



PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

**POLICY NOTE
2021 - 2022**

DEMAND No.38

**Thiru. M.K. STALIN
HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER**

©
**Government of Tamil Nadu
2021**

CONTENTS

Sl. No.	Title	Page No.
1.	Introduction	1
2.	Visit of VIPs / Foreign Dignitaries to Tamil Nadu	6
3.	State Guest Houses	8
4.	Foreigners	16
5.	Rehabilitation of Srilankan Tamils and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils	18
6.	Welfare of Ex-Servicemen	40
7.	Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Limited	60
8.	State Human Rights Commission	64
9.	National Functions, Special Days and Awards	66
10.	Chief Minister's Special Cell	69
11.	Ungal Thoguthiyil Mudhalamaichar	70
12.	Conclusion	75

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

POLICY NOTE 2021-2022

I. Introduction

Public Department deals with the Public administration of the State. This Department which functions directly under the supervision of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is the Head of all functions of the Secretariat. It is the prime department that has been working tirelessly during the holidays also.

Good governance is the one where honesty and effective planning could be found in all levels of hierarchy. To ensure this, the Department handles the establishment matters of the Indian Administrative Service Officers and District Revenue Officers who are engaged in an important functions of the State.

This Department looks after the protocol functions such as the Swearing-in-Ceremony of the Hon'ble Governor, Hon'ble Chief Minister and Council of Ministers. This department is responsible to warmly welcome the dignitaries with smile of bouquet by making

protocol arrangements and also provide security to them. This Department also liaises with the Ministry of External Affairs of the Union Government and with Foreign Embassies. This Department effectively facilitates the appointment of District Judges and High Court Law Officers. This Department maintains, renovates and reserves rooms at the Government Guest House and Government Rest House in Chennai, Tamil Nadu House in Udhagamandalam and New Delhi.

The other works of the Public Department are listed as follows:

Foreigners

- Implementation of Foreigners Act ,1946
- e-Sanad services Project

Welfare

- Welfare of the Sri Lankan Tamils who are accommodated in various camps and residing outside camps in the State
- Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils

- Welfare of Ex-Servicemen and their families and the administration of the Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen Corporation (TEXCO)
- Grant of pension and implementation of welfare schemes for freedom fighters and ex-INA personnel

Human Rights

- Implementation of Protection of the Human Rights Act, 1993 and matters related to the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

Law and Order

- Maintenance of Law and Order and also Constitution of Inquiry Commissions
- Implementation of National Security Act, 1980 and Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 (COFEPOSA)

Military

- Issues related to Centre-State relations including the National Integration Council, Inter-State Council and Southern Zonal Council
- Liaisoning with the Armed Forces i.e. the Indian Army, the Indian Navy, the Indian Air Force and the Indian Coast Guard.

Redressal of Grievances

- Processing and disposal of petitions received at the Chief Minister's Special Cell
- Processing and disposal of petitions received at the Ungal Thoguthiyil Mudhalamaichar

Others

- Arrangements of Celebration of National functions such as Independence Day and Republic Day
- To carryout the works relates to confer State Awards to the eligible persons

- To identify the eligible persons and make recommendations for the awards given by Union Government.
- Arrangements for Cabinet Meetings
- Declaration of Public and Local Holidays
- Maintenance and administration of the Buildings in the Secretariat
- Administration and management of the Aviation Wing of the Government

2. Visit of VIPs / Foreign Dignitaries to Tamil Nadu

Public Department is dealing with the protocol and security arrangements for the visits of the Hon'ble President of India, the Hon'ble Vice-President of India, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Foreign Dignitaries in the rank of Heads of Governments, Foreign Ministers, Ambassadors / High Commissioners in India to Tamil Nadu. Further, appointments of Foreign Dignitaries with Hon'ble Governor, Hon'ble Chief Minister and Chief Secretary to Government is co-ordinated by the Public Department with the consent of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

Hon'ble President of India has visited Tamil Nadu from 02.08.2021 to 06.08.2021 for the centenary celebrations of Tamil Nadu Legislative Council. During the visit, the Hon'ble President of India unveiled the portrait of the former Hon'ble Chief Minister Mutthamizh Arigzhnar Dr.Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi on 02.08.2021 in the Legislative Assembly Hall of Tamil Nadu Secretariat. The Hon'ble Vice President of India visited Tamil Nadu

from 29.06.2021 to 02.07.2021. From May 2021 till 31.08.2021 one Foreign Ambassador from Danish, 11 Deputy Consul Generals from various countries and an official of the Navy and two Coast Guard Officials met Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

3. State Guest Houses

Public Department manages and controls the State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai; New Guest House, Omandurar Government Estate, Chennai; Government Rest House, Chinthadripet, Chennai; Tamizhagam Government Guest House, Udagamandalam; Vaigai Tamil Nadu Illam, New Delhi and Podhigai Tamil Nadu Illam, New Delhi.

3.1 State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai

The State Guest House was established in 1970 with 7 rooms in the Old Block. In the year 1983, it was further expanded with the construction of an additional buildings adjacent to the old block. The State Guest House consist of 33 rooms, such as 6 Suite rooms, 11 Deluxe Double bed rooms and 16 Standard Single bed rooms. The Reception Officer (Joint State Protocol Officer) in the rank of District Revenue Officer is the administrative controller of the State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai.

3.2 New Guest House, Omandurar Government Estate, Chennai

The New Guest House, Omandurar Government Estate was constructed in the year 2018. It consists of 40 Deluxe Double bed rooms, 4 mini Conference Halls, 2 large Conference Halls, 2 dining halls and a Gym. The Reception Officer (Joint State Protocol Officer) in the rank of District Revenue Officer is the administrative controller of the New Guest House, Omandurar Government Estate, Chennai.

The reservation of the rooms for the State Guest and Paying Guest in the State Guest House, Chepauk and New Guest House, Omandurar Government Estate for accommodation can be made online through www.sgh.tn.gov.in.

3.3 Government Rest House, Chinthadripet, Chennai

The Government Rest House, Chinthadripet was established in 1981 with 25 rooms for the stayal of junior level Government Officers, who are visiting Chennai on official purpose. It was demolished in February, 2021 and

the construction of new Government Rest House is under process.

The total sanctioned staff strength of the State Guest House, Chepauk and New Guest House, Omandurar Government Estate is 89. The staff are working under the control of the Reception Officer (Joint State Protocol Officer) in the rank of District Revenue Officer round the clock to provide protocol and hospitality facilities.

3.4 Tamizhagam Guest House, Udhagamandalam

The Tamizhagam Guest House, Udhagamandalam, erstwhile known as “Arranmore Palace” of Maharaja of Jodhpur, situated amidst Sylvan surroundings was purchased from Maharaja of Jodhpur in 1958. It is located at a distance of 2.8 kms from the Udhagamandalam Railway Station, Central Bus Stand. The total area of the Guest House is 36 acres and it has a total number of 39 rooms (8 VVIP rooms, 29 rooms and 2 Dormitory rooms). A spacious beautiful conference hall with seating capacity of 200 persons and Mini Hall with seating capacity of 30 persons is available in this Guest

House. The review meetings and seminars of the various committees of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly are conducted in this Conference Hall.

