



Abstract

School Education – Announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under rule 110 of TNLA on 26.8.2011 – Introduction of Trimester Pattern in all Schools in Tamil Nadu from the academic year 2012-13 for classes I to VIII – orders issued.

School Education (E1) Department

G.O.(Ms.) No. 203

Dated : 09.12.2011

Thiruvalluvaraundu 2042 Karthigai 23

Read:

1. Announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under rule 110 of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 26.08.2011.
2. G.O.(Ms.) No.143, School Education(V1) Department dated 19.9.2011.
3. From the Director of School Education letter Rc.No.85773/I-2/2011 dated 31.10.2011.

ORDER:-

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has made the following announcement in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under rule 110 of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 26.8.2011.

“the Trimester pattern will be introduced in all schools in Tamil Nadu from the next academic year in order to reduce the load of the books on children as it causes physical strain to them. Accordingly, instead of having a single voluminous text book for each subject for the whole year, the academic year would be divided into three terms and for each term, there will be separate text book for each subject. At the end of each term, the Examination would be conducted under Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation. This would drastically eliminate worries, fearness and depression of the students besides reducing the physical strain caused by the load of books.”

2. The Government of Tamil Nadu have taken radical and positive steps in the recent past in the direction of child friendly learning. At present, children are examined only at the end of the academic year and the scholastic areas of children are alone tested, whereas co-scholastic are neglected. Overall personality development of children depends both on scholastic and co-scholastic areas and hence, the assessment has to be continuous all throughout the year. Realizing this, the State is introducing an evaluation system which is Continuous and Comprehensive in nature (CCE) from the academic year 2012-13 for classes I to VIII and for IX and X in 2013-14, in the G.O. second read above and it has also been ordered therein that the **Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation system will be an integral part of the trimester system.**

3. The Director of School Education in his letter third read above has stated that the State Common Board of School Education conducted a meeting on 18.10.2011 and unanimously decided to introduce "TRIMESTER PATTERN" in Classes I to VIII from the academic year 2012-2013 in all Schools in Tamil Nadu and he also submitted the following proposal to issue necessary orders to introduce "TRIMESTER PATTERN" from the academic year 2012-2013 for the Classes I to VIII.

(i) Books are the tools in the classrooms to bring out the desired changes in the children besides inculcation of life skills. As per the existing system, students are forced to carry books which have portions meant for the whole year. Children are literally burdened with books. The enrichment of knowledge along with syllabus revision have resulted in increased volume and size of the books and the physical strain the children undergo. A possible way out is the introduction of the trimester system. The Trimester System will involve three terms during one academic year as follows :-

I Term	June, July, August and September
II Term	October, November and December
III Term	January, February, March and April.

The existing books will be suitably divided into three parts.

(ii) The rationale for introducing the trimester system is to create a school where teaching and learning is valued with an emphasis on learning outcomes demonstrated in students performance. A well designed curriculum through thinner books along with creative instructional practices will form the key to success.

(iii) Trimester gives room for **Block Scheduling**. There is allocation of more time for each class with fewer periods of instruction per day giving more scope for interactive and collaborative learning experiences. Under Trimester Scheduling, there is a relationship between the amount of time invested and the

quantity and quality of learning that occurs for any given group of students. Teaching strategies which more actively involve students in the learning processes have proven to enable a higher retention level of the students. **Active processing experiences** such as hands on experiences in Science Lab or field trip will naturally help students in generating meaning for content being learnt. Role playing will enhance understanding of core concepts beyond memorization. The Trimester system allows such **interactive teaching styles** into their daily lesson plans due to more time allotted to each class as compared to traditional system.

(iv) Immediate feedback leads to improvement of Student performance in the Trimester Schedule. This unique assessment system offers the possibility of **Catch-up acceleration**. Large time and the smallness of the term books motivate students to work together in a sportive and friendly manner avoiding cut-throat sense of unhealthy competition among peers. Amazingly, learning happens incidentally.

(v) Trimester schedules are a model for school improvement and not just a schedule change. Balancing the core classes over three terms allows for less stress on students. Students will have more time to devote in depth and quality time to a fewer number of lessons. For the part of teachers also they do not have to rush up to cover a number of lessons. Moreover, the introduction of trimester does not mean only dividing the existing text books into three equal parts. It is more than that; each lesson unit will be followed by a number of activities which will help to drive home the desired skills. **The trimester system coupled with comprehensive and continuous evaluation method will certainly mark a qualitative leap as far as the education of children is concerned.**

4. After examination and in the context of the announcement made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the orders issued for the implementation of Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation from the academic year 2012-13 for classes I to VIII in the G.O.second read above, the Government has decided to accept the proposal of Director of School Education in para 3 above and **issue orders to introduce the "Trimester Pattern" in all Schools of Tamil Nadu from the academic year 2012-13 for classes I to VIII.**

(By Order of the Governor)

Dr.T.S.Sridhar
Additional Chief Secretary to Government

To.
The Director of School Education, Chennai-6.
The Director of Elementary Education, Chennai-6.
The Director of Matriculation Schools, Chennai-6.
The Director of Teacher Education Research
and Training Centre, Chennai -6.

The Managing Director,
Tamil Nadu Text Book Corporation, Chennai-6.
The State Project Director, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan,
Chennai-6
The Additional Project Director,
Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Chennai-6.
The Director of Government Examination, Chennai-6.
The Chairman, Teachers Recruitment Board, Chennai-6
The Director of Non-Formal and Adult Education, Chennai-6.
The Secretary to Government, Social Welfare and
Nutritious Meal Programme Department, Chennai-9.
The Secretary to Government, Adidravidar and
Tribal Welfare Department, Chennai-9.
The Secretary to Government, Backward Classes,
Most Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department, Chennai -9.
The Secretary to Government, Environment and
Forest Department, Chennai-9
The Secretary to Government, Municipal Administration and
Water Supply Department, Chennai-9.
The Secretary to Government,,
Special Programme Implementation Department, Chennai-9.

Copy to :
All Officers/ All sections in School Education Department,
Chennai-9.
The Hon'ble Chief Minister's Office, Chennai-9.
Senior P.A. to Hon'ble Minister, (School Education) Chennai-9.
Stock File/ Spare.

//Forwarded By Order//

Section Officer