



DEPARTMENT FOR THE WELFARE OF DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS

**POLICY NOTE
2022 –2023**

DEMAND No. 52

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CHIEF MINISTER**

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**Government of Tamil Nadu
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**DEPARTMENT FOR THE WELFARE OF
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1. INTRODUCTION:

The Government of Tamil Nadu is at the forefront of protecting the rights of Differently Abled Persons by taking appropriate legislative and executive measures. The Government has been consistently undertaking various welfare measures through schemes for Differently Abled Persons to lead an empowered and dignified life in the society enjoying equal rights.

The Government of Tamil Nadu while framing and designing schemes for Differently Abled Persons takes cognizance of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, relevant guidelines issued by the Government of India

and international instruments including the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SDGs lay emphasis on the socio-economic and political inclusion of Differently Abled Persons. In this regard, the Government of Tamil Nadu has implemented innovative schemes to achieve the stated SDGs which are to ensure a society that is free of hunger and poverty and leaves no vulnerable behind.

These international standards are reflected in the policy of the Government of Tamil Nadu for the Differently Abled Persons including initiatives designed for early identification, early intervention, health care, inclusive school education, higher education, livelihood and development of an accessible

environment, there by paving the way for an inclusive society that guarantees the dignity of life and equality of opportunities.

The Government, in addition to the State schemes, also implements the Government of India schemes such as issuing Unique Disability Identity cards (UDID), scheme for developing barrier-free structures in public buildings, National Scholarships, Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme, and provision of assistive devices to children with special needs in convergence with the SamagraShiksha Programme.

Tamil Nadu has been adjudged as the "BEST STATE" in the country by the Government of India for the services rendered for the empowerment of the Differently Abled

on the 3rd December 2021, the International Day of the Persons with Disabilities.

This achievement of the Government of Tamil Nadu reflects the immense efforts taken in implementing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. The Department for the Welfare of Differently Abled Persons, in convergence with all other departments, has been making meaningful interventions in the lives of Differently Abled Persons. The various schemes of this department show this multi-sectorial and interdepartmental approach. The policy of the Government is to achieve its mandate by converging the efforts and services of various departments functionally and systematically.

The Government, to improve the services provided to the Differently Abled Persons, has

embarked on a project called RIGHTS with assistance from the World Bank to the tune of Rs.1702 crores. This project will support the vision of the Government of Tamil Nadu of putting together a comprehensive State programme for Differently Abled Persons and ensuring a multi-sectorial convergent action. The framework of this project will focus on Inclusion, Accessibility and Opportunities for Differently Abled Persons.

Apart from the aforesaid policy-oriented interventions, the Government has taken serious preventive steps during the COVID – 19 pandemic including priority in vaccinations by organizing special camps and doorstep services.

Further, keeping in view the policy of assuring quality care and rehabilitation, the

Government has phenomenally expanded the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme, to be able to cater to all the Differently Abled Persons along with their family members to access cashless services.

Necessary assistance such as scholarship, marriage assistance, maternity benefit, compensation for natural and accidental death and occurrence of disability are being implemented through The Tamil Nadu Welfare Board for Differently Abled Persons which was first constituted in the year 2007. The Welfare Board has now been reconstituted for implementing the above mentioned assistances effectively.

The Directorate for the Welfare of Differently Abled Persons is headed by the Director, who is also responsible for the

implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, by virtue of holding the portfolio of the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.

The Director manages the administration of 38 District Differently Abled Welfare Offices, 22 Government Special schools, 50 Aided Institutions, 11 Government Rehabilitation Homes and more than 70 welfare schemes which are being implemented with a budgetary allocation of Rs.838.01 Crores. The State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities monitors enforcement of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and redresses the grievances of Differently Abled Persons.

The Director is also the Project Director implementing the World Bank assisted RIGHTS Project.

2. THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, 2016:

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, came into force on the 19th of April 2017. This Act aims to remove barriers-communicational, cultural, economic, environmental, institutional, political, social, attitudinal, and structural, which hamper full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in the society.

This new Act specifies twenty-one categories of specified disabilities, related to locomotor disabilities, visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech and language disability, intellectual disability, mental illness, disability due to neurological conditions and blood disorders, and multiple disabilities.

Under the Act, apart from appointing a State Commissioner for Persons with

Disabilities, the State Advisory Board on Disability and an Expert committee for identification of posts have been formed. The Department has notified Equal Opportunity Policy and oversees the implementation of four percent reservation of jobs in Government Establishments. Efforts have been taken to ensure accessibility in public buildings. Several new schemes have been implemented with the State Fund as provided in the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

For the effective implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, the following actions have been taken:

- i. The Tamil Nadu Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2018 has been notified, in which the committee for Research on

Disability has been formed and terms and conditions for its functioning have been laid down.

- ii. The Rules have been laid down for the constitution of a designated authority and an appellate authority to enable the appointment of limited guardians for Persons with Disabilities.
- iii. To ensure the quality of service for and the security of the inmates of various Institutions, the Director for Welfare of the Differently Abled is designated as the authority for registration of the Institutions. The Rules include the conditions and standards for registration.
- iv. To ensure easy and accurate assessment for issue of disability certificates, Institutions including hospitals run by

Union, State and Local governments having relevant medical facilities have been designated. These institutions are provided with the required specialists for assessment.

- v. To monitor the implementation of the Act and various schemes and programs for the empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, the District Level Committee on Disability, under the Chairmanship of the District Collector, has been formed.
- vi. Special Schools have been established and scholarships have been provided to Children with Disabilities.
- vii. The Government has formed an Expert Committee to identify jobs suitable for

Differently Abled Persons in Government establishments. This Committee has identified 559 posts in Group 'A' and 'B' as suitable for Differently Abled Persons. All posts in Group 'C' and 'D' were found suitable for Differently Abled Persons. Where any post in Group 'C' and 'D' needs an exemption from reservation, the department concerned may seek specific orders from the Government.

viii. The Government has issued an order to reserve five percent of seats in admission for persons with benchmark disabilities in all Government institutions of higher education and other higher education institutions receiving aid from the Government.

ix. The Tamil Nadu Guidelines for Conducting Examinations for Persons With Disabilities,

2021- to be adopted for academic enrolment, recruitment and other purposes that require the assistance of a scribe/reader/lab assistant, has been issued vide G.O.(Ms).No.08, Department of Welfare of Differently Abled Persons, dated. 21.09.2021.

x. To ensure speedy trial, the Government has designated the Court of the Principal Judge, City Civil Court, Chennai, the Principal District Courts and other District Courts in each Judicial district in the State of Tamil Nadu as Special Courts to try offences under the Act. All the existing special public prosecutors (Human Rights) have been designated as special public prosecutors to conduct cases in the Court for this purpose.

xi. The Government has notified the Equal Opportunity Policy which has to be published by all government establishments, private establishments and factories by mentioning the jobs suitable for Differently Abled Persons. The policy published thereby, shall include provisions for accessibility at the workplace.

xii. To monitor the implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and various schemes and programmes made for the Differently Abled Persons, the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities has been appointed. He has been given the same powers as a Civil Court under the Civil Procedure Code, 1908, in respect of the matters mentioned in Section 82 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

3.DISABILITY CERTIFICATE AND IDENTITY CARD FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS

To ensure easy and accurate assessment for issue of disability certificates, Institutions including hospitals run by Union, State and Local governments having relevant medical facilities have been designated. These institutions are provided with the required specialists for assessment.

Every Government District Hospital has a Medical Board to issue Disability Certificates on a designated day every week.

So far, **14,27,202** certificates of disabilities and Identity Cards(Passbook) have been issued to Differently Abled Persons since the formation of the Department in the State.

Unique Disability Identity (UDID) Cards:

A Unique ID for Persons with Disabilities is being issued to create a database of Persons with Disabilities. The project will result in ease of delivering the various schemes, services, and assistance of the Government to Persons with Disabilities. It will also help in streamlining processes and monitoring the progress of delivery of schemes to the beneficiaries at all levels of the Government.