The rooms in this Guest House are allotted by the Public Department. The Reception Officer, who is in the Tahsildar cadre manages and maintains the Tamizhagam Guest House and 13 permanent staff are working under his control.

3.5 Vaigai–Tamil Nadu Illam, New Delhi

Vaigai-Tamil Nadu Illam is located at No.6, Kautilya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi and was constructed in 1962 in an extent of land measuring 1.757 acres and subsequently, a three storeyed building was constructed in the same premises in 1976. There are 7 Suite rooms and 40 rooms in the Vaigai-Tamil Nadu Illam. All the major services such as Reception, Catering, Electricity, Water Supply, House Keeping and maintenance of Air Conditioning in Vaigai-Tamil Nadu Illam are manned by the regular Staff of Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi.

3.6 Podhigai –Tamil Nadu Illam, New Delhi

Podhigai-Tamil Nadu Illam is located at Plot No.9, Tikendrajit Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi was constructed in an extent of land measuring 1.966 acres and is functioning with effect from 16.09.2004. Most of the services including Catering, House Keeping, Security and maintenance of Gardens have been outsourced to Private Contractors. At present, both the Tamil Nadu Houses are functioning under the control of Additional Chief Secretary / Resident Commissioner I and Resident Commissioner II under the overall control of Public Department.

The reservation of rooms for accommodation of State Guests and Paying Guests are made online through <http://tnhouse.tn.gov.in>.

Facilities provided in the Tamil Nadu Houses

1. Business Centre at Vaigai and Podhigai Tamil Nadu Illam provide necessary facilities on payment basis, to the guests staying at Tamil Nadu House.

2. Provision of Wireless (Wi-Fi) with Internet Access facilities in all the rooms.
3. Auditorium at Podhigai - Tamil Nadu House with a seating capacity of 90 seats and with modern audio- visual equipments.
4. Provision of Medical consultation with minimum medical service to the staying guests, staff and their family members at Podhigai - Tamil Nadu House. The General Physician is visiting on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 04.30 p.m. to 06.00 p.m. and providing Medical consultation.
5. Indoor Fitness Centre in Podhigai Tamil Nadu Illam, Outdoor Fitness Centre in both Tamil Nadu Houses, Recreation Facilities for Children and Guests at Vaigai Tamil Nadu Illam, is available.

3.7 State Guests and Paying Guests

3.7.1 State Guests

The VVIPs and VIPs such as Hon'ble President of India, Hon'ble Vice-President of India, Hon'ble Prime

Minister of India, Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Supreme Court, Hon'ble Governors of other States, Former President of India, Former Vice-President of India, Former Prime Minister of India, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Union Ministers, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Chief Minister and Ministers of other States, Deputy Chairman, Niti Aayog, Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Legislative Assemblies of other States, Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Chairman / Members of various Commissions appointed by the Union Government, Foreign Dignitaries, Hon'ble Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts, Secretaries from Union Government, who are visiting Tamil Nadu are treated as State Guests and they are extended with the State Guest facilities such as reception, boarding and lodging at Government Guest Houses, Medical service, Telephone charges, Transportation and Security arrangements. The Security will be provided as per the scale, fixed by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

3.7.2 Paying Guests

As per protocol manual, visitors not coming under the category of State Guests will be treated as Paying Guests. Boarding and Transportation will be provided to them in the Government Guest Houses on Payment basis.

Details of Guests who visited to the Guest Houses from 07.05.2021 to 31.08.2021 are as follows

Sl. No.	Guests	State Guest House, Chepauk, Chennai	New Guest House, Omandurar Government Estate, Chennai	Tamizhagam Government Guest House, Udthagamandalam	Tamil Nadu Illam, (Vaigai/ Podhigai), New Delhi
1.	State Guests	9	-	-	24
2.	Paying Guests	154	212	580	620

4. Foreigners

4.1. Foreigners Act,1946

As per the powers delegated to the State Governments by the Union Government, Deportation Orders under Foreigners Act, 1946, are issued by the Public Department to the foreigners, who indulge in anti-social activities or violate visa rules.

4.2. e-Sanad Project

Public Department is the State authority to authenticate certificates of those who wishes to go abroad for employment or education purpose. After verifying the genuineness from the concerned issuing authorities, the Department attest / apostille the documents. The services of attestation / apostille of documents is now fully online through a portal called e-Sanad (<http://esanad.nic.in/>) initiated by the Ministry of External Affairs through National Informatics Centre. e-Sanad aims at contactless, cashless and paperless attestation services. An active feedback mechanism, along with a real time online transfer of documents has

streamlined the process of verification of certificates issued by various educational institutions in the State resulting in greater accountability, faster and hassle free disposal and reduction in handling cost.

The candidates should apply through e-Sanad portal for both attestation and apostille of their certificates / documents, which is being verified by the Document Issuing Authority (DIA) and digitally signed by the Documents Issuing Authorities and Public (Foreigners) Department (in respect of Government of Tamil Nadu). Once digitally signed by Ministry of External Affairs, the scanned copy of the attested / apostille documents / certificates are despatched to the applicants by Speed Post. In Tamil Nadu, so far, 17 State Universities and 13 Deemed Universities, Directorate of Technical Education (DoTE), Directorate of Government Examinations, Office of Municipal Administration and the Office of Inspector General of Registration have already joined the 'e-Sanad' portal. Till 31.08.2021, 14,893 certificates received through 'e-Sanad' portal were disbursed to candidates.

5. Rehabilitation of Sri Lankan Tamils and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils

A separate Department was originally established in 1968 for the welfare of Tamils who returned to their mother land from Sri Lanka, Burma, Vietnam, for the betterment of their livelihood. 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. Since then, this Department has been working towards the welfare and relief for the Sri Lankan Tamils. Since 2010, this Department is looking after the welfare activities for Tamil people who live in abroad as per the order of the Government.

As announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 28.08.2021, orders have been issued to change the nomenclature from "Sri Lankan Refugee Camp" to "Sri Lankan Tamils Rehabilitation Camp".

5.1. Welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils living in camps

As on 31.07.2021, 18,944 families consisting of 58,822 persons are staying in 108 Sri Lankan Tamil

Rehabilitation Camps (including two special camps in Thiruchirappalli and Ramanathapuram districts) located in 29 districts in the State. The Sri Lankan Tamils living in the Rehabilitation Camps are being provided with various relief measures like accommodation, drinking water, electricity etc., at free of cost as per the guidelines, norms stipulated by the Union Government and the State Government of Tamil Nadu.

It is the endeavour of this Government to ensure that the Sri Lankan Tamils living in Rehabilitation Camps are enabled to lead a life with dignity, safety and security. Further, the State Government has already extended all welfare schemes being offered to the people of Tamil Nadu to the Sri Lankan Tamils residing in camps also with effect from 20.11.2009.

5.1.1.Cash dole

As announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister under Rule 110 in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021, the monthly cash dole will be enhanced at

the following rates with an additional expenditure of Rs.21.49 crore per year to the State Government.

