

## **PUBLIC (REHABILITATION) DEPARTMENT**

## **POLICY NOTE**

## 2024-2025

### **DEMAND NO.38**

## **GINGEE K.S. MASTHAN** Minister for Minorities Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare

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# Public (Rehabilitation) Department Policy Note 2024–2025

#### 1. Introduction

The schemes for the welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils, Non-resident Tamils and the Rehabilitation of Repatriates are being implemented by the Commissionerate of Rehabilitation and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils, functioning under the control of the Public and Rehabilitation Department in the Secretariat. The Commissionerate of Rehabilitation was established in the year 1969 for the Welfare of Repatriates of Indian origin from Burma, Vietnam and Sri Lanka.

From 1983, 3,04,269 Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees arrived in Tamil Nadu due to the internal war and outbreak of ethnic riots in Sri Lanka. At that time, this department was entrusted with the relief work for Sri Lankan Tamils. From ancient times, Tamilians have migrated to Foreign Countries for education, trade and in search of employment for their livelihood. In order to extend necessary help to such individuals who have migrated, the Directorate of Rehabilitation was renamed as the Commissionerate of Rehabilitation and Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils in the year 2010. Further this Commissionerate was renamed as the "Commissionerate of Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils and Rehabilitation Department" in the year 2021.

Currently, in line with the government's vision, the Commissionerate works to identify affected Non-Resident Tamils in other States / Countries and provides all required assistance, including assistance to the families of those who have died abroad and support for their livelihood. In accordance with this vision, the

Commissionerate and its associated work were brought under the aegis of the Hon'ble Minister for Minority Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare.

#### 2. Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils

The department has undertaken several initiatives to promote the Welfare of Non-Resident Tamils and the Tamil Diaspora. These initiatives are detailed below:

#### 2.1. Formation of Welfare Board for Non-Resident Tamils

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has made an announcement on 06.10.2021 for the establishment of a "Tamil Nadu Non-Resident Tamils Welfare Board" to protect the Welfare of Tamils living abroad and in other States of India.

Also, Section 10(1) of the Tamil Nadu Non-Resident Tamils Welfare Act, 2011, provides for the formation of such a board. Consequently, a Government Order was issued to establish the "Tamil Nadu Non-Resident Tamils Welfare Board", comprising of 15 members, including the Chairman. The following schemes are implemented through this Board:

#### a) Membership Registration of NRT Welfare Board (ID Card)

Non-Resident Tamils (NRTs) residing in other states and abroad can register to become members of the NRT Welfare Board. Upon successful registration, Non-Resident Tamil ID Cards has been issued. Online registration began on May 15, 2024.

As on 05.06.2024, around 10,000 membership applications have been received and are currently undergoing scrutiny and approval. Members who eceived their ID cards become eligible for the following schemes:

- Insurance Scheme: Coverage for personal accidents and critical illnesses.
- Education and Marriage Assistance: Financial Support for the children of deceased NRTs.

#### b) Pension Scheme

In a press release dated 12.02.2023 by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the Government has given administrative sanction to provide a monthly pension of Rs.1,000 to the family of a member of the Tamil Nadu Non-Resident Tamils Welfare Board who dies unexpectedly while working in foreign countries.

#### c) Pre-Departure Orientation Training Centres

Pre-Departure Orientation Training (PDOT) Centres have been established in seven districts of Tamil Nadu - Ramanathapuram, Pudukottai, Kanniyakumari, Thanjavur, Perambalur, Sivagangai and Villupuram. These centres aim to provide training and raise awareness about safe and legal migration for individuals going abroad for work. The training is conducted by three organizations engaged by the NGO's.