4. REGISTRATION AND RECOGNITION OF INSTITUTIONS:

As per the Section 50 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, the Commissioner for Welfare of the Differently Abled Persons is the competent authority for issuance of Registration Certificates to the institutions functioning for welfare of Persons with Disabilities. So far, 439 institutions have been registered under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. Further, the

Director for Welfare of the Differently Abled has accorded recognition to 290 special schools for Differently Abled children under the Tamil Nadu Recognized Private Schools Regulation Act, 1973 and Rules, 1974.

4.1. REGISTRATION OF PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION CENTRES FOR MENTALLY ILL PERSONS:

In Tamil Nadu, there are 85 Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centres registered by the Director for Welfare of the Differently Abled under the Tamil Nadu Registration of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centres of Mentally Ill Person Rules, 2002.

5. STATE SCHEMES

5.1. SERVICES FOR THE DIFFERENTLY ABLED CHILDREN

5.1.1. HEARING IMPAIRMENT:

Early identification and diagnostic centres have been established in 28 Districts for the assessment and evaluation of hearing loss. In

these centres, necessary infrastructure has been established and testing equipment has been installed. Since its inception in 2009, 25,029 persons with disabilities have been evaluated, assessed and provided assistance, including referral to the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme for Cochlear implant surgery and provision of hearing aid.

5.1.2. NEWBORN SCREENING:

New Born Screening Programme for Hearing Loss in Babies was implemented as a pilot project in the districts of Chennai and Sivagangai. 11 maternity hospitals in Chennai District and 10 district headquarters/taluk/upgraded Primary Health Centres in Sivagangai District were equipped with necessary infrastructure. The children born in these centres were screened for congenital hearing loss and the identified were provided with early intervention. During the year

2021-2022, 28111 babies have been screened and 26 new born were referred for further investigation.

5.1.3. EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRES FOR THE DIFFERENTLY ABLED CHILDREN:

There are 92 Early Intervention Centres for 6 different types of Disabilities established at the District Level to provide training to Children with Disabilities below 6 years of age. The Government provides a honorarium of Rs.14,000/- per month to Special Educators and Physiotherapists. This honorarium has been enhanced to Rs.18,000/- from the financial year 2022 - 2023. These Early Intervention Centres provide training to children and prepare them for their admission to inclusive schools.

There are different kinds of Early Intervention Centres and their details are as follows:-

Early Intervention Centre category	Total no. of Centres	Total no. of children	Total no. of Special Educators and Physio therapists	Budget allocation for 2022-2023 (Rs. in lakhs)
Early Intervention Centre for the Hearing Impaired	33	660	63	114.64
Early Intervention Centre for the Intellectually Disabled	31	1460	140	286.44
Early Intervention Centre for the Visually Impaired	6	98	12	24.60
Early Intervention Centre for the children with Cerebral Palsy	2	74	7	13.38
Early Intervention Centre for the children with Autism	19	436	80	175.98
Early Intervention Centre for the Children with Multiple Disabilities at Regional Resource cum Training Centre- Thiruchirappalli	1	18	2	3.84
Total	92	2746	304	618.88

5.1.4. HOME-BASED EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRE FOR CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DELAY:

The scheme for screening and identification of children with developmental delay of age of below six years is being implemented through Amar Seva Sangam in the districts of Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli.

This scheme for home-based early intervention for children with developmental delay has also been implemented in 23 blocks of the district of Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli at a cost of Rs.236.92 lakhs. So far, 2461 children have been benefited.

5.1.5. WEANING AND NUTRITIOUS FOOD FOR EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRES:

Weaning and Nutritious food from Anganwadi Centres of ICDS is being provided to children in the Early Intervention Centres. The Department provides transport charges to the implementing NGOs to bring food from the Anganwadi Centre to Early Intervention Centres.

A sum of Rs.3.45 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.1.6. ONE DAY TOUR PROGRAMME FOR THE CHILDREN, CARETAKERS AND SPECIAL EDUCATORS IN EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRES:

A study tour is conducted for children in the Early Intervention Centres along with their special educators, and parents/caretakers, with

the help of Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation Limited.

Tours were not organized in the years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

During the year 2022-2023 Rs.7.90 lakhs were allocated for this purpose.

5.1.7. MOBILE THERAPY UNIT FOR THE DIFFERENTLY ABLED CHILDREN:

Early Intervention Centres for Differently Abled children are located in the district headquarters. 38 mobile therapy units are established for the benefit of the Differently Abled children aged below 6 years, whose parents find it difficult to reach the centres and avail the services. These units act as mobile Early Intervention Centres. Adequate therapy equipment is installed in the mobile van and services are rendered at the doorsteps of the

beneficiaries. In rural areas, these mobile therapy units conduct camps and awareness programs for differently abled persons based on identified needs. So far 15,391 camps have been conducted for providing various interventions including physiotherapy, speech therapy, special education, and other rehabilitation services. These camps have benefited 1,17,076 Differently Abled Persons. During the year 2021-2022, a sum of Rs.190.15 lakhs has been utilized for this scheme.

A sum of Rs.254.38 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.1.8.RESCUE SCHEME:

The Rescue Scheme is implemented through NGOs for the rescue and rehabilitation of mentally ill persons, abandoned by their

families and found roaming in the street and other public places.

Wandering mentally ill persons are admitted to the hospitals for medical care and transferred to the rehabilitation home subsequently. A sum of Rs.1500 per individual is paid to the NGO for expenses during the rescue and admission processes. 499 persons have been rescued in the year 2021-2022 with an expenditure of Rs.7.48 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.7.50 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022 - 2023 for this scheme.

5.1.9.REHABILITATION HOMES FOR THE INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED PERSONS ABOVE 14 YEARS:

There are 65 homes for intellectually disabled persons who are 14 years and above functioning across the state. There are 65 Homes – 16 male Homes, 9 female Homes

and 40 mixed Homes. In each of these Homes, department funds the social worker, warden, cook, cook mate, night watchman, two vocational trainers, and one sanitary worker. These Homes are managed by NGOs and the inmates have been provided shelter, food, medical facilities and vocational training in trades including candle making, packing and gardening.

During the year 2021-2022 a sum of Rs.723.50lakhs has been utilized for this Scheme.

A sum of Rs.774.26 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022 - 2023 for this scheme.

5.1.10. REHABILITATION HOMES FOR THE MENTALLY ILL PERSONS:

There are 98 Mentally Ill homes with 6415 inmates. These include 53 Homes which receive fund from Government and 45 that are

self-funded. The Government provides Rs.900/- per month as feeding grant to these Homes. 4,334 inmates have been provided with Aadhar card and the enrolment process for the remaining persons is underway. The inmates of these Homes are provided with medical treatment and free accommodation. The district psychiatrist visits these Homes at least once a month and provides medical treatment. For those who need a disability certificate, it is provided based on the mental health assessment.

A sum of Rs.643.85 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022 - 2023 for this scheme.

5.1.11. HALF-WAY HOMES

Half-way Homes are established for those mentally ill persons who are cured but homeless and could not be integrated with

their family. In these Homes, they are provided skill training and efforts are made to facilitate jobs for them to ensure their integration with the society. These homes are established in 5 districts namely, Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Vellore, Thiruchirappalli and Kanyakumari, with a capacity of 700 beneficiaries. As of today, there are 128 beneficiaries staying in Half-way Homes.

5.1.12.GOVERNMENT REHABILITATION HOMES FOR THE LEPROSY AFFECTED PERSONS:

The Government Rehabilitation homes for leprosy affected persons are functioning at ten locations in the following places:-

SI.No	Place	District
1	Paranur	Chengalpattu
2	Ulundurpet	Kallakurichi
3	Bargur	Krishnagiri
4	Pudukottai	Pudukottai
5	Manaiyeripatti	Thanjavur

6	Y. Pudupatti	Madurai
7	Mallavadi	Tiruvannamalai
8	Selliyampatti	Dharmapuri
9	Deviyakurichi	Salem
10	Vinnapalli	Erode

During the year 2021-2022, 614 inmates have been accommodated in these homes.

Any leprosy cured person who is facing social stigma and abandoned by the family can get admitted by themselves voluntarily in these homes. They can be admitted along with their family.

The leprosy affected persons who have been indulging in beggary in public places are admitted in the Government Rehabilitation Home, Ulundurpet if convicted by Judicial Magistrate.

