Finance and Development Bank Ltd. (REPCO Bank) was registered on 19.11.1969 as a Co-operative Society under the Madras Co-operative Society Act, 1961 with jurisdiction over the State of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Union Territory of Puducherry for the purpose of promoting the rehabilitation activities for

repatriates from neighbouring countries mainly from Sri Lanka and Myanmar (formerly Burma). Though originally registered under the Madras Co-operative Society Act, 1961, now the Bank is deemed to have been registered under the Multi State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002.

28. The REPCO Bank is under the administrative control of Freedom Fighters Rehabilitation Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The share capital of the Bank is held by Government of India, State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh and Repatriates.

The shareholding pattern as on 31.03.2016 is as below: -

SHARE CAPITAL AS ON 31.03.2016			
Sl. No.	Share Holders	Share Capital Amount (Rs)	% of Share Holding
1.	Government of India	76,32,00,000	52.65
2.	Government of Tamil Nadu	7,13,00,000	4.92
3.	Government of Andhra Pradesh	1,79,65,000	1.24
4.	Government of Kerala	61,16,000	0.42
5.	Government of Karnataka	17,47,000	0.12
6.	Repatriates	58,92,59,882	40.65
	Total	144,95,87,882	100.00

29. About 1,46,500 persons of Tamil origin holding Indian Citizenship were repatriated to

India from various countries. The repatriates have been provided with rehabilitation assistance and have been settled in tea, rubber, cinchona plantations, co-operative spinning mills and industrial units set up with the assistance of the REPCO Bank.

The details of Financial Assistance given to the repatriates through REPCO Bank are as follows: -

Sl. No.	Year	Amount (Rupees in Lakhs)
1.	2013-2014	231.65
2.	2014-2015	294.55
3.	2015-2016	330.00

WELFARE OF EX-SERVICEMEN

30. Tamil Nadu has always been one of the pioneering States in initiatives for the welfare of Ex-Servicemen. It has been the endeavour of the Government to focus on the resettlement and rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen so as to enable them to lead a fruitful and productive life after retiring from the defence services and also on the welfare of families of serving Defence Personnel in the State. Various initiatives aimed at the welfare of Ex-Servicemen are implemented by the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare which functions under the control of the Public Department.

31. The role of the Directorate is to delineate policies and programmes aimed at enhancing the welfare of Ex-Servicemen and the families of serving and deceased personnel. Nearly 1,400 personnel from the Armed Forces belonging to Tamil Nadu, retire from active service every year. As on 31.03.2016, the Department of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare has 1,86,969 Ex-Servicemen and widows of Ex-Servicemen registered with it. The Directorate caters to their requirements through thirty District Offices and the programmes are funded by donations collected under the Flag Day Collection Scheme.

ARMED FORCES FLAG DAY FUND

32. The Armed Forces Flag Day Fund is generated by voluntary donations received from the General Public. The amount collected through Armed Forces Flag Day Fund is being transferred to the Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund and Amalgamated Fund. Several welfare schemes are being implemented for the Ex-Servicemen and their dependants from these funds.

Tamil Nadu has always been a leader in the Armed Forces Flag Day Collections. Since 2003, the State has been retaining the All India Per Capita Collection Trophy. Tamil Nadu has collected Rs.26.51 crores for the Armed Forces Flag Day 2014 (07.12.2014 to 06.12.2015).

33. The key schemes implemented by the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare can be categorized under the following five major heads:-

1. Provision of financial assistance/grants
2. Facilitating re-employment
3. Training and skill upgradation
4. Reservation in educational institutions for wards of Ex-Servicemen
5. Schemes for promoting self employment

I. PROVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE / GRANTS

34. Different categories of financial assistance are provided to Ex-Servicemen and their dependants from the Tamil Nadu

Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund and the Amalgamated Fund.

a) **Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund**

35. Grants such as Lifetime Monthly Grant, Old Age Pension, grants towards various types of medical treatment, Marriage Grant to daughters of Ex-Servicemen, grant to meet funeral expenses and ex-gratia for natural calamities are sanctioned from the Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund to the Ex-Servicemen. In the year 2015-2016, the life time monthly financial assistance given to veterans of World War II has been enhanced from Rs.4,000/- to Rs.4,500/-.

