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PART - II

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GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION
(SECRETARIAT WING)

(G.O. Ms. No. 60, Puducherry, dated 13th March 2026)

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 49 of the Puducherry School Education Act, 1987 (Act 9 of 1987), the Lieutenant-Governor, Puducherry hereby makes the following rules to further amend the Puducherry School Education Rules, 1996, namely:—

THE PUDUCHERRY SCHOOL EDUCATION
(AMENDMENT) RULES, 2026

1. *Short title and commencement.*— (1) These rules may be called the Puducherry School Education (Amendment) Rules, 2026.

(2) They shall extend to the whole of the Union territory of Puducherry.

(3) They shall come into force on and from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

AMENDMENT OF RULE 25

In the Puducherry School Education Rules 1996 (hereinafter referred to as the said rules), in rule 25, after sub-rule (1), the following shall be inserted, namely:—

“(1A) No Essentiality Certificate shall be required for establishment or recognition of private Schools.

(1B) Recognition shall be based on self-certification supported by documentary compliance with applicable safety, infrastructure adequacy and statutory norms”.

AMENDMENT OF RULE 26

In the said rules, for rule 26, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

“26. Facilities to be provided:—

(1) Every recognized private School shall maintain infrastructure and facilities adequate to deliver the approved curriculum and comply with safety and statutory norms.

(2) There shall be no mandatory minimum land ownership requirement for establishment or continuation of K-12 private Schools.

(3) Playground, library, laboratory, computer facilities and other academic infrastructure may be provided either within the school premises or through formal arrangements / agreements, including on payment basis, with nearby Government Institutions, Municipal facilities, Higher Educational Institutions or other recognized Schools.

(4) Sharing of playgrounds, libraries (including digital libraries), laboratories and co-curricular facilities shall be permitted, subject to documented access and student safety.

(5) Prescriptive norms relating to minimum size, quantity, built-up area, computer ratios, classroom dimensions or similar rigid infrastructure standards shall not apply; instead, schools shall follow principle-based adequacy norms ensuring the quality of education.

(6) Vertical development of school buildings shall be permitted subject to building safety regulations and building plan approvals.

(7) Infrastructure and equipment may be accessed or augmented on payment basis from nearby facilities.

(8) Compliance shall be assessed on functional adequacy, accessibility and safety, and not on fixed numerical thresholds.”

AMENDMENT OF RULE 27

In the said rules, for rule 27, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

“27. Endowment Fund:—

(1) No minimum Endowment Fund shall be required for establishment or operation of private Schools.

(2) Existing Endowment Funds, if any, may be utilized by the management for capital expenditure or recurring operational expenses of the school, subject to maintenance of financial availability and protection of staff salary obligations.

(3) The requirement of fixed deposits towards Endowment Fund is hereby dispensed with.”

(By order of the Lieutenant-Governor)

FLORA PUSHPA VERBINA JAYARAJ,
Under Secretary to Government (School Education).