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GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
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MATERIAL FOR PREPARATION FOR ECONOMIC SURVEY 2011-12

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

10 . Welfare of Senior Citizens

10.1 Government of Delhi has brought out "a policy for senior citizens" which is in consonance with the National Policy, and at the same time addresses the specific concerns of senior citizens in NCT of Delhi. The policy considers persons aged 60 years and above 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 having a public education mechanism to sensitize about issues and rights of older persons in order to ensure that they are able to grow gracefully and remain financially secure in their later years.

10.2 As per census 2001 the total population of senior citizens (60years and above), both males and females, living in urban and rural areas in Delhi, was 7,19,650(5.20 percent of total population of Delhi) total population of 1,38,50,507 . Out of these , 3,66,466(51 per cent) were males and 3,53,184 (49 per cent) females.

10.3 There are a number of schemes being implemented by Social Welfare Department for welfare of senior citizens. They are;

- **Senior Citizen Pension Scheme:** - This is being implemented by Department of Social Welfare under Financial Assistance Section for welfare of Senior Citizens . Under this 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 bonafide residents of Delhi for five years and aged 60 years and above and having family income less than Rs. 60,000/- per annum, are eligible for assistance under this scheme. The income does not include income of independent sons and daughters. The recommendation of the area MLA / MP/ Gazetted Officer of State /Central Government is necessary. The applicant must have a valid ID proof as listed in notification. From April 2008, rate of pension has been enhanced from Rs. 600/- pm to Rs. 1000/-per month. The quantum of financial assistance to senior citizens of 70 years and above has also



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been enhanced from Rs. 1000/- to 1500/- p.m w.e.f. October, 2011. The details of expenditure and beneficiaries are as under :-

Statement showing the expenditure and number of beneficiaries

S.No	Year	Modified budget (Rs.in lacs)	Expdr. (Rs.in lacs)	No.of beneficiaries
1.	2009-10	31000.00	30973.33	250000
2.	2010-11	41000.00	40990.64	338420
3.	2011-12	49000.00	35235.27 Upto Jan.2012	372000

- Old Age Homes:** The Department has a Plan Scheme of Setting up of Old Age Homes in various parts of Delhi. Two homes are functioning at Bindapur and Lampur. The aim and object of setting up of Old Age Homes is to provide a place to senior citizens where they may live gracefully in a congenial atmosphere. Under the scheme they shall be provided residential care including free boarding and lodging facilities, health care, reading room, recreation facilities, common prayer place & discourses etc. A new building for Old Age Home will be constructed at Kanti Nagar with a capacity of 100 persons at a total cost of Rs. 1220.00 lakhs. No land for Old Age home at Janak puri has been allotted. The land at Chitranjan Park for construction of old age home has been allotted by DDA as a fresh case, where possession is yet to be taken over. Payment has been made to DDA. The boundary wall of OAH at Rohini has constructed. DDA is yet to give the possession of plot at Vasant kunj, New Delhi.
- Recreation Centers** The other notable achievement is that there are altogether 69 recreation centers being run in partnership with Civil Society Organization in different areas of Delhi benefiting Senior Citizens. The aim of the recreation centres is the wholistic development of the elderly and they are being provided social, cultural , health and recreational facilities at these Recreation Centres. This current year (2011-12) target is to develop 100 new recreation centres for the development of senior citizens in Delhi. In the year 2011-12, 14 new recreation centres have been sanctioned in addition to existing 69 recreation centres thus totaling to 83 recreation centres. The Government of Delhi is committed towards well-being and holistic development of the elderly citizen in Delhi.
- Policy on Senior Citizens in Delhi:** - 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 State policy, which while being

in consonance with the National Policy addresses the concerns of the older citizens in NCT of Delhi.

10.4 In pursuance of the policy the government notified "The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007" which provides for effective 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 senior citizens in NCT of Delhi as individuals worthy of 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.

- **Maintenance Tribunal:-** 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 .
- **Appellate Tribunal:**
The Department has constituted nine Appellate Tribunals under Maintenance Act in all nine districts for providing better facilities for senior citizens. The **Appellate** Tribunals functions from the Office premises of Dy.Commissioner's of the respective districts .

