CHAPTER II

CHILD WELFARE AND PROTECTION
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Gandhi, father of the nation said, Childhood is the most important period in man’s life.¹ According to Nehru, the community should give priority to the care of children and offer them affection and training, and the importance of pre-school age should be stressed.² Jawaharlal Nehru also said that the children of today build the India of tomorrow. Every year November 14 is celebrated as children’s day in India. Bharat Ratna Radhakrishnan opined ‘the prosperity, strength weakness of our nation depends on the care with which children, the future citizens are brought up’. Bharath, the poet-patriot of Tamil Nadu declared, “Should even one man go without food, we will pull down the whole world”.³ The child shall have the right to adequate nutrition, dress, housing, education, recreation and medical services.⁴

It is human instinct to protect and care for children not only of one’s own but also of others. The children of a country are its valuable asset. No nation can ignore the responsibility to ensure the proper growth and development of children as the future of the country lies with them.⁵ The girl child in our society faces foeticide to saticide, dowricide to rapicide, therefore the Government of Tamil Nadu has

¹. First all India conference on Mental retardation, social welfare, XIII, 10, 1967, p. 13.
undertaken commendable measures to break these insurmountable social barriers and ensure the safety of the girl child.

John Ruskin stated “I hold it for indisputable, that the first duty of a state is to see that every child born therein shall be well housed, clothed, fed and educated, till it attain years of discretion”, it is the exact statement for what the present Governments aims to achieve.⁶

During British period the Child marriage was condemned.⁷ Maternity and Child Welfare work in an organized form was started by Lady Willingdon in Bombay in 1911 and in Delhi in 1914.⁸ It was only in the beginning of twentieth century, during Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy period the child found his position in society and his rights in the society as a person gained its recognition.⁹

The first child act in India was introduced in Madras in 1920 for providing home of shelter for juveniles and destitute and generally to help children in any trouble and in all possible ways¹⁰ followed by Bengal in 1922 and Bombay in 1924.¹¹ The Bombay Children Act of 1924 was the pioneer act of few other states to make legal bindings for children. The boys and girls were fed in two or three batches.¹² The

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¹¹. G.O. No. 785, Law (Edn) 8th July 1920.
grown up boys and girls did assist for cooking.\textsuperscript{13} The Government of India in 1960 passed a Central Act for union Territories.\textsuperscript{14} This act had been introduced to provide for care, protection, maintenance, welfare, training education and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent children and for the trial of delinquent children in the union territories. In Madras the children aid society was started in 1926. The children aid society was established to provide the necessary machinery for the implementation of children Act. The services provided by the society include Remand Homes, Certified schools, a Home for mentally deficient children. The Juvenile Service Bureau is the bureau of maintain the Juvenile delinquency statistical data and conducts research in this field.\textsuperscript{15}

Indian constitution in its Article 39 (f) states: The State shall, in particular direct its policy towards seeing that children are given opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and conditions of freedom and that childhood and youth are protected against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment.\textsuperscript{16} The maternity and child welfare scheme of the corporation of Madras was started in September 1917. The primary function of this scheme are preventive and only minor ailments of the expectant and nursing mothers, infants and pre-school children up to 5 years of age are treated in these centres. The aims of maternity and child welfare work are as follows\textsuperscript{17};

1. Care and supervision of prenatal cases

\textsuperscript{13} G.O. No. 2013, Home Department (Misc), 3 April 1941.


\textsuperscript{17} The Madras directory, who’s who (1951-52), Madras, pp. 295-315.
2. Intra-Natal care
3. Care of young infant and mother during puerperal period
4. Supervision and care of the infant and pre-school child
5. Teaching of mothers in health matters
6. Treatment of minor ailments of expectant and nursing mothers and children up to the age of 5
7. Free maternity service to those who are indigent or whose monthly income is Rs. 100/- or below
8. Free supply of pure cow’s milk to deserving pre-natal mothers and infants and free hot water baths to children.

Concern for the well being of children is universal and Tamil Nadu is no exception. The child being the father of the man, to create good responsible citizen, education is primary importance. Now the child welfare programme is based on the principles that the child shall be entitled to grow and develop in health; to this end, special care and protection shall have the right to adequate nutrition, dress, housing, education, recreation and medical services.

The applied nutrition programme with the help of the Government of India and United Nations International Children’s Emergency fund was started in 1962-63. This was to increase nutrition standards in villages, increase the production of nutrition products and thereby help the village people and to make these essential nutritious products available to the downtrodden people. In the beginning the

programme was applicable to children below three years of age, but later it was extended to children of three to six years and to nursing and lactating mother. The target for 1972-73 was fixed at 2,10,000 children of 0 – 6 years, 40000 pregnant and lactating mother. Children of 0 – 3 years has given double toned milk with bread were given double toned milk with bread. The children of 3 – 6 years and mothers were given three slices of bread weighing 75 grams. The care organisation supplied the milk, and the Tamil Nadu Government supplied the Modern bread. The September 1975, the supply of Modern Bread was replaced by Balahar Feeding.

Children aid society was started in a rental house near Poonamallee, Chennai and had to be used as a home for children under Madras children act of 1920 for rendering assistance to the government in connection with the working of the Madras Children Act for the reception of boys dealt with under the Act.

In 1972 during the D.M.K. rule, almost every village with a population of 300 had elementary schools. Several elementary schools in villages were opened and elementary education was within the reach of almost all village children in Tamil Nadu, for there was a school within two or three miles of practically every hamlet. In the year 1960-61, compulsory education was introduced for the age group of 6-7 years in roughly one third of the State of Madras. During the year 1950-51 there were

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23. G.O. No. 397 (Ord.), Law (Edn), 16 march 1926.


16,037 elementary schools with 18.05 lakh of students.\textsuperscript{26} By 1970-71 the number of elementary schools had increased to 31,970 with 55-73 lakhs of students.\textsuperscript{27}

**Pre-Schools**

4433 pre schools were in the state. Trained Balasevikas were appointed to be in charge of the pre schools. For Harijan children, 50 pre schools had been opened during the year. At the end of 1979-80, 300 pre schools were exclusively run for the benefit of notified tribes in Aziz Nagar colony in South Arcot district. Salem, Dharmapuri and Trichy districts during 1979-80, 30 new pre schools had been opened and 205 pre schools were functioning at the end of 31st March 1980. In each centre 70 beneficiaries, 60 pre-school children and 10 pregnant mothers were provided with supplementary nutrition with CARE assistance. 939 child welfare centres were functioning in buildings constructed with CARE assistance.\textsuperscript{28}

**Primary Education**

In 1973-74 a pilot project for improving science teaching was implemented with the assistance of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and United Nation’s International Children’s and thirty selected Middle schools in the districts of Madras, Chengleput and South Arcot. Due to poor economic conditions, those children who joined schools were compelled to give up their studies in the middle. Between Harijans and non-Harijans, the


\textsuperscript{27} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{28} Tamil Nadu State Administrative Report 1979-1980, Chapter XIX.
percentage of upper caste children was more.\textsuperscript{29} The low participation rate of Harijan children can be explained in terms of their parent’s poverty, ignorance of the benefits of education and the lack of encouragement for the poor children of that community. Poverty was the important reason for their non-attendance. When 75\% of the scheduled castes have hardly enough to eat, it was unreasonable to expect them to send their children to schools.\textsuperscript{30}

In such poor families, every child was considered an economic asset. He earned his bread when he assisted, his parents in the fields, so the parents were reluctant to send these children to schools. In the case of girls their percentage of attendance was lower for the girls normally took care of the house when the mother was away earning her bread.\textsuperscript{31}

Having these problems in mind, the Tamil Nadu Government had given various concessions to encourage the studies of children. They were as follows:

- Free education
- Free supply of uniforms
- Free supply of slates, pencils, Note-books and Text-books; and
- Free Mid-Day Meal

All poor children were exempted from the payment of school fees in elementary schools and in secondary schools and inclusive of Form III in the year

\textsuperscript{29} Tamil Nadu State Administration Report, 1973-74, p.204.


