CHAPTER I

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT
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The Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board, was formed in the year 1954 as the Central Social Welfare Board and was functioning as an Apex body to Non-Government Organisations with the aim to extend financial aid and technical guidance to voluntary aid and technical guidance to voluntary organizations to improve expand and strengthen their existing services to start and experiment new services etc.

Tamil Nadu governments’ interest and effort in women’s welfare is predominant. The government of Tamil Nadu pioneered steps for Women’s development. For the empowerment of women’s welfare, the state government has been established a separate women’s welfare department in 1954, and in 1955, the Directorate of Women’s Welfare was formed which was renamed as Directorate of Social Welfare in 1972.

The social welfare department manages women’s welfare as well as child welfare and development and care of physically handicapped. In 1980, it was given the responsibility of nutrition project and in 1982 it was entrusted with the implementation of chief minister’s nutrition meal programme. In 1983 the corporation for Development of women was created to promote the development of
women in fields like education, family welfare, employment, etc. But somehow or other, man has dominated women from ages past and so women has believed in the truth of the man’s interested teaching that she is inferior to him. But the seers among men have recognized her equal status.

Women’s resources are being neglected and misused in the development process. Those welfare activities must respond to the felt needs of the deprived and discriminated and that welfare services can mobilize these resources for national and state development and increased individual well-being. The Women’s Welfare Department in the state came into being in 1947. The Community Development blocks followed by National Extension Services were started in 1952-54.

The state Social Welfare Board was established in 1954. The three agencies, viz, Women’s Welfare Department state social welfare board and the women staff of the community were integrated into a single Directorate for Women’s Welfare in 1961 because all the three agencies were undertaking development activities for women and children mostly in rural areas. The Panchayat Raj was introduced in 1961, which gave the Panchayat, co-opted members the right to decide the programmes and policies in the Panchayat Union / Community Development blocks. The Government has recently issued orders to continue the merged state Social Welfare Board as an Advisory Board.

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1 The selected works of Mahatma Gandhi, the voice of Truth, Vol 6, Shriman Narayan, Navajivan publishing House, Ahmedabad.

At the state level, the Director of Women’s Welfare is the head of the Department and is assisted by two Deputy Directors, one for programs and the other for child welfare. During 1971-72, the Government also appointed a special Nutrition Officer for implementation of the special nutrition programme of the Government of India. At the District level one District Women’s Welfare Officers is in charge of the Departmental programmes in district.³

In the year 1961, the Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board, and the Women’s Welfare Department (Now, Directorate of Social Welfare) were integrated with the Department of Social Welfare. As per this Government order, the Board was given high status entrusting the responsibility of determining all the matters of policy, relating to the programme for women and children in the state and with the formulation and implementation of all schemes. The Board was empowered of all schemes. The Board was empowered to examine schemes including financial outlay, review of progress and recommending voluntary institutions to the State Government and Central Social Welfare Board are for grants. The Director of Social Welfare an I.A.S. officer is the Ex.Officer secretary of the board.⁴

The Women’s Welfare programmes are:

**Creche:** To give a helping land a women labourer and sick women aid is given to institutions for starting crèche centers. Children of 5 years age group are left at the center in the morning and taken back home when they return from work.

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Children nutrition, health care and education through play were caring by specially trained personnel. 868 units are functioning benefiting 21,100 children.

**Awareness Generation Programme:** Grants are provided by the Social Welfare Board to organizations to conduct awareness generation camps on issues relating to women. Although the main objective of the scheme is to raise awareness of women in the community on issues relation to their status, rights and problems, it is also envisaged that the programme will be used to building consciousness regarding women’s issues among the community at large especially among men.⁵

**Family Counseling Centres:** Women’s organizations and other Voluntary social welfare organizations engaged in work relating to women’s issues can avail grants from social welfare board for setting up family counseling centres. The family counseling, centres are respected to provide counseling referral and if possible rehabilitative services to women victims of atrocities in the family and society and also to others affected by family social problems and disputes.

During international women’s year (1975), the women’s Bureau in the office of the Prime Minister held a number of parish workshops throughout the country to which a cross-section of women were invite to discuss and had explained specific problem significant to their life styles.

**Prison Family Counseling Centres:** Three family counseling centres are functioning in the women prisons at Chennai, Vellore and Trichy. Through this

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⁵ Ibid.
service the women prisoners are given an opportunity to rebuild their services and that of their children even when they are in prison.

**Family Counselling Centres at all Women Police Station:** Family counseling centres are functioning in three all women police in Chennai city at thousand lights, Adyar and Esplanade police stations.

**Working Women’s Hostel:** The need for hostel for working women was felt when number of young girls started leaving their native place seeking employment in city town areas. The hostels give them a safe place to stay; have hygienically prepared food and homely atmosphere with minimum expenses. The Board gives grant towards the salary of Warden and Chowkidar for purchase of recreational materials and deficit in rent.⁶

In 1976, the women’s Bureau recruited 35 women for special skill pilot project, in collaboration with the vocational training divisions. The women have been trained in what are traditionally male skills such as wood work and welding. The ultimate goal of this project is the development of a women’s co-operative, owned and maintained by the women themselves.

