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Part III—Section 1(a)

**General Statutory Rules, Notifications, Orders, Regulations, etc.,
issued by Secretariat Departments.**

NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

HOME DEPARTMENT

(Prison - V)

FRAMING OF TAMIL NADU PRISONS (RELEASE ON FURLOUGH) RULES, 2026.

[G.O.Ms.No.82, Home (Prison-V), 14th February 2026, மாசி 2, விகுவாவசு, திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு-2057.]

No. SRO A-5(a)/2026.

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (28) of sub-section (1) of section 59 of the Prisons Act, 1894 (Central Act IX of 1894), the Governor of Tamil Nadu hereby makes the following rules, namely: —

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

1. Short title, commencement and application.—(1) These rules may be called the Tamil Nadu Prisons (Release on Furlough) Rules, 2026.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the *Tamil Nadu Government Gazette*.

(3) They shall apply to all convict prisoners sentenced by a court in this State and lodged in prisons of this State.

2. Definitions.— (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) “Act” means the Prisons Act, 1894 (Central Act IX of 1894);

(b) “Director General” means the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, Tamil Nadu;

(c) “Form” means a Form appended to these rules;

(d) “furlough” means release of a convict prisoner under these rules for a specified period of time after ten years of incarceration by way of motivation for them to maintain good conduct and remain disciplined in the prison;

(e) “Government” means the Government of Tamil Nadu;

(f) “sentence” means the sentence as finally fixed on appeal or revision or otherwise, and includes an aggregate of one or more sentences;

(g) “State” means the State of Tamil Nadu;

(h) "Superintendent" means the Superintendent of the Central Prison or Special Prison for Women in which the convict prisoner is confined;

(i) "temporary release" means temporary release of a convict prisoner on ordinary leave or emergency leave or furlough.

(2) Words and expressions used herein but not defined shall have the same meaning as assigned to them in the Act.

CHAPTER II

ELIGIBILITY FOR AND PERIOD OF FURLOUGH

3. Eligibility for furlough.-(1) A convict prisoner is eligible for furlough if-

- (i) he/she has completed ten (10) years of imprisonment;
- (ii) his/her conduct during the period of incarceration has been satisfactory.

(2) The eligibility shall be assessed individually, having regard to the following:-

- (i) Nature of offence;
- (ii) Past criminal record;
- (iii) Behaviour during imprisonment;
- (iv) Compliance of the conditions of earlier temporary release, if any.

4. Ineligibility for furlough.-The following categories of convict prisoners shall not be considered for release on furlough:-

- (i) Convicted Foreign prisoners;
- (ii) Prisoners convicted for offence of sedition /act endangering sovereignty, unity and integrity of India and Rape.
- (iii) Prisoners convicted for offences under sections 19, 20(ii)(c), 21(c), 22(c), 23(c), 24 and 27A of the Narcotic Drugs Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (Central Act 61 of 1985);
- (iv) Prisoners convicted for offences under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (Central Act 32 of 2012);
- (v) Prisoners who are involved in the following prison offences during last five years from the date of application for furlough under rule 9,-

- (a) assault;
- (b) outbreak;
- (c) riot;
- (d) mutiny;
- (e) escape.

5. Furlough is not a right.- No convict prisoner shall claim furlough as a matter of right.

6. Period of furlough. -(1)The Director General may grant furlough for a period not exceeding sixty (60) days in a year;

(2) The Government may sanction furlough for a further period upto sixty (60) days for reasons to be recorded in writing, if it is considered necessary in the interests of rehabilitation.

7. Furlough to be counted as sentence.-(1)The period spent by the convict prisoner on furlough shall be counted towards his sentence.

(2) The said period of furlough shall be reckoned for,-

- (a) computation of sentence;
- (b) remission of sentence; and
- (c) consideration for premature release or other statutory benefits, wherever applicable.

CHAPTER III

COMPETENT AUTHORITY

8. Competent authorities.-(1) The Director General shall be the competent authority for the grant of furlough under sub-rule (1) of rule 6.

(2) The Government shall be the competent authority to sanction furlough for a further period under sub-rule (2) of rule 6.

CHAPTER IV

PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION AND GRANT OF FURLOUGH

9. Application for furlough.-(1) An eligible convict prisoner may apply for furlough through the Superintendent of the prison in which he is confined.

(2) The application for furlough may be submitted,-

- (a) by the prisoner himself/herself; or
- (b) by his/her spouse, parent, or legal guardian on his/her behalf.

10. Registration of the Application and preliminary scrutiny. -(1) On receipt of the application, the Superintendent concerned shall, -

- (i) register it in a Furlough Application Register in Form-I;
- (ii) verify the particulars of the sentence, remission, and eligibility;
- (iii) examine conduct of the convict prisoner in the prison, punishments for prison offences, if any, and prior compliance; and
- (iv) record specific remarks on the discipline and work performance of the convict prisoner.

