

## CHAPTER 17

# SOCIAL WELFARE

Through a host of programmes, 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 assistance and on the other, through another batch of schemes and programmes, the Government is marching ahead towards economic empowerment of women and 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:-

### 1. INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Under the Integrated Child Development scheme (ICDS), 28 ICDS centers are functioning in various parts of Delhi covering a targeted population of 4.61 lakh children up to age of 6 years as well as pregnant and nursing mothers who are economically deprived. Under the ICDS, supplementary nutrition was provided to 4.82 lakh children and women through 3842 anganwaris in 2005-06. At present supplementary Nutrition is provided at the rate of Rs.2/-per beneficiary per day for about 300 days in a year. In addition to the above mentioned 28 ICDS projects, another ICDS project (29th ICDS project) has been operationalised at Madanpur Khadar through Delhi Social Welfare Board.

### 2. WELFARE OF WOMEN

- i) As per 2001 Census, the total population of Delhi was 138.50 lakh person out of which, the female population of Delhi was 62.43 lakh. Thus, 45.08% of Delhi's total population is women. At the national level, the female population is of 48.26% of the total population.
- ii) Literacy rate of the women population of Delhi was 74.71% in 2001 as compared to 87.33% of male and 81.67% of the total. At the national level, the literacy rate of women population was 53.6%.
- iii) Number of female workers in Delhi was 5.85 lakh which is 12.87% of the total worker and 9.37% of the total female population in Delhi.

Keeping the need of women population of Delhi, Social Welfare Deptt. has a variety of programmes for their welfare and empowerment. The Deptt. is running 3 type of institutions i.e. After Care Home, Widow Home and Short Stay Home for Women to provide shelter, assistance, training, education, medical care and counseling to women in distress. To provide accommodation for

working women, 3 working women hostels have been set up by NDMC and one hostel with Day Care center has been setup by the Social Welfare department at Vishwas Nagar in the Trans-Yamuna area with a sanctioned capacity to house 100 women and 30 children. This hostel had been handed over to YWCA for management and operationalisation. One Working Women Hostel at Jawahar Lal Nehru University has been operationalised, which was constructed with GOI Fund. The department has also purchased land from DDA for construction of 6 working women hostels. Under the scheme of Vocational training, 1134 women were provided training through 25 work centers. Under the financial assistance scheme to widow for self-employment the Social Welfare department provides a one time financial assistance of Rs. 20,000/- to widow aged 18-45 years and Rs. 10,000/- to widows aged 46-59 years. During 2004-05 and 2005-06, 3497 and 3549 widows had benefited under this scheme respectively.

To safeguard and promote the interest of women, DELHI COMMISSION FOR WOMEN (DCW) was set up in 1996. DCW has formed 39 Mahila Panchayats. At present, 15 NGOs are participating in this programme. In addition, the Commission is running Family Counseling Unit called Sahyogani . Through Sahyogani, the Commission has created space where sensitive family issues can be discussed, counselling taken and reconciliation attempted at the pre-litigation stage. They have received 2367 cases.

Delhi Commission for women (DCW) has also started a Helpline in March 2000. Helpline provides counselling through telephone to help women in distress. 1423 cases have been settled through Sahyogini and 519 cases through HELPLINE.

The Social Welfare department has framed Dowry Prohibition Rules for effective implementation of the Dowry Prohibition Act and nominated District Social Welfare Officers as Dowry Prohibition Officer in all 10 districts under Social Welfare Department.

### **3. GENDER BUDGET:**

The plan schemes being implemented exclusively for women welfare have been identified and included under Gender Budget 2006-07 which is now part of the Budget Document, for the first time. It has been observed that an amount of Rs.56.77 crore has been provided for those schemes which are implemented exclusively for Women Welfare. However, there are many more schemes wherein some parts of the benefit also go for welfare of women, such scheme are being identified so that Gender Budgeting becomes comprehensive.

### **4. STREE SHAKTI CAMPS:**

Under Bhagidari scheme, of Delhi Govt., Stree Shakti programme was launched by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi in 2001. During the year 2005-06, 64 Stree Shakti Camps have been organized in 10 districts in coordination with department of Health, Education, Training & Technical Education and NGOs and 52370 women belonging to the weaker section of the society were benefited.

Some of the new services that were added to the Stree Shakti camps organized in 2005-06 included: Yoga, Mental Health Counseling, Immunization for children, Distribution of antenatal kits, popularizing preventive aspects of public health care, creating awareness about financial assistance availability for self employment of women etc.

## 5. GENDER RESOURCE CENTERS (GRC-STREE KOSH):

For overall empowerment of women under Bhagidari Scheme, Delhi Govt. is providing a package of benefits such as health, literacy and legal awareness and skill development programmes. There is also an effort in greater convergence of women welfare programmes and activities of Govt. and other agencies through single window Information & facilities center to provide wider exposure of services available and better placement opportunities to women. Till date 4 GRCs have been set up at the following locations:

1. Shahbad Daulatpur - Noth West-II
2. 13-14 Block, Basti Vikas Kendra, Kalyanpuri- East Delhi
3. Najafgarh District -South-West
4. Dakshin Puri District South

Under Bhagidari scheme, the department has also given Grant-in-aid to support NGOs to run need based skill development trainings and awareness programmes on Health, Nutrition, and Legal issues. More than 1900 women have benefited through health clinics. 1130 women were provided free legal aid and counseling. 1207 women were benefited through different skill development courses in the trades of beauty culture, Photography and Videography, computer home management and catering, embroidery and jute bag making. Further 1069 women belonging to different self-help groups have benefited through capacity building Programmes. More than 3000 women were benefited from 20 camps regarding legal awareness, health education demonstration organized/conducted by NGOs.