**Condensed Course:** The scheme of condoned courses of education has provided for women that aim at facilitating social and economic empowerment of women by providing them with education and relevant skills. The scheme is

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specifically designed to help dropouts and failed candidates to complete their school education.

**Short Stay Home:** These homes are meant primarily for those women and girls who are either exposed to moral danger to victims of family discord and the resulting strain of relationship or emotional disturbance.

**Women’s Helpline:** Help line is a 24 hours phone emergency outreach programme for women and girls in distress and in mortal danger needing immediate protection and shelter. It responds to the need of such women and girls and links them to long term services as per their requirement and availability of the service.

24 hours: Helpline is accessible at all time.

Free Phone: Women and girls requiring help can call the numbers which to toll free.

**Emergency:** Services provided from the time of the call to the time till the call to the time till the person is rehabilitated.7

The Social Welfare department of Tamil Nadu carried out the following programmes for the welfare of women and children. Female child production scheme, cradle baby scheme, Thirumana Nithi Uthavi Thittam, Widow, Remarriage scheme, Widow daughter’s marriage Assistance scheme, Mahalir Mandrams, Service homes,

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Mahaperu Udhavi Thittam, the Mahlir Thittam, women’s recreation centers, old age pension Midday Meal scheme.⁸

The shelter in Madras is attached to the Stri Sadana Rescue Home. The Vigilance Home, Madras is the only Vigilance home for the whole state. There are three classes of institutions in the vigilance department namely, rescue homes, vigilance homes namely, the stri Sadana Rescue home in Madras and the Rescue home under the poor homes society at Kozhikode, one vigilance home in Madras and 4 shelters in Madras, Madurai, Salem and Coimbatore.⁹

**Stri Sadana Rescue Home:** There were 62 inmates and one child in the Stri Sadana at the commencement of the year 1951. Ninety inmates and six children were admitted during the year making a total a hundred and fifty nine. Seventy nine inmates and four children were disposed of during the year leaving a balance of seventy three inmates and three children at the end of the year of 1951. The daily average strength of the home was 75.55

**Vigilance Home, Madras:** There were hundred and eighty seven inmates and three children in the vigilance home at the commencement of the 1950 hundred and eight inmates and five children were disposed of during the year leaving two hundred and nineteen inmates and three children at the end of the year. The daily average strength of the home was 213.2 as against 183.10 in 1950.¹⁰ One hundred and six

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⁹. Vigilance Department, Madras Administration Report, 1951, p74.
¹⁰. Madras Administration Report, Vigilance Department, 1951, p. 74
remand cases were admitted in the vigilance home and 103 were disposed of leaving 3 at the end of the year.

**Shelters:** Three hundred and fifty two inmates passed through these homes during the year under report.

**Vigilance Home:** The period of detention of the inmates in the vigilance home as compared with that of last year is show below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>1950</th>
<th>1951</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For two years</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For three years</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For four years</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For five years</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above five years</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Education of Inmates**

The Stri Sadana Special School which is a higher elementary one with eight standards is common for the two homes in Madras, namely, Stri Sadana Rescue home and vigilance home. The medium of instruction is Tamil and Malayalam. The school was inspected by the educational authorities. They provided adequate provision for the vocational training of the inmates in weaving, spinning dress making, embroidery and music with abinayam, besides these laundering and domestic service have been introduced during the year 1951. Spinning which was started last year under a trained instructor, is thriving very well.
**Finance:** The Total expenditure during the year was Rs.1,64,900 (Rs.1,27,900) The average cost per head per annum in respect of the inmates of the Stri Sadana and Vigiance Home works out to Rs.540-10-0 (Rs.479-14-0) A sum of Rs.552-1-0 was derived from the industrial section of the Stri Sadana school.  

**Women’s Welfare:** At the 1954 end of the year under review, 41 branches of the women welfare organizations were functioning in the community development areas. With the view to promote family welfare, the field staff of the organization made regular house visits and contracted 45,511 families. During their visits the organizers attended to the sanitary conditions, environmental hygiene, maternity and child welfare and hospitalization of sick patients, securing, employment to those unemployed and admitting children into schools were also undertaken by these organizers. During the year (1955) 1,104 persons were hospitalized apart from 61,495 persons who were given medical and first aid, 55 persons were helped to secure employment and 282 children were admitted into schools. In the rural areas, the maternity assistants worked in complete co-operation with the organizers.  

**Harijan Welfare Department**  

The Harijan welfare department was working under the Social Welfare Department. It was around united of the special welfare department.  

The ameliorative work undertake by the Harijan welfare department consist of  

1. Provision of house sites.

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2. Maintenance of schools, grant of scholarships, stipends, boarding grants, grants for purchase of text books, etc, grants to private educational institutions for the benefit of scheduled classes and backward classes.


