Still not approved by Hon. Governor of Northern Province

NORTHERN PROVINCIAL COUNCIL PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION STATUTE NO. OF 2014

A STATUTE TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGISTRATION, SUPERVISION AND MONITORING OF PRE-SCHOOLS IN THE NORTHERN PROVINCE; THE INTRODUCTION OF MODEL PRE-SCHOOLS AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH OR INCIDENTAL THERETO.

BE it enacted by the Northern Provincial Council of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as follows:-

01. This Statute may be cited as the Northern Province Pre-School Statute No... of 2014 and shall come into operation on such date as the Governor of the Northern Province may give his assent to the Statute.

PART I

PROVINCIAL POLICY ON PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION

- 02. (1) The Board of Ministers of the Northern Province shall, from time to time, approve and adopt the Pre-School Education Policy of the Northern Province to ensure the provision of total, comprehensive and dynamic pre-school education to the children in the Province.
- (2) The Minister in charge of the subject of education in the Northern Province (hereinafter referred to as "the Minister") shall be responsible for the general administration of pre-school education in the Northern Province and for the implementation of the provisions of this Statute and the Provincial Pre-School Education Policy as approved by the Board of Ministers.
- (3) It shall be the responsibility and duty of the Minister to consider the draft Provincial Policy on Pre-School Education submitted to him by the Pre-School Advisory Committee. The Minister shall forward the draft Policy with his observations, where necessary, on the draft Policy, to the Board of Ministers for its approval.

PART II

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION UNIT OF THE NORTHERN PROVINCE

- 03. There shall be established a Northern Province Pre-School Education Unit (hereinafter referred to as "the Pre-School Education Unit") which shall operate under the control and supervision of the Provincial Ministry of Education of the Northern Province.
- 04. (1) There shall be appointed a Director of Pre-School Education (hereinafter referred to as "the Director") who shall be Class I Officer of the Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service (hereinafter referred to as "the S. L. E. A. S") to head the Pre-School Education Unit. Where no suitable Class I Officer could be appointed, there shall be appointed a Class II Officer of the S. L. E. A. S. to head the Pre-School Education Unit in an acting capacity until a Class I Officer is appointed.
- (2) There may be appointed an Additional Director of Pre-School Education and/or Deputy Director of Pre-School Education who shall be Class II Officer or Class III Officer of the S.L.E.A.S, as the case may be, to the Pre-School Education Unit. The Additional Director and/or Deputy Director shall assist the Director in the discharge and performance of his duties and functions and exercise of his powers, including the coordination of activities of the Pre-School Education Unit.
- (3) There shall be appointed one Assistant Director of Pre-School Education to each of the twelve Education Zones in the Northern Province. The Assistant Directors shall be Class III Officers of the S.L.E.A.S. The Assistant Directors shall assist in and coordinate all pre-school activities in their respective Zones.
- (4) The Director may, subject to such conditions as may be specified in writing, delegate to the Additional Director or Deputy Director any power, duty or function other than the power of delegation, conferred or imposed on, or assigned to the Director.
- (5) Notwithstanding any such delegation, the Director may exercise, perform or discharge any such power, duty or function.
- 05. The objects of the Pre-School Education Unit shall be
 - (i) the registration, regulation and supervision of the administration of preschools operated in the Province;
 - (ii) the formulation of the draft Provincial Policy on Pre-School Education;
 - (iii) the implementation of the Provincial Policy on Pre-School Education as approved by the Board of Ministers in the Province;
 - (iv) the preparation of plans (pre-school development plan and annual implementation plan) and their implementation in the Province;

