

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
Dept. of Social Welfare (PLANNING BRANCH)
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MATERIAL FOR PREPARATION FOR ECONOMIC SURVEY 2010-11

DEPARTMENT SOCIAL WELFARE

Government of Delhi on one hand is making concerted efforts to ensure that the weaker sections of the society, disadvantaged groups and physically challenged persons get better care & support and on the other hand through another batch of schemes and programmes, the Government is marching ahead towards providing social security to aged and other vulnerable groups. For undertaking all such welfare measures, the Social Welfare Department is the nodal department, for which they have at their disposal a network of residential care homes and non institutional services spread all over Delhi. Details of programmes implemented by the Department are given below:

Schemes and Programmes

WELFARE OF SENIOR CITIZENS

Government of Delhi has brought out “a policy for senior citizens” which is in consonance with the National Policy, at the same time addresses the specific concerns of senior citizens in NCT of Delhi. The policy considers persons of 60 years and more in age as “Senior Citizens”. The policy envisages ensuring welfare of Senior Citizens and improving quality of their lives. It aims at providing assistance to enable them to cope with the problems of old age. It also proposes affirmative action by the Government Departments in collaboration with civil society for ensuring that the existing public services for Senior Citizens are made more user friendly and sensitive to the needs of Senior Citizens. Government of Delhi would also consider to have a public education mechanism to prepare people for old age persons in order to ensure that they are able to grow gracefully and remain financially secure in their later years. As per census 2001, the total population of Senior Citizens (60 years & above), both males and females, living in urban and rural areas in Delhi, was 7,19,650 against a total population of 1,38,50,507. Out of these, 3,66,466 (51%) were males and 3,53,184 (49%) females. There are a number of schemes being implemented by Social Welfare Department for Welfare of Senior Citizens. The prominent among them is Senior Citizen Pension scheme.

There is one scheme which is being implemented by Department of Social Welfare under Financial Assistance Section for welfare of Senior Citizens . Under Senior Citizen Pension Scheme, Senior Citizen Pension is remitted on quarterly basis in the saving accounts of the beneficiaries maintained either in the bank or Post Office, through Electronic Clearing System of RBI. The resident of Delhi for 5 year with proof and above 60 yrs and are having Family income less than Rs. 60,000/- per annual are eligible. The income does not include income of independent sons and daughters. The recommendation of the area MLA / MP Gazetted Officer of State /Central Govt. is necessary. The applicant must have an ID proof as listed in notification. In 2009-10 an amount of Rs. 310 crore was utilized and about 249,588 beneficiaries were covered and in 2010-11 (up to December 2010) an amount of Rs 30175.03 lacs was utilized and about 306451 beneficiaries were covered. From April 2008 , rate of pension has been enhanced from Rs. 600/- month to Rs. 1000/- per month.

The Department has a Plan Scheme of Setting up of Old Age Homes in various parts of Delhi. Two homes are already functioning at Kalkaji and Tilak Vihar. The construction of old Age Home at Bindapur and Dwarka, Sector 8 has been done by DSIIDC., The Department has constructed two old age homes and decided to convert these homes by shifting the Mentally retarded home to decongest the mentally challenged home, Avantika. The matter is under process.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India issued a “ National Policy on Senior Citizens “ in January 1999 . The Policy provides broad guidance in various areas for helping Senior Citizens in the country to realize their full potential. The Department of Social Welfare, Government of NCT Delhi has accordingly formulated a policy, which while being in consonance with the National Policy addresses the concerns of the older citizens in NCT of Delhi.

In pursuance of the policy the government notified “ The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007” which provides for effective provisions for the maintenance and welfare of parents and senior citizens guaranteed and recognized under the Constitution. The policy envisages ensuring welfare of Senior Citizens and improving the quality of their lives. It aims at providing assistance to enable them to cope up with the problems of old age. It also proposes affirmative action by the Government Departments in collaboration with civil society for ensuring that the existing public services for Senior Citizens are made more user friendly and sensitive to the need of Senior Citizens. The Government recognizes Seniors Citizens in NCT of Delhi as individuals worthy to respect, care and protection. There have been initiatives undertaken by the government to provide a supportive environment to Senior Citizens to live with purpose, peace and dignity.

The Government of Delhi has notified and set up maintenance Tribunal in all Nine Districts to provide for more effective provisions for the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens guaranteed and recognized under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.

The Maintenance Tribunals functions from the Office premises of ADMs of the respective Districts and the DC (New Delhi).

The other notable achievements is that there are altogether 65 recreation centers being run in partnership with Civil Society Organization in different areas of Delhi benefiting all cases of Sr. citizens and another 28 new Organization for running recreation centers is to be for further process and operational zed in this year. The Government of Delhi is committed towards well-being and holistic development of the elderly citizen in Delhi.