4. Provisions of wells, tanks etc for the supply of drinking water.

5. Grants to private bodies engaged in social and economic empowerment to the eligible communities.

6. Assignment or lease of land for cultivation.\textsuperscript{13}

Schools were started at the beginning 1349 school. Then schools were the newly started.

Supply of midday meals in Harijan welfare schools were during 1950-1951 was continues subsequent the year. The department arranged for the supply of mid-day meals in 1,279 schools in the districts. High schools run by government Hostels subsidized by the Harijan Welfare department. Government scholarships sanctioned for eligible students also continued.\textsuperscript{14}

The Tamil Nadu corporation for development of Women limited (dew) was incorporated as a Limited Company under the Campanuis Act, 1956 in December, 1983. Its authorized share capital is Rs.100 lakhs of which Rs.50 lakhs has been paid up presently in the ratio of Rs.40 lakhs and Rs.10 lakhs by the government and government of India respectively.

\textsuperscript{13} Administration Report of the Rural Development Projects, Department in Madras 1955-1956, p. 11.

The first session of training in village industries was run for a period of 5 months from 30\textsuperscript{th} November 1951 to 29\textsuperscript{th} April 1952 as a sanctioned in G.O.Ms.No.553, rural welfare dated 9\textsuperscript{th} December 1950. There were 20 candidates in the batch.

The second course of training commenced on 15\textsuperscript{th} November 1952 with 21 candidates. They were relieved on 14\textsuperscript{th} April 1953, after completion of the training. The training was imparted in the following industries;

1). Oil pressing 2) Paper making 3) Soap making 4) Palm jaggery manufacture 5) Paddy husking and hour grinding 6) Bee keeping 7) Magan schools 8) Biscuit manufacture 9) Pottery. All the trainers were given training I the different processes of khadi work, ginning, carding and spinning. Regular targets were fixed for the various items.\textsuperscript{15} Economic empowerment, Health, Housing and other schemes, Grant of subsidy cum loan for the construction of houses for de notified tribes, Construction of Dhoikanas.

**Schools:** 277 schools are under the control of the department of backward classes. During this period (1973-74) 100 additional teachers were appointed in the schools in Madurai, North Arcot, Salem, Dharmapuri, Coimbatore, Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts.

Following policies were implemented for women,

- To provide or create employment opportunities for women.
- To conduct or arrange training programmes for development of women so that they will become more employable.

\textsuperscript{15} Administration Report of the Rural Welfare Department projects Department in Madras State 1959-60, Madras, p. 3
- To plan, promote, undertake and assist programmes or projects in the fields of village and cottage industries, handlooms, animal husbandry agricultural and allied activities which will enable women to earn living and also help them to improve their socio and economic status.\textsuperscript{16}

- To identify projects, prepare projects reports, guide assist and provide escort services to women entrepreneurs in promoting and establishing their own production units and generating more employment opportunities to women.

- To undertake studies on issues relating to development of women.

**Activities:** It made provisions to set up training units by itself and to help voluntary organizations to set up their own training units, to provide employment to women.

- To conduct training programmes in association with financial institutions and other promotional agencies to develop entrepreneurial skill of women have been carried out.\textsuperscript{17}

- To help individuals as well as groups of women with self employment schemes in the fields of animal husbandry village and cottage industries, handlooms agriculture and allied activities so that women can take up income generating activities for additional income.

- To guide and assist women entrepreneurs in selection of viable projects, preparation of project reports, getting financial assistance from banks and other institutions, getting various licenses or clearness from government departments and organizations etc.

\textsuperscript{16} Administration Report of the Rural Welfare Department projects Department in Madras State 1959-60, Madras, p. 3.

\textsuperscript{17} Majumdar, *Role of Rural Women in Development*, 1978, p.32.
- To bring out publications relating to literacy, employment and other issues pertaining to women after undertaking suitable studies.\(^{18}\)

A conference of representatives of social agencies was called by the Government of Bombay in Sep 1926, to consider the setting up of new machinery required for the efficient working of the children’s act. It was then ascertained that no one of the existing societies for child welfare in a position to undertake the whole burden of the new organization, through all were willing to help in some measure. Three institutions which are required by the Act, namely, a clearing house, a remand home and girls industrial school had to be created and trained full-time workers to be found. It was decided that new society was necessary which would co-ordinate the work of existing agencies and supply those parts of the machinery which were lacking. The whole hearted assistance given by the old societies made it possible to appoint a provisional committee which began to junction vigorously and which did such excellent work in a short space of time that it was possible formally to inaugurated the new children’s aid society on March 22\(^{nd}\) 1927.

Government have taken the initiative by allocating the buildings and compound at Umarkhadi to the society for a period of five years and by bearing the whole cost of reconstruction and by budgeting for initial grant of Rs.21,000/- for the coming year. A clearing house remand home and a superintendent’s bungalow in the same compound as the children’s court have thus been provided. An equal generosity on the part of the public will ensure the future of the society and thus provide for the rescue of hundreds of children from environments in which they would otherwise

\(^{18}\) Womens Development in Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women’s Limited, p. 1
become the criminals of the future. A public meeting called by the Sheriff of Bombay and presided over by his Excellency the Governor was held to inaugurate the society and was attended by a very representatives gathering from all communities.  