Sl.No.	Particulars	Old Amount (in.Rs)	Enhanced amount (in Rs.)
1.	Head of the Family	1000/-	1500/-
2.	Each additional member (aged 12 years and above)	750/-	1000/-
3.	Children (below 12 years)	400/-	500/-

5.1.2. Clothing

Sri Lankan Tamils staying in the Rehabilitation Camps are being provided with free clothes in every year and free blankets in every two years through Co-optex. As the clothes and blankets could not be supplied in the rates fixed by the Union Government, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110, as per the current rate to enhance it from Rs.1,790 to Rs.3,473/- per family and to incur an additional expenditure of Rs.3 crore per year by the State Government.

5.1.3. Utensils

Sri Lankan Tamils staying in the Rehabilitation Camps are being provided with 8 types of cooking utensils worth Rs. 250/- at free of cost, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 that since the utensils could not be supplied in the above rate, they will be provided at a cost of Rs.1,296/- from the Salem Steel Authority of India with an additional expenditure of Rs.1.97 crore to the State Government.

5.1.4. Rice subsidy

Each Sri Lankan Tamil adult and children under the age of 8 years living in the camps are provided with 12 kg and 6 kg of rice per month respectively. The first 20 kg of rice is provided at free of cost and the extra rice is given at a cost of Rs.0.57 per kg. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110 that the rice subsidy will be suspended and the rice supplied to them will be at free of cost and the expenditure Rs.19 lakh will be met by the State Government. In addition to that, all

essential items (i.e) oil, sugar will also be supplied to the Sri Lankan Tamils under the Public Distribution System.

5.1.5 Provision of Free Cooking Gas Stove and Gas Cylinder at Subsidised Price

The kerosene which is being supplied to the Sri Lankan Tamils living in camps is not sufficient and also they are unable to get the gas connection under the Prime Minister's Ujwala scheme. Hence, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110, that they will be provided with free gas connection and gas stove. The one time expenditure to the State Government in this regard will be Rs.7 crore. Further, 5 gas cylinders every year will be supplied with a subsidy of Rs.400/- per cylinder to each family of Sri Lankan Tamils by incurring an additional expenditure of Rs.3.8 crore every year to the State Government.

5.1.6 Housing and Basic facilities

The existing Sri Lankan Tamil Camps at Adiyannuthu, Thotannuthu, Gopalpatti which are located at private lands in Dindigul District will be merged into one

camp, which is to be set up in a Government land at Koovanuthu village. The new camp with 321 houses will be built at a cost of Rs.17.17 crore.

To ensure a safe, more dignified and improved life to the Sri Lankan Tamils, who are living in the Camps without proper infrastructure, for the last few years, inspection were conducted in these Camps. And based on the outcome of these inspection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110 that initially 7469 new houses at a cost of Rs.231.54 crore will be constructed. Out of 7,469 houses, 3,510 new houses will be constructed in the 1st phase at a cost of Rs.108.81 crore. Apart from that Rs.30 crore will be allotted for providing electricity, toilet facilities, drinking water and other basic facilities in the camps.

5.1.7. Sri Lankan Tamils Livelihood Development Fund

To provide other basic facilities to the Sri Lankan Tamils, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule

110 that Rs.5 crore will be allotted on Sri Lankan Tamils Livelihood Development Fund.

5.1.8 Reimbursement of Expenditure

Initially, the total cost of relief assistance to Sri Lankan Tamils in the Camps is met by the State Government and later on, in some items of work, some percentage of amount will be reimbursed by the Union Government on the basis of proposals sent along with the audit certificate issued by the Chief Accountant General of the State. The State Government has spent Rs.124.61 crore in the Financial year 2020-2021. Out of this, the Union Government estimated contribution is Rs.67.07 crore. So far, the Union Government has reimbursed an amount of Rs.20 crore to the State Government. In order to receive the balance amount of Rs.47.07 crore, the State Government has sent proposal to the Union Government.

5.1.9 Educational Assistance

There are about 11,012 students studying up to class 12 in Sri Lankan Tamil Camps. The free education

scheme is extended to them up to class 12. They are also provided with free uniforms, noon meals, books, free bus passes as in the case of other students of Tamil Nadu.

In addition to this, Sri Lankan Tamil Students are being admitted for higher studies in Arts and Science Colleges, Polytechnics, Universities based on the merits through single window system under counselling in the general category.

Further, upto five seats allotted based on the need in each hostel run by the Backward Class, Most Backward Class and Minorities Welfare, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Departments.

Around 750 Sri Lankan Tamil students who are residing in Camps are studying in the Government and other colleges in Arts / Science and Diploma courses including professional courses. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110

that educational assistance will be enhanced at the following rates:-

Sl. No	Course	Educational Assistance (in Rs)	Enhanced Educational Assistance (in Rs.)
1.	Polytechnic	2,500/-	10,000/-
2.	Bachelor of Arts/Science	3,000/-	12,000/-
3.	Bachelor Professional courses	5,000/-	20,000/-

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110 that total education fees and hostel fees for the first 50 students based on the marks obtained by the students who want to pursue their Engineering courses, will be met by the State Government. In addition to that, for first 5 students based on marks, who want to pursue Agriculture / Agriculture Engineering will be given full education fees and hostel fees. Apart from the above, to encourage the students to pursue Master's degree, the education fees and hostel fees for all the students will be

met by the Government. An amount of Rs.1 crore will be allotted for this purpose.

5.1.10 Social Development Schemes

5.1.10.1 Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Assistance Scheme, Chief Minister's Girl Child Protection Scheme

This scheme has also been extended to Sri Lankan Tamils.

5.1.10.2 Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Memorial Marriage Assistance Scheme

This scheme has also been extended to Sri Lankan Tamil women.

5.1.10.3 Women Self Help Group

To improve the economic conditions and standard of living, Rs.50,000/- as Social Capital Fund (SCF) was provided to 321 Women Self Help Groups of the Sri Lankan Tamils living in the camps.

In this connection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110 that an amount of Rs.1.25 lakh each will be sanctioned to 300 Self Help

Groups as Revolving Fund and Social Capital Fund for conducting business. Apart from the above, an additional amount of Rs.75,000/- will be sanctioned in addition to Rs.50,000/- sanctioned last year to the 321 Self Help Groups. Totally, an amount of Rs.6.16 crore will be allotted for this purpose

5.1.10.4 Social Security Pension and Relief

Apart from giving of monthly cash dole, monthly pension at the rate of Rs.1,000/- is being given under the Social Security Scheme to the Sri Lankan Tamils considering their poverty to destitute widows, old aged persons, differently abled persons, deserted wives, unmarried women living in camps. An amount of Rs.5,000/- is being provided to the family of the deceased in Rehabilitation Camps to meet expenses on funeral rites. For the accidental death, an amount of Rs.50,000/- is being given from the Chief Minister's Sri Lankan Tamils Special Relief Fund.

