CHAPTER VII
FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

7.1 INTRODUCTION

7.2 PERFORMANCE OF THE TNSCB

7.3 PROFILE OF THE BENEFICIARIES

7.4 HOUSING CONDITION OF THE BENEFICIARIES BEFORE AVAILING THE BENEFIT OF TNSCB

7.5 HOUSING CONDITION OF THE BENEFICIARIES AFTER AVAILING THE BENEFIT OF TNSCB

7.6 HOUSING PROVISIONS

7.7 HOUSING AMENITIES

7.8 PROXIMITY TO PUBLIC AMENITIES

7.9 NEIGHBORHOOD RELATIONSHIP

7.10 DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN

7.11 ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

7.12 COMMON AMENITIES

7.13 STANDARD OF LIVING

7.14 COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF TNSCB SCHEMES

7.15 QUANTITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS

7.16 QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS
7.17 IMPACT OF THE PROGRAMMES AND SCHEMES

7.18 CONCLUSION

7.19 SUGGESTIONS

7.19.1. Innovative Technology

7.19.2. Earthquake Resistant Rural Houses

7.19.3. Cyclone Resistant Rural Houses

7.19.4. Rural Road Network

7.19.5 Rural Renewable Energy Programme

7.19.6. Rural Electrification

7.19.7. Integrated Approach to Water

7.19.8. Rural Sanitation

7.19.9 Rural Health Facilities

7.19.10. Rural Infrastructure

7.19.11 Educating Rural Mass

7.19.12 Rural Employment

7.19.13 Awareness building
CHAPTER VII

FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

7.1 INTRODUCTION

Shelter and development are complementary and supplementary to each other. Provision of shelter has been one of the critical components of the Government’s strategy for employment generation and poverty alleviation in rural areas since the beginning of the planning era in the country. In November 1988, the United Nations had called upon all the Governments of the world to formulate their respective National Housing Policies. Accordingly, the Government of India had adopted the National Housing Policy in 1994 for the promotion of this sector.

The Indian economy is predominantly rural and more than 72% of the people reside in rural areas. The Government is committed to the goal of ending all shelterlessness by the end of the 10th Plan period. Rural Housing and infrastructure forms part of the National Common Minimum Programme. The National Mission for Rural Housing and Habitat has been launched to bring forth a new sense of urgency and seriousness with an emphasis on fixed goals and clear time frame. The National Agenda for Governance has declared Housing for all as a priority area setting a target of construction of 20 lakh additional dwelling units each year for the poor out of which 13 lakh units will be constructed in the rural areas, reflecting an equivalent of 3562 rural houses to be built every day.

India has experienced rapid growth of population during the last five decades. The total populations increased by 2.61 fold percent, rural population by 2.3 fold percent and urban population by 4.19 fold percent during the period 1951-
2001. The population growth has generated a new demand for dwelling units and due to deterioration of old housing stock, the requirement for upgradation has also added to the new demand. There is a clear correlation between poverty and housing: the poor person either does not have a house or lives in an unserviceable katcha house. According to the 2001 census, the housing shortage is estimated to be to the tune of 31.1 million dwelling units, around 4.91 million households are accessed against the availability of total housing stock, and another 12.50 million households reside in unserviceable katcha houses, 6.3 million affected by obsolescence and 7.4 million due to congestion. The housing shortage estimated for rural areas works out to be 14.8 million units. The Government of Tamil Nadu has implemented a scheme called Housing for Rural Poor since 2004-05. Under this programme, the katcha houses are upgraded at a cost of Rs.10000 of which Rs.7000 is provided as loan and Rs.2500 is State subsidy. Rs.500 is to be contributed by the beneficiaries. The Government of Tamil Nadu is also contributing Rs.9000 per unit for construction of RCC roof of IAY house. The Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board is implementing a number of programmes for the slum dwellers to give a secured and decent life for them. The present study has been narrowed down to study the effectiveness of the schemes through its performance and satisfaction from the beneficiaries. For the purpose of the study, the survey has been conducted among 410 respondents who are enjoying the benefits under various schemes in Tirunelveli District. Their views are summarized and interpreted as below.
7.2 PERFORMANCE OF THE TNSCB

The performance of the TNSCB has been good over the years. During the year 2005-06, it has achieved the physical measures of 20783 and the financial outlay of 1087.82 lakhs. With regards to the individual scheme disbursement, EIUS has attained the first place and is followed by TNUDP, clearance programme, cash loan, fire proof, land bank scheme, VAMBAY, and Shelter for the Shelterless. Tirunelveli Division is one of the pioneer divisions under Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board. The performance of the board by the implementation of various schemes and the proportion of the amount exclusively spent for Tirunelveli District are being analyzed and it reveals the fact that under the land bank scheme and fire proof measures, the entire amount has been spent for Tirunelveli District alone, and the rest of the schemes on an average of 60% has been spent for the district. Hence it can be concluded that the Tirunelveli district is the privileged district, which enjoys the maximum benefits from TNSCB.