In four short months all this has been accomplished. The children’s home was opened to its first inmate on May 1st 1927. Social and Moral hygiene which has been carried on in the name of Josephine Bulter, people have learnt many things.

Non-government women’s organizations should be encouraged at an early stage in order to ensure the women have a significant say in the construction of the project, frame work and women’s groups should be included in the designing of the co-operatives.

In 1955, Beatitudes a social welfare center at Vyasarpadi. At the time this project was conceived of in 1955. Fr.O. Mantovani, S.D.B. an Italian Salessian missionary a dedicated social worker and friend and lover of the poor in India the place was a marshy water logged area, an eyesore of the city. Today at the Beatitudes social welfare center a variety of facilities exist, a workshop, a printing press, providing gainful employment to the blind and other handicapped and the leprosy patients. A hospital staffed by a 3 lady doctors looks after as many as 80 impatient and more than 300 out patients daily. There is also a leprosarium with over 300 inmates.

19. Womens Development in Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women’s limited, p. 1
In the kitchen attached to the center 3000 meals and 1500 litres are served to the poor. More than 100 poor girls from the nearby villages are being trained in needle work in the tailoring section so as to provide him with means of earning their own livelihood. In the day school over 700 poor children are studying. The typewriting section trains young boys and girls are shorthand and typewriting.

Other activities run at the center include one right school. A young club for 400 boys and young men and a similar one for girls; brick- making, cigar making, a school for driving and major machines- battery charging, flour grinding, carpentry and wood work, Blacksmithy, cycle weaving, and candle making.  

In May 1970 Queen Juliana of the Netherlands conferred on Fr. Schlooz the decoration of Chevalin in the order of Orange Nassau “for the excellent services he has rendered to the people of Madras, especially for those whom he has, clothed, employed and look after at the “Beautitudes” social welfare center.

This Society enters its twenty- second year in 1929. It has simply justified its long existence by its good and useful work of rescuing destitute and erring children. The operations of these institutions have largely increased by the introduced of the Madras Children’s Act IV of 1920. The police now look to the society for help in the matter of obtaining shelter for waifs and strays and the Magistrates order the detention of youthful offenders to the certified school attached to the society.

Child Welfare Association takes a prominent part in mofussil areas in promoting the health of mothers and children and a number of the Branches are responsible for Baby Welcomes, Trichinopoly conducts two calicut and kallai are chiefly feeding and maternity centers as constrained with bathing and prescriptive – disease centers. such as Alandur, Saidapet, Nasik, Ballary, Nagpur and Madapalle. There is a most popular lying in ward of a simple kind attached to the Alandur (St.Thomas Mount) center. The branch members give valuable help in arranging, the Annual Health weeks, Baby shows and lectures in childcare, First Aid and similar subjects. They are committee members of various charitable institutions.23

The activities of the Harijan Welfare Departmen form the pivot of progress of a welfare state. The ameliorative work for the communities eligible for help by the Harijan Welfare Department thus continued to be carried out under the following heads. In this state:

1. Provision of house-sites and grant of subsides for the construction of houses.
2. Maintenance of schools where there are concentrations of Harijans.
3. Grant of scholarships, stipends, boarding grants, book money and examination fees.
4. Running of hostels and disbursement of lump-sum grants to private institutions running hostels for Harijan.
5. Supply of mid-day meals to all pupils reading in Harijan Welfare schools.
6. Provision of sanitary amenities, such as pathways, burial grounds, bathrooms, latrines, etc.

23 The People and the Madras Society for the Protection of Children, Stri Dharma, 1929, p. 262.
7. Provision of wells and tanks for drinking water purposes.

8. Grant of subsidies to Harijan agriculturists for sinking irrigation wells and for purchase of plough bulls and seeds.

9. Free supply of tools and plants to technically trained Harijans in arts and crafts.  

**Education**

With the maxim that the welfare of the Harijans depends largely on the education of the Harijans and their growing generation, greater attention was paid to the grant of more and more educational facilities and concessions. A large proportion of the expenditure was incurred on the grant of scholarships residential and non-residential. The department ran 866 schools throughout the state which mostly included elementary schools besides secondary schools.

Aid twenty two night schools in Kanyakumari district. Midday meals provided to Harijan and non-Harijan pupil. These schools continued to be managed and supervised by the district welfare officers and their staff in districts and by the Director of Harijan Welfare in the city. The number of pupils studying in these schools was 89,003. The supply of mid-day meals to Non-Harijans students in Harijan Welfare schools was extended to all districts except to Kanyakumari districts during 1960, as these was no school in the district.