- (v) the stipulation and maintenance of standards for pre-school education;
- (vi) the improvement and enhancement of knowledge, necessary skills and appropriate attitudes among teachers engaged in the Pre-School (Education) Service of the Province;
- (vii) the conducting of awareness programmes for pre-school children, their parents and others on the importance of pre-school education;
- (viii) the coordination of functions of the Government Institutions including Higher Educational Institutions, Non-Government Organizations and Private Institutions engaged in activities connected with pre-schools in the Province and facilitating inter-action among them to improve the standard of pre-school education in the Province:
- (ix) the stipulation and maintenance of standards for physical, infra-structure and other facilities and amenities as well as human resources to be made available in pre-schools;
- (x) the exercise, performance and discharge of such powers, duties and functions as are conferred, or imposed on, or assigned to the Pre-School Unit by or under this Statute;
- (xi) the establishment and maintenance of model pre-schools within the Province; and
- (xii) subject to the provisions of this Statute, do all such other acts as may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects of the Pre-School Education Unit.
- 06. The Director shall be responsible to the Minister and the Board of Ministers for the due and proper implementation of the objects of the Pre-School Education Unit provided in the Statute and administration of the provisions of this Statute.
- 07. The Pre-School Education Unit may exercise all or any of the following powers –
- (i) register and supervise the management of pre-schools, and similar institutions by whichever name they are referred to, engaged in education cum welfare related activities of children aged between 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years and 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ years, operating within the Province:
- (ii) provide guidance and assistance where necessary to improve the preschool educational activities in the Province;

- (iii) cause the management to ensure safety, hygiene and congenial surroundings to the children and to provide facilities and assistance to cater to the requirements of children with special needs;
- (iv) construct and maintain educational, library and training institutions in order to develop and enhance the knowledge and skills of pre-school teachers and to award them certificates:
 - (v) construct and maintain model pre-schools;
- (vi) conduct in-service training programmes and workshops to upgrade the capacity of pre-schools teachers;
- (vii) prescribe and adopt a system of grading pre-schools in the Province according to the standards maintained and the facilities (made) available in them;
- (viii) set down administrative and management standards for all pre-schools functioning in the Province;
- (ix) organize and conduct awareness programmes for parents of pre-school children and others on the importance of pre-school education;
- (x) visit, inspect and conduct surprise checks at pre-schools operating within the Province;
- (xi) inquire into complaints made by anyone against any pre-school operating within the Province and take appropriate actions on such complaints;
- (xii) demand and receive fees for any service rendered in accordance with any rule providing therefor; and,
- (xiii) do all such other acts and things incidental to the powers aforesaid and/or as may be required to further the objects of the Pre-School Education Unit.

PART III

PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- 08. (1) There shall be established a Pre-School Education Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Advisory Committee") of the Northern Province.
 - (2) The Advisory Committee shall consist of the following members-
 - (i) ex-officio, nominated by the Minister-

- (a) The Secretary of the Ministry of Education of the Northern Province:
- (b) The Provincial Director of Education of the Northern Province:
- (c) The Provincial Director of Health Services of the Northern Province:
- (d) The Commissioner of Probation and Child Care Services of the Northern Province:
- (e) The Commissioner of Local Government of the Northern Province:
- (f) The Legal Consultant or Legal Advisor of the Northern Provincial Council, if any;
- (g) The Director of Pre-School Education of the Northern Province:

and

- (ii) appointed by the Minister -
 - (a) Three persons with high educational qualifications and experience in the fields of early childhood development, child psychology, child health and nutrition, child rights, and/or preschool management;
 - (b) Two pre-school teachers with teaching experience of not less than ten years;
 - (c) Two principals and/or managers of well recognized preschools operating within the Province; and
 - (d) Three persons of good social standing representing the civil society of the Province.
- (3) The Minister shall ensure gender and geographical representation in appointing the Members to the Advisory Committee under paragraph (ii) of subsection (2) above.
- (4) The Secretary of the Provincial Ministry of Education shall be the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee and the Director of Pre-School Education of the Northern Province shall be the Secretary of the Advisory Committee.
- (5) A member appointed under paragraph (ii) of sub-section (2) above (hereinafter referred to as "an appointed member") shall hold office for a period of

three years from the date of appointment, unless he or she vacates his or her office by removal, resignation, death or any other cause.