7.3 PROFILE OF THE BENEFICIARIES

Out of the sample respondents, 24% have availed the benefits from EIUS scheme, 17% from TNUDP, 14% from cash loan scheme, 11% each from Clearance scheme and Nehru Rozagar Yojana scheme, 7% from VAMBAY, 6% from Shelter for Shelterless and 5% each from Land Bank Scheme and Fire Proof Sheds. As per the religious classification, 72% belongs to Hindu religion, 19% belong to Christian religion and only 9% belong to Muslim religion. With regards to the caste-wise classification, 54% belong to BC, 8% MBC, and 38% SC/ST. the respondents include 66% male and 34% female, 78% live in Nuclear families and 22% in joint families. The literacy rate of the respondents is very low with no
degree holders, 16% illiterates, 45% with primary school education, 28% with middle school education, 10% with high school education and only 1% with higher secondary education. The family size of the beneficiaries consist of less than three members for 25%, four members for 38%, 5 members for 28% and 6 members for 9% and are with the income level of less than Rs.1000 for 15%, Rs.1000 to Rs.1500 for 39%, Rs.1500 to Rs.2000 for 29% and above 2000 for 17%. Only 46% are able to raise additional income by way of agriculture and livestock.

7.4 HOUSING CONDITION OF THE BENEFICIARIES BEFORE AVAILING THE BENEFIT OF TNSCB

Before getting the benefit from TNSCB, 40% of the sample beneficiaries have lived in rented houses and 60% have lived in their own houses. Regarding the type of the house, 22% have lived in semi puca houses, 46% in Katcha houses and 32% in Huts. Their feelings on the education level of their children are good for 37% and the same is bad for 63% of the beneficiaries. For 26% of the respondents, the environmental position of their previous dwelling place is good and for 74%, it is bad. Hence, the housing condition and its surroundings are not satisfactory to most of the respondents.

7.5 HOUSING CONDITION OF THE BENEFICIARIES AFTER AVAILING THE BENEFIT OF TNSCB

After having availed the benefit through TNSCB, all the respondents are able to get their own houses. Out of the total respondents, 79% have individual units, 10% have combined units and 11% have multi-storied units. For 37%, the nature of the houses is puca, for 23%, it is semi puca and for 40%, it is Katcha.
Among the respondents, 13% have single room, 48% have two rooms and 40% have three rooms for their dwelling.

7.6 HOUSING PROVISIONS

To lead a safe and comfortable life, everyone needs the basic infrastructure for their houses. The survey, which has been conducted in this regard reveals that 59% of the respondents have the feeling that the space is sufficient for them, 60% are satisfied with the electrification facilities, 39% with the ventilation facilities, 4% with the chimney provisions, and 45% with smokeless Chula. However, the overall satisfaction in this regard is 41%.

7.7 HOUSING AMENITIES

Without having the basic amenities, one cannot live in a house. In response to the questions raised in this connection, the beneficiaries are of the opinion that only 34% are satisfied with the location of the house, 49% with the flooring condition, 49% with walls, 57% with the roofs, 55% with lighting, 47% with ventilation, 39% with bathing facilities, 14% with plinth area, 13% with the room size and only 48% with the security facilities. They are highly satisfied with the flooring and are least satisfied with the size of the room. However, the overall satisfaction in this connection is 41%.

7.8 PROXIMITY TO PUBLIC AMENITIES

Proximity to public amenities is essential to meet the basic and fundamental needs of the society. If the families are isolated and scattered in various places, their time and cost will be wasted. As per the opinion of the respondents regarding the proximity of important places, 87% are satisfied with the nearness of the main
village being near to them, 60% with the nearness of their place of work, for 83% provision store being near to them, 81% with the nearness of the fair price shop, 60% with the nearness of the hospital, 34% with the nearness of the health centre, 13% with the nearness of the post office, 19% with the nearness of the library, 76% with the nearness of the bus stop, 78% with the nearness of the primary school, 68% with the nearness of the middle school, 35% with the nearness of the high school and 80% with the nearness of transport facilities. The high satisfaction of the respondents lies in the nearness of the main village and they are not provided with facilities of post office and library. The average score in this regard is 60%.