The Pre-Departure Orientation Training centres were inaugurated on March 12, 2024. The number of people who have undergone training as on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 is provided below:

| SI.<br>No. | District       | Number of Trainees |
|------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1          | Pudukottai     | 7590               |
| 2          | Kanniyakumari  | 1724               |
| 3          | Sivagangai     | 960                |
| 4          | Villupuram     | 478                |
| 5          | Thanjavur      | 1724               |
| 6          | Perambalur     | 618                |
| 7          | Ramanathapuram | 866                |
|            | TOTAL          | 13,960             |

#### d) 24x7 Toll-free helpline

A 24x7 helpline for Non-Resident Tamils (NRTs) living abroad has been operated since November 14, 2023. This helpline was established to provide immediate assistance and support to NRTs who encounter various challenges while working abroad. The primary aim of the helpline is to receive grievances and resolve issues promptly, ensuring the safety and well-being of NRTs. The helpline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, ensuring that support is available at all times, regardless of time zones. From the helpline's launch until April 30, 2024, a total of 3,907 calls were received, including 166 cases related to rescue and repatriation, for which appropriate action was taken.

#### e) Legal Aid Cell

A Legal Aid Cell will be formed to address the legal challenges faced by NRTs. This Legal Aid Cell will provide assistance for the following:

- I. Cases against employers, including disputes over agreed salaries, poor working conditions, denial of promised holidays, failure to repatriate workers to India upon contract expiration, harassment/exploitation and issues related to payment of terminal benefits and terms and conditions of their appointment.
- II. Mercy petitions for persons convicted for offenses they did not commit.
- III. Any other cases on a case-by-case basis.

The Legal Aid Cell will comprise two legal advisors from a law firm in Tamil Nadu and five legal coordinators/volunteers from Oman, Dubai, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain. Steps are being taken to establish a law firm in Tamil Nadu and engage para-legal volunteers in the five aforementioned foreign countries.

#### 2.1. Rescue and Repatriation

The department extends assistance in rescuing and repatriating Non-Resident Tamils (NRTs) facing distress and also facilitates the repatriation of deceased NRTs' mortal remains in collaboration with the Union Government and relevant Indian Missions abroad. Moreover, it facilitates a Free Hearse Van service, the Government of Tamil Nadu to transport the mortal remains to their native place from the airport and handed over to their family members in Tamil Nadu and aids in settling claims from the foreign employers.

An annual allocation of Rs.1 crore is sanctioned as Revolving Fund for this Commissionerate for rescue and repatriation efforts. During the financial year 2023-2024, Rs.90,11,465 was utilized for rescuing and repatriating distressed individuals. These efforts included:

- Evacuated individuals from countries like Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, Sudan and places like Amarnath and Manipur.
- Safely repatriated 126 Tamils from Israel amid the conflict between Israel and Palestine in coordination from the Ministry of External Affairs. They were also provided with free travel and food until they reached their hometowns.
- The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced Rs.10 lakhs each for medical repatriation and relief for individuals who displayed exceptional courage in

rescuing others during a fire incident in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

In the ongoing financial year, the mortal remains of 279 individuals were repatriated to Tamil Nadu from various countries and handed to their families through the Free Hearse Van service provided by the Tamil Nadu Government.

## 2.3. Recognising the role of Tamil Diaspora and promoting cultural and Intellectual Integration

#### a. World Tamil Diaspora Day

As per the announcement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, January 12<sup>th</sup> of every year is celebrated as "World Tamil Diaspora Day" (Ayalaga Thamizhar Thinam). This special day honors the contributions of the Tamil Diaspora, integrates Tamils living abroad and encourages their engagement. It also aims to showcase Tamil heritage, art, literature and culture to the next generation.

The third World Tamil Diaspora Day was celebrated grandly on January 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> this year (2024) at the Chennai Trade Centre, with the theme "Thamizh Vellum." The event was honored by the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and saw participation from over 1200 individuals and representatives from 282 Tamil Associations from 58 countries and 11 States in India.

In this event, prestigious "Kanian Poongundranar Award" was presented to 13 distinguished Tamils settled abroad. These awards recognized excellence in eight categories: Science & Technology, Tamil literature, Medicine, Education, Social Development, Women's issues, Business and Sports.