## 6. WELFARE OF SENIOR CITIZEN

- 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.
- 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. 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.

There are a number of schemes being implemented by Social Welfare Department for Welfare of Senior Citizens. The prominent among them are Old Age Pension and setting up of Old Age Homes. At present, around 1.50 lac senior citizens are being covered under Old Age Pension Scheme. Old Age pension @ Rs.350/- per month, on quarterly basis, is remitted in the savings accounts of the beneficiaries maintained either in bank or Post Office through Electronic Clearing System of RBI. The residents of Delhi who are above the age of 60 years (55 years for disabled) and are having family income of less than Rs.48,000/- per annum are eligible. The income does not include income of independent sons and daughters. The recommendation of the area MLA/MP is necessary. The applicant must have a valid ration card or voter ID card issued by the Election Department. During 2005-06, 147379 beneficiaries were given old age pension.

The Department has a Plan Scheme of setting up of Old Age Homes in various parts of Delhi. Two homes were already functioning at Kalkaji and Tilak Vihar. Financial sanctions for two homes at Rohini and Dwarka have been issued and the construction work will commence shortly. Land has also been taken from DDA at Kanti Nagar, Bindapur and Janak Puri for construction of Old Age Homes.

The Department has a Plan Scheme of setting-up of 70 recreation centers, i.e. one in each assembly segment. Funds were released to MCD and NDMC to operationalize 40 and 2 recreation centers respectively, out of which 15 centers of MCD and 2 of NDMC are functional. Policy is being formalized with MCD to have the non-operational Recreation Centres and new recreation Centers started in collaboration with RWAs/Senior Citizens' Association under Bhagidari Scheme.

## **7. CONCESSIONAL DTC ALL ROUTE PASSES TO SENIOR CITIZENS**

All route DTC passes are provided to Sr. citizens above 60 year of age & having family income less than Rs. 75,000/- per annum. The Department of Social Welfare pays Rs. 200/- pm per pass as "state share" to DTC on quarterly basis. Under this scheme, 2,12,678 persons have been benefited during 2004-05.

## **8. WELFARE OF THE DISABLED**

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

- The survey estimated the total number of disabled persons in Delhi as 1,02,427 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 disabled persons in Delhi (5 years and above) 63.08% were literates 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 disabled 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.
- 28.6% 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 disabled groups.

**Some of the Annual programmes and Projects undertaken for welfare of the disabled group are detailed below:**

As on March 31, 2005 Delhi had 4 schools for the physically disabled with 876 students, 3 training cum production centers and 2 sheltered workshop for the physically handicapped, 1 hostel for the college level blind boys and 1 school for the visually handicapped with 201 students and one school for mentally retarded children with 34 students. One home has been established for mentally retarded adult person that provides free boarding lodging; there are 164 inmates in this home. Various Disability Camps were organized in different districts to give the information about the schemes being implemented by Social Welfare Department for welfare of disabled persons in Delhi.

Apart from providing free education to disabled persons, the Delhi Govt. also provides stipends and scholarships ranging from rupees 125 to 500 per month to all categories of the disabled depending upon the level of the course. During 2005-06, about 1187 physically handicapped students benefited under this programme.

## 9. WELFARE OF JUVENILES/BEGGARS

To take care of young juveniles and beggars, the Social Welfare Department has set up 14 juveniles homes which housed 1772 such identified persons at the end of March 2005. About 600 children have been provided care, protection, and education facilities through 11 non-statutory institutions. In addition to these, there are 12 homes for the beggars in various parts of the cities, which looks after 904 beggars.

## 10. OTHER WELFARE MEASURES

Mainly due to negligence or financial constraints, many poor people who suffer from TB do not get adequate attention. The Social Welfare Department provides Rs. 1200 in a year to each TB patient. In 2005-06, the number of persons benefited under the scheme of financial assistance to socially & physically handicapped were 2941. For the welfare of children of T.B. patients, 5 crèches & 10 Day care center have been set up by the Social Welfare Department.

The rehabilitation center for Leprosy treated 17139 Leprosy patients during 2005 -06. The Department is running 6 welfare centers for notified Tribe which benefited 5694 persons.

## 11. JANSHREE BEEMA YOJNA

With the objective to provide life insurance protection to the rural & urban poor persons below poverty line & marginally above poverty line "Jan Shree Beema Yojna" was introduced in 2003-04 in collaboration with LIC. Under this scheme, members or State Govt. pays 50% of the premium and balance 50% of the premium is borne by social security fund. Up to 31st March 2005, about 3950 beneficiaries have been benefited under this scheme.

12. DELHI STATE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY BOARD has taken up no. of activities / services for the welfare of women and children e.g. counselling, formation of Self Help Groups, GIA cases, running creches through NGOs, vocational training centres etc. under the guidance and control of Department of Social Welfare. Further, the 29th ICDS project (Anganwari) has been given to DSWB for operationalization at Madanpur Khadar.