- (6) An appointed member shall be deemed to have vacated his or her office if he or she fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Advisory Committee.
- (7) An appointed member may be removed from office by the Minister for cause assigned.
- (8) An appointed member shall cease to be a member if he or she becomes disqualified under the provisions of section 9 of this Statute.
- (9) An appointed member may resign from his or her office by a letter addressed to the Minister to that effect.
- (10) When the membership of an appointed member falls vacant by virtue of any provision of the above sub-sections, the Minister shall appoint a person as a member for the unexpired period considering the category the vacated member belonged as per the provisions of paragraph (ii) of sub-section (2) above.
- (11) An appointed member is eligible for reappointment except where the person had been removed from office by the Minister under sub-section (7) above or has become disgualified under the provisions of this Statute.
- (12) The quorum for the meetings of the Advisory Committee shall be nine.
- (13) The Advisory Committee shall conduct its meeting in accordance with democratic principles and decisions shall be arrived as far as possible through consensus.
- (14) The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once in six months.
- (15) No decision or action taken by the Advisory Committee shall be invalid solely on account of a vacancy in the Advisory Committee and/or a defect in the appointment of a member.
- (16) The Minister may, with the concurrence of the Minister in charge of the subject of Finance, determine the amount of an allowance which may be paid to the members who participate at the meetings of the Advisory Committee.
- 09. A person shall be disqualified to be a member or continue to be a member of the Advisory Committee if he or she -
 - (a) is not a citizen of Sri Lanka or ceases to be a citizen of Sri Lanka;
 - (b) becomes of unsound mind or is insane:

- (c) becomes bankrupt;
- is convicted by a court of law and is serving or has served a term of imprisonment;
- (e) is having monetary dealings or commercial transactions or commitments with the Provincial Administration of the Northern Province which expressly or impliedly compromises or would appear to compromise his or her position of neutrality and objectivity; or
- (f) is pronounced by a court of law to be guilty of an offence under this Statute.
- 10. (1) It shall be the role and function of the Advisory Committee to advise on-
 - (a) the drafting of the Provincial Policy on Pre-School Education for the Northern Province;
 - (b) the preparation of plans (pre-school development plan and annual implementation plan) and their implementation in the Province;
 - (c) the stipulation and maintenance of standards for pre-school education:
 - (d) the ways and means of improving and enhancing knowledge and skills of, and appropriate attitudes in teachers engaged in the Pre-School Service of the Province;
 - (e) the achievement of objects of the Pre-School Education Unit of the Province;
 - (f) the effective implementation of the provisions of this Statute;
 - (g) the preparation of the curriculum to be adopted and implemented in the pre-schools in the Northern Province with the guidance of the National Institute of Education; and
 - (h) any matter referred to it by the Minister requiring the Committee to provide its observations and recommendations on such matter.
 - (2) The Advisory Committee shall have the power to set up standing committees in the discharge of its role and functions.

PART IV

PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT FUND

- 11. (1) There shall be established a Pre-School Education Development Fund of the Northern Province (hereinafter referred to as "the Fund").
- (2) A Board of Management comprising the following officers shall manage all activities of the Fund:-
 - (a) The Director of Pre-School Education of the Province;
 - (b) The Chief Accountant of the Ministry of Education of the Northern Province;
 - (c) The Additional Director of Education (in charge of Education Development) of the Provincial Department of Education, Northern Province;
 - (d) Deputy Chief Secretary (Finance) of the Provincial Treasury, Northern Province;
 - (e) The Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Education of Northern Province.
- (3) The members of the Board of Management shall be appointed by the Minister who shall also appoint the senior-most officer among them as the Chairperson of the Board. The Director of the Pre-School Education of the Province shall be the Secretary of the Fund.
- (4) All sums granted by the Provincial Council from time to time and all other income earned by the Pre-School Education Unit and all other grants, assistance and donations, shall be credited to this Fund.
- (5) Expenses incurred towards the achievement of the objects of the Pre-School Education Unit shall be borne by this Fund.
- (6) A Statement of Accounts along with a Report of the Activities carried out every year shall be submitted by the Director of the Pre-School Education, within four months of the end of the year, to the Board of Ministers through the Minister. The Minister shall cause the said Statement of Accounts along with the Report of Activities to be tabled at the Provincial Council.
- (7) Article 154 of the Constitution shall apply with regard to the audit and accounts of the Fund.

PART V

MINIMUM STANDARDS RELATING TO PRE-SCHOOLS

- 12. (1) Every pre-school established and operated within the Northern Province shall adhere to and maintain the minimum standards in relation to the physical, infrastructure and other facilities and amenities as well as human resources as prescribed in Schedule I to this Statute.
- (2) A pre-school shall not be established or operated within a distance of 100 meters of a surrounding or business activity which is harmful, detrimental, injurious or dangerous to the physical and psychological well-being of children.