36. The scale of financial assistance under other grants has also been enhanced recently and the present scale of financial assistance per month is as given below: -

Sl. No.	Name of the Grant	Amount in Rs. per month
1.	Life Time Destitute Grant	1,500
2.	Old Age Pension	1,500
3.	Blind Relief Grant	1,500
4.	Leprosy Relief Grant	1,500
5.	Paraplegic Relief Grant	1,500
6.	Monthly Grant – Ex-Servicemen in Penury	1,500
7.	Grant for Tuberculosis patients	1,500

8.	Grant for children who are mentally challenged	1,500
9.	Cancer Relief Grant	1,500
10.	Grant for the Differently Abled (Ex-Servicemen / Dependants)	1,500
<u>Other Grants</u>		
1.	Marriage Grant	20,000
2.	Funeral Grant	5,000

37. A sum of Rs.22,83,05,302/- has been sanctioned to 10,658 Ex-Servicemen and their dependants from the **Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund** in the year 2015-2016.

b) Amalgamated Fund

38. The receipts from the Amalgamated Fund are utilized to give various types of grants to

the next of kin of those killed or disabled in action.

During the year 2015-2016, a sum of Rs.4,80,78,504/- has been sanctioned to 4,765 Ex-Servicemen and their dependants from the Amalgamated Fund.

Cash grants to the recipients of Gallantry/Distinguished Service Awards and War Service incentives to the parents:-

39. Cash grants from the Government Funds under Budget Provisions are presented to the Service Personnel who have been awarded with Gallantry and Distinguished Service Medals. The Government has enhanced the rates of cash grant from 04.02.2016 as detailed below: -

Cash grants for the recipients for Gallantry Awards/ Medals

Sl. No.	Name of Award/Medal	Original Cash Grant (Rs.)	Enhanced Cash Grant (Rs.)
1.	Param Vir Chakra	15,00,000	25,00,000
2.	Ashok Chakra	12,00,000	20,00,000
3.	Maha Vir Chakra	10,00,000	15,00,000
4.	Kirti Chakra	8,00,000	12,00,000
5.	Vir Chakra	7,50,000	10,00,000
6.	Shaurya Chakra	5,00,000	8,00,000
7.	Sena / Nao / Vayu Sena Medal (Gallantry)	50,000	1,00,000
8.	Mention-in- Despatches	10,000	15,000

**Cash grant for the recipients of
Distinguished Service Medals**

Sl. No.	Name of Medal	Original Cash Grant Rs.	Enhanced Cash grant Rs.
1.	Param Vishisht Seva Medal	50,000	75,000
2.	Sarvottam Yudh Seva Medal	50,000	75,000
3.	Uttam Yudh Seva Medal	25,000	40,000
4.	Athi Vishisht Seva Medal	25,000	40,000
5.	Yudh Seva Medal	15,000	25,000
6.	Vishisht Seva Medal	15,000	25,000
7.	Sena Medal	15,000	25,000

During the year 2015-2016, a sum of Rs.1,65,000/- has been granted to four Gallantry

Award winners / Distinguished Service Medal awardees.

40. The Government has also decided to pay one time grant in lieu of annuity to the Gallantry Award winners as follows: -

One time lump sum grant in lieu of annuity

Sl. No.	Name of Award	Original Annuity (Rs.)	One time lump sum grant paid in lieu of annuity (Rs.)
1.	Param Vir Chakra	1,000	25,000
2.	Ashok Chakra	800	20,000
3.	Maha Vir Chakra	750	15,000
4.	Kirti Chakra	500	12,000
5.	Vir Chakra	300	10,000
6.	Shaurya Chakra	250	8,000

An amount of Rs.1,89,000/- has been sanctioned to 18 Gallantry Award winners as one time grant in lieu of annuity and Rs.1,44,000/- has been paid to 44 Territorial Army Medal awardees.

41. In order to laud the parents who have sent their sons/ daughters to join the Armed Forces, orders have been issued for sanctioning one time lump sum grant of Rs.20,000/- and a Silver Medal to parents who have sent their only Son/ Daughter to join the Armed Forces and Rs.25,000/- and a Silver Medal in lieu of the annual grants to parents who have sent more than one son / daughter to the Armed Forces. A sum of Rs.17,75,000/- was provided from Government Funds during the year

2015-2016 as War Service Incentive and 75 parents have benefited.

c) Ex-Gratia sanctioned in case of Battle Casualties

42. In acknowledgement and recognition of the supreme sacrifice made by those who are killed / disabled while performing duties in war, in counter insurgency operations or while aiding the civil authorities and also to mitigate the distress of their families, the Government sanctions grants up to Rs.10 lakh to the next of kin of such personnel. During the year 2015-2016, a sum of Rs.1,00,44,000/- has been sanctioned to 31 persons under this initiative.

43. This has also been extended to all paramilitary personnel (Central Reserve Police Force, Central Industrial Security Force,

Indo-Tibetan Border Force, Border Security Force and Sashastra Seema Bal) belonging to Tamil Nadu who are killed or disabled during such operations.

