

Ministry of Social Services

Progress Report

On

National Action Plan for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights 2011-2016

as at 31.12.2012

The above action plan is the Government's response to the recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, Austria in 1993. The action plan is in eight parts representing the eight thematic areas. They are in the form of a matrix consisting of Focus Area, Goal, Issue, Activities, key Performance Indicators, Timeframe and Key Responsible Agencies. The Ministry of Social Services implements the activities which are relevant to the Ministry in accordance with the above action Plan.

The progress on the above Action Plan as at 31.12.2013 is based on the activities which are being implemented by the Ministry through its institutions/programmes such as the National Counseling Center, National Secretariat for Elders, National Institute of Social Development(NISD), National Secretariat for Persons with Disabilities(NSPD) and Single Parent Families Development Programme.

(The National Action Plan for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights 2011-2016 is available at www.hractionplan.gov.lk)

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN
THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

PROGRESS REPORT

For the period ending December 2012

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Thematic Area : Economic, Social and Cultural Rights -(Single Parent Families)						
Activities assigned to the Ministry copied from the Plan of Action				Report on Progress		
ItemNo.	Activity assigned to Ministry/Institution	Key Performance Indicator	Time Frame	Steps taken to implement the activity and progress	Issues, if any, which prevent implementation?	Comments, if any
8.1a	Based on study design and provide support to single parent households	Programmes implemented in 5 key districts	+2Years	Under the empowerment of Single Parent Families through self employment programme, 582 beneficiaries have been benefitted.	Lack of Fund	
		Programmes implemented in other districts	Ongoing	05 Micro Enterprises development Programmes were conducted 08 persons were rehabilitated under the prison Inmates Family Rehabilitation Programme 12 machines were provided under Lively hood development programme.		

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN
THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

PROGRESS REPORT

For the period ending December 2012

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Thematic Area : - Rehabilitation and Reparation (Prevention of Torture)						
Activities assigned to the Ministry copied from the Plan of Action				Report on Progress		
ItemNo.	Activity assigned to Ministry/Institution	Key Performance Indicator	Time Frame	Steps taken to implement the activity and progress	Issues, if any, which prevent implementation?	Comments, if any
8.1a	Review curricula of Counsellors training programmes offered by all national institutions and include modules on torture	Number of curricula reviewed	1 year	Based on the recommendations, the NISD has amended existing training curricula on Diploma in Counseling including the concept on torture. 02 Diploma programme on Counseling have been scheduled to conduct in the year 2013.		
		Number of programmes with modules on torture	6 Months			

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN
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PROGRESS REPORT

For the period ending December 2012

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Thematic Area : Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)						
Activities assigned to the Ministry copied from the Plan of Action				Report on Progress		
ItemNo.	Activity assigned to Ministry/Institution	Key Performance Indicator	Time Frame	Steps taken to implement the activity and progress	Issues, if any, which prevent implementation ?	Comments, if any
2.1a	Continue with mobile services to issue birth, death and marriage certificates and national identification Cards and other identification for specially vulnerable groups	Mobile Unit set up	immediate	The National Secretariat for Elders has conducted several mobile service programmes in selected Divisional Secretariats divisions and issued 742,003 Elders Identity Cards Ilandwide including 51,214 Elders Identity Cards for Northern & Eastern Provinces. In addition to that assistive Devices issued for 176,298 needy people Ilandwide.		
		Documents issued as percentage of applications received	Ongoing	National Secretariat for Elders issues the Elders Identity Cards through the Diivisional Secretaries. 52% of the total elders population of the country have been issued Elders Identity Cards up to end of december 2012.		
8.1a	Establish adequate number of homes for elders in the North and rehabilitation existing Homes	Number of inmates of Elders Home	+1 Year	During the welfare Camps maintained, special Elders Home was established at Thiruketheeswaram specially for destitute elders lived in the Camps with facility for 200 elders. Other elders Home located in the island are maintained by Provincial Councils, and NGOs. However, the elders home located in Kaithady had been refurbished so as to enroll more elders.	Lack of Fund	
	Establish Village level Elders Committees	Number of Committees Established	+6Months	At present nearly 10,053 Village level Elders Committees have been established upto now including 1033 Elders Committee in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. Accelerated programme is launched to cover all GN divisions in the country. A Cabinet memo has been approved in order to recognize Village level elders Committees as reputed CBOs at the Divisional Secretariat Divisions level.		

