

Caring for the other Disadvantaged

10.86 In the wake of declining family support systems and other socio-economic circumstances, certain social groups are left helpless who also require the support and protection of the State. These include the aged persons, the orphaned, abandoned, destitute and street children. To fulfill the commitments of the National Policy on Older Persons for providing health, shelter, vocational training, recreation, protection of life etc. for the aged, special emphasis is being placed on expanding the on-going programmes of old age homes, day care centers, mobile medicare units and medicare centers being

implemented under the scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons. Under this scheme, 450 NGOs running 322 Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres and 56 Mobile Medicare Units have been provided financial assistance.

10.87 The autonomous National Institute of Social Defence will focus on training and manpower development of social defence personnel, especially in the areas of community based services for juvenile justice, prison welfare, prison administration, child adoption, children in need of care and protection, prevention of drug abuse, welfare of senior citizens and emerging social problems.