\textsuperscript{31} Ibid.
A pupil would be considered poor, if the annual gross income from all sources of his parent or guardian did not exceed Rs.1,200. By 1967 free education was extended for all poor students till Standard V to VII. The Backward Classes and Scheduled Castes were given the benefits of free education up to S.S.L.C. Later, by 1976 during the D.M.K. rule free education was extended to all poor children up to Standard XI. Pre-Metric scholarships were sanctioned for SC, ST from standard I to XI, and the amount of scholarship was distributed in cash to the students towards the cost of books and special fees. The examination fee was also paid when necessary.

On 4 August 1967, the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, C.N. Annadurai, formally inaugurated the scheme for the distribution of free text-books, note-books, slates, pencils to the pupils of Standard I to V in Corporation Schools. In this scheme the poor students of Standard I to III who were admitted to Mid-day Meal Scheme were given free copy of Tamil Text-books. Further, students of Std. III were given a copy of Arithmetic Text-book and students of standard V were given free slates. From 1972-73, the money spent for the free text-books was met by the Tamil Nadu Text Books Society from its funds. The students studying in standard I to III were given text-books completely free of cost. From standard IV to X students were given note books and books in all denotified community schools. Free education during the Congress rule was extended to complete free of cost education, whereas even note-books and books were provided free of cost, during the D.M.K. rule. This made education of the poor perfect burden less for the parents and more of them were

sent to schools. Further, the children were given one square meal a day which reduced the parent’s anxiety to feed their children to a remarkable extent.\textsuperscript{35}

**Mid-Day Meals**

A hungry child cannot be educated, so the schemes to educate the poor children would be of no use without good nutrition. So the scheme of supplying mid-day meals to children was inaugurated in July 1956 as a voluntary movement of the public.\textsuperscript{36} The Government of Madras subsidized the Meal Scheme from 1 November 1957 with a grant of six naya paise per meal per day, per child for elementary school children. This grant was made by K.Kamaraj.\textsuperscript{37} The local community had to provide forty per cent and the Government sixty percent.\textsuperscript{38} Of the ten paise grant made for each child, the Madras Government gave six paise per child per meal, the Panchayat Union gave two paise and two paise was collected from the public.\textsuperscript{39}

The Co-operatives for American Relief Everywhere (CARE) organization contributed three to four paise. The amount allotted per pupil was raised to 15 paise by 1959.\textsuperscript{40} By 1970 the Co-operatives for American Relief Everywhere organization gave sixteen to seventeen naya paise. During the D.M.K. rule from 1\textsuperscript{st} grant from six paise to ten paise for all the two hundred feeding days in a year.\textsuperscript{41} The local bodies

\textsuperscript{35} Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Debates, 20 March, 1975, Vol. LXVI, P.486.

\textsuperscript{36} Salem District Gazetter, 1967, p.623.


\textsuperscript{38} Madras Information, March 1963, p.35.

\textsuperscript{39} Madras Legislative Assembly Debates, 14 December 1959, Vol. XXVII. P.8.

\textsuperscript{40} Ibid., 31 March 1070, Vol. XXX, p.451.

\textsuperscript{41} Tamil Nadu State Administration Report, 1974-75, p.228.
also increased their contribution to five paise. The provision of mid-day meals in all elementary schools, including middle schools, had played a major role in promoting and retaining enrolment in the schools. One third of the total number of pupils of these schools who were from the poorest section of the population got benefit under this scheme. This programme was depended heavily on the funds of the Government of Tamil Nadu.\textsuperscript{42}

Moreover, co-operatives for American Relief Everywhere (CARE) contributed bulgar wheat, corn, soya milk, a protein blended food and salad oil. About 20,000 tonnes of food stuff was supplied as a free gift.\textsuperscript{43} The first consignment was distributed from September 1961. The scheme for supply of milk was inaugurated in October 1961.\textsuperscript{44}

In August 1967, with the help of this body, the Government built the first centralized kitchen and Farm. They were establishment at Sekkadu, about sixteen miles from Madras in Poonamallee Panchayat Union. In the kitchen, food was cooked under hygienic conditions and transported to the surrounding schools. The idea in establishing a Central Farm was to produce the food grains and vegetables needed for the preparation of the meal at the Centre. Further about 97 central kitchens were started in the districts of Chinglepattu, South Arcot and North Arcot.\textsuperscript{45} About two

\textsuperscript{42} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{43} Tamil Arasu, June 1979, p.15.

\textsuperscript{44} Ibid., pp. 132-133.

\textsuperscript{45} Tamil Nadu State Administrative Report, 1969-70, p.198.
crores rupees were spent with assistance from CARE organization. Those benefited were about four lakhs.\textsuperscript{46}

To improve the system of distribution of commodities in 1970-71, the CARE organization offered to construct ten regional godowns in Tamil Nadu to store its commodities and to distribute to mid-day meal centres. The organization also supplied 224 tempo vans for carrying cooked food daily to school children.\textsuperscript{47}

Thus this system of feeding children in schools, improved their attendance, and enrolment. The children could also concentrate on their lessons when they were well fed. In short the scheme of feeding children was an effective way of human resource development, where the poor children could have the benefit of education and could be the useful members of the society. Further, due to common dining the children could also forget caste difference and developed a feeling of oneness.

\textbf{Children’s Libraries}

To widen the range of reading among children and to improve their knowledge the Government of Tamil Nadu, during the D.M.K. rule started children’s libraries and children’s wings in the already existing libraries. The Government made grants of Rs. 15/-, Rs. 25/-, Rs. 30/- and Rs 50/- for libraries in elementary, higher elementary, Government lower primary schools and Government upper primary schools.

\textsuperscript{46} Government of Tamil Nadu, Progress of Education in Tamil Nadu, Note on Demand 17, 1981-82, Education Department, Madras, 1981, p.7.

\textsuperscript{47} Ibid.
respectively. A children’s library was started in the orthopedic ward at the Governmental General Hospital, Madras, in 1974. On February 3rd, 1974, 190 books for children were donated to this library by Seva Chakra, a Social Welfare Institutions. To teach the children affected by polio and for those children admitted in the Tanjore Hospital, a classroom was opened by the then Chief Minister, M. Karunanidhi for the continuation of their studies. A teacher was also appointed for this purpose.

**Infant Mortality**

To reduce infant mortality among the rural and urban poor children in the state, family welfare programmes were given top priority. This programme was implemented on voluntary basis without any compulsion or coercion. Child health was promoted through Children’s hospitals and other Child Health Programme. The Madras Institute of Child Health and Hospital for Children was started on November 15, 1958. It was one of the biggest hospitals in India and the best in South East Asia. About 2,736 children received treatment everyday there. During the D.M.K. rule, Maternity and Child Welfare Centers were opened and maintained by Panchayat Union Councils at the rate of one centre for every 10,000 people with two-third grant from the Government, subsidies to a minimum of 10 centres per union.

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49. *Ibid*.

50. *Ibid*.


The United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) assisted “Long Range Skimmed Milk Feeding Scheme” which went a long way in improving the health and nutrition state of mother and children. Further free distribution of gift milk from UNICEF and CARE was arranged for children, expectant and nursing mother. Maximum numbers of pregnant women were immunized against Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Tetanus, Tuberculosis, Poliomyelitis, Measles and Typhoid. The programmes were started even during the Congress rule, but the districts selected were scattered, the D.M.K. gave wider coverage and the programmes were implemented effectively.

School Health Programmes

The most important of the health programme for children during the D.M.K. rule was the school health programme. This programme was taken up with the following objectives.