PART VI

REGISTRATION OF PRE-SCHOOLS

- 13. (1) Every owner, proprietor, manager, principal or head of a pre-school in the Province, shall, upon this Statute coming into operation, apply, in the prescribed form given in Schedule II to the Statute, for registration of such pre-school with the Pre-School Education Unit of the Province within a period of three months.
- (2) Subject to sub-sections (3) and (4) of this section, every owner, proprietor, manager, principal or head of a pre-school who fails to apply for registration of such pre-school in the prescribed form within the period specified in sub-section (1), to the Pre-School Education Unit, shall be in breach of sub-section (1).
- (3) Where the owner, proprietor, manager, principal or head of a pre-school is unable to bring the existing physical,- infrastructure and other facilities or amenities as well as human resources of his or her pre-school to the prescribed standards within the stipulated period, he or she shall write to the Director of Pre-School Education requesting an extension of time to abide by the provisions of this Statute. It shall be the duty of such person to indicate in detail and clearly the time required therefor.
- (4) Where a written request under sub-section (3) is received, the Director of Pre-School Education may, subject to such terms and conditions, grant such extension of time. Provided however, no such extension or extensions beyond a period of one year in total from the end of the period prescribed in sub-section (1) above, may be granted to anyone by the Director of Pre-School Education. The Director shall have authority to impose an additional fee of 50% of the prescribed departmental fee which shall be paid by the applicant.
- (5) Where the Director is satisfied that the applicant for registration has fulfilled, the minimum standards requirements with regard to physical,- infrastructure and other facilities and amenities stipulated by or under the Statute and upon payment of the prescribed fees, the Director shall register the pre-school with the Pre-School Education Unit and issue a Certificate of Registration to such pre-school.

- 14. (1) Every person who desires to establish a Pre-School within the Province from and after coming into operation of this Statute, shall apply to the Pre-School Education Unit for registration in the prescribed form set out in Appendix II to this Statute.
- (2) A person shall not commence a pre-school without first having obtained a Certificate of Registration from the Director of Pre-School Education.
- (3) It shall be the duty of the Director of Pre-School Education to inform the applicant in writing within a period of two months from the receipt of the application for registration whether it was accepted or not, and where it was not accepted, along with the reasons for such denial.
- (4) In exceptional circumstances or in circumstance where time is granted to the applicant to rectify any shortcomings in physical-infrastructure, other facilities or amenities, the Director of Pre-School Education may take time longer than what is stipulated in sub-section (3). Provided, however, it shall not exceed six months in total.
- (5) Where the Director is satisfied that the applicant for registration has fulfilled, the minimum standards requirements with regard to physical,- infrastructure and other facilities and amenities stipulated by or under the Statute and upon payment of the prescribed fees, the Director shall register the pre-school with the Pre-School Education Unit and issue a Certificate of Registration to such pre-school.
- 15. (1) Where an applicant is aggrieved by the decision or action of the Director of Pre-School Education under sections 13 or 14 above, he may prefer an appeal to the Minister against such decision or action within a period of two months from the date of communication of such decision or action.
- (2) Where the Minister receives an appeal, he or she shall refer it to the Advisory Committee or to a Standing Committee of the Advisory Committee for its observations and recommendations. Upon receipt of the observations and recommendations of the Committee, the Minister shall have power to vary, reverse or confirm the decision or action taken by the Director and communicate the same to the appellant. The Minister may impose such terms and conditions which in his or her opinion desirable or necessary.
- (3) The decision of the Minister shall be communicated to the appellant within a period of four months from the date of receipt of the appeal. The decision of the Minister shall be final.
- 16. (1) The Board of Ministers, on the recommendation of the Minister, shall have power to stipulate the amount of departmental fee for registration of pre-schools with the Pre-School Education Unit.
- (2) The quantum of fee determined by the Board of Ministers shall not come into effect until it is presented to and approved by the Provincial Council.
- (3) The Board of Ministers shall have power, on the recommendation of the Minister, to alter, increase or decrease from time to time, the amount so determined. Any

alteration, increase or decrease shall come into effect only when it is approved by the Provincial Council.