Free boarding, lodging, clothing (two sets every year) and medical facilities are provided

to every inmate. MCR Chappals, artificial limbs and spectacles are also provided.

Government sanctions a sum of Rs.2000/- for performing rituals for inmates who die.

During the year 2021-2022 a sum of Rs.107.25 lakhs has been utilized under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.103.22 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022 - 2023 for this scheme.

5.1.13. GOVERNMENT CARE CAMP - MELPAKKAM:

Initially the Government Care Camp was established to keep those who are convicted for beggary under Tamil Nadu Prevention of Beggary Act, 1945. Since the year 2016, there

have been no convictions and therefore there are no inmates.

5.1.14. DAY CARE CENTRES FOR INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED CHILDREN:

There are 3 Day care centres for Intellectually Disabled Children at Theni District rehabilitating 90 children. These centres are being managed by NGOs with financial assistance from the Government. There are two Special Educators/ Therapist, Care Giver, Sweeper. Special educators were provided honorarium of Rs.14000 per month which has been enhanced to Rs.18,000/- in 2022-2023. The children are getting benefits worth Rs.14.52 lakhs during 2021-2022.

A sum of Rs.14.52 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022 - 2023 for this scheme.

5.1.15.DAY CARE CENTRES FOR THE PERSONS AFFECTED WITH MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY:

These centers have been established in 14 Districts namely Tirunelveli, Chennai, Vellore, Madurai, Salem, Thiruvannamalai, Dindugal, Virudunagar, Tanjavur, Thoothukudi, Villupuram, Dharmapuri, Thiruchirappalli and Coimbatore.

These day care centers are being managed by the NGOs with financial assistance from the Government. There are physiotherapists and warden providing medical care, physiotherapy and support services to prevent the progressive weakening of muscles.

During the year 2021-2022 a sum of Rs.161.81 lakhs has been utilized for benefiting 360 beneficiaries under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.161.81 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022 - 2023 for this scheme.

5.1.16.STATE RESOURCE CUM TRAINING CENTRE – CHENNAI

State Resource cum Training Centre is functioning at Chennai since 2005. The Centre is run by the Government with the support of the NGOs. It provides a single point access to various services to the Differently Abled Persons- issuance of disability certificates, UDID cards and passbooks, travel concession certificates, Income Tax relaxation forms, appointment of scribes and certification to determine the need of scribes and additional hour during exams are some of these services. It is also an information centre providing information about Union and State Government schemes. This centre houses an Early

Intervention Centre for children with various types of disabilities as well as a day care centre for mentally ill persons providing skill training.

During the year 2021-2022 a sum of Rs.35.66 lakhs has been utilized for this scheme benefitting 9,122 beneficiaries

A sum of Rs.35.66 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for the State Resource cum Training Centre, Chennai

5.1.17.REGIONAL STATE RESOURCE CUM TRAINING CENTRE, THIRUCHIRAPPALLI:

Regional State Resource cum Training Centre is functioning at Thiruchirappalli since 2012 for the benefit of Persons with Disabilities from southern districts. An information centre is functioning in this Regional Resource Cum Training Centre along with a day care centre for mentally ill persons for skill training. This

centre is run by the Government with the support of NGOs. Disability certificates and passbooks are also issued to them.

During the year 2021-2022 a sum of Rs.22.07 lakhs has been utilized for this scheme.

A sum of Rs.22.07 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for the Regional State Resource cum Training Centre, Thiruchirappalli.

5.2. SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SCHEMES:

5.2.1. SPECIAL SCHOOLS:

Special schools have been established for Differently Abled children based on their special needs. There are 22 Government Special Schools including Five Higher Secondary Schools (Two for Hearing Impaired and Three for Visually Impaired), Five High schools for

Hearing Impaired, Seven Middle Schools (Three schools each for Hearing Impaired and Visually Impaired and One for Orthopedically affected) and Four Primary Schools for Visually Impaired. A total of 1053 students receive special education in these schools. Government supports 50 Government aided schools including 20 Higher Secondary Schools (Twelve for Hearing Impaired, Four for Visually Impaired and Four Orthopedically Disabled), Seven High Schools (Five for Hearing Impaired and Two for Visually Impaired), Six Middle Schools (1 for Hearing Impaired, Three for Visually Impaired and Two Orthopedically Disabled) Three Primary Schools (One for Hearing Impaired and Two Orthopedically Disabled) and 14 for Intellectually Disabled benefiting 4,081 students. In addition to the above special schools, there are 305 Government recognized institutions with an

enrollment of 6,935 children. These children are imparted with special education and vocational training.

Free food and accommodation are being provided. Classrooms are provided with smart facilities. A study tour is also organized once in a year for the children.

5.2.2. SCHOLARSHIP:

The Differently Abled children pursuing studies in school and higher education institutions are being provided scholarship by the State Government of Tamil Nadu, to meet their basic expenses.

Sl. No.	Standard	Scholarship Amount (Per Year)
1.	I Std. to V Std.	Rs. 1,000/-
2.	VI Std. to VIII Std.	Rs. 3,000/-
3.	IX Std. to XII Std.	Rs. 4,000/-
4.	U.G. Courses	Rs. 6,000/-
5.	Professional and P.G. Courses	Rs. 7,000/-

During the year 2021-2022 a sum of Rs.698.87 lakhs has been utilized to benefit 23,326 students under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.680.02 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.3. READERS ALLOWANCE:

To facilitate the learning process for the Visually Impaired students, the Government provides readers allowance for the students studying from 9th Standard up to post-graduation level. The amount has been given as per the following rate:

Sl. No.	Standard	Amount (per year)
1.	9 th Std. to 12 th Std.	Rs.3,000/-
2.	UG Courses	Rs.5,000/-
3.	Professional and P.G.Courses	Rs.6,000/-

During the year 2021-2022, a sum of Rs.81.20 lakhs has been utilized to benefit 1,947 students under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.100.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.4. SCRIBE ASSISTANCE:

The Visually Impaired students who are studying from 9th standard to 12th standard are permitted to engage a scribe for their examination. They have been provided with Rs.300/- per paper to each scribe. This encourages the visually challenged studying in the aided schools. 585 students are getting benefit every year. During the year 2021-2022 a sum of Rs.24.68 lakhs has been utilized for 585 students studying in 10 Government special schools and Government aided special schools under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.44.85 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.5. CASH INCENTIVES TO STUDENTS TO PREVENT DROP-OUTS:

To motivate the Differently Abled students to continue their studies, cash incentives ranging for Rs.1,500/- to Rs.2,000/- per year, are given to the students of classes 10, 11 and 12. The cash incentive deposited in Tamil Nadu Power Finance Corporation for this purpose is Rs.24.05 lakhs. Students will be paid the above amount with interest after they pass class 12th.

Sl. No.	Standard	Cash Incentive per annum
1	10 th Standard	Rs.1,500/-
2	11 th Standard	Rs.1,500/-
3	12 th Standard	Rs.2,000/-

During the year 2021-2022 a sum of Rs.24.05 lakhs has been utilized for 1461 students under this scheme.

A sum of Rs.24.05 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.6. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SPECIAL SCHOOLS RUN BY NGOs:

The salary grant of Rs.14,000/- per month per staff (2 Special Educator & 1 Therapist) has been increased to Rs.18,000 from the year 2022-2023. The assistance given as grant includes construction of new building / extension of building and rent payments of the buildings as per the requirement of the inmates. Feeding charges for the inmates is Rs.900/- per month.

For the NGOs serving Intellectually Disabled, rent up to Rs.1,20,000/- has been provided per annum and up to Rs.5.00 lakhs

has been provided for extension of existing buildings.

As a financial assistance to 38 special schools for Hearing Impaired, Rs.184.80 lakhs has been spent for 110 special educators/physiotherapists. For the 7 Special Schools for Visually Impaired, Rs.35.28 lakhs has been spent on 21 special educators. For 266 Special Schools for Intellectually Disabled, Rs.1,315.44 lakhs has been spent for the salary of 783 special educators/physiotherapists.

For residential special schools, feeding grant is given at the rate of Rs.900 per month per child, and during 2021-2022, an amount of Rs.412.40 lakhs has been made as expenditure benefitting 5,981 students.

