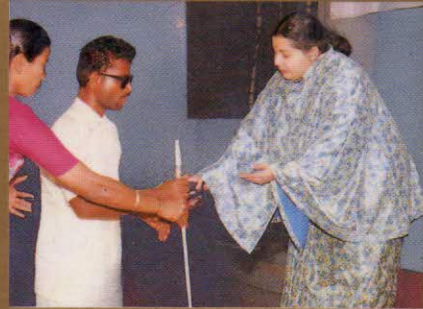




STATE POLICY ON WELFARE OF THE HANDICAPPED



SELF RELIANCE AND SELF ESTEEM FOR THE HANDICAPPED



State Policy
on
Welfare of the Handicapped

Dedicated to the Disabled in Tamil Nadu

by

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under the aegis of
Directorate for Rehabilitation of the Disabled
Government of Tamil Nadu

DISABILITY IS NOT A HANDICAP

STATE POLICY ON WELFARE OF THE HANDICAPPED

A Welfare State is responsible for the well-being of all sections of its people. The State's helping hand must reach out especially to the under-privileged and the handicapped. A number of innovative programmes of this Government in the last three years have, in general, improved the life of the handicapped. However, substantial progress is still to be achieved.

In order that every handicapped person is to have easy access to the service deliveries for him to live a life of self-reliance and self-esteem, we desired a state policy on welfare of the handicapped, covering all aspects of identification, registration, assessment and relief, as a blue-print for all our future plan of action. Eminent specialists and experts in the field have shared with us their valuable ideas and experience.

2. We should remember that perhaps each one of us has some disability in some part of our being, and that the "Disabled" and "Normal" people have more similarities than differences, and that it is by working with one another in a true community spirit that we overcome these disabilities and everyone realizes the full potential. Now is the time when we should rededicate our lives to the great ideals of love and compassion illumined for us by the lives of the sages and mystics of the world.
3. This comprehensive policy aims at early detection and provision of comprehensive services in medical, vocational, economic and social spheres in order to make them self supporting citizens and integral part of the Society. This involves a joint responsibility of the Government, Entrepreneurs, Philanthropists, affluent people, the NGOs and the community as a whole.
4. The following categories are identified for holistic rehabilitation:
 - a) Visually challenged
 - b) Hearing challenged
 - c) Locomotor challenged
 - d) Mentally challenged
 - e) Mental illness.
5. The starting point for Rehabilitation is the disability process which consists of:
 - (a) impairment of anatomical, physiological and psychological functions

