

12.6 Budget

Teachers Recruitment Board received a sum of Rs.1.38 crores as a budgetary support for the year 2012-2013 and the allocation has now been increased to Rs.2.11 crores for the year 2013-2014.

As the recruiting agency of the Government, the Teachers Recruitment Board has been playing a vital role in filling the sanctioned post.

13. TAMILNADU TEXT BOOK CORPORATION

13.1. Introduction

The Tamilnadu Textbook Society was formed as a Society on 4th March 1970 and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. This Society was renamed as Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation in 1993. The Corporation is engaged in printing and distribution of textbooks to students studying in Government schools and Government aided schools, besides selling of textbooks at reasonable price to the self-financing private schools. The Corporation is administered by a Board of Governors. The Managing Director of the Corporation is assisted by a retinue of officers and staff in administering the affairs of the Corporation.

13.2. The Task

The task of the Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation is to print quality textbooks based on the materials given by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) and distribute the textbooks to the students. The Hon'ble Chief Minister introduced the Trimester pattern in June 2012. Under this system of Education, the textbooks are divided into three volumes

for the three terms in an academic year for standards I to 8 and annually for standards 9 to 12. From the academic year 2013-2014, Standard 9 will also follow the trimester system. This is an effort towards reducing the burden of loads of book for the students to a greater extent. This has solicited an overwhelming response from the student fraternity. The Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation has printed 6.62 crores of textbooks for standards I to 12 and distributed the textbooks to the students on time during the academic year 2012-2013. In addition, 2.68 crores of textbooks of all standards were printed and sold to students of self-financing private schools at a reasonable price. Thus, during the academic year 2012-2013, 9.30 crores of textbooks were printed and distributed including textbooks printed in minority languages such as Telugu, Urdu, Kannada and Malayalam and readers for Sanskrit and Arabic. This has benefited 1,35,14,218 students. The Government has expended an amount of Rs.305.96 crores for extending this benefit to children in Government and Government Aided schools.

The Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation also undertakes job work for printing of guides, Question bank, Solution books, Model question papers, Financial Literacy Books, Activity Based Learning (ABL) cards, Science Laboratory Manuals for students of 9th and 10th standards and Polytechnic Text Books for other Departments. In the academic year 2012-2013, the Corporation has printed 1.60 lakhs of guides for 10th and 12th standards for students studying in Adi-Dravida Welfare schools, 13.82 lakhs of guides for 10th and 12th standards for Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes students, 6.75 lakhs of question banks for 10th and 12th standards for Parents-Teachers Association, 6.32 lakhs of financial literacy books for 8th, 9th, 11th and 12th standard students, 7.56 lakhs sets of ABL cards for the 1 to 4th standard students for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), 2.44 lakhs of Science Laboratory Manual for 9 and 10th standard students for Rashtriya Madhiyamik Shiksha Abhiyan(RMSA) and 73,000 textbooks for Polytechnic colleges.

13.3. Hon'ble Chief Minister's "Atlas Scheme"

The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced distribution of Atlas to all students in classes VI to X in Government and Government Aided schools. The Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation has been entrusted with printing of Atlas. It has printed 46 lakh copies of Atlas in both Tamil (41.50 lakhs) and English (4.50 lakhs) and distributed to the students of classes 6 to 10 free of cost. The Government has spent Rs.14.27 crores and implemented the Atlas scheme. This Atlas has catered for the needs of the student's community to a large extent. Since the contents in the Atlas are syllabus oriented, handy in size and colourful, they are preferred by the students than the Atlas marketed by the private publishers and there is a growing demand for the Atlas. To meet the students demand, the Corporation is set to print 11.85 lakh copies of Atlas for students of 6th standard for the academic year 2013-2014. This will cost Rs.3.50 crores to the State exchequer.

The Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation is also supplying textbooks free of cost to Tamil students in

other states such as Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, Kerala and Andaman Nicobar under the orders of the Government. The value of textbooks supplied for the academic year 2012-2013 is Rs.19 lakhs.

The Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation has diversified its activities from printing of textbooks to printing of guides, manuals, cards and Atlas. Presently, the work on printing of progress cards for students under SSA is on the anvil.

13.4. Quality in Printing

There are 134 printers empanelled with the Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation for printing of Textbooks for a period of two years ending 14.12.2013. The printers are of two types, viz. Sheet-Fed printers and Web-Offset printers. The majority of printers are located in Chennai, Sivakasi in Virudhunagar District and Hyderabad in Andhra-Pradesh. The textbooks are printed by using latest printing technology such as Computer to Plate (CTP) in sheet fed and web offset in single and multi- colour. The paper for printing of textbooks is purchased from the Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited (TNPL). The paper supplied by the

TNPL is high-tech map litho 80 GSM (Grams per square meter), possessing high brightness, strength, stiffness and all these are indices of a good quality paper. Good quality wrapper is used for the textbooks. Message to protect the Environment is printed on the backside of the textbooks to create awareness among the school students on environment. The printing of textbooks using TNPL supplied paper and strict quality control in printing of textbooks by the printers enforced by the Technical personnel of the Corporation has resulted in production of good quality textbooks for students.

13.5. Timely Distribution

The Textbooks printed are sent to the 64 nodal centres in the State directly from the printing presses for distribution to the schools. For the 1st term of the academic year 2012-2013, 4.82 crores of textbooks were printed and distributed to the students in May 2012. Likewise, 2.3 crores and 2.18 crores of textbooks were printed and distributed to the students on time for the 2nd and 3rd terms of the academic year 2012-2013. The sale copies of textbooks are sent to the 22

Regional Offices in the State and sold to the self financing private schools. Besides, textbooks valuing Rs.6 crores were sold to the approved retailers in the State for selling in the market. The total number of retailers in the State is 1097.

13.6. Textbooks Online

The textbooks published by the Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation are also available in the website www.textbooksonline.tn.nic.in. This facility is a boon for the student community since they can download the texts in times of need.

13.7. Printing of Textbooks 2013-2014

The Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation would be printing 10.47 crores of textbooks for the academic year 2013-2014. For the 1st term, 5.33 crores of textbooks are to be printed and this is in progress. The printing of textbooks for 1st term will be completed and delivered to the nodal centres before 25th May 2013. 5.14 crores of textbooks will be printed for the 2nd and 3rd terms, respectively and will be distributed on time. The Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation will open 4 sales counters in Chennai and will be operated through Directorate of

School Education to facilitate students to purchase textbooks without any hurdles.

The Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation with its network of printers and well established logistical facilities has been catering for the needs of the students by supplying the textbooks and Atlases to student on time.

***Dr. Vaigaichelvan
Minister for School Education,
Sports & Youth Welfare***