

**Minutes of the State Level High Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting held on  
21.06.2012 at the Secretariat under the Chairmanship of Honourable Finance Minister**

The State Level High Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting was held on 21st June 2012 at 4.00 p.m. under the chairmanship of the Honourable Finance Minister on the 10th floor of Namakkal Kavignar Maligai, Secretariat. Details of members and government officials who attended the meeting:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Respected</b>	<b>Chairperson/ Members</b>
1	Honourable Finance Minister	Member
2	Honourable Minister (Adi Dravidar and Member Tribes Welfare)	Member
3	Mr. P. Venugopal, Member of Parliament, Tiruvallur Constituency	Member
4	Mr. M. Anandan, Member of Parliament, Villupuram Constituency	Member
5	Smt. Th. Indira Gandhi, Member of the Legislature, Duraiyur Constituency	Member
6	Smt. S. Kanitha Sampath, Member of the Legislative Council, Madhurandagam Constituency	Member
7	Mr. Ira Manimaran, Member of Legislative Council, Poovindaval Constituency	Member
8	Mr. M. V. Karuphaiyya, Member of the Legislative Council, Cholavanthan Constituency	Member
9	Mr. Sec. Kamaraj, Member of the Legislature, Krishnarayapuram Constituency	Member
10	Mr. Su. Ravi, Member of the Legislature, Arakonam Constituency	Member
11	Mrs. Manoranjitham, Member of Legislative Council, Uthangaram Constituency	Member
12	Mr. I. Perumal, Member of Legislative Assembly, Sriperumbudur Constituency	Member
13	Mr. K. Ponnusamy, Member of Legislative Assembly, Tharapuram Constituency	Member
14	Mr. Ira Tamilchelvan, Member of Legislative Assembly, Perambalur Constituency	Member
15	Mr. S.Matheswaran, Member of Legislative Assembly, Athur Constituency	Member
16	Mr. Pon Raja, Member of Legislative Assembly, Ponneri Constituency	Member
17	Mr. I. Janagiraman, Assembly Member, Vanur Constituency	Member
18	Principal Secretary, Home Department, Chennai -9	Member
19	Additional Director of Police, Social Justice and Human Rights, Chennai-4.	Member
20	Director/Deputy Director National Commission for Adi Dravidian Welfare, Chennai-6	Member
21	Secretary, Department of Adi Dravidian and Tribal Welfare	Organizer
22	Commissioner, Adi Dravidar Welfare	Member
23	Director, Tribal Welfare	Special Invitee

Mr. A.S. Jeevaratnam, Secretary, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department, welcomed the Honourable Finance Minister who has come to hold the state level Atrocities Prevention Committee meeting on behalf of the Honourable Chief Minister, who has formulated various welfare schemes for the welfare of Adi Dravidas and Tribals, Honourable Minister for Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare, the Home Secretary, Additional Director General of Police, Commissioner of Social Justice and Human

Rights, Commissioner, Adi Dravidar Welfare, Director, Tribal Welfare and Members of Parliament/MLAs who have come to hold a state level Committee meeting. He also stated that scheduled castes make up 16.62 percent of our population in India, and we are very proud to be ranked fifth in the country. He said that all the states are taking Tamil Nadu as a pioneer. For example, only 9 states have special courts for Adi Dravidians, and our state is one of them, and we are very proud.

Following the Civil Rights Protection Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989, the injustices (prevention of atrocities) against the Dravidians and tribals have been prevented and Tamil Nadu has become a haven of peace that cherishes religious, and ethnic harmony, he said.