II. FACILITATING RE-EMPLOYMENT

a) Employment opportunities extended by the Government

44. The Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to augment employment opportunities for the Ex-Servicemen who normally retire from defence services at a relatively young age and have several years of active working life left. The Government of Tamil Nadu has provided reservation in employment in Government / quasi Government organisations as follows:

1.	Vacancies under Group 'C' category	5%
2.	Vacancies under basic services in Government and Quasi Government organisations	10%
3.	Vacancies for the post of forest guards	10%
4.	Vacancies for the post of forest watchers	5%
5.	Vacancies for the post of lascars, drivers and watchmen in N.C.C.	25%
6.	Vacancies under Group 'C' category in Tamil Nadu Uniformed Services	5%
7.	Livestock Inspector	5%

45. The Government has authorised the Department of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare to sponsor Ex-Servicemen against reserved vacancies along with Employment Exchanges. Accordingly, 88 Ex-Servicemen were placed in

various departments of the State Government / Central Government / Public Sector Undertakings in Group "C" posts and 472 Ex-Servicemen were appointed in Group "D" posts during the year 2015-2016.

b) Temple Protection Force

46. In order to safeguard the priceless and timeless idols, sculptures and jewels in the temples across the State and to protect the hundi collection, a Temple Protection Force was formed in the year 1992 with a provision to induct Ex-Servicemen as Special Police Officers. The monthly consolidated pay of these Ex-Servicemen in the Temple Protection Force has been enhanced from Rs.1,500/- to Rs.5,000/- in the year 2012. As on 01.07.2016, 1,485 Ex-Servicemen are working in the Temple Protection Force.

c) **Appointments on Compassionate Grounds**

47. Appointments on compassionate grounds are provided to the dependants of defence personnel who die while in service or are killed in action. In the year 2012, the Government designated District Collectors as Nodal Officers to clear the pending cases through a special drive. Accordingly, 223 dependants of those who died while on active duty have been given appointments on compassionate grounds.

III. TRAINING AND SKILL UPGRADATION

48. In an attempt to improve the enrolment of interested youth in the Armed Forces, orientation and training programmes are being conducted in the State. 15 candidates have been

given training at a cost of Rs.15,750/- from the Government fund in the year 2015-2016.

Skill Development Training to the women dependants of Ex-Servicemen

49. A tailoring unit is being run by the Department in the District Ex-Servicemen's Welfare Offices at Vellore and Krishnagiri for providing necessary skill sets to the dependants of Ex-Servicemen. Tailoring training is imparted, for a period of six months, to the widows/ wives/ unmarried daughters/ unmarried sisters/ widowed/ divorced daughters and divorced sisters of Ex-Servicemen and Serving Armed Forces Personnel.

- Stipend paid to the trainees has been increased from Rs.20/- to Rs.50/- per day

and the cost of raw material provided to the trainees has been revised from Rs.500/- to Rs.1,000/- per month per trainee. A sewing machine is provided free of cost to all the trainees who complete the training. The salary paid to the Tailoring Unit teacher has been enhanced from Rs.8,000/- to Rs.10,000/- per month along with an annual increment of Rs.250/-. The above enhancement has been implemented from 01.04.2015.

The tailoring unit is financed from the proceeds of the Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund.

IV. RESERVATION IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR WARDS OF EX-SERVICEMEN

50. Reservation has been extended to the Children of Ex-Servicemen belonging to Tamil Nadu for admission in various professional courses such as BE, MBBS, BDS, BSc (Nursing), BL, BEd and for vocational courses in Polytechnics and ITIs. The number of seats reserved for children of Ex-Servicemen in MBBS course has been increased from two seats to five seats. Similarly, the seats reserved for the wards of Ex-Servicemen in BSc (Nursing), have been increased from one seat to four seats.

V. SCHEMES FOR PROMOTING SELF EMPLOYMENT

51. It is the policy of the Government to promote gainful self employment opportunities

amongst the Ex-Servicemen. For loans up to Rupees ten lakh availed for self employment activities, 75% of the interest charged is provided as interest subsidy. In the case of Self Help Groups, 100% interest subsidy is provided for bank loans up to an amount of Rs.15 lakh, from the Amalgamated Fund. Under this scheme, 388 Ex-Servicemen and 12 Self Help Groups have benefited during the year 2015-2016 to the extent of Rs.35,29,288/-.