7.9 NEIGHBORHOOD RELATIONSHIP

Human beings live in a web of society and as such human relationships play a vital role in all spheres of their lives. It is inferred from the study that both the men and women have moderate relationship with their neighbors and with their fellow occupants. The average relationship score is 57%.

7.10 DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN

The aspiration of every Indian parent is to give good education and to provide good healthy conditions for their children. Here, out of the total respondents, 109 families have no children. For the rest, the development due to the change of the dwelling place is 19% in behaviour, 19% in friendship, 41% in the educational level and 41% in the health level. The high satisfactions here are for education and health and they are less satisfied with the behaviour and friendship of children.
7.11 ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

This consists of the source of drinking water, accessibility and category of road, drainage and street light facilities, method of waste disposal and latrine. There are 80% of the sample respondents who depend on tap water, 7% on public wells, 4% on hand pump and 9% on in-house facility. The accessibility of road is easy for 98% and is difficult for only 2%, 74% have enjoyed the benefit of tar road, 20% cement road and for 4%, it is mud road. With regards to the drainage facilities, 70% have open drainage and only 30% have closed drainage facility. The street light facility is available to all the respondents. 97% of the respondents have the practice of dumping their wastes, 2% by burning and 1% have composting practice. For 13%, the nature of the toilet is open field, 47% use public latrine, and 40% use in-house latrine system.

7.12 COMMON AMENITIES

Here, common amenities consist of common reading room, common arts and sports club, common public telephone, common burial ground and common television and radio. The survey result reveals that 17% have enjoyed common television facilities, 14% have radio, 24% have reading room, 1% have arts and sport club, 50% have public telephone and 2% have burial ground provisions.

7.13 STANDARD OF LIVING

The income earning capacity, expenditure pattern, borrowing and the saving mode usually determine the standard of living of the people. From among the sample respondents, 15% are able to earn an income of below Rs.1000, 39% between Rs.1000 and Rs.1500, 29% from Rs.1500 to Rs.2000 and 17% have above
Rs.2000. Comparatively, the earning capacity of the slum dwellers is low. The expenditure pattern includes 52% on food, 9% on clothing, 11% on housing, 7% on education, 5% on medical care, 4% on electricity, 5% on fuel and 12% on unspecified common expenditure. With respect to the mode of saving, 38% have no savings, 20% have their savings at post offices, 9% at banks, 12% in chit funds and 22% have the same in unspecified modes. It is good to note that 55% of the respondents have no debt at all, 16% have debt of less than Rs.5000, 12% in between Rs.5000 and Rs.10000, and 9% have it above Rs.10000. Only 24% have made their contribution in the form of material and 25% in the form of labour and none of them have contributed any cash towards the construction of the house. Among them, 46% have found it difficult to repay the loan and the rest of 54% do not have any difficulty in repayment. However, 42% are satisfied with the performance of the schemes, 43% is of the opinion that it is good for them and for, 16%, it is poor. Since 85% are satisfied with the performance of the schemes, it is very well observed that the schemes are being effectively implemented.

7.14 COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE IMPACT OF TNSCB SCHEMES

To compare and find out whether the beneficiaries are really benefited through the existing schemes and to know their problems in getting access to various facilities and the factors influencing their satisfaction, certain statistical tools have been applied for further analysis of the collected data. There is significant difference in the opinion of the people regarding the various schemes of Slum Clearance Board and it is revealed that the beneficiaries are well satisfied with the existing schemes in operation. As per the opinion of the beneficiaries, the scheme TNUDP ranks first which is followed by Shelter for the Shelterless, Fire
Proof Sheds, Nehru Rozgar Yojana, Land Bank, Cash Loan Scheme, EIUS, and Slum Clearance Programme. There is no significant difference in the opinion of the people with regards to the different schemes.