#### b. Teaching Tamil Language to Non-Resident Tamils

This Department has launched an initiative to teach the Tamil language to children living abroad and in other Indian states through the Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA). TVA offers Tamil courses at three distinct levels: Basic, Intermediate and Advanced. These courses are provided online through 168 centres established through Tamil Sangams.

For this initiative, Rs.12 lakhs were sanctioned for the financial year 2022-2023 and Rs.44 lakhs for the financial year 2023-2024, which was transferred to the Tamil Virtual Academy for implementation. In 2023-2024, around 250 students have benefitted from this initiative. These students come from countries including Belgium, South Korea, Sweden, Bangladesh, Taiwan and Australia, as well as from Indian States of Gujarat, Punjab, Maharashtra, Telangana, Goa and Uttar Pradesh etc.,

#### c. Reaching the Roots

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu announced an initiative to select 200 students each year, who are children of Tamilians settled in abroad, for a cultural tour in Tamil Nadu. This program aims to help them reconnect with their Tamil heritage.

The first batch of 57 students from Australia, Fiji, Sri Lanka and Canada were selected for a cultural tour from December 27, 2023 to January 10, 2024. The tour included visits to various Tamil archaeological sites, historical monuments, UNESCO world heritage sites and educational institutions. The students also had the opportunity to interact with experts in Tamil art, culture, archaeology and research. The selection process for the second batch of students is currently underway, with the program scheduled to start in August 2024.

#### d. Sponsorship for Tamil Sangams

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has made an announcement to recognize Tamil Sangams created by Non-Resident Tamils (NRTs) and then to provide sponsorship for their events. This initiative aims to achieve two objectives: promoting Tamil language, art and culture through these Sangams and fostering unity among the Tamil Diaspora. The preparation of Standard Operating Procedure for this scheme is in progress.

#### e. Enadhu Grammam

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has introduced a scheme named 'Enadhu Grammam', aimed at facilitating the reunion of the Tamil Diaspora with their native villages and encouraging them to contribute to the betterment of these communities through their initiatives. The program commenced with a contribution of Rs.60 lakhs received from three contributors in 2023-2024. Currently, the preparation of the Standard Operating Procedure for this scheme is underway.

#### 3. Welfare of Sri Lankan Tamils Living in Rehabilitation Camps

As of November 30th, 2023, a total of 19,525 families, comprising 58,015 individuals, are currently accommodated in the 105 camps spread across 29 districts, which include Special Camps in Tiruchirapalli and Ramanathapuram Districts. The Sri Lankan Tamils residing in these Rehabilitation Camps receive various relief measures such as food, accommodation, drinking water, electricity, etc., free of charge, in accordance with the guidelines and norms set by the Union Government and the State Government of Tamil Nadu.

## 3.1. Construction of Houses and upgrading the Basic amenities

The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021, under Rule 110. that 7.469 new houses would be constructed for Sri Lankan Tamils living in the camps in phases. Orders were issued for the construction of 3.510 new houses at a cost of Rs.176.02 crore. This construction work is being carried out by the concerned District Rural Development Agencies of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department. Out of the 3,510 new houses, 1,591 houses were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil 17.09.2023 and 857 new houses were Nadu on inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Minority Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare subsequently and also handed over to the beneficiaries. Additionally, 76 houses in Minnoor Camp, Tirupattur District and 56 houses in Mappillayurani Camp, Tuticorin District, nearing completion will be handed over to the beneficiaries. The remaining 930 houses are planned to be handed over to the beneficiaries soon.

Subsequently, in the second phase, an administrative approval of Rs.224.28 crore and an allocation of funds of Rs.111.29 crore have been obtained for the construction of 3,959 new houses in 35 camps across 16 districts. Orders have been given to the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj to carry out the construction work. While the works are in progress, 24 new houses have been completed and are ready to be handed over to the beneficiaries in

Virudhunagar district, Anupankulam camp. Furthermore, 3935 new houses are planned to be completed before November 2024.