- To organize practical programme of health appraisal for school children with follow up whenever necessary.
- To provide sanitary facilities in the schools like sanitary latrines, hygienic kitchens, and protected drinking water supply.
- Health promotion by including aids in nutrition and health education.

The Government of Tamil Nadu also started the scheme of Medical Examination of school children in Standards I in Madras from 1972. This was implemented from 26 February 1973. In 1974-75, this scheme was extended to

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Kancheepuram, Cuddalore and Tanjore and about twenty Primary Health Centers.\textsuperscript{55} In 1975-76, this scheme was further extended to five more Primary Health Centres. Every year, 10,000 school children were examined in each Panchayat Union. The children who were in need of special treatment were sent to hospitals.\textsuperscript{56}

In the medical examination of school children, special emphasis was laid on detection of leprosy which was prevalent in Tamil Nadu in an endemic form in Chengalpattum, Dharmapuri, North Arcot, Salem, Tiruchirapalli, Pudukkottai and in certain areas in Tanjavur, Madurai and Coimbatore. A new scheme was devised to give a thorough medical examination for the early detection of leprosy and other diseases affecting children up to the age of eleven in these areas.\textsuperscript{57}

The applied nutrition programme with the help of the Government of India and United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund was started in 1962-63.\textsuperscript{58} This was to increase nutrition standards in villages, increase the production of nutrition products and thereby help the village people and make these essential nutritious products available to the downtrodden people. In the beginning the programme was applicable to children below three years of age, but later it was extended to children of six years and to nursing and lactating mother, The target for 1972-73 was fixed 2,10,000 children of three to six years and to nursing and lactating mother.\textsuperscript{59} The target for 1972-73 was fixed at 2,10,000 children of 0-6 years, 40,000

\textsuperscript{55} Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Debates, March 1975, Vol. LXV, p.456.

\textsuperscript{56} Ibid.,

\textsuperscript{57} Ibid., 23 March 1978, Vol. XVI, p.996.

\textsuperscript{58} Ibid., 23 March 1978, Vol. XVI, p.863.

pregnant and lactating mother. Children of 0-3 years have given double toned milk with bread been given double toned milk with bread. The children of 3-6 years and mothers were given three slices of bread weighing 75 grams. The CARE organization supplied the milk, and the Tamil Nadu Government supplied the milk, and the Modern Bread. In September 1975, the supply of Modern Bread was replaced by Balahar Feeding.

### Integrated Child Welfare Demonstration Project

The integrated Child Welfare Demonstration project which functioned in the Poonamallee Panchayat Union was the only one of its kind in the whole State. This pilot project was started in 1963 to give an integrated service of the various Welfare Departments to children of the age group of 0-6 years. It was sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Government of India as a demonstration project with an annual grant of Rs, 1,00,000. This scheme covered all the aspects of children’s life and worked for the development of all the children in the block area with special emphasis on the age group 0-6 years including pre-natal and post-natal care for mothers. Although it was started during the Congress rule, the scheme was continued and implemented by the D.M.K Government.

### Child Welfare Centres

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60. Ibid.


The Child Welfare Programme which was in force in the State of Tamil Nadu from 1972 had the twin purposes of serving rural women and relieve in them from the anxiety of looking after their working hours. It helped them to leave their children in the pre-schools. Further, the pre-school programme inculcated in children the school going habit which went a long way in making free primary education in the State a success. Child Welfare Centres in the state were engaged in activities such as Nutrition, health care and pre-school education for children.

The Social Welfare Department gave its support for the vulnerable age group of 2½ to 5 years through Kuszhanthakal Kappagam (Child Care Centers) to relief the daily wage earning mothers by taking care of the children, to prepare the children for primary school, to develop the healthy7 attitude towards school education. The local women who have studied up to Standard VIII were selected and given training for three months on pre-school programme in the rural extension training centres. Pre-schools were conducted in all the model and slum centres between the age 3-7 years in the mornings. Previously pre-school did not have their own building but now there were pucca building for pre-schools. These day care centre were housed in the buildings of slum clearance board free if cost. Each Bala Sevika was given Rs. 100 as pay and Ayahs or maid-servants were given of Rs. 30.- per month. They were trained for three months on pre-schools programme in the Rural Extension Training Centres of Bhavanisagar of T. Kallupatti. These Bala Sevika got honourarium of Rs. 20/- per men for conducting the pre-schools.

64. Tamil Arasu, July 1976, p.9.
66. Ibid.
The pre-schools were conducted mostly in the mornings. The emphasis was on indirect education through play activities. Each pre-school was supplied with educational and general equipments to an extent of Rs. 400/- per pre-school. Some Nutritious Mid-day snacks were distributed to the children.

**Orphanages**

Initially, orphanage run by the Government each child was allotted Rs.8.00/- per month by the Government of Tamil Nadu.\(^{68}\) This amount was raised Rs.10/- from October 1\(^{st}\), 1958. During 1958 in D.M.K. rule, it was further increased to Rs. 13.00/- per month from April 1974.\(^{69}\) For the orphans in the Hill Station the grant was a little higher than those on the plains and amounted to Rs. 19/- per month.\(^{70}\)

The government of Tamil Nadu is running at present 27 Government Orphanages with the sanctioned strength of 5700 children under the control of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department. The orphanages called as Sathya Ammaiyar Ninaivu Government Orphanages. The children of the orphanages are being provided with food, education, shelter, uniform, etc. The criteria adopted for admission into the above orphanages are:

- Orphan and abandoned children without both the parents and no relatives to look after them.


- Children with single parent families where the husband died or children have to be looked after by the mother due to long imprisonment of husband or desertion or vice versa and where the income of the family is less than Rs.12,000/- per annum.

- Children whose parents are unable to take care of them due to Leprosy or mental illness.

A committee with the District Collector concerned as the Chairman and consisting of the representatives from the Education, Health and Social Welfare Departments along with the Social Workers has been formed by the Government to monitor and provide necessary guidance for better implementation of the scheme for the welfare of the inmates of Government Orphanages. These Committees meet once in three months and monitor the progress of the inmates of the orphanages in education, health and admission of children.

In 1979, 4 orphanages were started under the control of the social welfare and nutrition meal programme department and, the government increased the number of orphanages after 1984 and finally two new orphanages were started in Nagapattinam and Cuddalore after the Tsunami attack in 2004.

The year of Commencement to start new orphanages are given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of commencement</th>
<th>Centres</th>
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<tr>
<td>1979-80</td>
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<td>1984-85</td>
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<td>1993-94</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
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Free Education, Cloths, Nutritious, Sport materials, Chapels and some other training like Yoga were provided in the orphanages. It also assists the District Social Welfare Officers to run the Orphanages effectively. Hence, to break the monotony of the routine life style, the inmates of the Government Orphanages are taken for an excursion to the neighbouring tourist spots once in a year, so as to give them an opportunity to interact with the outside world which is essential for leading a normal life. Rs.473.59 lakhs has been provided for the year 2002 – 2003 for the programme.

The Commissioner of Social Welfare has submitted a proposal for consideration for the sanction of Rs. 2 lakhs for the supply of new vessels to 14 Government orphanages for the year 2000-2001. As the proposal was approved by the Standing Finance Committee and necessary provision had been made in the budget estimate for 2000-2001, the Government sanctioned the required amount for the purchase of new vessels to the 14 Government Orphanages.71

These Orphanages were last supplied with furniture is 1984. Due to long usage, the furniture has become worn out and could not be put into use. As classes up to V std are being conducted in the Orphanages itself supply of new furniture is very much essential for the conduct of class and convenient sitting of children. Therefore, the Commissioner of Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programmed has proposed for the supply of new furniture to eleven Government Orphanages at a cost of Rs. 6.20 lakhs for 2000-2001. The proposal has been approved by the Standing Finance Committee and necessary provision has been made in the budget stimate for 2000-2001 for supply of new furniture to eleven Government Orphanages at the rate of Rs. 70000 per Orphanage at Dindigul, Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, Manamadurai,

Pudukkottai, Tuticorin and at theatre of Rs. 40000 per orphanage at Tikkanrodu, Vellore, Tirunelveli, Nagapattinam and Athur at Salem.\(^7\)

List of Orphanages in Tamil Nadu are given below.