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN
THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

PROGRESS REPORT

For the period ending December 2012

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Thematic Area : Mental Health Rights of (Internally Displaced Persons.)						
Activities assigned to the Ministry copied from the Plan of Action				Report on Progress		
ItemNo.	Activity assigned to Ministry/Institution	Key Performance Indicator	Time Frame	Steps taken to implement the activity and progress	Issues, if any, which prevent implementation?	Comments, if any
6.1a	Conduct Psychosocial Counseling Programmes for IDPs and Communities	Number of People targeted Number of Programme targeted	On going	Under the Counseling Unit, there are 15 Counseling Assistants and 20 Volunteers and they work as Counselors and Psycho Social workers and they conducted several counseling programmers in Northern and Eastern Provinces for IDPs and resettled people. 42,767 beneficiaries have been benefitted from these programmes in the above two provinces including 2,014 ex-compatants (25 special counseling programmes were conducted for ex-combatants). Further it has planned to conduct several counseling programmes for around 500 ex-compatants in 2013		

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN
THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
PROGRESS REPORT**

For the period ending December 2012

Thematic Area : Persons With Disabilities						
Activities assigned to the Ministry copied from the Plan of Action				Report on Progress		
ItemNo.	Activity assigned to Ministry/Institution	Key Performance Indicator	Time Frame	Steps taken to implement the activity and progress	Issues, if any, which prevent implementation?	Comments, if any
CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS						
17.1d	Appoint a group of experts to review existing legislation on disability rights for compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Experts Group appointed	+ 3 Months	Completed		
		Legislation reviewed	+ 3 Months	Completed		
	Based on review, amend existing legislation and/or enact legislation to give effect to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; ensuring consultation with the private sector, Employers Federation and other Stakeholders	Legislation amended/ enacted	+ 3 Months	The existing Act No 28 of 1996 " Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" has been amended incorporating the provisions in the UN Convention and the Draft Bill has been forwarded to the Attorney General's approval. Attorney General's approval is awaited..		

ItemNo.	Activity assigned to Ministry/Institution	Key Performance Indicator	Time Frame	Steps taken to implement the activity and progress	Issues, if any, which prevent implementation?	Comments, if any
	Conduct sensitization programmes for persons with disabilities and the general public on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and national legislation and national policy on disability.	Number of Programmes Conducted Number of People targeted Profile of People targeted	Ongoing	Awareness Programmes and Sensitizations Programmes are being conducted under the Community Based Rehabilitation National Programme.		
17.1e	In consultation with relevant stakeholders, conduct a study on the adequacy of existing mechanisms and make recommendations	Mechanism for Consultation	+ 1 Month	The National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) meet once a month and discuss the matters related to the PWDs and National Secretariat for Persons with Disabilities (NSPD) has taken actions to implement the decisions which are taken at the NCPD meetings.		
	Based on study implement recommendations	Those Consulted Study Conducted Recommendations Made	+ 6 Months			
		Recommendations Implemented	+2 Years			
17.1f	Prepare and implement sectoral action plans to implement the National Policy on Disability within each Government Agency named in the National Policy.	Sectoral Action Plans Developed	+ 6 Months	The NSPD has already prepared a Corporate Plan for a 5 years period from 2011 - 2015. In addition to that a five year action plan under the CBR Programme also has been prepared for a five year period to implement the UNCRPWDs and the National Policy on PWDs. These two plans have been submitted to the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD) for its approval		
		Sectoral Action Plans Implemented	Ongoing			

Economic Social and Cultural Rights			
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ItemNo.	Activity assigned to Ministry/Institution	Key Performance Indicator	Time Frame	Steps taken to implement the activity and progress	Issues, if any, which prevent implementation?	Comments, if any
9.3a	In consultation with stakeholders, assess needs and strengthen home and community based strategies to improve interventions and increase opportunities for children and adults who have intellectual and other developmental disabilities and those that have severe disabilities	Needs assessed, programmes strengthened	3years	Under the Community Based Rehabilitation National Programme special programmes are conducted for the children and adults who have intellectual and other developmental disability. HE the President has appointed a Ministerial Committee including the Minister of Social Services, Health, Child Development and Women Affairs and Education to prepare a plan for the advancement of autistic children and this committee prepared the plan and submitted to the Cabinet for the approval. The Cabinet approved the Memorandum and now the action Plan has been submitted to the Director General, NPD. The Child Guidance Centre at Navinna, Maharagama has taken measures towards the early intervention for the identification of children who need special care. Department of Social Services has five Vocational Training Centres for Persons with Disabilities in three districts. Two years residential training programme have been given to the PWDs. The trainees who have successfully completed have been issued certificates with set of tools worth of Rs.10,000/= . It has planned to conduct vocational training programmes for selected disabled persons in 9 districts as Jaffna, Killinochchi, Mulaithivu, Mannar, Vavuniya, Puttalam, Anuradhapura, Trincomalee and Polanaruwa targeting around 150 selected Disabled.		