Under the plan scheme of Welfare Programme for Aged Persons the aim is to cover the Honorarium/ Sitting allowance for non-official member of Maintenance Tribunal, Workshop expenses, expenses of construction of Old Age Home and inspection expenses of Recreation center. Further to set up Appellate Tribunal to be constituted under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. an appointment of member maintenance & Appellate Tribunal is under process .

Welfare of Persons with disabilities

As per survey conducted during NSS 58th round by Directorate of Economics and Statistics between July 2002 and December 2002, the following facts have come to lights.

- The survey estimated the total number of physically challenged persons in Delhi as 102427 on 1st October,2002, which constitutes about 0.71% of projected population on that day. Out of this 4966 were in rural areas and 97461 in urban areas.
- Sex-wise breakup revealed that out of the total, 65351 (63.80%) were male and 37076 (36.20%) female.
- Out of the total, 12970 (12.66%) were of Mental category, 7308 (7.13%) visual, 5326 (5.20%) communication, 70026 (68.37%) locomotor and 6797 (6.64%) were in the category of multiple disability.
- The survey revealed that Delhi had a disability prevalence rate of 707 persons as against 1755 persons at all India level. In rural Delhi, this rate was 502 and in urban, the rate was recorded as 722.
- Out of the total physically challenged persons in Delhi (5 years and above)

63.08% were literate and 36.92% were illiterate.

- 9.84% were educated upto the 10+2 and above, 7.63% upto secondary level, 13.21% cleared middle and 32.40% attained upto primary level of education.

- Extent of disability : 58.62% of the physically challenged persons can take care of themselves without any aid/appliance, 18.05% with aid/appliance and 19.08% cannot take care of themselves on their own.

- 28.60% were in labour force and the remaining 71.40% were out of labour force in Delhi. The above findings are kept in view by the respective departments while drawing up their schemes for the physically challenged groups. The Department of Social Welfare is running 4 schools for deaf with 966 students, 3 training cum production Centres and 2 sheltered workshop for the physically handicapped, 1 hostel for the college going blind boys and 1 school for the visually handicapped with 113 students and three homes and one school for mentally retarded children with 682 students. Further, Social Welfare Department has constructed a primary school for deaf at Nehru Vihar at the cost of Rs. about 7.00 crore for providing educational facilities for deaf children for the school going age as well as for running a programme for the rehabilitation of the disabled. Various disability camps were organized in different districts to give the information about the schemes being implemented by Social Welfare Department for welfare of physically challenged persons in Delhi and to provide aid and appliance free of cost to the disabled in collaboration with Bhagwan Mahavir Viklang Sewa samiti.

There is also a scheme of Financial Assistance subsistence allowance to person with Special Needs in which an allowance @ Rs. 1000/- p.m. is remitted quarterly, provided they have more than 40% disability, are between the age group 0-60 years, have residence proof in Delhi for min. 5 years prior to application, with family income not more than Rs. 75000/- p.a. Mentally Challenged and ill as per National Trust Act have also been included in the scheme for the benefits. This Scheme was started in 2008-09. In 2009-10 an amount of Rs7.61 crores was utilized and about 6030 beneficiaries were covered and in 2010-11 (up to December 2010) an amount of Rs. 1217.96 Lakhs was utilized and about 12070 beneficiaries were covered.

JAN SHREE BEEMA YOJANA

With the objective to provide life insurance protection to the rural & urban poor persons below the poverty line & marginally above poverty line, "Jan Shree Beema Yojana" Scheme was introduced in 2003-04 in collaboration with LIC. From April 2008, the beneficiaries are insured for Rs. 50,000 in case of accidental death, Rs. 20,000 in case of natural death and Rs. 50,000 in case of permanent disability. The premium is to be borne by Central and State Government on 50:50 basis and no amount is to be charged from the beneficiaries, which was there in the original scheme.

NATIONAL FAMILY BENEFIT SCHEME

The objective of the scheme is to provide assistance to poor households on the events of the death of the breadwinner. Amount of benefit is Rs. 10,000/- in case of death of primary breadwinner, irrespective of the cause of death viz. natural or accidental.

BEGGARS

There are 12 institutions for the beggars in various parts of Delhi, which look after beggars as and when beggars are rounded up and sent to these homes under the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959 as extended to UT of Delhi.

WELFARE OF LEPROSY AFFECTED PERSONS

A Rehabilitation Center for Leprosy [RCL] affected person was established during the year 1980-81. At present S.W.Department is paying Rs 1800/- p.m. to RCL beneficiaries as financial assistance. The RCL is not a residential home. Most of the beneficiaries are residing in different areas of Delhi such as Tahirpur [Trans Yamuna], R.K.Puram, Sri Niwas Puri & Patel Nagar etc. The major colony of Leprosy affected persons is Tahirpur where Shelter workshop & Training cum Production center are located. In these centers, department provides production work facilities to enable leprosy affected persons to stand on their own legs and to make them economically independent. In these centers, department provides training facilities in handloom weaving, shoe-making, chalk making, handloom class etc.