1. Walltax Road, Chennai
2. Kosapet, Chennai
3. Kancheepuram
4. Tiruvannamalai
5. Cuddalore
6. Thanjavur
7. Pudukottai
8. Mathur at Tiruchirapalli
9. Ramanathapuram
10. Dharmapuri
11. Sri Vaikundam, Thoothukudi
12. Erode
13. Coimbatore
14. Ubathalai, The Nilgiris
15. Nagercoil, Kanniyakumari
16. Thikkanancode, Kanyakumari
17. Salem
18. Salem – Bethanaickenpalayam
19. Madurai
20. Sivagangai

\(^7\) G.O. Ms. No. 58, SWANMP Dept, dt. 26-5-2000
21. Sulakkarai, Virudhunagar
22. Dindigul
23. Ambasamudram, Tirunelveli
24. Vellore
25. Sikkal, Nagapattinam
26. Nagapattinam (Tsunami)
27. Cuddalore (Tsunami)

Statistical Data of the beneficiaries from the 2000 to 2010 are given below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Orphanages</th>
<th>Sanctioned Children Strength</th>
<th>Number of Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Sanctioned Amount (in Lakhs)</th>
<th>Total Expensed Amount (in Lakhs)</th>
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</table>

Karunai Illams

In 1975, 53 Karunai Illams (orphanages) were started to mark the fifty third Birthday of the Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi. The surplus from Temple funds was to be diverted to the orphanages. The destitute orphan children in the age group of five to eighteen years were admitted and the government grant was at the rate of Rs.
12.30 per head per month, the grant being 25% of the expenditure of the maintenance of children.\textsuperscript{73} The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Board met 75\% of the recurring expenses.\textsuperscript{74} The Government had sanctioned Rs.2.46 lakhs as grant for the maintenance of children during the year 1975-76.\textsuperscript{75} The scheme was administered by the Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department and the grants were sanctioned through the social welfare department. Each Illam was to have a minimum of at least fifty children.\textsuperscript{76} Under "Karunai Illam" scheme, 42 homes are run by the Hindu Religious and Endowments Department. The Department of Social Welfare has sanctioned Rs.200/- per child per month for food Rs.267/- for administrative charges and also a sum of Rs.20/- per annum per child is provided for bedding charges. Beneficiaries under the Scheme are 1353 children. Apart from this, the inmates are supplied with free uniforms by this Department. The Tamil Nadu Text Book Corporation supplies Text Books and Note Books. The government of Tamil Nadu sanctioned Rs.46.96 lakhs for the year 2002-2003. Children belonging to the following categories were registered in the Karunai Illam.

- Orphans who had lost both their parents.
- The children who had lost their father only; and
- Children of either sex in the age group of five to ten years,

These children were brought upto the age of 18 years.

\textsuperscript{73} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{74} \textit{Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Debates}, 3 April 1978, Vol.XXVIII, p.7.

\textsuperscript{75} Government of Tamil Nadu, Policy Note on Social Welfare, 1977-78, Demand No.30, Social Welfare Department, Madras, 1977, p.12.

\textsuperscript{76} \textit{Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Debates}, 3 April 1978, Vol. XVIII, p.4.
Thus the D.M.K government took keen interest in the well being and development of women and children and making them productive members of the society. Although several policies were formulated during the Congress period, the D.M.K. stepped up the measure and effectively implemented them on a many case and many new policies were also formulated to improve the status of women and children.77

**Welfare of poor Destitute Children**

Under the Government of India’s scheme of destitute children, provision had been made for educational grant to voluntary organization in the State for the maintenance of destitute and orphan children. The poor destitute children in the age group of five to eighteen were admitted under this beneficiary scheme. The Government of India provided ninety percent grant-in-aid of the expenditure on both the maintenance; and non-recurring expenditure was borne by voluntary organizations. Moreover to the children below three years of age were allowed to travel free of cost in buses run by State Transport in Tamil Nadu. Apart from this, children above three years and below twelve were given half-rate concession in Express Buses of the State Transport. From July 10, 1972, special buses were sent for school children studying upto Standard VIII in Madras.

The scheme was introduced between 1974 - 1975. This scheme empowered through the voluntary institutions as well as Non-Governmental Organisations. The main objective of the scheme is to rehabilitate the destitute children to live as normal citizens. The destitute children in the age group of 5 to 18 years of single parent

family or who do not have either parent are eligible for benefit under this scheme. Children of deserted wives /parents affected with prolonged illness / parents imprisoned for longer period are also eligible to benefit under the scheme. The income of the parent/guardian should not exceed Rs.12,000/- per annum. In order to encourage voluntary organizations which maintain orphan children, the State Government is sanctioning grant-in-aid towards maintenance of the children from 1st April 1992.

The State Government is giving Rs.225/- per child per month as grant-in-aid (out of the total required expenditure of Rs.281) representing 80% of recurring expenditure, towards food, contingencies etc., to Voluntary Organisations for the maintenance of children. The remaining 20% of the expenditure which is Rs.56/- per month per child is borne by the Voluntary Organisations by themselves. The voluntary institutions are supervising the units or blocks. There are 173 units are functioning under this scheme. Each unit consisting of 25 children should have a house mother / father and a helper, to look after the children. The Director of Social Welfare has reported that the amount sanctioned for the continuance of the scheme during the financial year 2005-2006 has been sanctioned to the voluntary institutions based on the inspection report of concerned District Social Welfare Officers on the well-functioning of the destitute homes. The Director of Social Welfare has further reported that the grant is regulated, based on the actual strength of the destitute children being maintained and average in these institutions and cuts shave been imposed wherever underfed/short maintenance and average are noticed.78

78. G.O. Ms. No. 160, SWANMP Dept., dt. 15-7-2005
### Statistical Data of the beneficiaries from the 2000 to 2010 are given below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Expected beneficiary</th>
<th>Benefited beneficiary</th>
<th>Sanctioned amount (in Lakhs)</th>
<th>Expensed amount (in Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>14,377</td>
<td>11,704</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>274.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-02</td>
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<td>545.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>12,862</td>
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<td>268.32</td>
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<td>14477</td>
<td>12291</td>
<td>320.23</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assistance for Widow’s Children

The scheme was introduced between 1978 – 1979 to empower the children of the poor widows. The beneficiary should not exceed Rs.24,000/- per year. Funds based on the quantum assistance, were given to the 1st to 10th standard children of the eligible widows for every year. The fund is fixed under the reference of the cost of the study materials. The assistance is given as below,

- I to II Std - Rs. 50 per child
- III to V Std - Rs. 125 per child
- VI to VIII - Rs. 175 per child
- IX and X - Rs. 300 per child
- Higher Secondary Course - Rs. 600 per child

The district social welfare administration is empowering the scheme and it deliver the assistance fund to the beneficiary directly.
In 1985, the Government of Tamil Nadu is implementing the scheme of Free supply of uniform to the children studying in Std I to VIII every year. The Department of Social Welfare is entrusted with the work of stitching and distributing uniforms to the Education Department through the Women Industrial Co-operative societies. The cloth required for the scheme is procured by the Department of Handlooms and Textiles through the Co-optex and the Tamil Nadu Textiles Corporation. The uniforms are stitched by the 78 Women Industrial Co-operative Societies under the control of the Commissioner of Social Welfare and handed over to the Education Department for distribution to the students.