5.1.11 Covid-19 relief of Rs.4,000/- to the Sri Lankan Tamils living in the Rehabilitation Camps

The Newly formed Government has provided Tamil Nadu Government's Covid cash relief of Rs.4,000/- to 18,944 Sri Lankan Tamil families residing in the Rehabilitation Camps, at a cost of Rs.7.58 crore. In addition, a grocery kit with 14 items (worth Rs.465/-) has also been distributed to 18,944 Sri Lankan Tamil families residing in the Rehabilitation Camps at a cost of Rs.88.08 lakh.

5.1.12 Skill Development Training

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110 that training on Skill Development with Employment opportunities will be given to improve the livelihood and employment of the Sri Lankan Tamils staying in the Rehabilitation Camps. An amount of Rs.10 crores will be sanctioned to 5,000 Sri Lankan Tamil youth.

5.1.13 Special Camp

At present, there is a special camp each in Tiruchirappalli and Ramanathapuram districts of

Tamil Nadu. In this camp, accommodation given to the Sri Lankan Tamils who have criminal background / under investigation. As on 31.07.2021, 88 Sri Lankan Tamils have been lodged in these special camps under section 3(2)(e) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. As their movements in the special camps are restricted within the Camp, they are provided with cooked food at the rate of Rs.175/- per day.

5.1.14 Repatriation of Sri Lankan Tamils on their own willing

The District Collectors concerned will issue an Exit Permit to the Sri Lankan Tamils who are willing to go back to Sri Lanka on their own accord. With the assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 17,718 Sri Lankan Tamils returned to Sri Lanka from 2002 to 31.03.2020.

5.2 Welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils living outside the camp

As on 31.07.2021, 34,087 Sri Lankan Tamils in 13,553 families have been registered with the local police in Tamil Nadu and allowed to live outside the camps.

The Chief Minister's Comprehensive Insurance Scheme has been extended to them.

5.2.1. Providing Covid-19 Relief of Rs.4,000/- to the Sri Lankan Tamils Living Outside the Camps

The Newly formed Government extended the scheme of providing of Rs.4,000/- on 19.06.2021 to 13,553 Sri Lankan Tamil families living outside the camps, at a cost of Rs.5.42 crore

5.2.2 Waiver of Penalties for the Overstay Period

While the Union Government has considerably increased the Visa Fees and the Overstay Penalty in respect of Sri Lankan Tamils, few Sri Lankan Tamils could not afford to pay such large amount and return to Sri Lanka. Based on the clearance given by the Union Government to the State Government, waiving off Visa Fees and Overstay Penalty item wise on the applications of those Sri Lankan Tamils who are willing to go back to Sri Lanka on their own accord, then Visa, Penalty Fees are being waived off. As on 31.07.2021, 1,542 Sri Lankan Tamils belonging to 805 families have benefitted under this scheme.

5.3 Advisory Committee

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced in the floor of Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110 that an Advisory Committee will be formed to explore solutions to address the challenges being encountered by the Sri Lankan Tamils both in and outside the camps to arrange for Citizenship, to help Sri Lankan Tamils to return to Sri Lanka and to propose an action plan for the Government of Tamil Nadu comprising of the Hon'ble Minister for Minorities Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (one), Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly (one), Secretary to Public Department, Director of Rehabilitation and higher officials from Government, members from Non-Governmental organisations, representative of Sri Lankan Tamils in Camp and representative for the non-camp Sri Lankan Tamils.

5.4 Rehabilitation of Repatriates

4,61,639 persons of Indian origin from Sri Lanka, 1,44,445 persons from Burma and 2,055 persons from Vietnam were repatriated to India. Among them, most of

the repatriates have settled in Tamil Nadu and others in Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been providing many welfare schemes for the repatriates.

5.4.1 Green Houses

In 2018-2019, orders were issued for the construction of 1,000 houses in rural areas under the “Solar Powered Green Houses” Scheme of which 840 houses were constructed so far. Out of the balance 160 houses, 31 are at Basement level, 34 are at Lintel level, 60 are at Roof level and 35 are at Plastering stage.

5.4.2 Housing for All

In 2019-2020, under the scheme of “Housing for All”, 500 houses have been allotted for the repatriates residing in Town Panchayats and Urban areas. Of these, administrative sanction has been accorded for 413 houses. Based on the above, so far construction of 6 houses have been completed through Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board and in 103 houses, construction works are being carried out in different stages (Basement -36,

Lintel-24, Roof level-43). Action is being taken for construction of the remaining houses.

5.4.3 Repatriates Co-operative Bank (REPCO Bank)

The Repatriates Co-operative Finance & Development Bank Ltd., Chennai shortly known as REPCO Bank was established by Union Government with share capital of Union Government, five Southern States - Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Karnataka and Repatriates for the purpose of rehabilitation of repatriates from Sri Lanka, Burma, Vietnam and other countries.

The Bank was first registered under Madras Co-operative Societies Act, 53 of 1961 on 09.09.1969. The operations of the Bank were commenced by the then Hon'ble Chief Minister Mutthamizh Arigzhnar Dr. Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi on 19.11.1969. The Bank is under the administrative control of FFR section of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Union Government. Presently, the area of operation of the Bank covers the Southern States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana,

Karnataka, Kerala and Union Territory of Puducherry, with a network of 108 branches.

The share-holding pattern of the Bank as on 31.03.2021 are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Share Holders	Share Capital Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	% of Share Holding
1	Union Government	7632.00	49.46
2	Government of Tamil Nadu	713.00	4.62
3	Government of Andhra Pradesh	104.77	0.68
4	Government of Telangana	74.88	0.49
5	Government of Kerala	61.16	0.40
6	Government of Karnataka	17.47	0.11
7	Repatriates	6827.63	44.24
	Total	15430.91	100.00

Approximately 1,56,000 Tamil people of Indian origin from Sri Lanka and approximately 1,44,000 Tamil people from Burma were repatriated to India. In the earlier days, they have been settled in tea and rubber estates for rehabilitation. The Government of Tamil Nadu

has implemented various schemes for their employment in spinning mills and industrial units set up with the assistance of this bank.

Presently, the Bank has been implementing various welfare measures for the Repatriates, viz., Education Aid, Medical Aid, Loan Schemes at lower interest rates, Life Insurance Scheme, Solatium for deceased repatriates, free higher education to 10 repatriate children every year, water purifier machines in schools for the repatriate children, renovation of dilapidated houses, donation of chairs for differently abled repatriates, etc. So far, more than 1,00,000 beneficiaries have benefitted in the schemes.

The table below shows the details of assistance provided by this Co-operative bank for the repatriates:-

Sl. No.	Year	Financial Assistance (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	2016-17	470.00
2.	2017-18	484.00
3.	2018-19	618.00
4.	2019-20	720.00
5	2020-21	475.00

5.5. Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils

Historically, Tamils have ventured abroad for trade, expeditions and also to settle abroad. Every year, a large number of Tamils migrate to foreign countries due to economic reasons for higher education and in search of employment for their livelihood. This Government helps out in rescue / repatriation of the Non-Resident Tamils who are in distress settlement of their claims from the foreign employer and also in bringing back the mortal remains of the Non Resident Tamils who died abroad, in co-ordination with the Union Government and with the respective Indian Embassy abroad.