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Scholarships to backward classes Scholarships were given to backward classes studying in Arts, professional, industrial, technical and commercial course as in the case of Scheduled castes. The allotment for the year under the head was Rs.27,42,800 (Rs. 8,42,800 under state Budget and Rs. 19,00,000 under Grant-in-Aid schemes). True thousand, five hundred and sixty scholarships were sanctioned to Backward classes to the tune of Rs. 11,94,000 up to the 31st Dec. 1960.\textsuperscript{27}

**Government of India scholarships (decentralized)**

Award of scholarships given to the scheduled caste, scheduled tribes and other backward classes. Scholarships under Government of India scheme was made every year for post-matric studies in India by the Government of India Ministry of Education. The Government of India had siche decentralized and transferred this work to the respective state governments from 1959-60 and also agreed to place the available funds at the disposal of the respective state Government. A sum of Rs.2,22,63 was paid towards grant of Government of India scholarships during 1959-60 under the supervision of the Director of Harijan Welfare Madras.

Up to the end of December 1960, 2,256 application from scheduled castes, forty six from scheduled tribe five thousand, 508 from other backward classes for the award of fresh and renewed scholarships under the government of India scholarships scheme were received. A sum of Rs.23,67,800 was set apart for the awake of the Government of India scholarships for post matric studies and the expenditure incurred on each community up to the end of December 1960 was as follows:

### Table: Allotment and Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Allotment</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled castes</td>
<td>8,72,400</td>
<td>5,11,156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled Tribes</td>
<td>11,400</td>
<td>8,316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Backward classes</td>
<td>14,84,000</td>
<td>5,69,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>23,67,800</td>
<td>10,88,47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Boarding Grants to subsidized hostels:

There were 159 subsidised hostels at the beginning of the year. In accordance with the phased programme of the Government to take over all subsided hostels, twenty hostels were taken over for departmental management during the year.\(^{28}\)

Budget provision for the sanction of boarding grants to Eligible Communities and backward classes for 1960-61 was made as shown follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Eligible Communities</th>
<th>Backward classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>5,07,400</td>
<td>2,00,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant in aid</td>
<td>6,96,000</td>
<td>2,80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For advanced communities</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>12,38,400</td>
<td>4,80,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The boarders belonging to scheduled castes, backward classes and forward communities were admitted in these hostels. One third of the boarding and lodging charges were collected from the boarders of advanced communities.

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A sum of Rs.2,653 and Rs.498 was sanctioned under discretionary grants for schedule caste and backward classes respectively for the benefit of institutions run for these communities.

**Land Acquisition:** Special attention was paid to the acquisition of land for the construction of houses and formation of roads, etc. An extent of 738.05 acres of land acquired at a total cost of Rs.9,70,500.75 up to the end of March 1960.

**Sanitary Amenities:** A total allotment of Rs.3,45 lakhs under state budget and Rs.8.50 lakhs under Central budget was made in the year for providing amenities. The formation of pathways burial grounds, latrine, bathrooms etc. An expenditure of Rs.9,81,012 in total has been incurred up to the end of the year under review.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Scheme</th>
<th>Amount sanctioned</th>
<th>Expenditure up to 31st Dec 1960</th>
<th>Physical target achieved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>38.57</td>
<td>25.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>10.67</td>
<td>4.87</td>
<td>1,597 pain and 137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottage Industries</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>285 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public health</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>9.81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity and other schemes</td>
<td>32.12</td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>83.452</td>
<td>45.43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Welfare Committees**

Village vigilance committee was reconstructed or village committees continued to function satisfactorily.
The state Harijan Welfare committee was reconstructed with the minister for works and Harijan Welfare as the chairman of the committee. The term of the committee expired on the 17th July 1960. The district Harijan welfare committees were reconstituted and were functioning as advisory bodies with the respective collectors of the districts as chairman. These committees were functioning satisfactorily.

The state backward classes’ advisory committee was also reconstituted with 16 members with the minister for works as the chairman.

During 1961, the supply of the mid-day meals to the non-Harijan students in Harijan Welfare schools was extended to all districts except Kanyakumari.

“For all the evils of which man has made himself responsible none is so degrading or shocking as his abuse of the better half of humanity to me the female sex and not the weaker sex” said Mahatma Gandhi.

The profound truth of the statement was proved amply when women came forward in large numbers and threw themselves in the non-violent fight for freedom organiseed by the Mahatma. The same idea was stressed earlier by one who was noted for his Indian sympathies, A.O.Hume, Appealing to Indians he said, “Assuredly there is no greater grander or more glorious work before you than the reinstatement of Indian women on the exalted pedestal which is their due and which your wiser

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forefathers thousands of years ago, when India was great and glorious, eroded to them”.

Beginning of organized welfare work the need for making special efforts for improving the lot of women and thus raising the social and economic stature of the nation naturally therefore loomed large among the objectives of a welfare state. The Madras state was one of the first to cut new ground in this sphere. It brought in to being a separate department to promote Women’s Welfare. This department like many great organizations had humble beginnings. The foundations were laid in 1941. In the thick of a global war a band of voluntary workers had organized themselves to instruct the lay women in the air-said precautions. The organisations were then known as the India Women Civic Crops. It was started in Madras city in the first instance, but later, branches were established in mofussils also.