The stitching charges for the free supply of uniforms have been raised by 50% in the existing charges from the year 2001-2002. For stitching of uniform set for boys Rs.15.40 and for girls Rs.14.10 are given. 1,18,67,191 Nos. of uniform were stitched.
and distributed to the students in 2001-02. District level Inspection Committees have been set up to inspect 10% of schools to check the quality and measurements of the uniforms supplied to the students. Instructions have been issued to the cloth supplying agencies to print the seal "தமிழ் அகத் தொடர் பதிவு நூல்" on every one metre of the cloth.

**Girl Child Protection Scheme**

The Government of Tamil Nadu has introduced the revolutionary Girl Child Protection Scheme in 1992 to promote family planning, to eradicate female infanticide and to discourage preference for male child. It is called as ‘Sivagami Ammaiyaar Girl Child Protection Scheme’.

In 2002, the scheme has been completely restructured to confer enhanced financial benefit to the girls belonging to poor families. In cases of families with only one girl child and no other children and if either of the parents has undergone sterilisation, and aged below 35 years and their family income is below Rs.50,000/- per annum, an initial deposit of Rs.22,200/- will be made in the Tamil Nadu Power Finance Corporation by the Government in the name of the child. An amount of Rs.150/- (Rupees one hundred and fifty only) as monthly incentive shall be given to the child on completion of 5th year and up to 20th year of deposit for her educational purposes. However, the maturity value shall be payable only if the girl child studied upto 10th Standard and appeared for the Public Examination. On completion of twenty years of deposit, the girl child will receive sum amount that actually accrues from the cumulative deposit.

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79. SWANMP Dept.: G.O.M.S. No. 533, dt. 13-10-1992
Families with two girl-children and no male child and if either of the parents has undergone sterilisation and aged below 35 years and their family income is below Rs.12,000/- per annum, an initial deposit of Rs.15,200/- will be made in the Tamil Nadu Power Finance Corporation for each girl child by the Government. An amount of Rs.150/- (Rupees one hundred and fifty only) as monthly incentive shall be given to the child on completion of 5th year and up to 20th year of deposit for her educational purposes. However, the maturity value shall be payable only if the girl child studied up to 10th Standard and appeared for the Public Examination.

If the children do not appear for the 10th Standard Public Examination before the completion of 20 years of deposit, such children are not eligible to receive the maturity value and it shall be forfeited to the Government Account. On completion of twenty years of deposit, the girl child shall receive sum amount that actually occurs from the cumulative deposit, provided she has appeared for the 10th Standard Public Examination. A sum of Rs.1270.75 lakhs has been provided for the year 2002-2003. According to the proposal of the director of social welfare, the government sanctioned 14 crores for the implementation of revised girl child protection scheme.

---

Statistical Data of the beneficiaries from the 2000 to 2010 are given below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Expected beneficiaries</th>
<th>Benefited beneficiaries</th>
<th>Sanctioned amount (in Lakhs)</th>
<th>Expensed amount (in Lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>36,700</td>
<td>34,747</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>25,547</td>
<td>34,747</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>528</td>
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<td>2002-03</td>
<td>13,067</td>
<td>13,067</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003-04</td>
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<td>40,795</td>
<td>617</td>
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<td>2004-05</td>
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<td>2006-07</td>
<td>49,273</td>
<td>49,260</td>
<td>7500</td>
<td>7499.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>49,300</td>
<td>49,265</td>
<td>7500</td>
<td>7499.83</td>
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<tr>
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<td>49,266</td>
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\(^{83}\) SWANMP Dept.: G.O.M.S. No. 533, dt. 13-10-1992
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\(^{84}\) G.O. Ms. No. 72, SWANMP Dept., 22-5-2002.
According to the proposal of the director of social welfare, the government sanctioned 14 crores for the implementation of revised girl child protection scheme.

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<td>7500</td>
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<td>49,266</td>
<td>7500</td>
<td>7499.82</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>49300</td>
<td>49267</td>
<td>7500</td>
<td>7499.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CRADLE BABY SCHEME

To counter the menace of female infanticide in certain parts of Tamil Nadu an unique scheme called "Cradle Baby Scheme" was started by the Government of Tamil Nadu in 1992. The cradle baby scheme was launched in Salem in 1992 with the sole aim of eradicating female infanticide. During 1992, incidents of female infanticide in some parts of Salem District were brought to the notice of the Government. Responding to the situation, Cradle Baby Scheme was first started in Salem District. In order to rescue the girl babies from being killed, cradles were

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placed in Primary Health Centres and Anganwadi Centres. Thus during the years 1992-2001, 150 girl babies were rescued from the clutches of death. Further, this scheme was extended to Madurai, Theni, Dindigul and Dharmapuri districts during 2001, where this evil practice was found and Reception Centres were opened in these districts to receive the unwanted babies. These Reception Centres are provided with sufficient staff and infrastructure facilities including life saving drugs, telephone, refrigerator, incubator and medical equipments.

Under the extension of this scheme, cradles were placed in vital places such as Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Orphanages and Children Homes in order to enable the rescue of female children abandoned by their biological parents due to various social circumstances. A reception centre was started in Salem. This scheme has been revitalised by setting up full-fledged reception centres at Madurai, Theni, Dindigul and Dharmapuri Districts at a total cost of Rs.12.96 lakhs. The Primary Health Centres in the Districts prone to female infanticide will be equipped to receive female babies. Cradles totaling 188 are also placed in the District Social Welfare Offices, Primary Health Centres and Primary Health Sub Centres.

The children received in the cradle points will be handed over to the reception centres for rehabilitation. Action is being taken by the Government for wide propagation against female infanticide. A sum of Rs.11.19 lakhs has been provided for the year 2002-2003. As on 31.3.2009, 3418 babies (486 - Male, 2932 - Female), have been received, thus saving them from infanticide. District Social Welfare Officers have been nominated as nodal officers for this scheme.
### Statistical Data of the beneficiaries from the 2000 to 2010 are given below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Expected beneficiary</th>
<th>Benefited beneficiary</th>
<th>Sanctioned amount (in Lakhs)</th>
<th>Expensed amount (in Lakhs)</th>
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### Creches for Children of Working and Ailing Mothers

It was introduced in 1993 – 1994, It aims to prevent the children from child labour, school dropout and child prostitution. Up to years children of working and ailing mothers were benefited under this scheme. 50 creches were started between 1998 – 1999. In addition, the government of Tamil Nadu issued a sanction order for 162 crenches. During the year 1999-2000, the government issued a sanction order for 212 creches. According to the proposal of the director of social welfare and nutritious scheme, the state continued the all 212 creches through the Mahlair Mandrams. Rs. 53,86,920/- was sanctioned at the rate of Rs. 25410/- per crèche to run the 212 creches during 2000-2001. To prevent children of working and ailing mothers from dropping out of school for the reason that they have to look after their younger siblings or indulging in anti-social activities, 185 creches are run by the Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Board through selected Voluntary Organisations at the rate of Rs.25,410/- per centre as recurring expenditure.

90. GO. Ms. No. 209, SWANMP Dept., dt. 10-12-1999
A sum of Rs.52.44 lakhs has been provided for the year 2002-2003.

The sanctioned beneficiary strength of a crèche is 25. The expenditure of each crèche is as follows,

1. Honorarium to Caretaker Rs. 300-00
2. Helpers at Rs. 100 to two helpers Rs. 200-00
3. Supplementary Nutrition to 25 children x 1.05 x 30 days Rs. 787-50
4. Contingency Rs. 80-00
5. Weekly visits by Doctors and Medicines Rs. 500-00
6. Rent Rs. 200-00
7. Electricity and Water charges Rs. 50-00

Total Rs. 2117-50 (per day)

For one year for one crèche = Rs. 2117.50 x 12 = Rs. 25410-00 x 212 = 53,86,920/-

The sanctioned crèches of each district is as follows,

District-wise crèche details Units
1. Chennai 33
2. Coimbatore 11
3. Cuddalore 3
4. Dharmapuri 9
5. Dindigul 5
6. Erode 6
7. Kancheepuram 13
8. Kanyakumari 12
9. Karur 4
10. Madurai 15
11. Nagapattinam 7
12. The Nilgiris 4
13. Namakkal 2
14. Perambalur 4
15. Pudukkottai 9
16. Salem 14

91. G.O. Ms. No. 126 SWANMP Dept, dt. 31-7-2000
17. Sivaganga 11
18. Thanjavur 3
19. Thiruvarur 1
20. Thiruvannamalai 3
21. Tirunelveli 10
22. Trichy 3
23. Tiruvaullur 6
24. Tuticorin 5
25. Vellore 5
26. Villupuram 8
27. Virudhunagar 6

Total 212

The Government is also taking steps to open new creches for the benefit of working women, who are employed in Government / Universities / Educational Institutions / Government Undertakings / Private Concerns through the non-governmental organisations.