To upgrade the basic amenities of the camp, administrative approval has been accorded for Rs.30 crore to provide drinking water, toilets, electricity and drainage facilities in the camps. In the first phase, Rs.10 crore was sanctioned by the Government during the financial year 2022-2023and Rs.20 crore was sanctioned during the financial year 2023-2024. The fund allotment is done to the districts to implement the same. Additionally, an amount of Rs.3 crore has been sanctioned for the Financial Year 2023-2024 for the construction of 10 work sheds for Women Self-Help Groups functioning in the Sri Lankan Tamils camps. The construction works are in good progress.

#### 3.2. Sri Lankan Tamils Annual (Livelihood) Development Fund

As per the announcement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021, under Rule 110, Rs.5 crore has been sanctioned by the Government for the provision of immediate repairs and minor works in the camps across 29 districts during the financial year 2023-2024.

#### 3.3. Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai

The Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thogai Scheme, initiated by the Government of Tamil Nadu, aims to provide monthly financial assistance of Rs.1,000 to economically disadvantaged women. The Commissionerate has undertaken efforts to extend this scheme to all Sri Lankan women residing in camps.

Currently, 11,939 families have benefitted from this scheme.

#### 3.4. Women Self Help Groups

In the Sri Lankan Rehabilitation camps, during 2020 there are a total of 321 Self-Help Groups. These groups have been established with the aim of enhancing the economic conditions and overall quality of life for the Sri Lankan Tamils residing in Rehabilitation Camps. A sum of Rs.50,000 was provided during 2020 as a Community Investment Fund for each self-help groups.

Now, as per the announcement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister under Rule 110, an additional amount of Rs.75,000 has been provided to these Self-Help Groups, totalling Rs.2.40 crore. Additionally, Rs.1.25 lakh is being sanctioned for newly formed 300 Self-Help Groups as a Community Investment Fund. So far, Rs.3.75 crore has been sanctioned to the Women Development Corporation for allotting the same to 266 groups and action is being taken to disburse the remaining amount to the remaining 35 self-help groups.

#### 3.5. Skill Development Training

As per the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110, skill development training and employment opportunities will be offered to 5,000 Sri Lankan Tamil youths. This initiative aims to enhance the livelihood and employment prospects of the Sri Lankan Tamils residing in Rehabilitation camps. To facilitate this initiative, awareness programs have been conducted by the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation in camps across districts. Additionally, various training sessions have been completed for 2,404 individuals. During the financial year 2023-24, sixteen individuals successfully finished skill development training, with some securing placements in a company.

#### 3.6. Clothing

As per the announcement by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110, free clothes at the enhanced rates were distributed through Co-optex from the financial year 2021-2022and through the Tamil Nadu Textile from the financial year Corporation 2022-2023. Additionally, free blankets are provided once every two years through Co-optex to Sri Lankan Tamils in the Rehabilitation camps. In the financial year 2023-2024, clothes worth Rs. 5,42,76,869/- have been supplied to 23

the Sri Lankan Tamils through the Tamil Nadu Textile Corporation, at no cost.

#### 3.7. Utensils

The Sri Lankan Tamil families in rehabilitation camps were given eight types of cooking utensils once every two years free of cost at the rate of Rs.250. However, the cooking utensils could not be procured at the rate of Rs.250 per family. Therefore, based on the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110, action is being taken to procure cooking utensils from M/s Steel Authority of India Ltd., Salem (SAIL), at a cost of Rs.1,285 per set of eight stainless steel utensils. These utensils were distributed to the Sri Lankan Tamils accommodated in the Rehabilitation Camps during the financial year 2023-2024, at a cost of Rs.2,50,54,930.

#### 3.8. Provision of free Gas connections with cooking gas stove and gas cylinder at subsidised price

As per the announcement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110, free gas connection and gas stove at a total cost of Rs.7 crore was distributed. Furthermore, a subsidy of Rs.400/- per cylinder is provided per family for a maximum of 5 cylinders every year.