After the termination of the war, this organization was retained as the government felt that the experience that it had acquired during the war time could be profitably canalized in social work among women and children. Of course, the organization had to be expanded considerably to meet its peacetime objectives. It was re-named as the department of Women’s Welfare in 1947 and set before itself the difficult and comprehensive task of assisting women to re-discover themselves. The main aims of the department were board-bared to cover all the important aspects of life namely, economic, social and cultural. Instructions in health, hygiene, maternity and child welfare, provision of economic relief by the teaching of cottage industries or home crafts by securing employment to those who are unemployed and, above all, a complete identification with the welfare of individual families by helping them in
solution of their day-to-day problems are some of the highlights of the departments objectives.\textsuperscript{31}

These aims are no doubt ambitious and cannot be easily achieved. The first desideration for achieving these is a good organization manned by the right type of persons. The most important point to be taken note of in this connection is the departments approach to the whole problem of women’s Welfare. Social Welfare is a composite phenomenon and the departments’ pattern of action is to tackle simultaneously the problems in the various sectors of this composite phenomenon. While assisting in supplementing meager incomes of individual families, the department also provides education and while providing education they do not forget the requirements of public health. All these matters are attended to in a co-ordinated manner so that the overall improvement may be quick and all rounds. The significance of this procedure cannot be over emphasized for in the past much of the efforts in the field of social welfare failed to yield adequate results because attention was concentrated on one or more specified aspects of social welfare in preference to others.

The Women’s Welfare department had taken note of these facts and made provision not only for selecting the right type of women for social work but also for providing a period of training for them. The Government have set up an institute in Madras city for training social workers.\textsuperscript{32}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{31} K.G. Rama., \textit{Women’s Welfare in Madras}, Madras, 1974, p. 3. \\
\textsuperscript{32} Ibid., pp. 3-7}
Great care is exercised in the selection of candidates to the institute. Not only academic qualifications but the outlook of the candidates, their aptitude for social service, capacity for team work and capabilities for strenuous life, are all taken into account before selection is decided on. The course of training lasts for an year and the prescribed syllabus consists of both general and special subjects. The special subjects include medical information, public health, child care, community and group organization, nutrition, home economics and home, crafts, administration, public relations and cultural activities. The general subjects are sociology, psychology, economics, political science and history of social work. The special subjects are handled by specialists.

The Women’s Welfare Department is intended to give all assistance to the backward women members of the society on the social, cultural and educational aspects of their life. Its various activities were, conducting of community service centers, Mathar Sangams, Pre-basic classes, teaching of cottage industries, family welfare, Social Education etc. It forms an important item in the second five year plan schemes entirely financed from the state funds. A sum of Rs. 1.589 lakhs was provided for in the Budget estimate for the financial year 1960-61 in respect of the following schemes:

2. Starting of an Industrial section in the service Home.
3. Starting of work centers in the districts and
4. Increasing the strength of the service Home.

Ibid.
Besides the above, a sum of Rs.0.720 lakhs was financed from the Harijan Welfare Department for the year 1960-61 for the welfare of the welfare of the scheduled tribe and denotified tribes for starting 8 cottage industries work centers for the scheduled tribes women and to work centers for denotified tribes.\(^{34}\)

The construction of the service home buildings was completed. The industrial section continued to function satisfactorily with its three units of hand pounding of rice, tailoring and bee-keeping. Out of the 16 work centers proposed under the plan, 12 works were already sanctioned in the year under review. In south Arcot district, a cumbly weaving center was ordered to be opened and three batches of trainers completed training is cumbly-weaving at the work center at Ammaiagaram which is now proposed to be shifted to Chinnasalem to train the forth batch.

The training of the second batch of trainers in carpet-weaving commencement from 1\(^{st}\) December 1960 at the work center shifted from Nagarcoil to essential village. Work centers for tailoring at Mudukulatur and for palm leaf work at Tirupullani in Ramanathapuram district were opened in July 1960. Work centers in tailoring and embroidery at Acharapakkam in Chegalpet district and at Kalanivasal in Tiruchirapalli district were sanctioned by Government in the year. The service Home had reached its full sanctioned additional strength of 50 inmates and 25 children by the end of December 1960. The eight work centers for Scheduled tribes women in the district of Chengalpet, North Arcot, Madurai, Coimbatore and the Nilgris continued to function in the year.