Legal Protections for Juvenile

Vigilance / Protective Homes Under Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956

The Vigilance / Protective Homes, established under the provisions of Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, provide care, treatment, training and rehabilitation to the girls and women. These institutions also admit girls who face the threat of sexual exploitation and are in mortal danger. The Director of Social Defence is authorised the admission of such girls in these institutions on a voluntary basis. There are 6 Vigilance / Protective Homes situated in the following places;

Chennai 2, Madurai 1, Trichirapalli 1, Salem 1, Coimbatore 1, Total 6. The persons admitted in the homes and the financial as follows;
### Statistical data of Vigilance/Protective Homes (Boys & Girls)

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>24</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>40+1</td>
<td>46+1</td>
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<td>Tiruchi Protective Homes</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>89.53</td>
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<td>114.73</td>
<td>173.26</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Performance Budget 2010-2011.

### Rescue Shelter

Rescue Shelters are intended for the detention of under trial women and girls who have been charged with offences under Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. They are kept in the shelters temporarily till their cases are disposed of by the Courts. Six Rescue Shelters are functioning for women victims whose cases are under trials. These shelters are functioning along with the Vigilance / Protective Homes and one in After Care Organisation in Vellore.⁹²

### Juvenile Justice Act

The Government provided shelters to the children living on streets, thus saving them from falling into the hands of anti-social elements. Under this scheme,

there are 13 shelters functioning under non-governmental organisations, 7 shelters at Madras, 2 at Madurai, one each at Salem, Villupuram, Vellore and Coimbatore. These shelters are providing safe space to the street children during night hours.\footnote{Government of Tamil Nadu, Department of Social Welfare, Demand No. 29, Policy Note 1997-98, p. 15.} The Government of India enacted the Juvenile Justice Act in 1986 which repealed the Tamil Nadu Children Act, 1920. The Act came into force from 2.10.87. The Government of India have reviewed the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 in conjunction with United Nations Convention on the Rights of Child and enacted, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of children) Act, 2000. The Juvenile Welfare Boards which deals with the children in need of care and protection named as Child Welfare Committees and the Juvenile Courts renamed as Juvenile Justice Boards.\footnote{Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Policy Note 2002-2003.}

The main responsibility of the Department of Social Defence, is to ensure protection of children and women from neglect, maltreatment, abuse, exploitation, etc. And to facilitate them to lead a meaningful life by evolving appropriate intervention strategies and programmes for their reintegration into the mainstream. The Department is also committed to initiate programmes and activities to ensure the protection of children and women from significant harm, in conjunction with United Nation convention on the Rights of child, United Nation standards minimum rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice etc. The reformation and rehabilitation of abandoned, neglected, destitute and delinquent has undergone several changes. The Department of Social Defence is also maintaining the Institutions for the girls and women in mortal danger within the provisions of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. The Department is conducting various special programmes for adequate
care to the neglected, destitute, abandoned and delinquent children and girls and women in need.\textsuperscript{95}

**Treatment of Juvenile Delinquents**

The institutions which received Juvenile offender were established under the Madras Children’s Act. They were of two types (1) Reception Homes and (2) Approved Schools. The former are short-stay institutions for temporary care and custody of Juveniles pending trial and the latter are long stay institutions intended for care, custody, reformation, training, and rehabilitation for Juvenile Delinquents, destitute and uncontrollable. They were started even during the Congress rule and effectively implemented during D.M.K. rule. The Government Special Home for the children of Burma Repatriates was started in Mettur in Tiruchirapalli district on October 4\textsuperscript{th}, 1965. During the D.M.K. rule, Medical facilities were provided for the above home. The sick children who required immediate medical aid were admitted in district head quarter hospital, Tiruchirapalli.\textsuperscript{96} These children were educated upto standard VII and in 1969 it was extended to Standard VIII.\textsuperscript{97} Children were vaccinated and inoculated regularly by the panchayat Union Health Authority, Viralimalai. On Saturdays these children were given religious and moral instructions according to their religious beliefs. Cultural activities were also held regularly on all holidays.

\textsuperscript{95} Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Performance Budget 2009-2010.

\textsuperscript{96} Report on the working of the Madras Children Act and the Administration of the Approval Schools, 1968, p.9.

\textsuperscript{97} Ibid.
Juvenile Homes

The institutions which received juvenile offender were established under the Madras Children’s Act. They were of two types: (i) reception Homes, and (ii) approved schools. The former are short stay institutions for temporary care and custody of Juveniles pending trial and the latter are long stay institutions intended for care, study, reformation, training, and rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents, destitute and uncontrollable. Medical facilities were provided for the above home. Children permitted in to the homes were given education up to standard VII and in 1969 it was extended up to VIII. Religious and moral instructions were given to these students on Saturdays and cultural activities were also held on all holidays.\(^98\)

Juvenile Justice Care and Protection Act

The previous act of Juvenile Justice Act was handled only the delinquents. After the results of several continuous researches, an enhanced Juvenile Justice Care and Protection Act was enacted in 2000. The act focuses two category of child, one is ‘Children conflict with law’ and another is ‘Children who need care and protection’.

Juvenile Board

The Government constituted eight Juvenile Justice Boards at Chennai, Tirunelveli, Thanjavur, Salem, Cuddalore, Tiruchirapali, Madurai and Coimbatore to deal with cases of children in conflict with law. The Boards consist of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of the first class with two social workers (including one woman social worker) having powers conferred by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. The Boards meet thrice a week on Monday, Wednesday

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\(^{98}\) Report on the working of the Madras Children Act and the Administration of the Approved Schools, 1970, p. 9
and Friday in the premises of the respective Observation Homes. Refresher Training Course has been conducted for the members of the Juvenile Justice Board with support from UNICEF.99

**Child Welfare Committees**

The Government also formed Child Welfare Committees in the district head quarters to deal the cases of children who are in need of care and protection. Each Child Welfare Committee consists of a non-official Chairman and 4 Members (including one woman member). These Child Welfare Committees are vested with the powers of Metropolitan Magistrate or Judicial Magistrate of First Class. These Committees meet thrice a week on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in the premises of the notified homes. Children’s Homes would cater exclusively to the needs of children who require care and protection as ordered by Child Welfare Committees.100

The Government reconstituted the committee.101 The committee got the list of panel from the Principal District and Sessions Judge, Chengalpattu,102 Principal District Judge, Thanjavur,103 Principal District Judge, Dharmapuri,104 Principal District Judge, Vellore,105 Principal District Judge, Dindigul,106 Principal District

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Judge, Thoothukudi, Principal District Judge, Virudhunagar, Principal District Judge, Salem, Principal District Judge, City Civil Court Chennai, Principal District Judge, Thanjavur, District and Sessions Judge, Nagapattinam, Principal District Judge (AIC) Coimbatore, District Judge, Sivaganga, the Principal District Judge, Villupuram, Principal District Judge, Thirunelveli, Principal District Judge, Madurai, The Probation Officer, Erode, and appointed the persons recommended by the committee as Chairman & members to the Child Welfare Committee to the respected districts for three years w.e.f. 1-7-2007 on the following conditions:

1. Every Social Worker/Members of the Committee should hold office for a period of three years from the date of appointment.