JAWANS BHAVAN / DISTRICT EX-SERVICES CENTRE/DIRECTORATE OF EX- SERVICEMEN'S WELFARE COMPLEX

52. Jawans Bhavan / District Ex-Services Centre and Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare Complex with shopping/ office complexes have been constructed with the aim of

augmenting funds for welfare activities. Income derived from such Centres is merged with the Benevolent Fund. These properties generated an income of Rs.1,77,29,911/- during the year 2015-2016.

e-GOVERNANCE PROJECT

53. In an attempt to streamline the process of registration, issue of identity cards, availing various kinds of assistance and for better dissemination of information, an e-governance project for the Department of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare was taken up through NIC. Available records of 1,86,000 Ex-Servicemen and widows of Ex-Servicemen have been digitized and 15,000 records have been validated. It is also envisaged

that this would improve the interaction between the Ex-Servicemen and the Directorate.

TAMIL NADU EX-SERVICEMEN'S CORPORATION LIMITED

54. The Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Limited (TEXCO) was established in the year 1986 to formulate and execute a range of welfare schemes for the social and economic upliftment of Ex-Servicemen belonging to Tamil Nadu. It functions as a manpower agency, catering to the demand for manpower such as security personnel, drivers, clerks, telephone operators, tourism police, nursing assistants, fire crew, gunmen, teaching staff and wardens for various Central and State Public Sector Undertakings, Government Departments and

other requisitioning agencies from out of the pool of Ex-Servicemen registered with the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen Welfare. Commercial activities such as the management of Paid Parking System on profit sharing basis on behalf of the Greater Chennai Corporation are also being undertaken by TEXCO. As on 31.03.2016, 8,794 Ex-Servicemen have been provided with employment.

OTHER WELFARE SCHEMES

55. The TEXCO also implements the following schemes for the benefit of Ex-servicemen.

- Skill Development Training in various fields is being imparted to the personnel of

the Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen Corporation Limited

- Group Personal Accident Insurance Scheme has been introduced for all the contract employees of Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen Corporation. Under this scheme a sum of Rs.3 lakh is paid to the legal heirs of the deceased
- TEXCO Welfare Fund Scheme is being implemented for the contract personnel of TEXCO with an average annual expenditure of Rs.2.76 crores
- Cash award in the range of Rs.1,500/- to Rs.15,000/- is given to the wards of TEXCO employees, who have secured first

five places in the State in 10th and 12th
Standard Board examinations

CHIEF MINISTER'S SPECIAL CELL

56. The Chief Minister's Special Cell has been established with the objective of ensuring that the grievances of the Public addressed to the Chief Minister are expeditiously redressed. Fair and speedy redressal of grievances is a *sine qua non* for good and responsive governance. All the petitions addressed to the Chief Minister's Special Cell are duly acknowledged with the assurance that the complaints or grievances will be dealt with in an impartial, objective and professional manner. The petitions are coded and sent to the respective administrative departments. The replies are reviewed and monitored.

57. Online submission of petitions through the website of the Chief Minister's Special Cell <http://www.cmcell.tn.gov.in> was started in 2012 and was well received. To reduce the delay in sending of petitions to the Departments/Districts concerned the scanned images of petitions are being sent electronically to the Departments.

58. It has been envisaged that the Dr.Radhakrishnan Nagar Assembly Constituency should be developed as a model Assembly Constituency in the State. Accordingly, a special camp is being organized at Tondiarpet Taluk Office in Dr.Radhakrishnan Nagar Assembly Constituency, wherein the Special Officer of the Chief Minister's Special Cell directly receives the

grievance petitions from the public, on every Tuesday.

AMMA CALL CENTRE 24 X 7

59. In order to expand the scope of grievance redressal **Amma Call Centre 24 X 7** was established and inaugurated on 19.01.2016 for redressing the grievances of the public received through mobile phones or land line. The aim of Amma Call Centre is to resolve the grievances as early as possible in a time bound manner. Telephone calls from the public are attended by the agents of the call centre and the grievances are forwarded to the respective departments for redressal. The Grievance Redressal Officers (GROs) of the respective

departments upload the details in the website viz., www.ammacallcentre.tn.gov.in

60. Considering the rapid increase in mobile usage among the public a new mobile application will be launched shortly for addressing the public grievances relating to various amenities such as drinking water, roads, sanitation, electricity, street lights, storm water drains etc., Initially it would be launched on pilot basis in Dr.Radhakrishnan Nagar Assembly Constituency. This mobile based application redressal mechanism will be extended to other parts of the State in a phased manner. It is envisaged that this application will facilitate convergence of departments in providing services and to solve the grievances pertaining to basic amenities, in an

efficient manner and on a 24 X 7 basis. It will also pave the way for a Management Information System (MIS) that will help in effective review of petitions, monitoring and decision making.

J JAYALALITHAA
CHIEF MINISTER