In the Districts, the Personal Assistant (General) to the Collector has also been designated as “District Welfare Officer (Non-Resident Tamils)” and the section under the Magisterial Huzur Sarishtadar in the Collectorates have been designated as “District Welfare Centre (Non-Resident Tamils)” and entrusted with the work.

5.5.1 Revolving Fund

This Government helps out in rescue / repatriation of the Non-Resident Tamils, medical expenses for those who are in distress and also in bringing back the mortal remains of the Non Resident Tamils to Tamil Nadu in co-ordination with the Union Government and with the respective Indian Embassy in abroad. An amount of Rs.1 crore has been sanctioned as revolving fund for these purposes and this will be recouped by Government of Tamil Nadu.

During the year 2020-2021, arrangements were made out of this fund to bring back the 74 mortal remains from different countries and the mortal remains were transported to their native places through vans of Indian Red Cross Society. During the financial year of 2020-2021, an amount of Rs.2.07 crore has been spent from the Revolving Fund.

5.5.2 Welfare Board for Non-Resident Tamils

Due to Covid-19 pandemic around 6,36,540 Tamils who lost their jobs have been repatriated by flights

under “Vande Bharat” scheme to Tamil Nadu. Action is being taken to establish a Welfare Board for Non-Resident Tamils as specified in Sec 10(1) of Non-Resident Tamils Welfare Act, so as to implement various welfare schemes for such persons. The proposed Welfare Board will function as a part of Directorate of Rehabilitation of Sri Lankan Tamils and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils.

6. Welfare of Ex-Servicemen

The Madras Soldiers' Board was constituted in 1919 to honour the services of the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen Forces and to protect the welfare of the retired soldiers. After the requirements were over, it was abolished in 1930. Again, when the Madras Provincial Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board was reconstituted in 1943 by the then Government of India, the Madras Soldiers' Board was also reconstituted.

In 1956, it was renamed as Madras State Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board and later in 1969 as 'Tamil Nadu State Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Board. This Board is patronized by Hon'ble Governor and headed by Hon'ble Minister for Ex-Servicemen Welfare.

In 1974, 'Tamil Nadu Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Board and Madras Amalgamated fund office was merged and consequently, the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare was established and brought under the administrative control of the Social Welfare Department. In 1976, the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare was brought under the administrative control of

Public Department. The administrative expenses are being incurred by Union Government and State Government in the ratio of 60:40.

Tamil Nadu plays a vital role in contributing large number of youth to Indian Military. The Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare is executing the policies and schemes evolved by the Government to support Ex-Servicemen, Serving Personnel and to the families of deceased Indian Soldiers. Every Year, almost 2,500 soldiers of Tamil Nadu are getting retired from the Armed Forces. Totally, 1,83,224 persons, including 1,27,654 Ex-Servicemen and 55,570 widows have registered in the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare. The requisites and claims of Ex-Servicemen and dependents are being catered through 30 District offices.

6.1. Major Schemes / Financial Assistance of the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare are as follows:-

(1) Schemes / Financial Assistance of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

(2) Departmental Schemes / Financial Assistances

➤ Flag Day Fund

- Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund
- Amalgamated Fund

6.2. Schemes and Financial Assistance of Government of Tamil Nadu

6.2.1. Monetary grant to the Recipients of Gallantry, Distinguished Service Awards

Monetary grant is sanctioned to the Gallantry awardees and to the medalists of distinguished services by the Government of Tamil Nadu. During the first four months of the Financial year of 2021-2022, Monetary grant of Rs.2 lakh has been sanctioned to two medalists of Gallantry and Distinguished Services. Further, an amount of Rs. 4,000/- for each Distinguished Service Medalist and a total amount of Rs.32,000/- has been sanctioned for 8 soldiers in Territorial Army.

6.2.2. Ex-Gratia to Battle Casualties

The Government of Tamil Nadu accord sanction of Ex-Gratia up to Rs.20 lakh to recognise 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. This has also been extended to all paramilitary personnel belonging to Tamil Nadu. During the first four months of the Financial year of 2021-2022, an amount of Rs.80 lakh has been disbursed to 4 legal heirs of the deceased Servicemen at Rs.20 lakh each.

6.2.3. Appointments on Compassionate Grounds

The Appointments on compassionate ground is made to the legal heirs of Defence personnel who died, while in service or killed in action. During the first four months of the Financial year of 2021-2022, 6 persons have been given an appointment order on compassionate grounds.

6.2.4. War Service Incentive

An one time amount of Rs.20,000/- and a Silver Medal are being rendered to honour the parents who have sent their only son / daughter to serve the Armed Forces and an amount of Rs.25,000/- and Silver medal to the parents who have sent more than one son / daughter to serve the Armed Forces.

6.2.5. Re-employment opportunities

Since Ex-servicemen retire from active defence service at a relatively young age and have several years of active working life left, the Government have provided reservation in employment in Government of Tamil Nadu/ Quasi Government organisations as follows:-

Sl. No.	Details	Percentage of Reservation
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 Night Watchmen in offices of National Cadet Corps	25
6.	Vacancies under Group "C" category in Tamil Nadu Uniformed Services	5
7.	Livestock Inspector	5

During the first four months of the Financial year 2021-2022, 19 persons have been appointed in Group “C” category and 8 persons have been appointed in Group “D” category in the Government of Tamil Nadu / Quasi Government Organisations.

6.2.6. Lump sum grant to the wards of Ex-Servicemen who join in the Armed Forces

Sanction of lump sum grant to the wards of Ex-Servicemen, so as to motivate them to join the Armed Forces and to meet out the contingencies during the period of training is detailed below.

Sl. No.	Details	Amount (Rs)
1.	To the wards of Ex-Servicemen who have been selected as Permanent Commissioned Officers in National Defence Academy/ Indian Military Academy / Naval Academy/Air Force Academy.	1,00,000/-
2.	To the wards of Ex-Servicemen who have been selected as Short Service Commissioned Officers of Armed Forces.	50,000/-
3.	To the wards of Ex-Servicemen who have been selected as Junior Commissioned Officers and other Ranks of Armed Forces.	25,000/-

During the first four months of the Financial year 2021-2022, an amount of Rs.3.25 lakh has been disbursed to the wards of 6 Ex-Servicemen.

6.2.7. Equating 15 years Army Service to Graduation

The Government have ordered that a Matriculate Ex-servicemen who have rendered 15 years of service in the Armed Forces shall be considered eligible for re-employment to the posts for which the essential qualification prescribed is Graduation.

This order enable the Ex-Servicemen to apply for the posts where Graduation is the prescribed qualification for appointment to any reserved vacancy in Group “C” posts by Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission and Government Undertakings.

6.2.8. Dual Family Pension

The Legal heirs of retired Ex-Servicemen who also served in the Government of Tamil Nadu through re-employment for civil work is being provided Dual Family Pension with a Military Pension as well as a Family pension for civil work. At present, 129 applications

on Dual Family Pension have been recommended. Of these, 99 applications have been considered and family pensions are being provided.