A sum of Rs.3,499.63 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.7. ASSISTANCE TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED LAW GRADUATES:

Differently Abled Persons who are Law Graduates and enrolled in the Bar Council as advocates, have been provided with an assistance of Rs.50,000/- each, for purchasing law books & other necessary expenditure.

In the year 2021-2022, 20 Differently Abled law graduates have been provided with the assistance of Rs.50,000/- each at a total expenditure of Rs.10 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.20.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.8. UNIFORMS:

The Differently Abled students studying in the Government Special Schools are provided with four sets of uniforms every year. In the year 2021-2022 Rs.11.91 lakhs have been spent for 1,178 children.

A sum of Rs.11.92 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.9. ELECTRONIC ASSISTIVE DEVICES:

5.2.9.(a) ELECTRONIC BRAILLE DEVICES:

Electronic Braille devices for visually impaired students are provided free of cost. Electronic braille reader will help Visually Impaired College and Graduate students to learn from textbooks in a simple Braille electronic touch format. Electronic Braille Reader has been provided to 204 beneficiaries during the year 2021-2022.

A sum of Rs.142.03 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.9.(b) AVAZ SOFTWARE WITH A DEVICE:

AVAZ software with a device which is an alternative and augmentative communication

device has been provided to 497 intellectually disabled children to assist them in their learning and communication. Rs.1,20,24,280 has been spent during the year 2021-2022.

A sum of Rs.123.17 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.9.(c) ANGEL PRO DAISY PLAYER:

Angel Pro Daisy Player is provided to students studying in standard 10 and 12 of special schools for the purpose of reading and recording their lessons in schools. This device has been provided to 132 visually impaired children at a cost of Rs.11.91 lakhs

A sum of Rs.13.26 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.10. SMART CLASSES FOR HEARING IMPAIRED:

Nine Government Special Schools for Hearing Impaired have been equipped with one Smart classroom each. These classrooms have been installed with modern infrastructure including latest computer hardware and audio visual devices to facilitate learning by the hearing impaired students. For the maintenance of the classrooms, Rs.2.71 lakhs have been spent during the year 2021-2022.

A sum of Rs.2.71 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.11. SMART CLASS FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED:

10 Government Special Schools for the visually impaired and 2 SSA Schools are being equipped with smart classrooms with the latest

braille learning facilities. The works are under progress towards the installation of necessary equipment. During the year 2021-2022, a sum of Rs.49.24 lakhs has been made as expenditure towards smart class for visually impaired.

A sum of Rs.48.95 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.12. COMPUTER LABS &COMPUTER INSTRUCTOR SALARY:

To facilitate improvement in learning, computer labs have been established in 21 Government schools for hearing impaired, visually impaired and orthopedically impaired. Computer instructors are also appointed in these special schools with a consolidated pay of Rs.15,000/- per month. During the year

2021-2022 a sum of Rs.25.48 lakhs has been spent as expenditure.

A sum of Rs.34.59 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.13. B.COM & B.C.A., COURSES FOR HEARING AND SPEECH IMPAIRED:

B.COM & B.C.A., Courses for Hearing and Speech Impaired have been started at Presidency College in Chennai with maximum student strength of 30 in each course. Three guest lecturers are paid a consolidated pay of Rs.15,000/- per month and one lab technician is paid a consolidated pay of Rs.6,000 /- per month by the Government. An expenditure of Rs.6.37 lakhs is made towards the payment of these faculties.

A sum of Rs.16.56 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.2.14. RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYALAYA AND EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (RKMVERI) - COIMBATORE

A grant of Rs.227.50 lakhs for conducting courses on Disability Management and Special Education (DMSE), and General and Adapted Physical Education and Yoga (GAPEY) has been given to Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya and Educational Research Institute (RKMVERI), Coimbatore. This grant will support 21 lecturers.

A sum of Rs.455.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.3. ASSISTIVE DEVICES FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS:

The Differently Abled Persons have been provided with 24 different types of assistive devices to enable them to live a barrier free and self-reliant life by reducing the assistance required from other persons. The Government has decided to provide devices to all the eligible Differently Abled Persons in the waiting list. At the beginning of 2021 - 2022 year, a total of 37,660 beneficiaries, including the 9,185 beneficiaries in the waiting list, have been provided with the assistive devices at the cost of Rs.7075.56 lakhs as detailed below.

Assistive Devices provided during the year 2021 – 2022

Sl. No	Name of the Devices	Total Numbers	Total Amount
1	Auxiliary crutches	1,228	Rs.8,18,940/-
2	Elbow crutches	1,372	Rs.8,18,980/-
3	Magnifier	253	Rs.19,82,694/-
4	Braille Watches	1,394	Rs.18,41,036/-
5	Goggles	2,856	Rs.3,99,840/-
6	Reflective folding sticks	2,105	Rs.9,99,875/-
7	Walking device	1,110	Rs.19,97,060/-
8	Wheel chair for Cerebral Palsy affected persons	738	Rs.61,92,150/-
9	Alternative and Augmentative communication device with AVAZ software	497	Rs.1,23,17,280/-
10	Retrofitted Petrol scooter for Differently Abled Persons & Specially designed Retrofitted	4,901	Rs.39,45,30,000/-

	Petrol scooter for spinal cord affected persons		
11	Smart Phone for Hearing and Visually impaired persons	8,704	Rs.10,88,00,000/-
12	Angel pro daisy player	132	Rs.11,91,960/-
13	Corner Seat for children with cerebral palsy	183	Rs.9,98,100/-
14	Plastic Caliper	109	Rs.6,30,500/-
15	Metal Caliper	25	Rs.2,37,500/-
16	Artificial limbs	72	Rs.6,16,750/-
17	Battery Operated Wheel Chair	1,156	Rs.11,88,63,515/-
18	Tricycle	790	Rs.66,93,360/-
19	Foldable Wheel Chair	823	Rs.59,91,360/-
20	Motorised Sewing Machine	2,141	Rs.1,46,44,440/-
21	Behind the Ear	6,867	Rs.1,99,99,320/-

	Hearing Aid		
22	Electronic Braille Reader	204	Rs.69,91,488/-
		37,660	Rs.70,75,56,148/-

Modular Reflective Folding Stick could not be supplied by the original equipment manufacturer due to COVID-19.

Modular Artificial Limbs are being supplied through the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme.

5.3.1. CHOICE BASED SYSTEM OF PROVIDING ASSISTIVE DEVICES:

The Government, in order to provide wider range of models to beneficiaries, has introduced the choice-based system in Five categories of devices. In this system, devices

with the optimum features are selected by the Technical Committee as Assured Model. The Assured Model is provided to the beneficiaries free of cost. Further, multiple models are also offered as choices to the beneficiaries, for them to select based on their preference. The differential cost of multiple models, if the price is higher than the assured model, is paid by the beneficiaries.

No. of beneficiaries opted for assured model – 6,665

No of beneficiaries opted for multiple models – 554

Total - 7,219

A sum of Rs.5078.13 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.4. SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEME:

The Government of Tamil Nadu has formulated various schemes to safeguard and promote social security and raise the standard of living of Differently Aabled Persons.

5.4.1. MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE:

Maintenance allowance of Rs.1500/- per month which was recently increased to Rs.2000/-, is being provided for five specified categories of Differently Aabled Persons who cannot take care of themselves and face challenges with respect to wage or self - employability.

Sl. No	Category of Disability	Criteria (Percentage of Disability)	No of beneficiaries
1.	Persons with intellectual disability	40% and above	1,63,454
2.	Severely affected persons	75% and above	32,594

3.	Persons affected with Parkinson's disease, Spinal cord injury and multiple sclerosis	40% and above	1,839
4.	Persons affected with muscular dystrophy	40% and above	3,740
5.	Leprosy affected persons	40% and above	9,764
Total			2,11,391

For the year 2021-2022, Government has spent Rs.38,815.62 lakhs for 1,97,887 beneficiaries under Intellectually Disabled, Severely Disabled & Spinal Cord Injury categories, Rs.707.88 lakhs for 3,740 beneficiaries under Muscular Dystrophy category and Rs.1,879.00 lakhs for 9,764 beneficiaries under Leprosy cured category.