- 17. (1) The Director of Pre-School shall maintain a Register of Pre-Schools that are operating in the Province.
- (2) The Register of Pre-Schools shall contain particulars such as the name of the pre-school, its address, contact details, date of establishment, date of registration, name and address of the proprietor, manager and/or principal(, etc).
- (3) Every registered pre-school shall be provided with a registration number and a Certificate of Registration by the Director.
- (4) The Director shall have the power to cancel the registration of a registered pre-school if the Director, after following due process which includes the right to a hearing by the proprietor, manager or head of the pre-school, is satisfied that the pre-school is not administered according to the minimum standards stipulated by or under this Statute, the management or administration of the pre-school has not taken adequate and meaningful steps to ensure that the activities of the personnel involved in or connected with the functioning of the pre-school have not been prejudicial to the general physical and psychological welfare of the children or for any other valid and reasonable ground.
- (5) Where a person aggrieved by the decision or action of the Director under sub-section (4), he may prefer an appeal to the Minister against such decision or action within a period of two months from the date of communication of such decision or action.
- (6) Where the Minister receives an appeal, he or she shall refer it to the Advisory Committee or to a Standing Committee of the Advisory Committee for its observations and recommendations. Upon receipt of the observations and recommendations of the Committee, the Minister shall have power to vary, reverse or confirm the decision or action taken by the Director and communicate the same to the appellant. The Minister may impose such terms and conditions which in his or her opinion desirable or necessary.
- (7) The decision of the Minister shall be communicated to the appellant within a period of four months from the date of receipt of the appeal. The decision of the Minister shall be final (and conclusive).

PART VII

REGISTER OF PRE-SCHOOL TEACHERS

18. (1) There shall be maintained, by the Director of Pre-School Education, a Register of Pre-School Teachers who work in pre-schools within the Province.

- (2) No person shall be eligible to apply to have his or her name on the Register of Pre-School Teachers of the Province unless he or she satisfies the following minimum qualifications
 - (a) he or she has passed, in not more than two sittings, in six subjects including Mathematics and a Credit pass in the Tamil Language (in the case of Tamil Medium teachers) or a Credit in the Sinhala Language (in the case of Sinhala Medium teachers); in the case of English Medium teachers the person shall have obtained a Credit pass in the English Language as well; and,
 - (b) he or she has obtained a Diploma in Early Childhood Development, after having followed a minimum of one year programme, from an institution recognized by the Advisory Committee.
- (3) A person who satisfies the qualifications specified in sub-section (2) and is also employed as a pre-school teacher at a registered pre-school in the Province may make an application, in the prescribed form set out in Schedule III to this Statute, to the Director of Pre-School Education to register him or her as a pre-school teacher.
- (4) After verifying the veracity of the particulars given by the applicant under sub-section (2), the Director may register the name of the person as a pre-school teacher and place it on the Register of Pre-School Teachers maintained by him or her. The said teacher shall be issued by the Director an Identity Card indicating that he or she is a registered pre-school teacher.
- 19. (1) Persons who do not possess the qualifications stipulated in sub-section (2) of section 18, but are serving on the date of operation of this Statute shall obtain the minimum stipulated qualifications within a period of three years from the date of operation of the Statute.
- (2) The Minister may extend the period of three years by one year at a time; provided, however, that the total period allowed to a person to obtain the stipulated qualifications shall not exceed a maximum of six years from the date of operation of this Statute.
- (3) A person shall not be recruited to work as a teacher in any pre-school if he or she does not satisfy the minimum educational qualifications prescribed in sub-section (2) of section 18 above, from and after the date of operation of this Statute.
- (4) Notwithstanding anything contrary contained in this Statute, a person who has been serving as a pre-school teacher in a pre-school in the Province for a period of not less than ten years on the date of operation of this Statute, shall be registered and issued with an Identity Card.
- (5) The Director of Pre-School Education shall have power to refuse to register a person as a pre-school teacher if such person has not fulfilled the educational qualifications or has not been employed as a pre-school teacher in a registered pre-school.

- (6) The Director may also have the power to cancel the registration of a preschool teacher if it is found that the information furnished at the time of registration of the person is found to be false or misleading. The Director shall accord the person against whom such action is being contemplated the right to a hearing.
- (7) Subject to the above provisions of this section, a pre-school teacher who fails to obtain the minimum qualifications within the specified time shall leave the service and the Director shall have power to issue such an order of discontinuance.