From the financial year 2021-2022, 6,481 new gas connections have been provided for 16,305 families at a cost of Rs.1,30,44,000. In the financial year 2023-2024,

a sum of Rs.3,44,58,000 has been distributed as subsidy of Rs.400 for 5 cylinders for 17,229 Sri Lankan Families.

#### 3.9. Cash dole

As per the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister during the Legislative Assembly on 27-08-2021 under Rule 110, the State Government has enhanced the monthly Cash Dole payable to Sri Lankan Tamils accommodated in rehabilitation camps. Accordingly, an official notification has been issued to provide the cash dole monthly at the increased rate. The details are as follows:

| SI. Particulars | Old Enhanced<br>Amount amount with<br>(in Rs) effect from<br>01.09.2021 (in<br>Rs.) |
|-----------------|---|
|-----------------|---|

| 1. | Head of the   | Rs.1000/- | Rs.1500/- |
|----|---|-----------|-----------|
|    | Family  |           |           |
| 2. | Each additional<br>member<br>(aged 12 years<br>and above) | Rs. 750/- | Rs.1000/- |
| 3. | Children (below 12 years)                                 | Rs. 400/- | Rs. 500/- |

#### 3.10. Rice Subsidy

Each Sri Lankan Tamil adult living in the camps receives 12 kg of rice per month, while children under 8 years old receive 6 kg. Initially, families received the first 20 kg of rice for free and any additional rice was charged at Rs.0.57 per kg. However, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced on the floor of Assembly on 27.08.2021 that all rice provided to them at no cost, with the State Government bearing the additional expense of Rs.19 lakhs. Orders have been issued accordingly. Additionally, essential items such as oil and sugar are being supplied to Sri Lankan Tamils under the Public Distribution System at concessional rates.

#### 3.11. Educational Assistance

In Sri Lankan Tamil camps, there are approximately 11,973 students enrolled up to class 12. The free education scheme is extended to them upto class 12. They are also provided with free uniforms, noon meals, books and complimentary bus passes as in the case of other students in Tamil Nadu.

As announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister during the Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110, orders have been issued to enhance the existing educational assistance provided to them at the following rates:

| SI.<br>No. | Course                              | Enhanced<br>Educational<br>Assistance (from<br>2021-2022)<br>(in Rs) |
|------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1.         | Polytechnic                         | 10,000/-   |
| 2.         | Bachelor of Arts/<br>Science        | 12,000/-   |
| 3.         | Bachelor<br>professional<br>courses | 20,000/-   |
| 4.         | B.E                                 | Full Expenditure   |
| 5.         | P.G Course                          | Full Expenditure   |

Sri Lankan Tamil students are admitted to higher education institutions like Arts and Science Colleges, Polytechnics and Universities based on merit through a single-window system under general category counselling. Additionally, the State Government covers full education and hostel fees for the following students:

- The first 50 meritorious students among Sri Lankan Tamils in the camps pursuing Engineering courses.
- The first 5 meritorious students among Sri Lankan Tamils in the camps pursuing Agriculture or Agriculture Engineering.
- All students pursuing Master's degree.

The amount of Rs.3.28 crore has been released for educational assistance, benefiting 1,825 students for the year 2022-2023. For the financial year 2023-2024, 1,548 students applied for the educational assistance scheme.

#### 3.12. Advisory Committee for long term Solutions

As per the announcement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on 27.08.2021 under Rule 110, G.O.(MS) No.902, Public (Rehabilitation-I) Department, dated 25.10.2021, has been issued to form an Advisory Committee to explore solutions and address the challenges encountered by the Sri Lankan Tamils both inside and outside the camps. It also aims to explore the possibility of citizenship, assist Sri Lankan Tamils in returning to Sri Lanka and propose an action plan for the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Advisory Committee comprises the Hon'ble Minister for Minority Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare, Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Assembly, Secretary to the Public Department, Commissioner of Rehabilitation Department, higher officials from the Government, members from Non-Governmental organizations, representatives of Sri Lankan Tamils in camps and representatives for non-camp Sri Lankan Tamils.