ItemNo.	Activity assigned to Ministry/Institution	Key Performance Indicator	Time Frame	Steps taken to implement the activity and progress	Issues, if any, which prevent implementation?	Comments, if any
9.4.a	In consultation with stakeholders, assess needs, and design and test innovative strategies that will provide persons with disabilities who cannot live independently and needing continuing care with sheltered community housing	Strategies in place and being tested	4 years	Special Homes for PWDs are maintained by the Provincial Councils. Ministry of Social Services implements a housing assistance programme and Rs 3,000/= monthly livelihood assistance. Rs 3000/- livelihood assistance is provided to selected 16,600 Disabled persons (landwide (50 persons from each Divisional Secretariate Divisions). 99 applications received from the disabled ex-combatants with the recommendation of the Ministry of Rehabilitation and Prison Reform also are being processed for receiving of livelihood assistance for disabled. Under the housing programme PWDs who own a plot of land is eligible to get housing assistance to a maximum of Rs.250,000/= . This programme is implemented islandwide. This housing assistance have been given to selected 1000 disabled including 219 disabled in Northern and Eastern Provinces.		
9.5a	Review existing policies and to identify gaps and amend to address the gaps	Policy formulated and implemented	3 years	National Policy on Disability has been approved by the Cabinet of Ministers in 2003. A cabinet memorandum was approved by the Cabinet on "Recognizing Sign Language as an accepted Language" on 26th Aug 2010. • A Election special Act No 28 of 2011 was passed by the Parliament to make provision for a voter who is subject to a disability to be accompanied by a person when voting in election. A committee has been appointed to draft a bill on sign language by the NCPD		

Rights of Internally Displaced Persons				
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ItemNo.	Activity assigned to Ministry/Institution	Key Performance Indicator	Time Frame	Steps taken to implement the activity and progress	Issues, if any, which prevent implementation?	Comments, if any
9.1.a	Include assessment related to persons with disabilities in surveys and other studies	Number of surveys/studies conducted that include persons with disabilities	Ongoing	Department of Census and Statistics has taken action in this regard. The census report 2011 is awaited.		
9.1.b	Provide financial assistance for the improvement of housing to cater to the needs of disabled persons	Number of disabled persons assisted	Ongoing	Under the Housing programme for PWDs who own, a plot of land is eligible to get housing assistance to a maximum of Rs.250,000/= from 2012 onwards. In 2011 it was 150,000. Around 2,011 beneficiaries have been benefitted from this programme up to now including 219 disabled persons from Northern & Eastern Provinces during 2011 - 2012 period.		
		Number of houses with facilities in place				
9.1.c	Make all public buildings accessible to people with disabilities	Number of public buildings provided with accessibility	+3 year	"Accessibility " Regulations No 1 of 2006 was amended incorporating more facilities to persons with disabilities. All the line Ministries and local authorities have been made aware of the necessity of implementing the provisions in the regulations and creating a barrier-free disabled friendly environment. 25 public buildings were provided accessibility facilities during 2011 - 2012 period.	Lack of Funds.	
9.2.a	Supply of assistive devices for peoples with disabilities.	Number of persons who have received assistive devices	+1 year	16,158 beneficiaries have been benefitted.		
	Conduct a feasibility study on increasing the supply of assistive devices for people with disabilities to ensure that people with disabilities have greater access to such devices	study conducted and recommendations made	+3 month	Assistive devices such as spectacles, hearing aid, crutches and wheel chairs are distributed through mobile services conducted all over the island. 176298 needy people were provided with assistive devices during 2011 - 2012 period.		
9.2.b	Enhance community based rehabilitation programmes for people with disabilities.	Number of people with disabilities who have received training	Ongoing	CBR programme is being implemented in all districts of the Island. Under this program several training programmes were conducted for community leaders (274 programmes- 7827 persons) and volunteers (173 programmes- 8127 persons) to create a friendly environment for disabled persons and address family issues. 1334 disabled persons were provided vocational training by the Department of Social services during 2011-2012 period		