10.5 Under the plan scheme "Welfare Programme for Aged persons", the honorarium/ sitting allowance for non-official member of Maintenance Tribunal and Appellate Tribunal, Workshop expenses, expenses of running old age home at Lampur and inspection expenses of recreation centers are covered.

11. Welfare of Persons with disabilities

11.1 As per survey conducted during National Sample Survey, 58" Round by Directorate of Economics and Statistics between July 2002 and December 2002, the following facts have come to light.

- The survey estimated the total number of physically challenged persons in Delhi as 102427 on 1st October, 2002, which constitutes about 0.71 percent of projected population on that day. Out of these, 4966 were in rural areas and the remaining 97461 in urban areas.

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Sex-wise breakup revealed that out of the total, 65351 (63.80 per cent) were male and the remaining 37076 (36.20 per cent) were female.

- Out of the total, 12970 (12.66 per cent) were mentally challenged, 7308 (7.13 percent) visual 5326 (5.20 percent) communication, 70026 (68.37 per cent) locomotors and 6797 (6.64 percent) 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 per cent were literate and 36.92 percent were illiterate.

- 9.84 percent were educated up to the higher secondary and above, 7.63 per cent up to secondary level, 13.21 per cent cleared middle and 32.40 per cent attained up to primary level of education.

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

- 28.60 per cent were in labour force and the remaining 71.40 per cent were non-workers 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 907 students. Further, Social Welfare Department has constructed a primary school for deaf at Nehru Vihar 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, appliances and disability certificates free of cost to the disabled in collaboration with Bhagwan Mahavin Viklang Sewa Samiti.

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The details of expenditure and beneficiaries are as under :-

Statement showing the expenditure, No. of camps and number of beneficiaries

S.No	Year	Modified budget (Rs.in lacs)	Expdr. (Rs.in lacs)	No. of camps held	No. of beneficiaries
1.	2009-10	60.00	59.90	25	4391 (673 disability certificates were issued)
2.	2010-11	50.00	43.79	19	3281
3.	2011-12	40.00	7.95 Upto Jan, 2012	24	

- There is also a scheme of financial assistance subsistence allowance to persons with special needs in which an allowance @ Rs. 1000/- p.m. is remitted quarterly, provided they have more than 40 per cent disability, are between the age group 0-60 years, have residence proof in Delhi for minimum five years prior to application, with family income not more than Rs. 75000/- per annum. Mentally challenged 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 Rs. 7.61 crore was utilized and about 6200 beneficiaries were covered and in 2010-11, an amount of Rs. 1786.48 lacs was utilized covering 25691 beneficiaries. In the year 2011-12, upto Jan. 2012 the Department has utilized an amount of Rs. 1947.63 lacs covering 23154 disabled persons.

Statement showing the expenditure and number of beneficiaries

S.No	Year	Modified budget (Rs.in lacs)	Expdr. (Rs.in lacs)	No. of beneficiaries
1.	2009-10	761.00	760.95	6200
2.	2010-11	2650.00	1786.48	25691
3.	2011-12	2850.00	1947.63 Upto Jan. 2012	23154

12. 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 of India. From April 2008, the beneficiaries are to be 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. The scheme is being implemented through SC/ST/minorities handicapped development Corporation.

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13. 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. During the year 2010-11, about 2077 beneficiaries were covered through this scheme. In the year 2011-12, upto Jan. 2012 the Department has utilized an amount of Rs. 135.00 lacs covering 1350 beneficiaries.

Statement showing the expenditure and number of beneficiaries

S.No	Year	Modified budget (Rs.in lacs)	Expdr. (Rs.in lacs)	No.of beneficiaries
1.	2009-10	195.00	161.70	1617
2.	2010-11	215.00	207.70	2077
3.	2011-12	220.00	135.00 Upto Jan.2012	1350

14. 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

15. WELFARE OF LEPROSY AFFECTED PERSONS

A Rehabilitation Center for Leprosy [RCL] affected person was established during the year 1980-81. At present Social Welfare Department is paying Rs 1800/- per month 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.