

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REPRESENTED BY

THIRU N.R. SIVAPATHY,

HON'BLE MINISTER FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION

YOUTH AND SPORTS WELFARE, LAW, COURTS

AND PRISONS.

ON

8TH NOVEMBER, 2012

AT DARBAR HALL, TAJ PALACE HOTEL,

SARDAR PATEL MARG, NEW DELHI

Hon'ble Dr. M. Manapati Pallam Raju, Minister for Human Resource Development, Government of India, Dr. Shashi Tharoor and Sh. Jitin Prasada, Ministers of State for Human Resource Development, Hon'ble Education Ministers from various states, other dignitaries and officers.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on assuming charge has taken many innovative initiatives for improving the quality of education and infrastructure in the State of Tamil Nadu. In her "Vision 2020-23" statement she has laid special emphasis on improving the infrastructure and quality of education both in the elementary and secondary level.

Tamil Nadu is one of the fore runners in the implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009. The State has already issued 15 Government Orders for effective implementation of the RTE Act. The first among them being, the Tamil Nadu Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Rules 2011. The rules have clearly laid down the methodology for implementation of the Act in its true spirit.

The implementation of the provisions of the Act has commenced in the current academic year 2012-13 itself. The private schools have

already admitted children under the 25% reservation meant for economically weaker section and disadvantaged group. Children whose parental income is less than Rs.2 lakhs per annum have been notified as economically weaker and orphans, HIV affected children, transgender, children of scavengers and children with disability have been notified as disadvantaged group.

State level apex committee held by a Senior Director of School Education has been set up for monitoring the implementation of the RTE Act and this committee is being assisted by District Level Committees which are being headed by the chief educational officers.

Tamil Nadu was one of the earlier states to form REPA and in the year 2012 the State Commission for protection of child rights (SCPCR) has been formed.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has allotted 15,000 crores for the school education department in the budget of 2012-13, the highest ever received by School education department. This huge allocation has been given with the intention to provide free education to the children of the state. The following are given free to all the children studying in Government and Government aided schools,

- a) 4 sets of uniforms
- b) Noon-meals
- c) Textbooks
- d) Notebooks
- e) School bags
- f) Footwear
- g) Geometry boxes
- h) Colour pencils
- i) Atlas

The expenditure for the same is being met 100% by State from its own budget. An amount of Rs 4,000 crores is being spent in the current year for all the benefits being given to the children. The state has already conducted two Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) for recruitment of the teachers as per the norms laid down by NCTE.

QUALITY OF EDUCATION:

Realizing the need for providing quality education, Hon'ble Chief Minister has announced appointment of 59,000 teaching and non-teaching staff. Tamil Nadu is the first state in India to have introduced the Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) methodology in the state board schools.

Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE)

1) To bring out the hidden inherent potentialities and talents from each and every child the CCE, an innovative evaluation pattern is being implemented from this academic year 2012-2013 for the classes I to VII. The CCE will help the child to evaluate him / herself in a continuous manner so as to be addressed to the rest of the class. Further, it will help to reduce the mental stress, physical strain and overcome the fear the examination. Under this evaluation system both scholastic and co-scholastic areas will be taken into consideration for pupil evaluation. The Activity Board Learning (ABL) methodologies have already been vogue in the school for classes I to IV which has been adopting a continuous evaluation of the child. The State proposes to extend the CCE method to classes IX in the academic year 2013-14 and to classes X in the academic year 2014-15.

2) To ensure effective implementation of CCE intensive training is being imparted by the State council for education, research and training (SCERT).

The presentation made by Experts regarding extension of the RTE act to pre-school and secondary education, Bill on discriminatory practices in schools, the recommendation for improving teacher education is a welcome move. The Government of Tamil Nadu will offer its views to the Government of India after discussing the same with the Hon'ble Chief Minister.