Tamil Nadu Compulsory Elementary Education Rules, 1998

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In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 12 of the Tamil Nadu Compulsory Elementary Education Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 33 of1995), the Governor of Tamil Nadu hereby makes the following rules: -

1. Short title and commencement. - (i) These rules may be called the Tamil Nadu Compulsory Elementary Education Rules, 1998.

(ii) They shall come into force with effect from 29th June 1998.

2. Definitions. - In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires *"Act"* means the Tamil Nadu Compulsory Elementary Education Act, 1994 (Tamil Nadu Act 33 of 1995)

3. Attendance at an elementary school. - (i) The elementary school shall work for five days in a week and shall function for two hundred and twenty days in a year. Each child shall attend not less than seventy-five per cent of the total working days.

  (ii) For each working day the elementary school shall function for five hours, namely three hours in the forenoon and two hours in the afternoon. Normally the working hours shall be 9.30 a.m. to 12.40 p.m. with an interval often minutes with four periods of forty-five minutes each and 2-00 p.m. to 4.10 p.m. with an interval often minutes with three periods of forty minutes each.

  (iii) The working hours may be modified suiting the local conditions on getting permission from the District Elementary Educational Officer concerned. If the school is to work on shift system, the total working days in a week shall be six days and four hours in a day with six periods per day. The number of working days shall be two hundred and forty days. The shift system shall be resorted to only on extraordinary circumstances permitted by the District Elementary Educational Officer concerned.

4. Elementary education. - (i) Elementary education means education in subjects of Tamil, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Physical and Health Education, Life Oriental Education and Art and Value Education, up to Standard V.

(ii) The pattern and duration of courses, curriculum, syllabus, courses of instruction, time table and text books shall be regulated by orders of Government issued from time to time.

5. School age. - School age in relation to a child means, the period of life of a pupil from the date on which he attains the age of six until he receive elementary education up to standard V in an elementary school or until he attains the age of fourteen.

6. Powers and functions of the competent authority. - The competent authority under this Act shall exercise the following powers and functions, namely: -

(i) collection of up to date particulars regarding the number of the schools, pupils and children of school age in his jurisdiction;

(ii) conducting periodical review and personal verification of the particulars referred to in clause (i) and enumeration of the same from time to time;

(iii) organising meeting and cultural programmes etc., for cent per cent enrollment and retention;

(iv) mobilising local resources for equipping the schools and supplying the required teaching and learning materials;

(v) seeking improvement of the infrastructural facilities of the elementary schools with the help of parent-teachers association;

(vi) looking after the free supply of materials to children as may be sanctioned by the Government; and

(vii) seeking the inter departmental co-ordination at all levels.

7. Time for submission of report to Government. - The competent authority, who has been directed by the Government to make an enquiry or to take appropriate proceedings under the Act in any case specified in that order, shall report to the Government, the result of the enquiry made or the proceedings taken by him within thirty days from the date of conclusion of the enquiry or the proceedings.