



Finance (BPE) Department,  
Fort St. George, Secretariat,  
Chennai - 600 009.

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**Letter No.24743/Finance (BPE)/2021, dated 21.06.2021**

From  
Tmt. Pooja Kulkarni, I.A.S.,  
Special Secretary to Government



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To **040631** 316  
30/6/21  
The Chief Executive Officers of all State Public Sector Undertakings /  
Statutory Boards (w.e)

Sir/Madam,

Sub: Monitoring the use of Tamil Unicode Fonts in all Government Departments - Migration of all digital documents in legacy encodings to Unicode fonts using Tamil Unicode Conversion tool - Communicated to the State Public Sector Undertakings-Regarding

23/6/21

- Ref: 1) Government Letter No.76601 / Finance (BPE) / 2013 dated 27.12.2013  
2) Government Letter No.1198401/IT (B1) Department / 2021 dated 2.6.2021  
3) Government Letter No.722/Special Programme implementation Department/OP/2021-1 dated 8.6.2021

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In continuation of the Government letter first cited, I enclose copies of Government letters mentioned in the reference second and third cited and request you to take necessary action to make use of the Tamil Unicode Conversion Tool and Tamil Unicode Fonts developed and hosted in the Tamil Nadu Virtual Academy website instead of using Proprietary Fonts for using such fonts in all documents, official letters and correspondence. I also request you to ensure that immediate steps are taken to migrate all digital documents in legacy encodings (including those in proprietary fonts) to Tamil Unicode fonts wherever possible.

Yours faithfully,

N. Kumar  
23/6/21

for Special Secretary to Government

23/6/21

19/6/21



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT,  
SECRETARIAT,  
CHENNAI- 600 009.

**Letter No.1198401 / IT (B1) /2021, Dated 02.06.2021**

From  
Dr. V. Irai Anbu, I.A.S.,  
Chief Secretary to Government

To  
All the Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries /  
Secretaries to Government, Department of Secretariat,  
Chennai-9.

Sir / Madam,

Sub: Information Technology Department — Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA) - Free Tamil Unicode Conversion Tool and 10 Tamil Unicode Fonts developed by Tamil Virtual Academy — Usage in all Government Departments — Regarding.

Ref: 1. G.O. (Ms.) No.5, Information Technology (e-Gov 1) Department, dated 26.03.2013.  
2. This Department Letter No.3973 / e.Gov.I / 2013 dated 20.11.2013.  
3. This Department Letter No.8212 / e-Gov.I / 2017 dated 11.07.2017.

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In the Government Order first cited, the Government have approved and launched the Tamil Unicode Tamil All Character Encoding (TACE 16) based fonts and keyboard drivers, developed by Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA), which are free of cost. In the letter second cited, the Government have reiterated that all Departments of Secretariat and Heads of Departments should use Tamil Unicode Fonts instead of using proprietary fonts like VAANAVIL-AVVAIYAR etc.

2. In the letter third cited, all the Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretaries to Government, Department of Secretariat, Chennai were requested to make use of the Tamil Unicode Conversion Tool and Tamil Unicode Fonts, preferably Tamil Unicode Marutham Font 12 / 14 / 16 point which is freely available in the Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA) website and also to issue

necessary instructions to the Heads of Departments / Corporations / Boards / Organizations / Agencies under their control for utilizing the same.

3. However, it is observed that many Government Departments and Heads of Departments are still using Proprietary Fonts like VAANAVIL-AVVAIYAR for day-to-day activities, since they prefer to use them because of lack of Conversion Tools available to convert their legacy documents to Unicode Format.

4. In this regard, I am to inform that the online **Tamil Unicode Conversion Tool** developed by TVA will ease conversion of Tamil text in non-unicode format, created in various proprietary fonts like VAANAVIL, to Unicode, without altering their content. The Tamil Unicode Conversion Tool and **Tamil Unicode Fonts** developed by TVA can be downloaded free of cost from the TVA website (<http://www.tamilvu.org>). In case of any difficulty in this regard, you may contact **Thiru.James, Co-ordinator, TVA** at his Mobile No.9710039249, e-mail : [cdntacd.tva@tn.gov.in](mailto:cdntacd.tva@tn.gov.in).

5. I am to inform you that providing Tamil Unicode Standard is one of the objectives of e-Governance Policy 2017 and all Government Departments have to adhere to Unicode Standard for all e-Governance Initiatives across applications. I am therefore, to request you to make use of the Tamil Unicode Conversion Tool and Tamil Unicode Fonts developed and hosted in the TVA website instead of using Proprietary Fonts. I am also to request you to issue necessary instructions to the Heads of Departments / Corporations / Boards / Organizations / Agencies under your control for utilizing the same. The Departments cannot hereafter, spend any funds for purchase and renewal of any proprietary fonts.

Yours faithfully,

  
2/6/2021

for Chief Secretary to Government

  
2/6/21