7.15 QUANTITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS

There is considerable difference in the housing pattern of the beneficiaries. The average score of the mean scores on different facilities at home and its premises are evaluated and is found to be 5.5. Except the plinth area, room size, securities, bathing facilities and ventilation, the beneficiaries are satisfied with all the other infrastructure facilities. Their satisfaction is high in case of location, floor, roofing condition, walls and lighting. The comparative test through chi square analysis shows a positive result that there is significant difference in the basic facilities provided in the slum houses. The sample beneficiaries are able to get all the basic facilities near their dwelling place but they find some difficulties with regard to health centre, post office, high school and library. The chi square test for the overall score shows a significant difference in the facilities whereas the mean score shows no significant difference. The infrastructure facilities of the houses differ with regard to the type of schemes, as the calculated value is greater than the table value. The result shows that as per the opinion of the people there is no significant difference in the mean values of the area infrastructure with regards to the functioning of different schemes. With regard to the different schemes in operation, the mean rank for the houses provided by the Slum Clearance Board, EIUS, VAMBAY, Land Bank Scheme, TNUDP and Cash Loan Scheme have exceeded the average rank and the chi square test for individual opinion shows a significant difference and the mean rank chi-square shows no
significant difference. Hence, the types of schemes will not hold well in providing area infrastructure of the beneficiaries.

As per the opinion of the beneficiaries, the mean score of only four schemes fall above average and among them Cash Loan Scheme stood first and is followed by TNUDP, Nehru Rozagar Yojana and EIUS. The score is comparatively low for Fire Proof Sheds. However, the comparative analysis shows a highly significant difference in the area infrastructure available in the implementation of various schemes. There is significant difference between the type of schemes and the opinion of the beneficiaries. There is considerable difference in the facilities with regard to the type of the scheme. There is considerable difference in the area infrastructure with regard to the type of the schemes.

7.16 QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS

There is significant difference in the education level of the children of the beneficiaries after having benefited from the SCB. There is significant difference in the health condition of the children of the beneficiaries after having benefited from the SCB. The relationships of the beneficiaries with their neighbors do not differ significantly as the calculated value is less than the table value. The beneficiaries could not find a significant difference among their children with regard to the improvement of their character, education and health conditions.

There is significant difference between the monthly income and expenditure of beneficiaries. There is no significant difference in the income earning capacity of the beneficiaries with regards to the type of schemes. There is
no significant difference in expenditure pattern of beneficiaries due to the type of schemes. The conclusion derived from the test is that the type of scheme will not be an influencing factor over the monthly expenditure of the beneficiaries. There is considerable difference in the savings of the beneficiaries. The house infrastructure and area infrastructure do differ significantly. There is significant difference in the beneficiary participation by way of material and labour through the various schemes.

7.17 IMPACT OF THE PROGRAMMES AND SCHEMES

The infrastructure of house as well as area do not differ significantly neither with regards to the different programmes nor with the type of scheme that is, whether free scheme or payment scheme. But they do have the satisfaction of the same. They are able to increase their income level, expenditure level and saving level too and thus provide a fairly good standard of life to the slum dwellers.

7.18 CONCLUSION

A large number of people in India are living in more than half a million villages with different geo-climatic conditions, living patterns, socio-economic conditions and rich cultural heritage. The majority of the people are deprived of decent living conditions. Successive Governments have recognized this as an all India problem and initiated a number of programmes. But unless there is acceleration in the actual construction of rural housing units, the problem cannot be solved. Housing is a basic necessity of the human beings. There is acute shortage of houses in the rural area as is evident from the findings of the 2001 census. To meet the requirement of houses in the rural areas, in addition to Central and State
sponsored housing schemes, the Panchayats themselves should come forward to provide shelter to the villagers in the shortest period.

Rural water supply and sanitation facilities are vital elements in the overall programme for rural development. Other related elements include infrastructural issues like land and watershed management, soil conservation, afforestation etc., and social issues like primary health centre, eradication of illiteracy, women's welfare, child nutrition and immunization etc. It is desirable that the thrust and implementation of as many of these programmes as possible are converged in order to provide for integrated rural development. Eradication of poverty and provision of a decent standard of living has been a running theme of Indian Budgets. Improvement in living condition of the people especially in the rural areas has been given a place of prominence. There is a realization within the government and outside that poverty is a multi-dimensional problem. Different needs of the people have to be addressed to make a lasting impact on incidence of poverty. This requires provision of employment opportunities, access to health, education, drinking water and sanitation, connectivity and other facilities that are necessary for creating an environment that would enable people to realize their full potential.