The work center at Manimangalam (Chengalpet district) in doll-making was shifted to Pattunoolchathram under orders of the Government. The weaving work center at Thenpallipatti was shifted to Kalasapakkam and the bamboo work center at Anaikatti to Thenpallipatti. A sum of Rs.1.00 lakhs was allotted in the year for starting six production units for Scheduled Tribes women for doll-making at Pattunoolchathram in Chengalpet district, for bamboo work at Polur, North Arcot district and for mat-weaving at Kalasapkkam in North-Arcot district, for cane work at Thandikudi and for blanket making at Mangalamkombu at Madurai district and for toy-making Thiruchirapalli of Nilgiris district.\(^35\)

The Government approved the proposal to shift the women’s Welfare branch at Iloor in Chengalpet district to Acharapakkam of the same district. It was also proposed to shift certain women’s welfare branches that were functioning for more than five years in certain places to other areas within the same district in order to make the centers popular and to extend the schemes to other area also.

Social education was the main programme in community service centers and included adult education, discussions on family affairs, cooking demonstrations, etc. During the year 863 cooking demonstrations were conducted in the various centers. Instructions were given in mother and child care, home management, budgeting according to income, kitchen gardening, first aid, home remedies, recreational activities etc. Thus all facilities were provided to promote civic consciousness and to lead a healthy and happy community life.\(^36\)

\(^{35}\) Ibid., p.345

Women work as agricultural labourers, construction workers, stone crushers, coup workers, street vendors and head loaders. They have very little contact with outside world.\textsuperscript{37} Thus the formation of the S.W.S. made remarkable confirmation for the Development folk in Tamil Nadu.

\textbf{Role of Official and Voluntary Agencies}

Officials as well as the voluntary agencies should co-operate is helping rural women form their own associations. They should work with rural women, rather than for them.

\textbf{Utilization of Local Skilled People Leaders}

Every effort should be made to make use of local skilled people and leadership giving them training. (Pre-service and in-service) where necessary. Local skilled women should be used to teach in vocational training programmes, staff community health services and as extension workers.\textsuperscript{38}

T.S.W.B. strived for the democration of the social evil inflicted on the women. The major events and the achievement of the T.S.W.B. would be analysed in the significant mentioned of T.S.W.B. chapter.

\textsuperscript{37} Kala, N., \textit{Impact of Integrated Rural Development Programme}, Mother Teresa University, Kodaikanal, 1990, p. 16.

\textsuperscript{38} Majumda, R., \textit{Role of Rural Women in Development}, Report of an international study Seminar held at the institute of development studies, University of sense U.K. 5\textsuperscript{th} January to 10\textsuperscript{th} February 1977, Madras 1978, pp. 6-8.
Recent Formations

**District Level Advisory Board for Combating Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children**

The Government has issued orders for constituting District Level Advisory Board in all the Districts with the following members to combat the menace of child trafficking and child prostitutions:

1. District Collector  
   Chairman
2. Superintendent of Police  
   Vice-Chairman
3. Probationary Officer in the Dept. of Social Defence  
   Member Secretary
4. Chief Educational Officer  
   Member
5. Joint Director (DMRHS)  
   Member
6. District Social Welfare Officer  
   Member
7. Project officer Tamil Nadu Corporation For Development of Women Limited  
   Member
8. Representatives from Non-Governmental Organisations  
   3 to 5 member

In respect of Sl. No. 8 the maximum number of on-Official members sin each district will be 5, out of which two will be women members. All the non-official members will be appointed by the District Collector concerned.39

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39. GO. Ms. No. 81, SWANMP Dept, dt. 26-5-2000; Govt. Lr. No. 10140/SW8/2000-1, dt. 3-6-2002; Govt. Lr. No. 21210/SW8/002-3, dt. 7-2-2003
The Director of Social Defence has stated that the district Level Advisory Board headed by the Commissioner of Police constituted in G. O. (Ms.) No. 2012, Home Department, dt. 24-8-1987 is for assisting investigation and prevention of crime against women, whereas the District Level Advisory Board has been ordered for the specific purpose of prevention of commercial sexual exploitation of women and children and he has therefore requested the Commissioner of Policy may be designated as Chairman, instead of District Collector. The Commissioner of Police (South of City Police, Chennai) to hold the post of Chairman, District Level Advisory Board which is proposed to be constituted.

The Government after careful consideration directed that the District Level Advisory Board for combating trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children in the Chennai city be constituted with the following members:

1. Joint Commissioner of Police (South), Chairman
   City Police, Chennai
2. Probationary officer in the Dept. of Social Defence Member-Secretary
3. Chief Educational Officer Member
4. Joint Director (DMRHS) Member
5. District Social Welfare Officer Member
6. Project Officer Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development Of Women Limited Member
7. Representatives from Non-Governmental Organisation Members (3 to 5 members)

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40. G.O. Ms. No. 81, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 26-5-2000
In respect of Sl. No. 7 above, the maximum number of non-official members will be 5, out of which two will be women members. All the non-official members will be appointed by the Joint Commissioner of Police (South), City Police, Chennai. The District level Committee shall meet once in three months and review the activities. The Director of Social Defence will take up follow up action in this regard.41

Sub-Committee Relating to Trafficking

The Director of Social Defence has stated that in the second State Level Coordination Committee for the prevention of Trafficking and combating sexual exploitation of women and Children meeting held on 13-9-2002, it was resolved that a sub-committee may be formed which will act as a pro-active as well as a Supervisory-Committee on matters relating to trafficking and the committee may consist of the following:

