

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Government of Tamil Nadu Announces Commencement of RTE Admissions for 2025–26 Following Release of Funds by Government of India**

The Government of Tamil Nadu announces **the commencement of admissions under the *Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (RTE Act)* for the academic year 2025–26**. This decision follows the **release of the State's due share of RTE reimbursement funds by the Government of India**, in compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras and subsequent proceedings before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

#### **Background**

In **W.P. No. 18427 of 2025 – V. Eswaran vs. Government of Tamil Nadu & Others**, the Hon'ble Madras High Court directed the **Government of India to consider delinking RTE reimbursements from the Samagra Shiksha scheme**, ensuring that the release of funds is not conditional upon adoption of the **National Education Policy (NEP 2020)** or the signing of any **MoU under the PM SHRI Schools scheme**.

Following this, the **Government of Tamil Nadu filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP)** before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, seeking a binding direction to the Union Government to release its share of funds. Notice was issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to the Government of India. The **Government of India has now released the funds**, thereby enabling the **commencement of RTE admissions for 2025–26** across Tamil Nadu.

#### **Milestones of the RTE Admission Process – 2025–26**

##### **1. Reservation and Coverage**

- 25% reservation in entry-level classes (*LKG / Class I*) of all **unaided non-minority private schools**.
- Admissions will be conducted strictly in accordance with the **RTE Act, 2009** and the **Tamil Nadu RTE Rules, 2011**.

## 2. Mode of Admission

- Admissions will be carried out through an **online process** via the official RTE portal.
- The admission under this category for this academic year will be carried out among the children who are already admitted in the entry level class of the school.
- A **special 10-day online admission window** has been scheduled to regularize eligible children already admitted under the RTE quota.

## 3. Priority Categories

Priority admission shall be given to children belonging to the following categories:

- Orphans
- HIV-affected/infected children
- Transgender children
- Children of scavengers
- Differently abled children

If applications exceed the available quota, a **transparent random selection process** will be conducted.

## 4. Fee Refund and Compliance

- Schools shall not collect any tuition or admission fees from RTE-eligible children.
- Any fee already collected must be **refunded within 7 working days**, with confirmation from both the school and parent.

## 5. Monitoring and Grievance Redressal

- **District-level Monitoring Committees**, headed by Chief Educational Officers (CEOs), will oversee the process.
- A dedicated **helpline and email support** are available for grievance redressal and technical assistance.

## 6. Commitment to Equity and Access

- The Government of Tamil Nadu reiterates its commitment to ensuring **every child's constitutional right to free and compulsory education** and will ensure that RTE admissions for 2025–26 are **transparent, equitable, and child-centric** across the State.

### Schedule of Short Online RTE 25% Admission (2025–26)

S. No.	Day	Admission Process
1	<b>Day 1</b> <b>06.10.2025</b>	Admission Notification issued
2	<b>Day 2</b> <b>07.10.2025</b>	Schools upload total seats filled in entry-level class as on 30.09.2025
3	<b>Day 3</b> <b>08.10.2025</b>	25% RTE seats identified and made visible through school login
4	<b>Day 4</b> <b>09.10.2025</b>	Upload details of all eligible children (Aadhaar, DOB, address, income/community certificates) and <b>Parent Declaration</b> under <b>G.O. No. 66, dated 07.04.2017</b>
5	<b>Days 5 &amp; 6</b> <b>10.10.2025 &amp; 13.10.2025</b>	Display of eligible/ineligible applicants on school notice board, stating reasons for rejection; parents given opportunity to submit missing documents
6	<b>Day 7</b> <b>14.10.2025</b>	Publication of final list of eligible children
7	<b>Day 8</b> <b>15.10.2025</b>	Tagging of eligible children under RTE quota in <b>EMIS Portal</b> , if less than 25% seats filled
8	<b>Day 9</b> <b>16.10.2025</b>	If applications exceed 25%, <b>random selection</b> conducted after granting admission to priority categories; selected names displayed immediately
9	<b>Day 10</b> <b>17.10.2025</b>	Tagging of selected children (through random selection) in <b>EMIS Portal</b>

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