A sum of Rs.47,963.59 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.4.2. HIGH SUPPORT NEEDS:

For Differently Aabled Persons with high support needs and are dependent on others for survival, the Government is providing Rs.1,000/- for engagement of a personal assistant.

During the year 2021-2022, 1,656 beneficiaries with High Support Needs have been provided assistance for which a sum of Rs.155.92 lakhs has been utilized.

A sum of Rs.420.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.4.3. UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE:

A Differently Abled Person who is looking for a job and enrolled with the Directorate of Employment and Training but remaining unemployed for more than 1 year has been provided with unemployment allowance as listed below:-

- Rs.600/- per month for a Differently Abled Person who has completed 10th Standard
- Rs.750/- per month for a Differently Abled Person who has completed 12th Standard and
- Rs.1000/- per month for a Differently Abled Person who is a graduate.

Beneficiaries will be eligible for the unemployment allowance for a maximum of 10 years. During the year 2021-2022, 17,275 beneficiaries have been provided with unemployment allowance and a sum of

Rs.1,441.00 lakhs has been utilized.

A sum of Rs.2000.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.4.4. MARRIAGE ASSISTANCE:-

Differently Abled Persons affected by any of the 21 types of disabilities are eligible to get marriage assistance. An assistance of Rs.25,000/- and Rs.50,000/- is being given to non-graduates and graduates respectively. A gold coin weighing 8 grams is given for making Thirumangalyam. Under the scheme, the assistance is given 50% in cash and the rest in the form of National Savings Certificate. During the year 2021-2022, 512 beneficiaries have been benefitted by utilizing Rs.545.86 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.545.86 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.4.5. FREE TRAVEL CONCESSION:

5.4.5. (a) 100% FREE TRAVEL CONCESSION:

Under this scheme, all categories of Differently Abled Persons are permitted to avail free travel in the White board buses of Metropolitan Transport Corporation either alone or accompanied by an escort. During the year 2021-2022, 35,792 Differently Abled Persons benefitted at a cost of Rs.3,317.46 lakhs.

5.4.5.(b) 75% TRAVEL CONCESSION:

75% free travel concession is provided to all categories of Differently Abled Persons within the State of Tamil Nadu using State-owned transport corporation buses. This concession that is without any ceiling on the number of trips undertaken has been extended to escorts of Differently Abled Persons as well. During the year 2021-2022, 7,54,755

Differently Abled Persons have been benefitted at a cost of Rs.3,300.00 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.3500.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.4.6. WELFARE BOARD:

The Tamil Nadu Welfare Board for Differently Abled Persons, for Differently Abled persons who are above the age of 10, has 10,11,323 members registered in it. If registered with the Board, the Differently Abled Persons are provided various assistances including Educational Scholarship, Marriage Assistance, Delivery Assistance, Spectacle Assistance, Natural death-funeral Assistance, Relief for death due to accident and Miscarriage and Accident Reliefs.

(1)	Personal accident relief:	
	The Compensations provided under the scheme are as follows:	
	(a)	Death due to accident
(b)	Loss of both lower or upper limb/ both eyes or total dysfunction and irrecoverable loss of limbs	Rs.1,00,000/-
(c)	Loss of any one lower or upper limb or total and irrecoverable loss of one hand or one foot or total and irrecoverable loss of sight in one eye	Rs.50,000/-
	(d)	Permanent total disablement due to the injuries other than those specified in items (b) and (c) above
(2)	Assistance to meet the funeral expenses of a Differently Abled Person	Rs.2,000/-
(3)	Assistance for the	Rs.15,000/-

	natural death of a Differently Abled Person			
(4)	Annual Assistance for education of the children of a Differently Abled Person:			
	(a)	(i)	Daughter studying in 10 th standard	Rs.1,000/-
		(ii)	Son or daughter who passed the 10 th standard examination	Rs.1,000/-
	(b)	(i)	Daughter studying in 11 th standard	Rs.1,000/-
	(c)	(i)	Daughter studying in 12 th standard	Rs.1,500/-
		(ii)	If son or daughter who passed 12 th standard	
	(d)	(i)	Son or daughter studying in regular Bachelor	Rs.1,500/-

			Degree course (for every academic year of the course)	
		(ii)	Son or daughter studying in the Bachelor Degree course and staying in the hostel.	Rs.1,750/-
		(iii)	Son or daughter studying in regular Post Graduate Course (for every academic year of the course)	Rs.2,000/-
		(iv)	Son or daughter studying the PG course and staying in the hostel	Rs.3,000/-
	(e)	(i)	Son or daughter studying a	Rs.2,000/-

			Professional Course in Law / Engineering / Medical/ Veterinary Science/ Allied Courses/(for every academic year of the course)	
		(ii)	Son or daughter studying in the professional course and staying in the hostel	Rs.4,000/-
		(iii)	Son or daughter studying a Post Graduate Professional Course (for every academic year of the course)	Rs.4,000/-
		(iv)	Son or daughter -	Rs.6,000/-

			studying the PG Professional course and staying in the hostel	
	(f)	(i)	Son or daughter studying in Industrial Training Institute or Polytechnic Course. (for every academic year of the course)	Rs.1,000/-
		(ii)	Son or daughter studying the ITI/Polytechnic course and staying in the hostel	Rs.1,200/-
5	Assistance for Marriage (any one of the couple is eligible for or this assistance)			Rs.2,000/-
6.	Assistance for differently			

	abled female members for		
	(i)	Delivery	Rs.6,000/-
	(ii)	Miscarriage	Rs.3,000/-
	(iii)	Cesarean	Rs.9,000/-
7	Assistance for purchase of spectacles by a Differently Abled Person		Rs. 500/-

During the year 2021-2022, 2,534 beneficiaries have been benefitted at a cost of 366.86 lakhs

A sum of Rs.329.62 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.4.7 CHIEF MINISTER'S COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME:

All Differently Abled Persons are eligible - free of cost and without any income ceiling, for enrolment into Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme. The coverage of the

insurance scheme is Rs.5.00 lakhs per family per year for medical and rehabilitation services.

Nearly 60 centers have been empaneled to provide rehabilitation services to persons with Autism up to Rs.60,000/- per child.

Since January 2022, under the scheme, provisions are made for availing rehabilitation services and special education for children with Hearing Impairment, Muscular Dystrophy, Intellectual Disability, Cerebral Palsy, Specific Learning Disabilities and Multiple Disabilities at empaneled centres. For persons with Cerebral Palsy and Muscular Dystrophy, maintenance therapy can also be availed as benefit under the scheme.

5.4.8. NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE WELFARE OF PERSONS WITH AUTISM, CEREBRAL PALSY (CP), MENTAL

RETARDATION (MR), AND PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES ACT, 1999:

Under the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation And Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999, District level Local Level Committees (LLC) have been created for appointing guardians for persons with such disabilities as mentioned in the Act. The Local Level Committee is headed by the District Collector and has representatives from registered organizations and parents of persons with disabilities as mentioned in the Act. So far, 2,762 guardianship certificates have been issued.

5.4.9 SOCIO-ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT:

5.4.9.(a).ENSURING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS THROUGH RESERVATION:

Government has formed an Expert Committee to identify jobs suitable for Differently Abled Persons in Government establishments and this Committee has identified 559 posts in Group A and B as suitable for Differently Abled Persons. All posts in Group C and D are found suitable for Differently Abled Persons. In the case of a post to be exempted from reservation, the concerned department may seek specific orders from the Government.

5.4.9.(b). 5 PERCENT RESERVATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION FOR BENCHMARK DISABILITIES:

The Government has issued an order to reserve Five percent of seats in all Government institutions of higher education and other higher education institutions receiving aid from the Government, for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities.