Mr. Radhakrishnan, IPS, Additional Director General of Police, Social Justice and Human Rights, in his presentation, said that Article 17 of the Constitution of India was created to point out that untouchability is a grave crime and should be eradicated completely, and strict action should be taken against the perpetrators of that heinous crime. He also said that Article 35 of the Constitution of India was established to take The Prevention of Atrocities Act was enacted in 1989 and has been implemented since 1990. As of today, 3275 Atrocities Act cases are pending in different courts and special courts in Tamil Nadu and, as of today, 628 Atrocities Act cases are under investigation. A Deputy Superintendent of Police/Assistant Commissioner of Police has been appointed as the investigating officer, and it has been stated that the investigation should be completed within 30 days. Some cases are still pending for investigation due to caste certificates, legal opinions, medical certificates, and other factors. He said that no one comes forward to register cases under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 (PCR Act, 1955) as the PoA Act, 1989 (PoA Act, 1989) provides stiffer punishments to the perpetrators and more remedies to the victims.

He also informed that the Department of Social Justice and Human Rights has visited 39,000 villages in the last 3 years and conducted social justice awareness camps for the people at a cost of Rs. 70.00 lakhs.

In his address, the Honourable Minister for Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare said that the Honourable Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has announced various welfare schemes for the socio-economic upliftment of the people, and he expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for paving the way for the first meeting within a year of assuming office, stating that the state level high level vigilance and monitoring committee meeting, which was supposed to be held twice a year, has been held only once by the previous regime during the last five years. He also informed us that in the future, this meeting will be held twice a year and the atrocities committed against the downtrodden people will be identified and resolved. He stated that district level vigilance and monitoring committee meetings should be held once every three months in each district, and that a monitoring committee has been formed in each district to find an immediate solution wherever the cruelty of untouchability is taking place. He pointed out that the barrier wall has been removed in Uttapuram, Salem VC Nagar and Meenakshi Nagar. And in each district (except Chennai), one village where the common people live in harmony without observing untouchability has been selected and the incentive amount of Rs. 2 lakh, which is currently given to the village, has been increased to Rs. 3 lakh, excluding Rs. He stated that 310 lakhs had been allocated and that any future violence would be brought to Amma's attention and resolved immediately. The Honourable Minister of Finance addressed the meeting on behalf of the Honourable Chief Minister Amma.

The Honourable Finance Minister in his presidential address said that the Honourable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Idhayadeivam Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has taken a pledge to formulate various schemes and take effective steps to enrich the lives of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, to improve their economic well-being, and to root out the atrocities and injustices committed by some sections of society against them. A sum of Rs.76.33 crore has been sanctioned for renovation, Rs.38.95 crore for providing toilet facilities in 779 Adi Dravidar Welfare Schools, Rs.550 to Rs.750 per month for Adi Dravidar college students staying in hostels; and Rs.450 to Rs.650 for school students. For the first time

in the history of Tamil Nadu, a sum of Rs. 111.45 crore has been sanctioned as tuition fee for 26,000 SC/ST students in self-financing educational institutions. Rs. 5007 crore under SCSP and Rs. 246 crore for tribal welfare. Rs. 246 crore has been allocated under the tribal sub-plan. A sum of Rs.79.86 crore was given as a subsidy to the beneficiaries and Rs.145 crore as bank loans, he said, adding that many more such great schemes have been announced and implemented since the Honourable Amma government assumed office.

In the year 2012, 150 villages in Tamil Nadu were selected as atrocities, and the police, in coordination with the district administration concerned, should take necessary precautionary measures so that atrocities do not take place in all the villages. "It is our duty to investigate the crimes of atrocities, provide relief to the victims and bring the culprits to justice," he said. He requested all the members not only to apprise the people of the above-mentioned constructive schemes of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but also to convey their constructive suggestions to the government.

Mr. S. Ravi, MLA from Arakkonam Constituency, demanded to know whether a district-level vigilance and monitoring committee had been constituted and which village was selected as untouchability-free. It was informed that a committee has been constituted in Vellore district and Katpadi Kilkuppam in Melkavanur taluk has been selected as an untouchability-free village.