Through Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, the slum people of Tirunelveli District have benefited a lot. They are able to lead a secure life with the fulfillment of their basic needs. The house infrastructure and area infrastructure are satisfactory. The income generation and standard of living are moderate which needs improvement. The performance of TNSCB is fairly good and it has to give much importance to the improvement of infrastructure. If the proposed schemes
are being properly implemented, certainly it will be a booster and benefit to the shelterless people. The beneficiaries are able to bring up their children well and are in a position to increase their standard of living. The structural changes are apparent as they could find a change in their housing pattern. The infrastructure is good but needs certain improvement by way of providing libraries and post offices which will give a decent life to them. If regular employment and income are guaranteed to them, they can find a better revenue and avenue for their life.

7.19 SUGGESTIONS

7.19.1. Innovative Technology

Several innovative materials and construction techniques have been developed for a wide variety of applications in buildings, especially in low cost mass house programmes in rural and semi-urban areas. These materials and techniques are effective, affordable and easily adoptable. The adoption adds to improvement in the housing environment as well as improvement in the quality of life of the people. These technologies can be implemented with local labour leading to improvement in the economic condition of the villagers.

7.19.2. Earthquake Resistant Rural Houses

Earthquake is a natural phenomenon, which cannot be stopped; only preventive measures are required to avoid the loss of property and lives. To minimize damage to rural houses requires the knowledge for safe design of buildings against earthquakes including its strengthening. Heavy structures with thick roofs of mud are liable to collapse. Better to use lightweight systems of roofing and walls. Horizontal bands at roof, gable end, lintel and plinth level
should be provided along with corner reinforcement in all buildings. The plan of buildings should be compact as far as possible to resist the vibration affects.

7.19.3. Cyclone Resistant Rural Houses

Cyclones are the most destructive kind of storms, which frequently strike the rural areas. The damages are mainly due to the low cost materials and poor jointing details. The use of existing knowledge to withstand the heavy winds in designing wind-resistant houses would reduce the destruction of property, expenditure required for repairs and reconstruction of buildings. Cyclone resistant construction should be promoted and incorporated as part of buildings construction activity.

7.19.4. Rural Road Network

The pivotal role that roads are destined to play in accelerating the pace of development of rural areas can hardly be over emphasized. The road network planning in rural areas should promote objectives like accessibility and connectivity to most of the places in the region. The survey result reveals that only 74% of the respondents have tar road connections while others are connected with cement and mud road. This can be taken care of to avoid delay in emergencies and to promote transitional changes in the socio-economic status of the people. Rural roads are important for the overall economic growth of rural economy.

7.19.5 Rural Renewable Energy Programme

Rural India’s quest for clean energy is far from reality. The study reveals that only 45% of the beneficiaries are satisfied with smokeless Chulas. Integrated Energy programmes with the help of biogas or solar systems can be introduced in
the slum areas so that they can be jointly benefited. These programmes serve multiple objectives of providing clean and cheap renewable energy for cooking, enriched organic manure, freedom from kitchen pollutants and checking the indiscriminate and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources in rural areas.

7.19.6. Rural Electrification

Lack of sustainable and affordable energy is one of the many factors limiting people living in rural and inaccessible areas in achieving a dignified life with food and livelihood security. Among various forms of energy, electricity is unarguably the most effective energy source for achieving rural information and for reducing poverty. According to 2001 census, only 43.5% of her rural households in the country receive the benefits of electricity. As per the survey result, only 60% of the slum dwellers are satisfied with the existing electricity facilities. Hence, efforts can be taken to give complete provision of electricity so that the slum dwellers can enjoy both the direct and indirect benefit of electrification and can lead a happy and normal life.

7.19.7. Integrated Approach to Water

Water is the most precious and indispensable resource and fundamental to the survival of human being, livestock and plants. The general comment on the right to water adopted by the Convent on Economic Social and Cultural Rights in November 2002 recognized water as a fundamental human right and stated that everyone has access to safe and secures drinking water, equally without discrimination. As per the study report of slum dwellers, 80% depend on tap water, 7% on public wells, 4% on hand pump and 9% on in-house facility. The prime responsibility of a nation is to ensure safe drinking water to all its citizens.
Provision of assuring safe drinking water for all is an arduous task for the government. Therefore, besides the government, the private sector, the corporate sector, NRIs, NGOs and the like should share the burden of the provision, operation and maintenance of safe drinking water sources in the country in general and in rural areas in particular.