6.2.9. Reservations in Educational Institutions

Reservation for Children of Ex-Servicemen in Higher Education (Including Medical / Engineering Courses) is provided in various Educational Institutions.

SI. No	Educational Course	Seats of Reservation	Remarks
1.	Engineering (Anna University - General)	150	
2.	Engineering (Anna University – Lateral Entry)	15	
3.	Medical	10	
4.	Dentistry	1	
5.	B.Sc., (Nursing)	4	
6.	Diploma Course in Nursing	60	
7.	Teacher Training	132	3 seats in each Academy
8.	Teacher's (Bachelor's) Education	-	1 seat in each Government and Government aided College

Sl. No	Educational Course	Seats of Reservation	Remarks
9.	B.Sc., (Agriculture)	6	
10.	Engineering (Agriculture)	1	
11.	B.Sc.,(Horticulture)	-	1 seat in each Government Technical College
12.	Diploma Course in Technical	80	
13.	Industrial Training Institute (ITI)	-	5 seats in each Government ITI.
14.	Bachelor's in Law (3 / 5 years)	1 percent	
15.	Bachelor's in B. A., / B.L., (Hons)	1 percent	
16.	Bachelor's degree	-	6 seats in each College

6.2.10. Temple Protection Force

The Temple Protection Force has been set up to protect the priceless idols, jewels, hundi collection and other valuables in Tamil Nadu Temples. For this, 974 Ex-Servicemen have been deployed in Temple Protection work at a monthly consolidated pay of Rs.7,300/-.

6.2.11. Election Protection work

Ex-Servicemen are deployed in Election works to assist Police on security duty during the Parliamentary / Legislative / Local body Elections. As such, about 10,000 Ex-Servicemen are engaged in protection work on remuneration basis, during each election.

6.2.12. Covid-19 Protection Work

As a special case, 2,537 Ex-Servicemen were involved for Covid-19 Protection work on remuneration basis.

6.3. Flag Day Fund

This Fund is governed by the Tamil Nadu Flag Day Standing Committee chaired by the Hon'ble Governor. Hon'ble Minister for Ex-Servicemen Welfare is the Vice-Chairman of this committee.

Flag Day fund is being collected to provide fund to the Ex-Servicemen for marriage, business, residence and medical related grants, Educational Development Fund for Children and to provide fund to the training programmes. Flag Day Fund is collected every year from

7th December to the 6th December of the subsequent year. The amount collected through Flag Day Fund is being utilised for implementing the welfare assistance schemes to the Ex-Servicemen and their dependent through two welfare schemes such as Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund and Amalgamated Fund.

Target of Flag Day Fund is shared at the rate of 5% to the Amalgamated Fund and remaining collected amount to the Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund. In the year 2020-2021, an amount of Rs.14.68 crore was collected till 31.07.2021.

Exemption has been granted under section 80-G(5)(vi) of the Income Tax Act, 1961, for the contributions made for the donations made to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund.

Flag Day Brochure comprising comprehensive details on welfare schemes and grants for Ex-Servicemen is published in English and Tamil every year.

As per the Census of the year 2011, Population of Tamil Nadu was 6,76,98,000. As per the Central Defence Board's letter No. 532 (5) KSP/D, dt.02.03.2021, Rs.6,76,980/- has been calculated at the rate of one paise per citizen, as the share amount of the Central Government for each year. The total amount of Rs.27,07,920/- has been paid to the Central Defence Board for four years from 2017 to 2020.

6.4. Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund

Tamil Nadu Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Board is headed by Hon'ble Minister for Ex-Servicemen Welfare. This Board is patronized by Hon'ble Governor. Further, the Chief Secretary is the Vice-Chairman. The Union / State Government officials are members of this Board.

The Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen Finance Committee, a Sub-Committee of Tamil Nadu Soldiers', Sailors', and Airmen's Board is headed by the Director of the Ex-Servicemen Welfare Department.

5% target collection of Flag Day will be contributed to the Amalgamated Fund. The remaining amount along with interest from Fixed Deposit and Licence Fee from assets are also the sources of this Fund.

Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund provides World War II assistance, lifetime monthly financial assistance, various types of medical assistance, marriage financial assistance, financial assistance for prosthetics equipment and funeral assistance to Ex-Servicemen and their dependents.

6.4.1. Details of various Financial Assistance rendered from Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Financial Assistance	Amount (in Rs.)
A) Monthly Financial Assistance		
1.	World War II (Veterans) Financial Assistance	10,000/-
2.	World War (Widows) Financial Assistance	4,000/-
3.	Old Age Grant	4,000/-
4.	Leprosy / Tuberculosis Relief Financial Assistance / Differently Abled Financial Assistance	5,000/-

Sl. No.	Name of the Financial Assistance	Amount (in Rs.)
5.	Paralysis Relief Financial Assistance / Blind Relief Financial Assistance / Cancer Financial Assistance Grant and Mentally Retarded Children Relief Financial Assistance / Mentally affected spouse of Ex-Servicemen, Widows Relief Financial Assistance	7,000/-
B) Other Financial Assistance		
1.	Marriage Grant (Two Daughters)	25,000/-
2.	Funeral Grant(Ex-Servicemen)	10,000/-
3.	Funeral Grant (Widow)	7,000/-

During the first four months of the Financial year 2021-2022, financial assistance of Rs.5.28 crore has been sanctioned to totally 2,646 beneficiaries including 91 Ex-Servicemen and 2,555 Widows as a lifetime monthly financial assistance for World War II veterans. During the first four months of the Financial year 2021-2022, a total amount of Rs.12.20 crore has been disbursed for various financial assistance and grants from this fund to 6,483 Ex-Servicemen and their dependents.

6.4.2. Army Recruitment Rally

An amount of Rs.30 lakh is being provided from the Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund for five rallies at the rate of Rs.6 lakh per rally per annum for the expenses incurred by the District administration for the Army Recruitment rally.

6.4.3. Skill Development Training for Ex-Servicemen and Dependent Women of Ex- Servicemen.

A Tailoring Unit is functioning in Ex-Servicemen Welfare office at Vellore and Krishnagiri to impart training to the dependents of Ex-Servicemen. In this unit, six months tailoring training are being imparted to Ex-Servicemen and serving person's widows / wife / unmarried daughter / unmarried sisters / widow's daughter / divorced daughter and divorced sisters. The stipend for trainees Rs.50/- per day and Rs.1,000/- per month is given for raw materials is being provided. After the completion of training, one tailoring machine is provided with free of cost.

6.4.4. Stipend for those who have passed Typewriting and Shorthand Training

The details of stipend for Ex-Servicemen and their dependents for those who have passed technical training such as typewriting and shorthand are as follows:

Sl. No.	Details	Amount (in Rs.)
1.	Tamil and English Typewriting (Lower Grade)	3,000/-
2.	Tamil and English Typewriting (Higher Grade)	5,000/-
3.	Tamil and English Shorthand and Typewriting (Lower Grade)	7,000/-
4.	Tamil and English Shorthand and Typewriting (Higher Grade)	10,000/-

6.4.5. Subsidy for Housing

An amount of Rs.1 lakh is being provided as subsidy for the loan amount availed for constructing / purchasing a house to Ex-servicemen and their widows (upto Havildar rank).