Thiru Pon Raja, Ponneri MLA, has requested to fill up the vacancies of teachers in Adi Dravidar schools and sanitation workers and to set up an examination centre in the Adi Dravidar Welfare School itself for the students appearing for the 10th and 12th standard examinations. In his reply, the Secretary said that steps would be taken to start the examination centre as a special category.

Thiru. Madheswaran, the MLA from Attur constituency in Salem district, said that there are more tribals than scheduled castes in the residential school hostels and requested them to increase the number of Adi Dravidar students staying in the hostels. He also said that there is a shortage of chemistry and physics teachers in Ambedkar Residential School under Attur municipality and the post should be filled up. He also requested to set up an additional hostel in his constituency.

The Secretary, in his reply, said that 60% of residential schools are given to scheduled tribes, 30% to scheduled castes, and 10% to backward classes.

Thiru R. Thamilselvan, MLA from Perambalur constituency, said that after Amma came to power, 30 per cent of the scheduled castes and scheduled castes were given orders to provide milch animals. He also said that the Arunthathiyar community had land acquisition cases pending in their constituency and requested them to help the people. He also said that Perambalur district remains the most backward district and since Perambalur Veppanthattai block has a large population of Scheduled Castes, he has allocated Rs 19 crore for the upliftment of the people and requested them to provide more basic amenities. In his reply, the Secretary said that since pattas have not yet been issued in the areas where land acquisition has been completed, please bring it to the notice of the District Collector and arrange for the issue of house site pattas in their presence. He said no one is coming forward to give land to the Scheduled Castes as the price fixed by the government for the land is less.

Mr. Anandan, Member of Parliament, Villupuram constituency, said that our Honourable Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has transformed Tamil Nadu into a park of peace within a year of assuming office, and the government is taking steps with the noble intention that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can progress only if they rise economically and educationally, and has allocated more funds for education. He said that the Home Secretary and the Additional Director General of Police, Social Justice, and Human Rights have an additional responsibility to eradicate untouchability. He said that a set of houses and hostels have been set up in the Villupuram constituency in sufficient quantity and requested the government to help provide burial ground facilities in the area. He said steps are being taken to

include the Padugar community in Ooty on the list of scheduled tribes.

Mr. Venugopal, Mp from Thiruvallur constituency, said that there was a discussion in Parliament under Section 193 about the atrocities being committed against the depressed classes, and he had recorded his views on it. Amma said that she has set up a district-level monitoring committee to prevent atrocities and that she is happy with the good governance of Amma by talking about special courts and special prosecutors.

He also said that cases registered under the Prevention of Atrocities Act are being dismissed on the ground that the FIR is not filed properly, and that special training should be given to the Grade I Constable and Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), and educational and economic development programmes should be provided in the places where atrocity prevention takes place.

The Additional Director General of Police said that the sub-inspector cannot investigate the cases and can only be investigated at the level of deputy superintendent of police. The reason for the dismissal of the cases is that the witnesses turn into hostile witnesses during the trial. He said cases registered under the Prevention of Atrocities Act can be examined by the District Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee, and the Deputy Superintendent of Police is being trained by the Police Department.

Sholavandan MLA M. Karupiah said that out of the 28 cases registered under the Prevention of Atrocities Act in Madurai district, 23 cases have been dismissed, and only five cases are pending. It is wrong to register some false cases under the Prevention of Atrocities Act only when a depressed class man is prevented from wearing slippers in an area inhabited by a higher caste, speaking of caste, preventing him from entering a temple, etc. It should be removed, he said.

Poonamallee constituency, MLA Shri. Manimaran spoke about the Prevention of Atrocities Act and said that the Adi Dravidar Welfare Higher Secondary School at Mangalpet has 14 acres of land which should be upgraded as an Adi Dravidar College.

Mr. P. Sivasankaran, Commissioner of Adi Dravidar Welfare, finally delivered the vote of thanks.

A.S. Jeevaratnam  
Secretary to Government.

/ True copy /

A. Renuka  
12/07/012  
Section Officer