

10. TAMILNADU TEXTBOOK AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CORPORATION

10.1. Introduction

The Tamilnadu Textbook Society was formed as a Society on 4th March 1970 and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. It was renamed as Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation in 1993. The Corporation functions from its headquarters' in Chennai with 22 regional offices in the Districts.

The main objective of the Corporation is to print quality textbooks and to make them available on time, free of cost, to the students studying in Government and Government aided schools and at an affordable price to the students studying in self financing schools. At present, the Government is providing Educational kits such as Note books, Uniforms, School Bags, Crayons, Colour Pencils, Geometry Box, Footwear, Woollen Sweaters etc., free of cost to the students with the sole objective of increasing the enrolment of students, ensuring their retention in schools and providing quality education. These kits were being

procured by various Directorates of the School Education Department.

In order to ensure the timely provision of these no cost Educational kits to students, simultaneously ensuring good quality, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, under Rule 110 of Tamilnadu Legislative Assembly, announced on the floor of the Assembly that "henceforth the procurement of all these Educational kits shall be made by the Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation and it shall be re-designated as Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation". In pursuance of these announcement G.O.(Ms) No.178 / School Education (TRB) Department Dated : 06.09.2013, was issued and the Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation has been re-designated as Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation in 2013.

10.2 ACTIVITIES OF THE CORPORATION

10.2.1 Printing of Textbooks

The Hon'ble Chief Minister introduced Trimester pattern for standards I to VIII from the academic year 2012-2013 and extended it to IX standard from 2013-2014 as part of reforms in school education. The new system is meant to reduce the book load of students. As per the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Textbooks, under this pattern, are appropriately divided into three volumes for the three terms.

The Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation has printed 6.90 crores textbooks for standards I to XII and distributed them free of cost to the students during the academic year 2013-2014. Moreover, 3.24 crores textbooks for all standards were printed and sold to the students of self-financing private schools at a reasonable price. Thus, during the academic year, 2013-2014, 10.14 crores textbooks were printed and distributed, which includes the textbooks printed in minority languages such as

Telugu, Urdu, Kannada and Malayalam and readers for Sanskrit and Arabic. This has benefitted 1,35,000 minority language students. The Government has spent a amount of Rs.214.72 crore for supply of textbooks to students studying in Government and Government aided schools.

10.2.2 Printing of Books for other departments

The Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation undertakes printing of guides, question bank, solution books, model question papers, Activity Based Learning (ABL) cards for other related Departments. In the academic year 2013-2014, the Corporation has printed the following books for other departments:

- 1.88 lakh guides for 10th and 12th standards for students studying in Adi-Dravida Welfare Schools.
- 1.39 lakh guides for 10th and 12th standards students studying in Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes Department.
- 7.03 lakh question banks for 10th and 12th standards for Parents Teachers Association.

- 7.45 lakh financial literacy books of National Stock Exchange for 8th, 9th, 11th and 12th standard students.
- 84,900 copies of ABL cards for 1st to 4th standard students under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)
- 93,000 source Books for D.T.Ed students of State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT)
- 3,14,158 Teacher Modulus under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

10.2.3 Hon'ble Chief Minister's "Free Atlas Scheme"

The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced the distribution of free Atlas to all students in classes 6th to 10th in Government and Government Aided Schools. In pursuance of the Chief Minister's announcement, 11.85 lakh copies of Atlas in Tamil and English were procured and distributed to the students studying in 6th standard in Government and Government Aided Schools in the academic year 2013-2014 at a cost of Rs.3.50 crores.

10.2.4 Procurement and Distribution of Wall Maps

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has instructed to display the wall maps of India, Tamil Nadu and respective District in the class rooms to enhance the knowledge of children. 4,47,500 copies of Wall Maps of India, Tamilnadu and 32 Districts of Tamilnadu will be procured and distributed to all Government and Government Aided Elementary, High and Higher Secondary schools in this academic year. The Government has spent an amount of Rs.11.56 crores for extending this benefit to the students.