2. The tenure of appointment of Social worker/member may be terminated by the State Government at anytime; if


110. Letter Dis No. 11159/2006/E1, dt. 20-11-2006 of the Principal District Judge, City Civil Court Chennai.


117. Letter D. No. 5466, dt. 5.5.2007 of the Principal District Judge, Madurai.

118. Letter No. 78/PO/2006, dt. 16-5-2007 of the Probation Officer, Erode.
i) He/ She has been found guilty of misuse of powers vested under this act such conviction has not been reversed or he/she has not been granted full pardon in respect of such offence.

ii) He/She fails to attend the proceedings of the Committee for three consecutive months without any valid reasons or he/she fails to attends less than three fourth of the sitting in a year.

3. The Committee shall function as a Bench or Magistrates and shall have the powers conferred by the code of Criminal Procedure 1973 (2 of 1974) on a Metropolitan Magistrate or, as the case may be, Judicial Magistrate of the I class.

4. Any member may resign at any time by giving one month advance notice in writing to the State Government.

5. Orientation Course has been conducted for the members of these Child Welfare Committees, with the support of UNICEF.¹¹⁹

**Juvenile Homes**

Two types of homes established under the 2000 act, one is for the children conflict with law and another for children need for care and protection. Restoration, reformation and rehabilitation of children are the main objective of the homes. The homes are functioning under the Juvenile Justice Board and the child welfare committee.

**Observation Homes**

Children are found to have committed offences are being admitted in the observation homes through Juvenile Courts, and neglected / destitute and abandoned

Children are also admitted through Juvenile Welfare Boards. Maintenance grant is provided for the homes maintained by the NGOs. Children in conflict with law (Children who have committed offence) shall alone be admitted in Observation Homes. The inmates in the observation homes are given vocational training. In addition to the vocational training they are provided with art, music, etc., and counseling services. All Observation Homes had been strengthened with staff and provision of education, vocational training, sports and other activities to enable them to have better rehabilitation services in a secure environment. Necessary infrastructure improvements have been done for this effort. There are six Juvenile homes are running by the government and two are running by the non-governmental organizations.

Statistical data of the admission of juveniles and expenditures in Government homes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Sanctioned Strength</th>
<th>Years From 2001 to 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chennai</td>
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<td>Cuddalore</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanjavur</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem</td>
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<td>16+8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tiruchhi</td>
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<td>Tirunelveli</td>
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<td>Allocated amount (in Lakhs)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expensed Amount (in Lakhs)</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>167.23</td>
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</table>

Source: Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Performance Budget 2010-11.

Statistical data of admission of juveniles and expenditures in Non-Government homes

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<td>Coimbatore</td>
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<td>16+1</td>
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Allocated amount (in Lakhs)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Sanctioned Strength</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Expensed Amount (in Lakhs)

Source: Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Performance Budget 2010-11.

**Juvenile Special Homes for Boys & Girls**

The special homes established for the “Children need for care and protection”

There are 10 special homes running by the government and 24 special homes running by the non-governmental organizations. The special homes separated for girls and boys. The special homes are providing care, training, education and vocational education to the children, under the provisions of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection Act, 2000)

Statistical data of admission of juveniles and expenditures in Government Special homes

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<th>Place</th>
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Allocated amount (in Lakhs)

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Expensed Amount (in Lakhs)

Source: Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Performance Budget 2010-11.
### Statistical data of admission of juveniles and expenditures in Non - Government Special homes

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<td>64.03</td>
<td>54.29</td>
<td>71.83</td>
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Source: Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Performance Budget 2010-11.
Education for Juvenile

Education is imparted in all the Government Children/Special Homes upto VIII standard. The Chengalpattu Government Children Home, meant for Boys and Government Special/Children Home for Girls at Chennai, education is imparted upto X standard besides computer training. The department facilitates the children to continue their higher education. Accordingly children are also admitted to outside Higher Secondary School, Colleges, Industrial Training Institutes, Polytechnics and Professional Colleges. As part of the rehabilitation programmes of the Department, modernized vocational training such as cell phone servicing, videography, Photography and Desktop Publishing are imparted with the help of trained teachers and instructors. Apart from the above, short term vocational training courses such as Electrician, Automobile Mechanism, Screen printing, Computer, Tailoring and Carpentry are also offered.

Statistical data of the academic outcomes from the homes

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<th>Year</th>
<th>School Level</th>
<th>Higher Studies</th>
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</table>
After Care Juvenile Homes

The Government and the Non-Governmental Organisations are running Children’s Homes for reception, care, treatment, education, training, development and rehabilitation of children, admitted under Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act 2000. Children are given regular education besides vocational training. The Commissioner of Social Defence has proposed to start After Care Clubs in the following six Children’s Home run by NGO’s for 10 Children each, to enable the management, to keep the children whose dates of discharge fall in middle of the academic year, so as to complete their education.\(^\text{121}\)

1. Children’s Home under Seva Samajam Girls Home, Chennai  8
2. Children’s Home under Balamandir, Chennai
4. Children’s Home under Tere-des Hommes Core Trust, Thiruvannamalai
5. Children’s Home under Idhayalaya for Girls, Salem

The Government sanctioned a sum of Rs. 1.35 lakhs for Starting of After Care Clubs in Children’s Home run by the Non-Governmental Organisations.\(^\text{122}\) And the government sanctioned Rs. 2,08,000/- towards staff quarters on consolidated pay for starting of Vocational Training Centre (VRC) at Government After Care Organisation, Athur, Kanchipuram District for the inmates discharged from Juvenile/Special Home.\(^\text{123}\) Based on the proposal of the Director of Social Defence,\(^\text{124}\)


\(^\text{122}\) G.O. Ms. No. 120, SWANMP (SW-8 (1), Dept., dt. 08-09-2006.

\(^\text{123}\) G.O. Ms. No. 107, SWANMP Dept., dt. 2-6-1999.
the Government created the following temporary posts for giving proper training to the inmates:

Statistical data of after care homes

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<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Allocated amount (in Lakhs) | 40.40 | 40.11 | 41.31 | 36.42 | 44.08 | 48.06 | 50.27 | 69.58 | 73.09 |
| Expensed Amount (in Lakhs)  | 36.61 | 38.75 | 30.36 | 33.36 | 40.42 | 44.00 | 50.93 | 65.54 | 74.22 |

Reception Unit for Mentally Retarded Boys and Girls

The juvenile homes not only take care of the persons committed crime but also take care of the mentally challenged children, having no one support to look after the child in need of care and protection as per Section 2(d) (iii) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000. Under Section 33 (i) of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act. 2000 the child produced before the Child Welfare Committee is sent to a Children Home for speedy enquiry by a social worker or a Child Welfare Officer. He also informed that as per Rule 42 of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules 2001, there shall be a Reception unit in every Children Home which shall take care of children pending enquiries before the Child Welfare Committee. As there is no Reception unit exclusively for mentally defective children, it has been proposed to start Reception Unit for Mentally Challenged (Mentally Retarded) for boys and girls through NGO at Chennai for 40 children. Mentally challenged children of all ages pending enquiries in the Child Welfare

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Committees at Chennai, Tiruvallur, Villupuram and Ranipet (Vellore) are kept in the Reception Unit on the orders of the concerned Child Welfare Committees.\textsuperscript{125}

The Government of India provides financial assistance for the construction of buildings, improving the infrastructure facilities, etc. in the Observation Homes, Juvenile/Special Homes under the scheme for Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment. The financial assistance for construction of buildings to a Observation Home (50 inmates) by providing training unit (750 sq ft) additional dormitories (2000 sq. ft) class rooms (1200 sq. ft.) and administration block (1500 sq. ft.). The total cost of the scheme is sanctioned 50:50 by the State Government and the Government of India.\textsuperscript{126}

The Government accepted the proposal of the Director of Social Defence and accorded sanction of Rs. 9,80,000 on condition to reimburse 50% of the expenditure from the Government of India.\textsuperscript{127}

**Eradication of Juvenile Beggary**

The scheme to eradicate begging by children is implemented through Indian Council for Child Welfare with financial support from State Government. The children are persuaded to join schools and the parents are counseled and motivated to send their children to school.\textsuperscript{128} The Commissioner of Social Defence informed the government to sanction further continuance of the scheme Juvenile Guidance Bureau


\textsuperscript{126} . Letter from the Director of Social Defence, Chennai,No. 11284/B2/99, dt. 25.1.2000..


