

## **Tamilnadu Open Board (TCODL / TNSOS) - Constitutionality and Validity**

**Tamilnadu Open Board** (operating as Tamilnadu Council for Open and Distance Learning & Tamil Nadu State Open Schooling) is registered by the Government of Tamilnadu State under the Trust Act and is registered with the Planning Commission of India, which is governed by the Prime Minister of India.

**Tamilnadu Open Board** is an autonomous educational board established for the development of education under the guidelines of the National Education Policy 1986 (Govt. of India) and the Programme of Action 1992 (Govt. of India). Under the Human Rights Protection Act 1993, autonomous bodies have been given Special Consideration (for further details, refer AIR 1993 SC 2178).

### **Legal Status & Discretionary Powers**

**Tamilnadu Open Board** is an Autonomous Board, and all educational organizations are governed by the rules framed by the Government of India, where each institution maintains its own discretionary powers. According to these powers, every Institution, Board, University, State Government, and the Central Government of India has the liberty and right to take its own decision either to allow or refuse any admission or service.

Our core mission is to promote non-formal and distance education programmes through the **Tamilnadu Open Board** framework. The Legality, Validity, and Utility of our education programmes are in strict conformity with the Constitution of India and the law of the land under Article 19(1)G, 29 & 30.

**Automatic Recognition for Employment:** According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India Notification No. 26/4/52 CC Dated 20.09.1952, issued in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), qualifications awarded by an established Board/University in India require no formal orders of recognition to be issued by the Government for employment purposes. Such qualifications are Recognized Automatically for the purpose of employment.

### **Quality Standards & Certification**

**Tamilnadu Open Board** functions under strict quality monitoring systems. As an **ISO 9001-2008 Certified** board, our international standards ensure that our educational services are safe, reliable, and of excellent quality. These strategic tools reduce errors, minimize educational waste, and increase overall productivity for the students.

### **Acceptance and Student Scope**

Generally, educational enthusiasts and prospective students ask: *What is the constitutional validity behind the operation of the Tamilnadu Open Board, and where can successful students secure admission or employment?*

The clear answer is that all Educational Boards and Universities are autonomous bodies. Just as it is left to the discretion of a University to allow or refuse admission to a student from another Board, every State Government is at liberty regarding services provided to a person from a particular educational stream.

Regarding recognition, **Tamilnadu Open Board** is one of the leading distance education pathways in the country, and its courses are structurally similar to the courses offered by various traditional Universities and Educational Boards. The successful students of this Board are actively serving in

Private Organisations, Multinational Companies (MNCs), and gaining admissions into various Universities and Higher Education Boards for further studies. The structural framework has been established under the compulsory and constitutional provisions of the Indian S.R. Act XXI-1860.

- **Note on UGC Act:** Tamilnadu Open Board is not in receipt of any grant-in-aid either from the Government or from the UGC. Because it focuses on school-level, non-formal, and secondary distance education, the UGC Act is not directly applicable to the Board's autonomous courses.

### **Historical Perspective & Global Concept**

Viewed from the fulfilment of the provisions of articles 14, 19(1), 21, 29, 30, 45, 46, 344 & 351 of the Indian Constitution 1950, the educational work done by **Tamilnadu Open Board** is highly valid and appreciated.

The concept of Distance Education originally started in Berlin (Germany) in 1856. Later, the idea of Open Schooling and Open Universities was conceived by the British Prime Minister Mr. Harold Wilson in the year 1863 to provide a second chance to individuals who were otherwise denied opportunities to further their education. Under the New Education Policy 1986, the Government of India laid particular stress on Open Schooling and Distance Education.

**Tamilnadu Open Board** receives continuous direction and full co-operation from eminent Educationists, Professors, Philanthropists, Social Workers, and Corporate Managers. It is their unanimous opinion that this Board gives practical shape to the vision of open learning by providing quality distance education to underprivileged sections of society and encouraging lifelong learning.