The interim report of the Committee was submitted on 29.09.2023 to the Hon'ble Chief Minister. Following the submission of the interim Report of the Advisory Committee established by the Government on Durable Solutions and Self Reliance of Sri Lankan Tamils living in camps and outside camps, the Government is taking up necessary follow up action with the respective departments concerned.

#### 3.13. Special Camp

The Commissionerate has established special camps in both Tiruchirappalli and Ramanathapuram districts, primarily designated for Sri Lankan Tamils with criminal records or under investigation. As of April 30, 2024, the Tiruchirappalli camp accommodates only 70 individuals. These Sri Lankan Tamils are housed in accordance with Section 3(2)(e) of the Foreigners Act, 1946, which imposes restrictions on their movements within the camp. Moreover, they are provided with cooked food at the rate of Rs.175 per day.

# 4. Sri Lankan Tamils arrival from Sri Lanka due to Economic Crisis

As a consequence of the economic crisis and food scarcity prevailing in Sri Lanka, 310 individuals arrived till May 1, 2024 and have been settled in the Mandapam camp of Ramanathapuram District. They are provided basic amenities and clothing, while meals are provided at a rate of Rs.175 per day.

#### 5. Repatriate Rehabilitation

About 4,61,639 persons from Srilanka, around 1,44,445 persons from Burma of Tamil origin and 2055 Tamil origin holding Indian citizenship were repatriated to India. The Tamil Nadu Government had initially established this department for the welfare of Tamil Repatriates who returned to their mother land. Among them, most of the repatriates have settled in Tamil Nadu and others in Karnataka, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. Various welfare schemes are being implemented to the repatriates by Government of Tamil Nadu.

#### 5.1. Repco Bank:

The Repatriates Co-operative Finance & Development Bank Ltd., Chennai shortly known as Repco Bank was established by Government of India with equity participation of Government of India and 5 Southern State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala and Karnataka for the purpose rehabilitation of repatriates from Sri Lanka, Burma, Vietnam and other countries. The Bank was registered under Madras Co-operative Societies Act, 53 of 1961 on 09.09.1969. The operations of the Bank commenced on 19.11.1969. After enactment of Multi State Co-operative Societies Act (MSCS) 1984 and subsequently 2002, the Bank was deemed to be registered under these Acts. Subsequent to the amendment of MSCS Act, the MSCS (Amended) Act 2023 is in force now. The Bank is under the administrative control of FFR Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

Presently, the area of operation of the Bank covers the states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala and Union Territory of Puducherry with a network of 108 branches. The Headquarter is at Chennai.

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The share-holding pattern of the Bank as on 31.03.2024 is as follows:

| SI. | Share Holders        | Share         | % of Share |
|-----|----------------------|---------------|------------|
| No. |                      | Capital       | Holding    |
|     |                      | Amount        |            |
|     |                      | (Rs. in lakh) |            |
| 1   | Government of India  | 7632.00       | 50.14      |
| 2   | Government of Tamil  | 713.00        | 4.68       |
|     | Nadu                 |               |            |
| 3   | Government of Andhra | 104.77        | 0.69       |
|     | Pradesh              |               |            |
| 4   | Government of        | 74.88         | 0.49       |
|     | Telangana            |               |            |
| 5   | Government of Kerala | 61.16         | 0.40       |
| 6   | Government of        | 17.47         | 0.11       |
|     | Karnataka            |               |            |
| 7   | Individuals          | 6621.73       | 43.49      |
|     | Total                | 15225.01      | 100.00     |

# 5.1.1. Present position of Repco bank for the financial year 2023-2024

- Total business of the Bank reached Rs.19,665 crore as on 31.03.2024 with a Y-o-Y growth rate of 10.65%
- Net profit of the Bank stood at Rs.69.69 crore with a Y-o-Y growth rate of 3.37%
- Number of Repatriate beneficiaries covered is around 45,001.