6.4.6. Jawans Bhavan / District Ex-Services Centre / Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare Complex

10 Jawans Bhavan, 20 District Ex-Services Centre and 1 Directorate of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare Complex have been constructed from the Tamil Nadu Ex-Services Personnel Benevolent Fund, to raise funds for the welfare schemes. The revenue generated from this is added to the benevolent fund. During the first four months of the Financial year 2021-2022, Rs.72,43,084/- has been earned from these assets.

6.4.7. e-Governance Project

The Government has implemented an e-Governance project for the Department of Ex-Servicemen's Welfare through National Informatics Centre. All documents of Ex-Servicemen and Widows have been digitized and uploaded. An employee has been appointed on contract basis by the Tamil Nadu Electronics Corporation and the grievances received from the District Offices in e-governance are being rectified. Under this scheme, registering, issuance of Identity Card, Dependency Certificate to the wards of Ex-Servicemen

for College admission and registration of Ex-Servicemen for employment have also been made online through e-Governance.

6.5. Amalgamated Fund

Amalgamated Fund is managed by the State Managing Committee headed by the Hon'ble Governor. Hon'ble Minister for Ex-Servicemen's Welfare, Chief Secretary and the Commander-in-Chief of the Southern Region are the Vice Chairmen of the Committee. The Standing Sub Committee of the Amalgamated Fund is functioning under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary. The source for the Amalgamated Fund arises from 5% of the targeted Flag Day fund and the interest on the deposit amount.

Various Grants to the next of kin of those killed and disabled in war, interest subsidy on the loan availed for self-employment ventures and Housing Grant, etc are sanctioned from the Amalgamated Fund. Further, Ex-Servicemen Children Literacy Improvement Grant ranging from Rs.500/- to Rs.25,000/- is paid to the wards of Ex-Servicemen from School education to Post

Graduation and Technical Courses. A sum of Rs.4.02 crore has been sanctioned to 2,197 Ex-Servicemen and their dependants as grant from Amalgamated Fund during the first four months of the Financial Year 2021-2022.

6.5.1. Self-Employment Schemes

Government is keen to promote gainful self-employment opportunities amongst the Ex-Servicemen. To facilitate this, 75% of the interest charged on a loan amount of Rs.10 lakh is provided as interest subsidy. In 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. An amount of Rs.20,37,150/- has been given as grant to 221 Ex-Servicemen and 4 Self Help Groups through this scheme, during the first four months of the Financial year 2021-2022.

6.5.2. Various Financial Assistance provided from Amalgamated Fund are as follows.

Sl. No.	Type of Financial Assistance	Amount (in Rs.)
1.	Ex-Gratia to the legal heirs of the deceased Servicemen in the war	1,00,000/-
2.	Ex-Gratia to the Servicemen who were disabled during the war	50,000/-
3.	Financial Assistance for the marriage of the daughters of Servicemen who died in war and also for the daughters of disabled servicemen (whose disability is above 50%)	1,00,000/- & 8 grams gold
4.	Financial Assistance for the marriage of the daughters of servicemen who were disabled during war (whose disability is below 50%)	50,000/- & 8 grams gold
5.	Scholarship (From School Education to Technical Education)	500/- to 25,000/-
6.	Housing Grants to the deceased / disabled Servicemen during war	50,000/-

7. Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Limited (TEXCO)

Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Limited (TEXCO) was registered and established on 28.01.1986 as per the Companies Act, 1956, in order to implement various schemes to upgrade the living standards of Ex-Servicemen belongs to Tamil Nadu. This Corporation functions as a "Manpower Agency" by providing re-employment opportunities on contract basis by appointing the Ex-Servicemen in the Union and State Government offices, Public Sector Undertakings and in other Boards catering to the demand of security personnel, drivers, clerks, telephone operators, tourist warden, nursing assistants, fire crew, gunmen and wardens, who have registered for employment in the Directorate of Ex-Servicemen Welfare.

As on 31.07.2021, 7,449 Ex-Servicemen have been appointed on contract basis, viz., 6,429 security Personnel, 932 drivers, 21 clerks, 15 telephone operators, 44 Armed Policemen and 8 Nursing Assistants in the Union and State Government Departments, other Public Sector Undertakings and Boards through

Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen Welfare Board. Out of this, 1,329 Ex-Servicemen have been deployed at Director General at Resettlement wage rate (14% service charges) and 6,120 Ex-Servicemen have been deployed in Tamil Nadu Minimum wages (12% service charges). It is an autonomous profit making company.

On request from Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited(TANGEDCO), “Anti Power Theft Squad” has been established and 215 Ex-Havildars and Ex-Junior commissioned Officers have been deployed by TEXCO.They are instrumental in averting theft worth Rs.204.52 crore.

Similarly, on request from Tourism Department, “Tourism Security Force” was established with 31 specially qualified Ex-Servicemen and they have been deployed in five important tourist places of Tamil Nadu such as Rameswaram, Uthagamandalam, Mamallapuram, Kanyakumari and Kodaikanal.

An extent of 760.16 Sq metre land has been purchased for TEXCO at the cost of Rs.19.19 crore and a

new office building is being constructed in 15,708.98 sq feet by the Tamil Nadu Housing Board.

7.1 Other welfare Schemes

Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Limited (TEXCO) is implementing the following welfare schemes for the benefit of Ex-Servicemen.

- Skill development training has been provided at the cost of Rs.69 lakh to 4,848 Ex-Servicemen.
- The Accident Insurance scheme was introduced to all the employees who have been deployed in Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation Limited (TEXCO) and Rs.3 lakh is provided to the legal heirs of the deceased under this scheme.
- In order to help Ex-Servicemen to get substantial income after retirement, "TEXCO Welfare Fund" is being implemented for the contract personnel of TEXCO with an average annual expenditure of Rs.2.76 crore.

- Master Health Check up facility has been introduced to all TEXCO personnel at Rs.3,000/- per person in the Government Hospital. As on 31.07.2021, 1,987 Ex-Servicemen have been benefitted under this scheme.

8. State Human Rights Commission

State Human Rights Commission was constituted in Tamil Nadu during 1997, for the implementation of Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, and is functioning with Hon'ble Chairperson and two Hon'ble members. 2,162 complaints were received by this commission in the year of its inception. The number of complaints has continued to increase in the subsequent years and 11,998 complaints have been received in the year 2020 alone, due to increase in the awareness among the public on Human Rights. From 1997 to July 2021, 2,22,674 complaints have been received, out of this 1,94,453 complaints have been disposed off.

In order to create awareness among the public about the objectives and activities of this Commission, Internship Training is being imparted by the State Human Rights Commission to the College Students who are studying Law, Psychology, Criminology and Human Rights.

'Human Rights Day' is celebrated on 10th, December every year. On that day, awareness

programmes are being conducted by the Commission to create awareness about the protection of Human Rights. Moreover, the Human Rights Day Pledge is taken up by all District Collectors in Tamil Nadu along with other officers and staff.