5.4.9.(c). INCENTIVE TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS WHO HAVE PASSED IN PRELIMINARY EXAM AND ARE APPEARING FOR MAIN EXAM CONDUCTED BY UPSC (CIVIL SERVICES) AND TNPSC (GROUP-I SERVICES):

To provide financial assistance as an incentive to appear in UPSC (CIVIL SERVICES) and TNPSC (GROUP-I SERVICES) main examination, Rs.50,000/- is being given to

those who have passed the preliminary exams and are appearing for the main exams. During the year 2021-2022, 9 Differently Abled Persons have benefitted, at a cost of Rs.4.50 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.4.50 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.5. SELF EMPLOYMENT: -

5.5.1. NATIONAL HANDICAPPED FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (NHFDC):-

Under the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation, loans have been provided to the Differently Abled Persons through the Tamil Nadu State Central Co-operative Bank Limited which has been appointed as the channelizing agency. In this NHFDC loan, the interest amount is borne by

the State Government, provided that the Differently Abled Person repays the loan on time. During the year 2021-2022, 5,613 Differently Abled Persons have been provided with loans to the cumulative tune of Rs.2,612.00 lakhs.

5.5.2. SUBSIDY FOR MICRO ENTERPRISES/BUNK STALL:-

A subsidy of Rs.25,000/- or one third of the loan amount, whichever is lower has been provided to Differently Abled Persons who want to start a Micro Enterprises/Bunk stall. Under the scheme, self-employment ventures including petty shops, provision shops, fancy stores, barber shops, rearing milch animals and sheep, tea & snacks stalls, tiffin centres, computer centres and photocopy centres can be established for generating income. During the year 2021-2022, 1,566 Differently Abled

Persons have benefitted to the tune of Rs.322.78 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.500.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.5.3. PRIME MINISTER'S EMPLOYMENT GENERATION PROGRAMME (PMEGP):

The Differently Abled Persons are motivated to start self-employment ventures, projects and micro-enterprises in the manufacturing, business and service sectors for which bank loans are sanctioned under Prime Minister's Employment Generation Scheme. The five percent marginal amount is borne by the Government of Tamil Nadu. To avail this grant, the Differently Abled Persons should apply online to Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Khadi and Village Industries Board or District Industries Centers. The District Selection Committee under the

Chairmanship of the District Collector scrutinizes the applications forwarded by the above authorities and selects the beneficiaries for the purpose of getting the margin money as grant under this scheme. During the year 2021-2022, 35 Differently Abled Persons have been benefitted to the tune of Rs.4.37 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.5.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.5.4. UNEMPLOYED YOUTH EMPLOYMENT GENERATION PROGRAMME(UYEGP):

Under UYEGP scheme for Differently Abled Persons, Five percent share of the loan sanctioned which is to be paid by the Differently Abled Person as margin money, is borne by the State Government. To avail this grant, Differently Abled Persons have to submit online applications to the District Industries

Centre. The District Selection Committee under the Chairmanship of the District Collector will scrutinize the application forwarded by the District Industries Centre and select the beneficiaries for the purpose of granting the margin money under this scheme. During the year 2021-2022, 61 Differently Abled Persons have been benefitted to the tune of Rs.7.32 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.10.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.5.5. SUBSIDY FOR ESTABLISHING AAVIN PARLOUR:

In order to encourage the Differently Abled Persons and to provide self-employment opportunities, the scheme of establishing Aavin Parlor was introduced. Under this scheme, the deposit amount of Rs.25,000/- and the sum of Rs.25,000/- for procurement of milk

products(total of Rs.50,000) that is to be paid by the Differently Abled Person to Aavin, will be borne by the Government. During the year 2021-2022, 149 Differently Abled Persons have been benefitted to the tune of Rs.74.50 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.100.00 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.5.6. BOOK BINDER TRAINING:

Book binder training is provided to the Visually Impaired candidates at the Government Higher Secondary School for Blind, Poonamallee. Residential facilities are provided free of cost. A stipend of Rs.300 is paid to the candidates during the training period. During the year 2021-2022, training has been provided to the 17 selected candidates.

A sum of Rs.0.63 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.5.7. MULTIMEDIA AND DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY TRAINING:

One month training in multimedia and digital photography is provided to the locomotor Differently Abled Persons and to the hearing impaired persons by National Film Development Corporation Limited, Chennai. The following courses namely, FCV – Digital Non Liner Editing, AVID - Digital Non Liner Editing, Multimedia Training, Digital Still Photography, Audio Engineering and Animation are being provided for Differently Abled Persons. During the year 2021-2022, 250 Differently Abled Persons have been trained at a cost of Rs.37.38 lakhs.

A sum of Rs.37.38 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

5.5.8. FITTER TRAINING - HEARING IMPAIRED:

Hearing Impaired persons have been provided with two years of training in the trade of fitter at the Government Industrial Training Institute, Guindy, Chennai. Every year, 21 hearing impaired persons undergo the training programme in "Fitter" trade.

5.5.9. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY:

Under Equal Opportunity Policy, all the relevant Private Establishments and Factories in Tamil Nadu have to identify jobs suitable for Differently Abled Persons and make the work place accessible as per the Harmonized Guidelines and Space Standards for Barrier Free Built Environment for Persons with

Disabilities and Elderly Persons issued by Government of India.

Type of Establishment	Total No. of Establishment identified so far	Total No. of EOP submitted (from Dec 2021)	No. of posts identified as suitable for the DAPs
Private Establishment	45784	993	856
Factories	24747	2059	2669
Total	70531	3052	3525

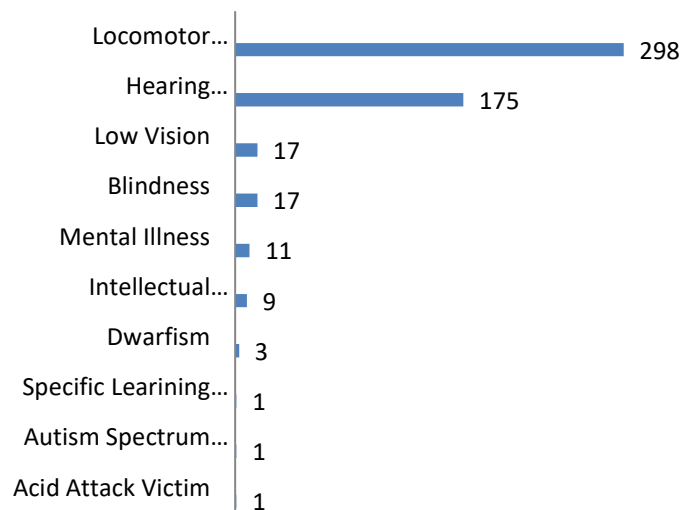
5.5.10. DIFFERENTLY ABLED EMPLOYMENT AND LIVELIHOOD CENTRE (DELIC):

In alignment with the vision of Skill Acquisition and Knowledge Awareness for Livelihood Promotion (SANKALP) Programme, Differently Abled Employment and Livelihood Centre (DELIC) of the Department of Welfare of Differently Abled Persons has been established at Chennai (State-level) with offices at the Zonal-level by mapping 38 districts as 6 Zones. DELIC has conducted employer sensitization

