

Mahalir Thittam – Registration of Panchayat Level Federations (PLFs) of Self Help Groups under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975 – Orders Issued.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS-3) Department

G.O.(Ms) No.135

Dated: 14.8.2008.

Read:

1. G.O.Ms.No.116 Social Welfare and Nutritious Meals Programme (SW3) Department, dated 31.7.2002.
2. G.O Ms No. 125 Rural Department and Panchayat Raj (CGS-3) Department, dated 21.07.2008.
3. From the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited D.O.Lr.No. 1719/B/2008 dated 18.3.2008.

ORDER:

In the Government Order first read above, orders were issued prescribing norms for formation of Panchayat Level Federation and Block level Federation, appointment of Members, imparting training to those appointed and Functions and Procedures to be followed in the Federation.

2. In the Government Order second read above, orders were issued for restructuring the Panchayat Level Federation of Self Help Groups. Detailed guidelines were also prescribed on the structure of the panchayat level federation, the qualification of member, Administrative Structure of Federation, Duties and Responsibilities, Formation of Social Audit Committee, Bank Accounts and Maintenance of Registers, Maintenance of Income and Expenditure and formation of Habitation Level Forums and its functions etc.

3. In the letter 3rd read above the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited has stated that to strengthen the Self Help Groups, Panchayat Level Federations at village panchayat and Block level were formed. In order to further strengthen the Panchayat Level Federations it is critical to provide them credit linkage with banks for taking up economic activities as well as for onward lending to member Self Help Groups. But the banks are not willing to provide credit to Panchayat Level Federations as they are not registered bodies, whereas, Self Help Groups are provided loan even if they are registered as per specific direction from Reserve Bank of India. Hence to facilitate credit linkage with banks, the Panchayat Level Federations have to be registered.

4. Further the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited has stated that the Panchayat Level Federations are expected to involve in the activities of procurement of capital goods, production and sale of Self Help Groups products in which they can act either independently or represent its member Self Help Groups. In order to carry out these activities on their own or on behalf of its member Self Help Groups and to enable smooth functioning of Panchayat Level Federations, Registration of Panchayat Level Federations under Tamil Nadu Societies

Registration Act 1975 is essential. Therefore he has requested the Government to issue necessary orders to register the Panchayat Level Federations under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act , 1975.

5. The Government after careful consideration of the proposal of Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited direct that the restructured Panchayat Level Federations of Self Help Groups be registered under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act,1975 Under section 54 of Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975, necessary orders exempting the application of Section 25 and 42 of the Act will be issued separately by Commercial Taxes and Registration Department.

(By Order of the Governor)

**K. ASHOK VARDHAN SHETTY,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**