To follow the Standard Operating Procedure and the social distancing instructed by the Government of Tamil Nadu to control the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, General Public, especially women, pregnant women, elderly people and the differently abled persons finds it difficult to file their complaints before the Commission in person.

Considering the above, the Commission has established a facility to lodge a complaint through on-line with effect from 07.12.2020. Through this facility, 1316 complaints have been received by this Commission till 31.08.2021.

9. National Functions, Special Days and Awards

Public Department organises and manages the celebrations of National functions such as Republic Day, Independence Day etc., throughout the State. This Department make arrangements for celebration of Independence Day, when the Hon'ble Chief Minister hoists the National Flag on the Fort Ramparts and delivers a speech to the citizens. Further, the celebration of Republic Day at Marina Beach, where the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu hoists the National Flag, followed by ceremonial march past by contingents drawn from the uniformed forces and cultural events organized by this Department.

This Department also arranges for administering pledge on special days declared by the Union Government such as Martyrs' Day, on which the Hon'ble Chief Minister administer the pledge to Hon'ble Ministers, Secretaries to Government and Secretariat staff.

9.1 Thagaisal Thamizhar Award

From this year onwards, during Independence Day celebrations, Hon'ble Chief Minister distributes an award namely, "Thagaisal Thamizhar Award" to the person who contributed for the development of Tamil Nadu and Tamil Ethnicity. The award consists of Rs.10 lakh and a Certificate. This award was conferred to Thiru. N. Sankaraiah by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, this year.

Public Department also plays an important role in selecting the eligible persons for other State Awards such as "Anna Medal" for Gallantry and "Kalpana Chawla Award" for Courage and Daring act by calling the applications and recommending the nominations received from the Secretaries to Government and District Collectors to the Selection Committee. The Government have instituted an award by name "Kottai Ameer Communal Harmony Award" in the year 2000, named after (late) Thiru Kottai Ameer who worked for promoting Communal harmony and this award is presented every year during the Republic Day Celebrations to a person

who has done outstanding services to promote Communal Harmony. The award consists of a medal, a Demand Draft of Rs.25,000/- and a Certificate.

In addition to that, the recommendations for the National awards such as Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, Padma Shri, Sardar Patel National Unity Award, Kabeer Puraskar Award for Communal Harmony and International Gandhi Peace Award and Gallantry Awards such as Jeevan Raksha Padak, Ashok Chakra, Keerthi Chakra and Shaurya Chakra are sent to Union Government by this Department.

10. Chief Minister's Special Cell

The Chief Minister's Special Cell plays a crucial role in helping the people in distress and to solve their problems in an effective manner. This is headed by a Special Officer, who correspond directly with the authorities concerned to ensure speedy redressal of the grievance petitions received. The petitions directly received by the Hon'ble Chief Minister from the general public at the Secretariat and his residence, while on tour and through the petitions received in the Chief Minister's Special Cell are numbered and petitioners name, address, details of grievances and copy of the petition are uploaded and forwarded to the Departments / Districts concerned for immediate redressal. To monitor and expedite the action taken on the grievance petitions, the Chief Minister's Special Cell periodically conduct review meetings with the Nodal Officers of the respective Departments / Districts concerned and take immediate follow up action on the redressal of grievances.

11. Ungal Thoguthiyil Mudhalamaichar

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu ordered creation of an exclusive Department to handle the grievances of the Public immediately after assumption of the office on 07.05.2021. This Department named as 'Ungal Thoguthiyil Mudhalamaichar' was created to honour the commitment made to the Public during Election campaign, that the petitions received from the people would be redressed within 100 days from the date of assumption of Office by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

The newly created Department is headed by a Special Officer belonging to the Indian Administrative Service assisted by a team of officials drawn on diversion of duty. One section from the Chief Minister's Special Cell comprising of a Section Officer, Assistant Section Officer, Typist and an Assistant is attached with the Department. Further, the Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency has been directed to provide technical support in processing the petitions by the Department.

On 08.05.2021, Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the keys of the boxes containing the petitions

received from the people to the Special Officer, 'Ungal Thoguthiyil Mudhalamaichar'. The petitions were segregated district wise and grievances wise. Thereafter, the petitions were electronically uploaded on CM helpline portal developed by Tamil Nadu e-Governance, Government of Tamil Nadu. Each and every valid petition was digitally entered without omitting a single card / letter.

The portal entries were made by a team of 200 Data Entry Operators in the month of May 2021, when Covid-19 was at its peak. Despite the Pandemic, all efforts were taken to send the petitions to the responsible officers at the field level without any delay. As soon as, the petitions were entered on to the portal, a SMS was generated and sent to the Petitioner's Cell phone with an acknowledgement number.

The digitally entered petitions were promptly taken up for field verification and processing by the field officers in the District. On 18.05.2021, which is the 10th day of handing over petitions to the Department, first round of benefits were distributed to the Petitioners by the Hon'ble

Chief Minister. Around 549 Sanction orders / benefits were handed over to the petitioners redressing their long pending Grievances.

Thereafter, every fortnight, Programmes were held to distribute benefits / sanction orders to the petitioners. While Hon'ble Chief Minister gave benefits to petitioners seven times at Chennai and one time in Salem. Hon'ble Ministers gave benefits in the Districts.

The performance of this Department is being monitored directly by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The mandate was not just speedy disposal of petitions but also qualitative redressal of grievances.

The disposal of petitions have been closely monitored and reviewed by the Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Secretaries of concerned Departments. The District Collectors were mandated to conduct daily reviews to ensure prompt and speedy disposal of grievances.

Nodal Officers at District level were nominated to follow up and monitor the disposal of petitions across

Departments. Daily reviews were conducted to track the progress. Totally 4,57,645 petitions were processed through this Department. 45% of the total petitions belonged to Revenue and Disaster Management Department, while the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department and Labour Welfare and Skill Development Department handled 16.2% of each. Housing and Urban Development Department processed 4.3% of the total petitions and Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department catered to 4.2%.

Top 5 districts with highest number of petitions were Erode (40,157), Coimbatore (38,226), Tiruppur (31,227), Villupuram (26,245) and Salem (4,070) Districts.

After following due processes by the concerned Departments, a total of 2,29,216 petitions were positively disposed off.

After due field verification, 2,28,429 petitions could not be considered, due to reasons like contacts not being traceable, petitions with no specific request or suggestive in nature, pending court cases and due to ineligibility

under existing Government schemes. However, with regard to those petitions which could not be contacted, if the said petitioners approach the District administration with required details, their grievances will be addressed by the officers.

This Department has been instrumental in getting 4.57 lakh petitions disposed in a period of 100 days through the District Administration. The work that would usually take 2 years has been completed in three months time.

12. Conclusion

The Public Department is dealing with confidential events and incidents that cannot be handled by any other departments are also dealt by this Department. The Department is very much concerned with preserving protocol and giving much concern to follow it scrupulously. The credibility of building the pride of the State is the hallmark of this Department. All sensitive issues are dealt with by this Department. It specializes in preserving old documents and handling the files with that support. This Department manages a wide range of events and situations and is fully dedicated to keep the administration upright and always on the track.

M.K. STALIN
Chief Minister