\textsuperscript{128} . G.O M.S. No. 187,SWANMP Dept, dt. 26-7-2005.
under ICCW, Chennai towards the salary to the staff, rent, stationery and office contingencies. The government accepted the proposal of the Commissioner of Social Defence and sanctioned Rs. 1,08000 towards salary to the staff, rent, stationery and office contingencies in connection with the running of the Guidance Bureau of ICCW, Chennai.

**Missing Child Bureau**

Children are vulnerable in the society. Hence, a separate bureaucratic division has been introduced called Missing Child Bureau. It is functioning in the main metropolitan cities like Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore. The main objectives of the Missing Child Bureau are:

1) To trace and arrange the missing children return home soon, safely and re-associate with their family.

2) To minimise the child abuse and neglect.

3) To provide link between various Government and Private Agencies dealing with missing children.

4) To establish a permanent data bank about missing children and to preserve details about the children in institutions.

5) To find out the runaway children / missing children, for collecting data through police and also through application received in this department, this scheme has been taken up.

6) To collect data’s from the Police Department and to have touch with institutions both Government / Non-Governmental Organisations) whether the

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children are admitted in the Homes. The applications received from the parents / guardians to the Missing Child Bureau will be uploaded in the website of the department www.tn.nic.in/socialdefence. At present the services are available in Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai. Data on 1042 Missing Children have been collected and registered so far from the inception.

The Department of Social Defence and the Police Department are working in close coordination with each other to deal with the issue of Missing Children. A common website of the police department is used and together the two departments to bridge the time gap in tracing the parent/child and restoring child to parent, for the best interest of the child.

**Child Line**

A scheme of a child accessing service deliveries through a telephone outreach programme has been launched. This project is known as "Child Line" with a simple number ‘1098’. Any Child in distress or any person finding a child in distress situation can dial 1098 at free of cost. Collaborating Organisations with net work of NGOs attend to the phone calls received and make appropriate interventions. The Scheme was initiated by Department of Social Defence and is funded by Government of India and the Department of Social Defence is the nodal Department. A Child Line advisory Board comprising of Representative from UNICEF, NGOs, Government of India Officials from Information Bureaux, Railways, Telecom and State Government Officials from Social Welfare, Institute of Child Health and Police have been

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constituted. The Director of Social Defence is the Chairman of the Child Line Advisory Board. So far, the following assistances have been provided.\(^{134}\)

**Family Support Scheme**

Institutionalisation of children should be the last resort. Hence, efforts are made to counsel the family and children and place the children, if it is in their best interest, with their family itself, under the Family Support Scheme. The scheme for family support is implemented with a view to help children and family who have come to Children Homes due to poor economic condition. Under the scheme, children are de-institutionalised and allowed to stay with their family. Financial support is extended to such children to continue their education. Children are identified by a Committee and placed back with their parents Financial assistance of Rs.200/- per month per child is provided to the family till their actual date of discharge. The scheme has been framed in such a way as to help children to study while with their family, instead of joining in children homes.\(^{135}\)

**Statistical data of Family Benefit Scheme**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Children</th>
<th>Allocated amount (in Lakhs)</th>
<th>Expensed amount (in Lakhs)</th>
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<td>2008-2009</td>
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<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>0.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


\(^{135}\) Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Policy Note 2009-2010.
Shelter Homes for Street Children

Children leaving their homes for various reasons and finding streets as their place of abode. The government implemented a scheme through non-governmental organisations to provide shelters to children living at pathways or dwelling on the streets.136 16 shelters were started in Tamil Nadu i.e. 5 in Chennai, 4 in Madurai, each 1 in Salem, Villupurm, Vellore, Tirunelveli, Dindigul, Tiruchirappalli and Ramad. 50 children were provided service in each centre which includes one time meal, non-formal education and vocational training. These shelters provided a safe place to the street children during night hours.

The Government of India in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is assisting the NGOs to implement a comprehensive programme called "Integrated Programme for Development of Street Children". The proposals of the NGOs are recommended by the State Government for the release of funds. The maximum grant available to an NGO is Rs.15.00 lakhs per annum. 8 NGOs in Tamil Nadu are implementing the above programmes. For Chennai City Corporation, the Department of Social Defence had formed a City Level Forum and brought out a Plan of Action. This Plan of Action attempts to provide a common platform and basis for coordination and networking among Governmental and Non-Governmental agencies. The Government also frequently assessing the situation of street children through Indian Society of Victimology, Department of Criminology, University of Madras, Chennai.137

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137. G.O. Ms. No. 110, SWANMP (SW-8 (1) Dept, dt. 08-09-2006.
During the year 2001-02 a sum of rupees 65,500/- per centre was sanctioned during 2005-06, the amount was increased to Rs. 1,35,500/- per centre from 2007-08 and the amount was further increased to 270000/- per centre per annum.\textsuperscript{138}

\textbf{Half Way Homes for Girl Children}

The Government started 3 Half way homes for the girl children in vulnerable condition under non-governmental organization at “SEED Trust” Ulundurpettai, Community Service Trust, Namakkal and “CASA” (Church Auxiliary for Social Action) Viralimalai during 1999-2000 with the objective (i) to maintain temporarily the girls who are in moral danger (ii) to re-integrate the children with their family early and to rehabilitate them (iii) to provide educational and vocational training to the girl children who are living in vulnerable situation, and (iv) to protect the rights of the girl children.\textsuperscript{139}

A sum of Rs. 27000/- had been sanctioned as grant-in-aid for the scheme in the first stage during 1999-2000, and the government sanctioned Rs. 2.33 lakhs for during the three half way homes by the above non-governmental organizations during 2000-01.\textsuperscript{140} Further, the government sanctioned a sum of Rs. 2.33 lakhs for 2001-2002, Rs.0.75 lakhs for 2002-03, Rs.0.75 lakhs for 2003-2004; Rs.0.78 lakhs during 2004-2005; Rs. 0.81 lakhs during 2005-06.\textsuperscript{141}

\textsuperscript{138} Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Performance Budget 2010-2011.

\textsuperscript{139} G.O. Ms. No. 79, SWANMP Dept., dt. 21-5-1999.

\textsuperscript{140} Letter from the Director of Social Defence, Letter No. 6407/B-1/2000, dt. 9-5-2000, 22-6-2000 and 7-7-2000.

\textsuperscript{141} Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Performance Budget 2007-2008.
Short Stay Home

A home for stranded girls is also functioning at Chennai (Abhaya Nilayam) and Tirunelveli by an Non-Governmental Organisation. Girls are permitted to stay for a period of 90 days, which can be extended for an additional period of 45 days. The girls admitted in the short stay homes are as follows;

Statistical data of beneficiaries under the Short Stay Home scheme

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<td>2</td>
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</table>

Source: Government of Tamil Nadu, SWANMP Dept., Performance Budget 2010-2011.

Several international conventions and governance were insisted the right of child especially adequate nutrition, dress, shelter, education, protection and other welfare services. It is human instinct to protect and care for children. The integrated child protection scheme has been introduced with the high goal that all the children of the society could be well cared.