

World Bank funded Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project (TNEPRP) - Constitution of State and District Level Societies - orders issued.

Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department

G.O.(MS)No.33

Dated: 09.03.2005

Read:

1. G.O.(Ms).No.69, Social Welfare, dated.29.4.2003
2. G.O.(Ms).No.79, Social Welfare, dated.12.05.04.

Read also:

- 3.From the Project Director, Tamilnadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project, D.O.Letter N.398/WB/04 dated. 16.2.05

ORDER

The World Bank has approved the project concept design for empowerment and poverty reduction project to be implemented from 2006-2010 in Tamilnadu. The Government in the Government Order first read above issued orders for initiating preparation for the World Bank funded Tamilnadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project. The Government in the Government Order second read above has formed a Core Team for preparation of project and implementation of pilot project with specialist from the field of micro credit, livelihood, communication, Institutional Building and Panchayat support. The Project Director, Tamilnadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project in his letter third read above has now sent comprehensive project proposals with holistic poverty alleviation approach, after discussing with the World Bank Mission.

2. In his proposals read above, the Project Director has stated that the project has been designed as a community driven development project, and that the objectives of the project are to improve the livelihoods and to empower the rural poor (particularly women and other disadvantaged groups) through (a) developing and strengthening pro-poor local institutions / groups, (b) building skills and capacities of poor and (c) financing productive demand driven subproject investments. The proposed project will have the following key elements:

- (a) Transferring the control over decision making and resources to the community and local institutions (identify, appraise, implement, monitor and evaluate subprojects);
- (b) Focusing on the poorest and vulnerable (like destitutes, disabled, widows, aged and tribal) members of the community;
- (c) Building and empowering community institutions and organisations;
- (d) Establishing linkages between the elected village institutions and community organisations;
- (e) Focusing on employment generation and livelihood enhancement in the project area; and
- (f) Building downward accountability and transparency at all levels.

3. While implementing the above project disadvantaged sections such as disabled, old age persons etc. are also to be covered, which include men also. Hence, it is now proposed to implement the project through societies at the State and District Level. The Project Director, Tamilnadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project has sent a proposal to form a State Level Society and District Level Society under the administrative control of the State Government to implement the new project.

4. The Government after careful consideration accept the proposal of the Project Director, Tamilnadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project and constitute the State Level Society and District Level Society to implement the Tamilnadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project in Tamilnadu. The composition and the function of the Societies are mentioned below:

The State Society shall be the apex society and will be called "Tamilnadu Women and Disadvantaged Poverty Reduction Society" (TANWADS) and will have a governance committee (General Body) consisting of the following members :-

1.	Development Commissioner & Principal Secretary, Finance Department	- Chairman
2.	Secretary to Government, Social Welfare and NMP Department.	-Vice Chairman
3.	Secretary to Government, Rural Development Department.	- Member
4.	Secretary to Government, Planning & Development Department.	-Member
5.	Director of Rural Development	-Member
6.	Director of Rehabilitation of Disabled	-Member
7.	Director of Social Welfare	-Member
8.	Registrar of Co-operative Societies	-Member
9.	Managing Director, Tamilnadu Adi-draavidar Housing Development Corporation Ltd.	-Member
10.	One representative from a nationalised / Private Bank	-Member
11.	Reputed NGO representative	-Member
12.	Representative from academic community (like Gandhigram Rural Institute, Dindigul District)	-Member
13.	Project Director, Tamilnadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project	-Member Secretary

To guide the project the Government also constitute an Executive Committee consisting of 8 members as given below under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Social Welfare & Nutritious Meal Programme Department: -

1.	Secretary to Government of Tamilnadu, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department.	Chairman
2.	Representative of Secretary to Government, Finance Department	Member
3.	Director of Social Welfare	Member
4.	Managing Director, TAHDCO	Member
5.	Director of Rural Development	Member
6.	Director of Rehabilitation of Disabled	Member
7.	Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd.	Member
8.	Project Director, Tamilnadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project	Member Secretary

The District Societies to be called "District Women and Disadvantaged Poverty Reduction Society (DWADS) will be affiliated to the State Society and will have the following members: -

1.	District Collector	-President
2.	Project Officer, Mahalir Thittam	-Member Secretary
3.	Project Officer, DRDA	-Member
4.	District Social Welfare Officer	-Member
5.	Lead Bank Manager	-Member
6.	District Development Manager, NABARD	-Member
7.	Special Officer, District Central Co-operative Bank	-Member
8.	District Disabled and Rehabilitation Officer	-Member
9.	District Manager, TAHDCO	-Member
10.	Two Village Panchayat Presidents	-Member
11.	Two Secretaries of Panachayat Level Federation (PLF)	-Members
12.	MLAs & MPs representing the Project Blocks in the district.	-Members

(Items 10 & 11 will be nominated by the District Collector).

5. The important functions of the State and District Level Societies are as follows: -

State Level Society: -

- (i) It will receive project funds from the Government.
- (ii) It will lay down the policy for disbursements to the District Level Societies in tune with the project objectives
- (iii) Monitor the implementation of the project at the State Level.
- (iv) It will give technical and assistance to the District Societies / SHG Federations wherever required.

District Level Society:

- (i) The District Level Society will sanction after scrutiny, the project proposals of SHGs recommended by the VPRC.
- (ii) It will disburse funds to the SHGs as per financial procedure laid by the State Society.
- (iii) Monitor the implementation of the project at the District Level.
- (iv) It will render technical and others assistance to the VPRCs/ SHG Federations / SHGs wherever required.

6. The Project Director, Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project is requested to send detailed By-laws of the State and District Societies for approval by Government. The Government also accept the proposals of the Project Director regarding Project Facilitation Teams and direct that every 10 Panchayats will form a cluster and the project will field a Project Facilitation Team (PFT) for each cluster to implement the project. The responsibility and details of its members are mentioned below: -

Each PFT will have five members with the responsibility for social mobilisation, micro-finance, livelihood, promotion, marketing and accounting. The main role of PFTs would be to assist the SHGs in all aspects of livelihood planning including training, project preparation, access to finance and marketing of products. The PFT will be accountable to the District Society. The PFT teams will be outsourced by the District Societies from the market on contract basis or on deputation from Government departments. To expedite the process of formation of PFTs in order that the Project gets off the ground quickly after clearance by World Bank, a placement agency shall be engaged to screen and select candidates and recommend them to District Societies for appointment on contract basis. Where direct recruitment is not possible because of poor response or for other reasons PFTs would be formed through NGOs, academic institutions and other agencies.

(By order of the Governor)

LAKSHMI PRANESH
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.