10.2.5 Supply of Free Textbooks to Tamil Students of other States

The Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation is also supplying textbooks free of cost to Tamil students in other states such as Maharashtra, Delhi, Gujarat, Kerala and Andaman and Nicobar Islands under the orders of the Government.

10.2.6 Tamil Textbooks for CBSE Schools (Annual Edition)

The schools adopting CBSE syllabus use the Tamil Textbooks of Tamilnadu State Board. Based on request from these schools, single volume of Tamil Textbook (annual edition) incorporating the textbooks of three terms has been developed by SCERT and the same has been printed exclusively for CBSE schools. This annual edition of Tamil Textbook has been brought out for I to X standards. This will be reprinted and supplied to CBSE schools every year at reasonable price.

10.2.7 Messages printed on the Cover pages of Textbooks

Messages relating to 'environment preservation', rain water harvesting 'child protection', 'cyber safety' and 'personal hygiene' with relevant and appealing colourful pictures appear on the back cover pages of textbooks from I to IX standards. This is an effort towards creating awareness among school children about the importance of nature preservation, child's

rights and to inculcate personal hygiene in the formative years of their life.

10.2.8 Quality in Printing

The Textbooks are printed using latest printing technology namely Computer to Plate (CTP) in sheet-fed and web-offset in single and multicolour. The paper for printing of textbooks is purchased from the Tamilnadu Newsprint and Papers Limited (TNPL). The paper supplied by the TNPL is High-Tech Maplitho 80 GSM (Grams per square meter), possessing high brightness, strength, stiffness which are parameters of good quality paper. Good quality 200 GSM Board wrapper is also used for the textbooks. The printing of textbooks using TNPL supplied paper and strict quality control in printing of textbooks by the printers ensured by the technical personnel of the Corporation has resulted in production of good quality textbooks for students.

10.2.9 Timely Distribution

For the academic year 2013-2014, 5.34 crores of textbooks were printed and distributed to the students in May 2013. Likewise, 2.40 crores of II Term Textbooks and 2.40 crores of III Term Textbooks were printed and distributed to the students on time. The annual and trimester textbooks printed are sent to the 66 Nodal Centers in the State directly from the printing presses for distribution to the schools.

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 were sold to the 1097 approved retailers in the State for open market sales.

10.3. Text Books online

The textbooks published by the Tamilnadu Textbook Corporation are also made available on its website www.textbooksonline.tn.nic.in. This facility is a boon for the student community since they can download the textbooks at any time.

10.4. Printing of Textbooks – 2014-2015

For the academic year, 2014-2015, the Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation is planning to print 7.40 crores of textbooks for the three terms for standards I to IX and 67.76 lakhs of textbooks for X standard. For XI and XII standards, 2.06 crores of textbooks have been printed. The printing of textbooks for the I term for standard I –IX and the annual book for XI and XII standards was completed and distributed to the Nodal Centers before 25th May 2014.

The Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation with its network of printers and well-established logistic facilities has been catering to the needs of the students by supplying the textbooks to the students on time.

10.5. Procurement of Educational Items for the year 2014-2015

In pursuance of the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister to ensure quality and timely supply of various educational items to the students and

to enable the different Directorates of School Education Department to focus on educational activities for the students, the Tamilnadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation has been entrusted with the responsibilities and task of procurement of the following Educational items which were undertaken so far by the different Directorates.

- School Bags
- Crayons
- Colour Pencils
- Geometry Box
- Footwear
- Woollen Sweaters
- Maths Kit
- Atlas
- Wall Maps

Technical, Financial and Evaluation Committees have been formed to prepare the tender documents, scrutinize, evaluate and finalize the tenders for the procurement of these kits. Tenders have already been invited for the same, have been finalised and supply orders have been issued for the timely procurement

and supply of these kits. Adequate inspection and sample testing mechanisms have also been put in place in order to ensure quality of the educational items.

The Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation endeavours to supply quality textbooks and the educational kits to students of Government and Government Aided schools on time in pursuance of the orders issued by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

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Minister for School Education