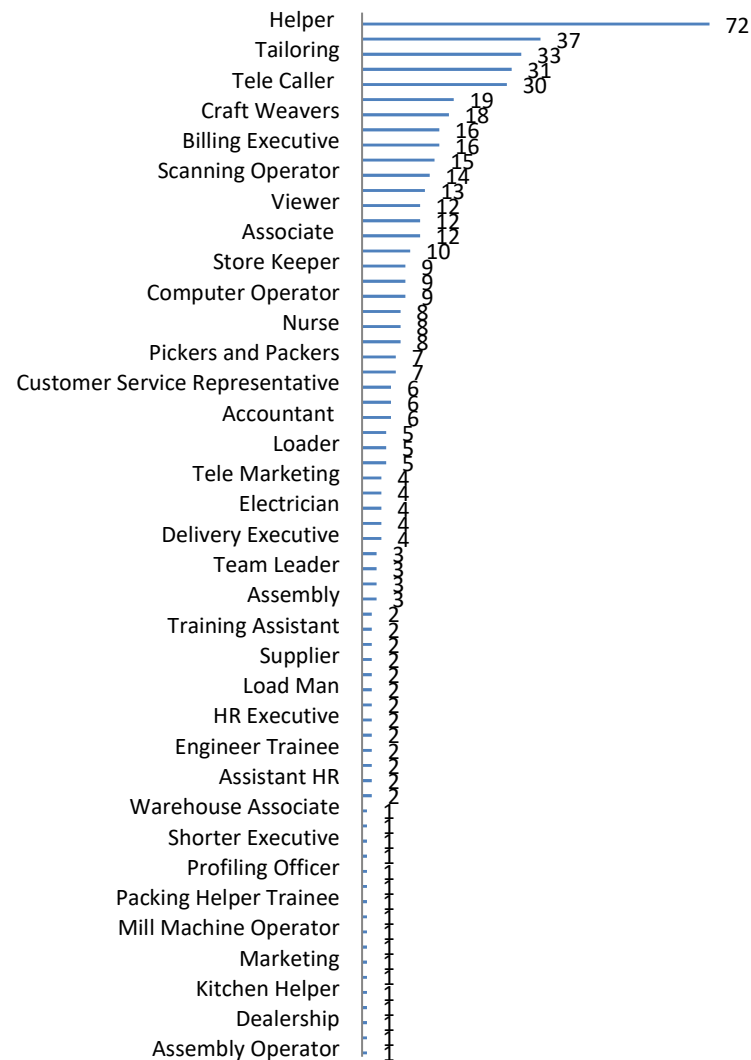
programs focusing on Equal Opportunity Policy and inclusion at workplace for Differently Abled Persons in the private establishments and factories across all zones. More than 300 employers have attended the sessions so far. This is to help stakeholders understand the different types of disabilities and sensitize them on how employers can facilitate employability of Differently Abled Persons. As a part of this initiative, DELIC is identifying new job openings and fulfilling the requirement by conducting special drives for the employers. DELIC starts its process by profiling the Differently Abled Persons for optimum livelihood. Profiling includes details of skills of Differently Abled Persons- their qualifications, interests, and work experience, for DELIC to map the right job opportunity for them. So far, a cumulative total of 1,276 Differently Abled Persons have been profiled. As a result of these efforts, DELIC has

placed 538 Differently Abled Persons in suitable jobs. DELC also conducts meetings in order to assist NGOs and Training partners in this regard. DELC has conducted meetings with such NGOs in all the 6 zones.

Disability Type Wise Placements



Job Roles Offered for PwDs



6. Central Sector Schemes:

6.1. ASSISTANCE TO DISABLED PERSONS FOR PURCHASE/ FITTING OF AIDS AND APPLIANCES (ADIP)

Under the Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase / Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP) Scheme, financial assistance is offered to NGOs by the Government of India to supply assistive devices for the Differently Abled Persons.

The applications received from NGOs are scrutinized by the District Differently Abled Welfare Officer, submitted online and placed before the Grant-in-Aid Committee. The applications are assessed by the Committee members. The applications have been forwarded to Union Government for necessary sanction of funds.

During the year 2021-2022, totally 02 applications to a tune of Rs.18.36 lakhs has

been recommended and forwarded to supply assistive devices.

6.2.DEENDAYAL DISABLED REHABILITATION SCHEME (DDRS):

Financial assistance to NGOs to run pre-schools, Early Intervention Centres and training programmes including home-based training programmes and centre-based vocational training programmes is provided for under DDRS Scheme. The applications received from NGOs are scrutinized by the District Differently Abled Welfare Officer (DDAWO) and submitted online. These applications are then placed before the Grant-in-Aid Committee for consideration and recommendation.

The applications have been forwarded to Government of India for necessary sanction of funds. During the year 2021-2022, totally 44 applications to a tune of Rs.887.24 lakhs have

been recommended and forwarded to Union Government.

6.3. ACCESSIBLE INDIA CAMPAIGN:

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the "Accessible India Campaign" (Sugamya Bharath Abhiyan) as a Nation-wide flagship campaign that will enable Differently Abled Persons to gain access for equal opportunity, live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life in an inclusive society.

Under Accessible India Campaign, totally 49 buildings have been identified and funds have been released for 30 buildings to the tune of Rs.4,608.25 lakhs. The retrofitting works are under progress. For the remaining 19 buildings, the proposals have been forwarded

to the Government of India for sanction of funds.

6.4. NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN):-

For classes 9-12, the parental income ceiling is Rs.2.50 lakhs for students with disability to avail the scholarship. Scholarships are offered under different categories- classes 9 and 10 fall under the category of Pre-Matriculation and classes 11 and 12 under Post-Matriculation. For candidates with Graduate and Post Graduate degrees or Diploma from a recognized institute, a parental-income ceiling of Rs.6.00 lakhs is applicable. The allocation of amount is distributed among all States and Union Territories based on the proportion of population of Differently Abled Persons in the State in comparison to the total Differently

Abled Person population of India as per the 2011 census.

Details of National Scholarship availed by the students for the year 2021-2022 are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Total Students
1.	Pre - Matriculation	4107
2.	Post - Matriculation	4003
3.	Higher Education	9
	Total	8119

6.5. UNIQUE DISABILITY ID (UDID) PROJECT:

“Unique ID for Persons with Disabilities” project is being implemented with a view of creating a database of Differently Abled Persons and to issue a Unique Disability Identity Card (UDID) to each Differently Abled Person. The project will not only encourage

transparency, efficiency and ease of delivering the government benefits to the Differently Abled, but also ensure uniformity. The project will also help in stream-lining the tracking of physical and financial delivery of benefits and services to stakeholders at all levels of the hierarchy of implementation.

In order to speed up the process of registration, the Government has taken special efforts by organizing special camps involving deployment of 388 additional medical officers and 450 additional data entry operators all over Tamil Nadu.

So far 8,73,561 applications have been registered and 4,70,607 number of Differently Abled Persons have been provided with UDID cards generated by Government. In case of incomplete application, the applications have been handed over to Revenue Department and collection of new application along with the

copies of necessary documents is done by the Village Administrative Officers (VAO).

7. RIGHTS PROJECT:

The RIGHTS project of the Department for the Welfare of Differently Abled Persons has three major components – Inclusion, Accessibility and Opportunities.

The INCLUSION component in the RIGHTS project focuses on creating an enabling environment and streamlining mechanisms for better identification and targeting of Differently Abled Persons and their needs.

The ACCESSIBILITY component in the RIGHTS project focuses on developing public infrastructure, housing, and transportation as well as improving access and quality of care and rehabilitation services for Differently Abled Persons. This component will have flagship programs like family and community-based

rehabilitation and integrated one-stop social care and rehabilitation services.

The OPPORTUNITIES component in the RIGHTS project focuses on ensuring opportunities for Differently Abled Persons for facilitating higher education, market-linked skills training, and placement services.

At present, the outreach of the Directorate is up to the district level, while beyond the district the disability program is largely dependent on funding through Grant-in-aid schemes. The proposed project improves the institutional capacity of the Department at all levels.

For this purpose, at the **Sub-Divisional** level, the Project proposes to set up sub – divisional level One-Stop Social Care Service Centers (OSCs) that would function under the supervision of the respective District Differently

Abled Welfare Officer. Each One-Stop Social Care Service Center will have a combination of administrative and technical human resources that will be determined based on needs identified during Project preparation.

At the **Block** level, the Project proposes to strengthen the existing Early Intervention Centers (EICs) as basic care and rehabilitation units co-locating multiple services or even creating Block level Centers, and link them up with the existing Urban / Rural Primary Health Centers or Block Resource Centers under the Health and Education Departments, respectively.

In addition, the Project may set up an NGO partnership system for better geographical targeting, selection, management and supervision of the EICs and other interventions supported by the Directorate for

Welfare of Differently Abled Persons through the regular grant-in-aid scheme.

At the **Community** level, Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs), local bodies and Disabled people's Organizations will be involved in community-based planning, implementation and supervision of Project activities. For facilitating the Project implementation at the community levels, Community Service Providers (CSPs) may be engaged by the Project. In addition, the Project proposes the creation of a cadre of frontline workers known as Community based Rehabilitation Workers (CRWs). These CRWs may be responsible for operating the community-based rehabilitation services: (i) home-based assessment, early intervention, care and rehabilitation services using technology; (ii) training of parents and

caregivers; (iii) specialized neighborhood services.

The project also proposes enlisting Community Facilitators (CFs) who will mobilize Persons with Disabilities for various activities and schemes of the Government under the community engagement pillar of the project. The project will be implemented initially in 5 Districts.

8. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG):

The United Nations – Sustainable Development Goals aims to achieve decent lives and a healthy planet by 2030 based on mapping of the following schemes

SDG Target 4.5: By 2030 - eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the

vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous people and children in vulnerable situations.

To achieve the above target, the Department is implementing care and rehabilitation services through 92 functional Early Intervention Centers for various kinds of children with disabilities so as to mainstream their school education in the inclusive schools. The Department also provides assistive devices for the needy children.

The Government of Tamil Nadu provides scholarship for 23,326 Differently Abled Children. Cash incentives scheme is implemented to prevent school dropouts.

SDG Target 8.5:-

By 2030- to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men including for young people and Persons with Disabilities and equal pay for work of equal value to achieve full employment for Differently Abled Persons.

To achieve the above target, the Department is implementing the mandate of four percent reservation of jobs in Government establishments. Under Equal Opportunity Policy(EOP), all the Private Establishments and Factories with more than 20 employees, have to identify jobs suitable for Differently Abled Persons and ensure work place accessibility.

The department has established the Differently Abled Employment and Livelihood Centre (DELC)that has placed

533 Differently Abled Persons in suitable jobs so far. DELC conducts meetings to assist NGOs and Training partners in job placements.

Through National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation, 5,613 Differently Abled Persons have been benefitted and through Prime Minister's Employment Generation Scheme 35 Differently Abled Persons have been benefitted.

Five percent reservation in Government and Government aided higher education institutions is being followed and 21,421 DAP students have been admitted in various professional and higher education courses.

9. ACCESSIBILITY:

The State Government has sanctioned Rs.150.00 lakhs in two phases to conduct

access audit in 50 important buildings of 26 departments in Chennai City. The access audit has been conducted and the retrofitting works are under progress. In another phase, access audit has been done in 176 buildings of 25 different departments in 10 most important cities of Tamil Nadu. The department is conducting access audit in 200 tourist spots across Tamil Nadu at the cost of Rs.120.00 lakhs and 790 buildings of Revenue Divisional Offices, Taluk Offices and Block Development Offices at the cost of Rs.474.00 lakhs.

10. STATE AWARDS:

Every year State Government honors the persons and institutions who are rendering outstanding services for Differently Abled Persons by presenting State awards during the Independence Day celebrations.

The details of the awards are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the Award	Nature of Award
1.	Best Institution Award for institution that has placed many Differently Abled Persons	10 grams of gold medal and certificate
2.	Best Institution Award for institution serving Differently Abled Persons	10 grams of gold medal, cash prize of Rs.50,000/- and certificate.
3.	Best Social Worker Award for outstanding work done for Differently Abled Persons	10 grams of gold medal and certificate.
4.	Best Doctor Award who served for differently abled	10 grams of gold medal and certificate
5.	Best Collector Award	10 grams of gold Medal, certificate and cash prize of Rs.25,000/-
6.	Best District Co-operative Bank for providing maximum amount of loan	10 grams of gold medal and certificate

A sum of Rs.5.50 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

10.1.OBSERVATION OF INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS AND PRESENTING OF STATE AWARDS:

As per the General Decision of United Nations General Assembly, the International Day for Persons with Disabilities is observed on December 3rd every year.

This day is observed to create awareness in the community about the inherent skill of the Differently Abled Persons. Cultural programmes and sports events are conducted. State awards are also given for best employees, transport workers (Drivers, Conductors), best employer etc., who have provided maximum employment opportunities and other services for the Differently Abled.

The details of the awards are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the Award	No. of Award	Nature of Award
1.	Best Institution	1 Award	10 grams of gold medal and certificate
2.	Best Social Worker Award	1 Award	10 grams of gold medal and certificate
3.	Best Teacher Award (3 categories)	3 Awards	10 grams of gold medal and certificate
4.	Best Employee Award (5 categories)	* 5 Awards	10 grams of gold medal and certificate
5.	Best Employer Award	1 Award	10 grams of gold medal and certificate
6.	Best EIC Teacher	2 Awards	10 grams of gold medal and certificate
7.	Best Driver and Best Conductor Award	2 Awards	10 grams of gold medal and certificate
Total Awards		15 Awards	

* From 2019-2020 Government of Tamil Nadu introduced 6 Additional Awards -
1. Speech and Language Disability, 2. Autism

spectrum disorder and Specific learning disability, 3. Mental illness, 4. Haemophilia, Thalassemia and Sickle cell Anemia, 5. Multiple Sclerosis and Parkinson's Disease 6. Multiple Disability) under Best Employee category at the additional cost of Rs.1.82 Lakhs.

Assistive devices to Differently Abled Persons are also distributed on this occasion. The Government grants special casual leave for all Differently Abled employees in Government departments and Government undertakings to enable them to participate in the function.

A sum of Rs.40.27 lakhs has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the year 2022-2023 for this scheme.

11. NEW INITIATIVES:

11.1. ENHANCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE:

The Differently Abled Persons who are severely affected, affected with Intellectual Disabilities, Parkinson's disease, Spinal Cord injury, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy and Leprosy were provided Rs.1,500/- per month as Maintenance Allowance and this amount has been increased to Rs.2,000/-

11.2. ENHANCEMENT OF HONORARIUM TO SPECIAL EDUCATORS AND THERAPISTS:

The honorarium paid to Special Educators and therapists working in Special Schools, Early Intervention Centers (EIC) and Day Care Centers was Rs.14,000/- per month and has been enhanced to Rs.18,000/- per month.

11.3. GOVERNMENT ORDER ISSUED, NOTIFYING GUIDELINES FOR SCRIBES FOR WRITING EXAM:

To assist the Visually Impaired in their examinations for academic and recruitment purposes, guidelines for scribes has been notified vide G.O.(Ms).No.08, Welfare of Differently Abled Persons (DAP.3.2) Department, dated. 21.09.2021.

11.4. INTRODUCTION OF CHOICE BASED SYSTEM IN ASSISTIVE DEVICES FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS:

The Differently Abled Persons have been provided 24 items of assistive devices for various kinds of disabilities. Initially, they were given only one model for each type of device. To facilitate their choice, a choice-based system was introduced where Differently Abled Persons can select their preferred model from several models. They will be given subsidy for the Assured Model. Government will bear the

amount for Assured Model and if the cost for preferred model is higher than the Assured Model, the additional cost should be paid by the beneficiary.

11.5. INTRODUCTION OF E-SERVICE:

In order to enable the Differently Abled Persons to submit the applications for various services online without approaching the Government Office, the following 04 services are provided under e-service and the Differently Abled Persons can also go to e-sevai centers to avail these services -

- i. Application for loan assistance
- ii. Issuance of UDID card for Differently Abled Person
- iii. Maintenance Allowance
- iv. Marriage Assistance

11.6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY:

Under Equal Opportunity Policy (EOP), all relevant Government and Private Establishments / Factories must identify jobs suitable for DAP and they should make the workplace accessible.

12. CONCLUSION:

The Government of Tamil Nadu is taking earnest efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations Organization and to fulfill the mandatory provisions of the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. Government is striving to promote inclusion and to remove all barriers for the full participation of Differently Abled Persons in the society.

Differently Abled Persons possess unparalleled enthusiasm and energy. The

Department for the Welfare of the Differently Abled Persons will dedicatedly work towards ensuring that they match their potential and determination to live an abundantly meaningful life.

**M.K. STALIN
CHIEF MINISTER**



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has inaugurated the New Building at Government Rehabilitation Home, Mallavadi at Thiruvannamalai District on 03.12.2021.



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has inaugurated the New Building for the District Differently Abled Welfare Office at Villupuram on 13.01.2022.



Battery Operated Wheel Chair for the person affected with Muscular Dystrophy and Spinal Cord Injury



Retro-Fitted Petrol Scooter



Specially Designed Retro-Fitted Petrol Scooter
for Spinal Cord affected persons



Foldable Wheel Chair



Magnifier for the Persons with Low-vision



Braille Watch for Visually Impaired Persons



Goggles for Visually Impaired Persons



Reflective Folding Sticks for Visually Impaired Persons



Axillary Crutches



Elbow Crutches



Motorized Sewing Machine



Behind the Ear Hearing Aid



Artificial Limbs



Augmentative and Alternative Communication System (Aac) Device with Avaz Software