# 5.1.2. Outlook for Repco bank for the financial year 2024-2025

- Bank is expected to grow by 12% and reach a business level of Rs.21,750 crore.
- Net Profit of the Bank is expected to reach a level of Rs.90 crore.
- Number of Repatriate beneficiaries is expected to reach not less than 50,000 in this year.
- Regarding opening of new branches, the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies

have implemented new norms and it is proposed to open new branches in the next financial year.

## 5.1.3. Repatriates Welfare Trust

The table below shows the amount spent by Repatriates Welfare Trust during the last 3 years:

| SI.No. | Year      | Amount (Rs. In lakh) |
|--------|-----------|----------------------|
| 1      | 2021-2022 | 907.00               |
| 2      | 2022-2023 | 781.00               |
| 3      | 2023-2024 | 911.00               |

### 6. Overseas Manpower Corporation Limited

Overseas Manpower Corporation Limited **(OMCL)** came into existence on 1978, as a Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking with an objective of facilitating overseas employment to the overseas jobseekers. OMCL was registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956. OMCL is registered under the Indian Emigration Act, 1983 and functioning as recruiting agency with the license issued by Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India to deploy candidates for overseas employment. OMCL has an authorized share capital of Rs.50.00 Lakh and paid up as a share capital of Rs.15.00 Lakh.

# 6.1. Functions

- To conduct awareness-cum-registration camp to register candidates desirous of overseas employment.
- To arrange Interviews on behalf of Foreign Employers and sponsor candidates registered with OMCL for interview and selection.
- To assist candidates selected for overseas employment for documents' attestation, Visa Stamping, etc.
- To obtain Emigration clearance from the Protector of Emigrants Chennai for ECR passports to ECR countries.

Travel arrangements to the selected employees to reach the destination country.

# 6.2. Registration

A website (URL:<u>https://www.omcmanpower.</u> <u>tn.gov.in</u>) has been provided for overseas job seekers to register themselves for the overseas jobs. Totally 5,426 candidates have registered their names for getting overseas employment till 31.01.2024.

#### 6.3. Deployment

Since its inception in 1978, OMCL has placed 11,031 candidates in overseas employment. During the financial year 2023-2024 as on 31.01.2024, the Corporation has facilitated overseas placement for 131 persons in various countries viz. Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Oman.

# 6.4. Revenue

During the Financial Year 2023-2024, OMCL has earned Rs.71.97 Lakhs as Gross revenue and Rs.-49.11 Lakhs as Net Loss (unaudited) upto 31.01.2024.

# 6.5. New initiatives

- OMCL has imparted the Occupational English Test (OET) to 481 Final Year Nursing Students in 15 nursing Colleges across Tamil Nadu in coordination with Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation, Chennai.
- OMCL has Launched the Mobile Application on 07.02.2024 in the presence of Honourable Minister for Minorities Welfare and Nonresident Tamils Welfare for easy access of the public for online registration.

 Gateway of payment for service charges has been created in the Admin page of OMCL website.

#### 7. Conclusion

Under the visionary leadership of our Hon'ble Chief Minister, a series of welfare schemes have been unveiled to uplift non-resident Tamils and Sri Lankan Tamils residing in rehabilitation camps. These initiatives of the department underscore the commitment to safeguarding the well-being of Sri Lankan Tamils and Non-Resident Tamils.

Within the rehabilitation camps, utmost priority is accorded to provide essential amenities like housing, clean drinking water and electricity, ensuring a dignified and secure life in Tamil Nadu. Concurrently, concerted efforts are underway to enhance their educational opportunities and livelihood prospects.

Moreover, recognizing the significance of preserving Tamil heritage and fostering cultural pride among non-resident Tamils, the government has established the Non-Resident Welfare Board. Through these endeavors, our Government remains steadfast in its dedication to the welfare and prosperity of both Non-Resident Tamils and Sri Lankan Tamils.

> GINGEE K.S. MASTHAN Minister for Minorities Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare.

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