1. ADGP, CB-CID, Chennai, Chairman
2. Director of Social Defence Member-Secretary
3. Special Officer Bonded Labour Abolition Member
4. The Executive Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation For Development of Women Limited Member
5. One Representative from CACT Member
6. One Member from DESH Member

41. G.O Ms. No. 73, SWANMP Dept., dt. 9-5-2003
The Government approved the committee based on the recommendation of the Director of Social Defence (From the Director of Social Defence, Chennai\textsuperscript{42} and approved the committee. This committee will be a Supervisory Committee for District Level Advisory Committee and Village level watchdog committee etc. The term of the above sub-committee will be three years and it shall meet as and when necessary and take stock of the situation and also advise and guide the district Level Advisory Committee, Village Level watch-dog committee, etc. The Director of Social Defence shall be the Convenor of the meeting.\textsuperscript{43}

Steps have been taken to provide quality institutional care to the children. Frequent inspections and proper monitoring has been ensured so that better and improved services could be provided to the destitute children. The Government have formed a separate committee consisting of Social Workers to provide necessary valuable guidance for better implementation of the scheme for the welfare of children in Government Orphanages. For better administration, the Government has constituted a committee consisting of 7 members as detailed below in each District:

1. District Collector - Chairman
2. District Educational Officer - Member
3. Part time Medical Officer - Member
4. District Social Welfare Officer - Member
5. Social Welfare Board Member - Non-official Member
6 & 7. Two Social Workers from NGOs nominated by District Collector - Non-official Member

\textsuperscript{43} GO. Ms.No. 26, SWANMP Dept., 16-2-2004
Additional Functions

The Social Welfare department of Tamil Nadu carries out the following additional programmes;

The Tamil Nadu government girl child protection scheme has been launched in 1997 with the aim of promoting family planning, discouraging the tendency to prefer male children, eradicating female infanticide and to promote the education of girl children of poor families.

Cradle baby Scheme was launched in 1992 as short-time relief’s measure to curb the evil practice of infanticide. Under the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiayar Ninaivu ThiruymanaNithi Uthavi Thittam, Rs. 10,000 is given to the economically poor brides whose annual income is below Rs.12,000 per year. Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiayar Widow Remarriage scheme gives Rs.10,000 for the widow remarriage. Under E.V.R. Maniammaiayar Ninaivu Widow Daughter’s marriage Assistance scheme, Rs.7,000 is given to economically and socially hard pressed widows to get their daughters married. Mahalir Mandrams has been organized to bring together the women of rural areas cutting across various social and economic barriers. Service homes have been constructed for the welfare of economically backward women, widows and deserted wives. Under girls marriage assistance scheme, financial assistance is given to the marriage of orphan girls. The Anjugam Ammaiayar Ninaivu Kalapu Thirumana Uthavi Thittam gives assistance of Rs.10,000 for the intercaste marriages. Under Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Ninaivu Mahaperu Udavi Thittam, Rs. 00 given to poor pregnant women during confident and after delivery.44

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In 1961 Tamil Nadu social welfare board then Women’s welfare department (now directorate of social welfare) and the wing of social welfare activities of the community development programme were integrated under the government order Ms. No.1433 dated 20.5.1961.

Casper this government order the board was given high status. It was also entrusted with the responsibility of determining all the matters of policy relating to the programme for women and children in the state and with the formulation an implementation of all schemes. The board was empowered to examine chime including financial outlay and review of progress and recommend voluntary institutions to the state government and central social welfare board for grants and advice the state government on policy of recruitment of staff and other matters.

The director of social welfare as I.A.S. officer is the Ex. officio secretary of the board. However, subsequently the G.O. Ms.No.1433 was modified in 1970 and 1972 removing the powers of the state social welfare board a far as the state programmes were concerned.

Now social welfare board function as any other board in the country though the integrated pattern still continues with close co-operation and co-ordination between the department and the board. Smt.C.K.Gariyali I.A.S. Secretary to government, social welfare and NMP is holding full additional charge of the post of chairman. Tamil Nadu social welfare board the present department of social welfare and Ex.Officio secretary of the board is.
Working Women’s Hostels in City Town Area

In 2002-2003, 2.15 lakhs for 6 units benefiting 150 womens. Mahalir Mandel programme works in rural areas. The board meets 75% of the expenditure, 6 institution running by 6 centres.\textsuperscript{45}

Balwadi, nutrition, social education and craft are the main activities of the project 240 children/women’s are benefited Rs. 0.58 lakhs is aided.

- Vocational Training
- Women development corporation
- Family Counselling center.

Voluntary Bureau has arranged 10 days orientation training programme for new family counselors. Four days refresh course for training programme for the functionaries of the family counseling center at Kins Foundation, Gandhigram, Dindugal District.

\textsuperscript{45} Kaldate, S.V. Society Delinquents & Juvenile Courts, 1982.