PART VIII

REMUNERATION AND OTHER PAYMENTS

- 20. (1) Every registered pre-school teacher shall be paid a minimum sum of rupees six thousand monthly by way only of allowance for the services he or she renders.
- (2) The owners, proprietors, non-governmental organizations or institutions who or which have been paying a monthly salary and allowance to pre-school teachers shall continue to pay the salary and allowance to them.
- (3) Any owner, proprietor, non-governmental organization or institution who or which discontinues the payment of salaries and allowances to such pre-school teachers shall be in breach of the provision of this Statute.
- (4) There shall be appointed a Coordinator for each Education Division in the Province. The Coordinator shall function under the direction and supervision of the Director, Early Childhood Development and the Assistant Director of Education attached to the respective Education Zone.
- (5) The Coordinators shall be paid a monthly travelling allowance and a monthly stationery allowance as shall be determined by the Minister on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee. The decision of the Minister shall be submitted to the Board of Ministers for its approval and thereafter be tabled in the Provincial Council.

PART IX

OFFENCES AND PUNISHMENTS

- 21. (1) (a) Any person who acts in breach of the provisions of this Statute or any rules made thereunder shall be guilty of an offence.
- (b) Any person who causes disturbance or obstructs an officer in the performance of his or her duties under this Statute or any rules made thereunder shall be guilty of an offence.

- (c) Any person who aids or abets any other person in the commission of an offence or offences under paragraphs (a) and (b) shall be guilty of an offence.
- (2) Every person who commits an offence under this Statute or any rules made thereunder shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate be liable to a fine not less than rupees ten thousand and not exceeding rupees fifty thousand and to imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding six months.
- (3) In addition to the punishment imposed under subsection (2), the Magistrate may order the cancellation of registration of a pre-school and the closure of such pre-school.
- 22. (1) The Minister may make rules for and in respect of all matters stated or required in this Statute to be prescribed or for which rules are authorized or required to be made under this Statute.
- (2) Every rule made by the Minister under subsection (1) shall be published in the Government Gazette and shall come into operation on the date of such publication or on such later date as may be specified in the rule.
- (3) Every rule made by the Minister shall, within three months from the date of publication in the Government Gazette, be placed before the Provincial Council for approval. Any rule which is not so approved by the Provincial Council shall be deemed to be rescinded from the date of its disapproval but without prejudice to anything previously done thereunder.
- (4) The Minister shall cause a notification of the date on which any rule is deemed to be rescinded under subsection (3) shall be published, in the Government Gazette.

PART X

INTERPRETATION

23. In this Statute unless the context otherwise requires-

"Provincial Council" means the Northern Provincial Council;

"Province" means the Northern Province;

"Minister" means, the Minister in charge of the subject of Education in the Board of Ministers of the Northern Province:

"Director" means the Director of Pre-School Education appointed under section 4 this Statute;

"pre-school" means any institution, by whatever name it is called, which operates for the purpose of development of children between the ages of 2 ½ and 5 ½

years in the Province but does not include a home or residence which functions as a crèche or which is run to develop a maximum of five or less children;

"Prescribed activities" means any activity unsuitable for the development of physical, mental, emotional, social, linguistic, environmental, aesthetic skills and include any nefarious habit that is likely to impact adversely the development of children of ages between $2 \frac{1}{2}$ and $5 \frac{1}{2}$ years;

"Advisory Committee" means the Pre-School Education Advisory Committee established under section 8 of this Statute;

"pre-school teacher" means a person who is functioning or recruited and working as a pre-school teacher;

"children with special education needs" means children of pre-school age in a physically and/or psychologically in a below normal condition certified by a Medical Board.

24. In the event of any inconsistency between the Tamil text and the Sinhala or English texts of this Statute, the Tamil text shall prevail.

SCHEDULE I

The following represent the minimum standards that shall be ensured and maintained in a Pre-School with regard to its physical,- infrastructure and other facilities and amenities for the purposes of the provisions of this Statute:

(a) Allocation of minimum floor space of 10sq. feet per child;
(b) Provision of modern toilet system - one toilet for (every) 25 children or less;
(c) Provision of air supply of 1/7 of cubic extent of the room of the building;
(d) Protection of the Pre-school premises by a protective wall or a fence;
(e) Maintenance of a first-aid box with sufficient equipment and medicine;
(f) Availability of facilities for play;
(g) Presentation of the Pre-school premises in a pleasant environment and consisting of basic sports equipment;
(h) The student – teacher ratio shall be 15:1 (fifteen is to one);
 (i) Adequate furniture and equipment shall be made available and they shall be maintained in such manner as to present a clean and pleasant outlook.

SCHEDULE II

SCHEDULE III