7.19.8. Rural Sanitation

Sanitation is used to define a package of health related measures. It is also defined as the means of collecting and disposing of excreta and community liquid wastes in a hygienic way so as not to endanger the health of the individual and the community as a whole. Human excreta is the cause of many enteric diseases such as cholera, dysentery, typhoid, paratyphoid, infectious hepatitis, hookworm, diarrhea etc. about 80% of the diseases prevalent in the rural area are attributed to poor sanitation facilities and practices. It is apparent from the study that 97% of the respondents have the practice of dumping their wastes, 2% by burning and 1% have composting practice. For 14%, the nature of the toilet is open field, 47% use public latrine, and 40% use in-house latrine system. The existing sanitation conditions call for a new strategy of making rural sanitation a people's programme with government participation. The government can at best act as a prompter and facilitator in the implementation of successful programmes.

7.19.9 Rural Health Facilities

Health Is Wealth, recognizing the need and importance of health in the process of the country's socio-economic development and improving the quality of life of its people, the Government of India has undertaken quite a number of policies. But it is estimated that around 20% of the country's requirement of health
care is met through public health care system and the remaining through private health care systems. Out of the sample slum dwellers, 60% are satisfied with the nearness of the hospital, 34% with the nearness of the health care centre and for 41%, the health condition of their children has improved after having shifted to the houses given by TNSCB. Though the health care system has expanded considerably over the last few decades, the quality of services is not uniform due to various reasons. Hence, standards are being introduced in order to improve the quality of public health and to provide medical services at the doorsteps of rural people to transform the health status of the village, society and the nation.

7.19.10. Rural Infrastructure

Infrastructure is a very important input, which provides basic amenities to improve the quality of life. It is the critical determinant of the pace at which an economy can grow. Investments in rural infrastructure have been reported to have a significant impact on increases in economic activities in the area and consequent reduction in poverty. The provision of infrastructure brings many benefits to the rural areas. It reduces the transportation cost and improves access to health, education and other facilities. Tamil Nadu ranks 3rd in the infrastructure index of India. But the Tirunelveli slum dwellers find difficulty in getting access to post office and library with the overall satisfaction level of 60% towards infrastructure and 32% towards the housing conditions. Hence, it is imperative to restructure the infrastructure facilities of the slum area so that the slum dwellers can also reap the economic and social benefit.
7.19.11 Educating Rural Mass

Literacy paves the way for education, which engineers a sound foundation for the development of knowledge. Mahatma Gandhi considered illiteracy a sin and strongly advocated assigning number one priority to its eradication on the agenda of social transformation. The rural mass is deprived of the available benefits as the channels stand as a barrier and create a big gap in the distribution process. A structural change in the distribution process is urgently needed to promote proper education to the users. The literacy rate of the respondents is very low with no degree holders, 15% illiterates, 45% with primary school education, 29% with middle school education, 10% with high school education and only 1% with higher secondary education. They have primary school near their dwellings, middle school at a distance and high school at some more distance. The Government can give importance to both Higher Education and job-oriented education so that they will become aware of their rights and thus will help them to fulfill their dream in life.

7.19.12 Rural Employment

Promotion of productive employment opportunities was one of the commitments of the Government and as such through the Department of Rural Development it enhances schemes, which directly contribute to rural job opportunities. The Public Works Programmes, which provide unskilled manual work to people in the rural areas, have been a major component of the government's policy for alleviation of poverty, protection of nutritional security, creation of rural infrastructure and prevention of rural distress migration in the event of natural calamities. The Wage Employment Programmes provide
immediate supplementary income and are critical to rural poor whose asset is only labour. The study shows that 15% are able to earn an income of less than Rs.1000, Rs.1000 to Rs.1500 for 39%, Rs.1500 to Rs.2000 for 29% and above 2000 for 17%. Only 46% are able to raise additional income by way of agriculture and livestock. Since the income level of the beneficiaries are very low, efforts can be taken to provide regular and guaranteed employment to the slum dwellers so that their lives can be enriched and enlightened. They can be imparted with the knowledge of National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme.

7.19.13 Awareness building

The budgetary allocations for Ministry of Rural Development and other related ministries are Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Mid-day Meal Scheme, Rajeev Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, Total Sanitation Campaign, National Rural Health Mission, Integrated Child Development Services, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission etc., are exclusively meant for the well being and upliftment of the rural mass. If these programmes are properly implemented, there will not be any poverty or ill health among the rural mass. Proper awareness should be imparted to make the beneficiaries to be aware of the schemes and to make use of it.