(2) The scrutiny of application shall be completed within seven (07) days from the date of receipt of application.

11. Calling for reports. -(1)The Superintendent shall call for, -

- (i) Police verification report from the jurisdiction where the prisoner proposes to stay during furlough; and
- (ii) Probation Officer report in Form-II/ social background report from the Probation Officer, wherever considered necessary.

(2) The police authority shall verify, -

- (i) the place of residence of the convict prisoner during furlough;
- (ii) possibility of breach of peace by the convict prisoner;
- (iii) likelihood of absconding; and
- (iv) potential threat to society.

(3) The reports mentioned in sub-rules (1) and (2) shall be furnished within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the request from the Superintendent.

12. Forwarding of proposal.-(1)The Superintendent shall examine each case carefully with regard to the eligibility for furlough with particular reference to conduct, work, attitude towards family and community and the manner in which the previous period of temporary release if any, was utilized. After receipt of all reports, the Superintendent shall forward the complete proposal within three (3) days from the date of receipt of last report, to the Deputy Inspector General of Prisons concerned by enclosing the following documents:-

- (a) the application;
- (b) sentence calculation sheet;
- (c) police and probation officers' reports; and
- (d) specific recommendation of the Superintendent.

(2) The Deputy Inspector General of Prisons concerned shall examine each case received from the Superintendent carefully and give his clear recommendation. The Deputy Inspector General of Prisons shall forward the complete proposal to the Director General.

(3) The proposal shall be forwarded to the Director General within three (3) days of receipt of the proposal from the Superintendent.

13. Grant of furlough by the Director General. -(1) The Director General based on the report received from the Deputy Inspector General shall examine, -

- (i) eligibility under these rules;
- (ii) security and public safety considerations;
- (iii) reformation and rehabilitation aspects.

(2) After examination, the Director General may,-

- (i) grant furlough; or
- (ii) reject the application by a reasoned order; or
- (iii) place the matter before the Government where extension or relaxation is sought.

14. Sanction of Furlough by the Government. -(1) Where a case is placed before the Government for sanction of furlough for the further period, the Government shall consider, -

- (i) the recommendations of the Director General;
- (ii) over all policy and security implications and pass orders, as they deem fit.

(2) The decision of the Government shall be final.

CHAPTER V

RELEASE, SUPERVISION AND SURRENDER

15. Order, bond and release on furlough.-(1) An order granting furlough shall specify,-

- (i) the duration of furlough granted;
- (ii) approved place of residence of convict prisoner during furlough;
- (iii) reporting and behavioral conditions;
- (iv) consequences of breach of conditions.

(2) Before release on furlough, the convict prisoner shall, -

- (i) execute a personal bond with sureties in Form-III, III-A and III-B;
- (ii) acknowledge the conditions of furlough in writing.

16. Supervision during furlough. -(1) The convict prisoner shall remain under the supervision of the Police or Probation Officers during the furlough period.

(2) Any breach of conditions shall be reported immediately to prison authorities by the supervising officers.

(3) In case of absconding of the convict prisoner, the Superintendent shall register a case and take action for re-capture of the convict prisoner through Police.

17. Surrender and recording.-(1) The convict prisoner shall surrender at the prison immediately on expiry of the furlough period.

(2) In any event, the convict prisoner shall report and surrender before lock-up hours on the day on which the furlough expires.

(3) On surrender,-

- (i) the compliance shall be recorded; and
- (ii) the furlough period shall be entered as sentence undergone.

CHAPTER VI

REVOCATION AND MISCELLANEOUS

18. Revocation and breach of Furlough. -(1) Furlough may be revoked at any time by the Director General or by the Government.

(2) In case of overstay or breach, -

- (i) the convict prisoner may be arrested without warrant; and
- (ii) furlough may be denied in future.

19. Power of relaxation.-The Government may, in case of medical ailments, old age or for any other reasons to be recorded in writing, exempt any person from any of the provisions of these rules.

DHEERAJ KUMAR,
Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX

FORM – I

[see rule 10(1) (i)]

FURLOUGH APPLICATION REGISTER

1.	Serial number:	
2.	Name of the convict prisoner and PID Number:	
3.	Case number and the convicting court:	
4.	Date and period of sentence:	
5.	Date of receipt of application from the prisoner or on his / her behalf:	
6.	Period of furlough applied for:	
7.	Date of dispatch of proposal to Police/Probation Officer:	
8.	Date of receipt of letter from Police/Probation Officer:	
9.	Date of dispatch of proposal to Deputy Inspector General of Prisons:	
10.	Date of dispatch of proposal to Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services:	
11.	Period of furlough granted:	
12.	Order No. and date of grant of furlough:	
13.	Date of release on furlough:	
14.	Due date for surrender:	
15.	Date of surrender:	
16.	Period of overstayal, if any:	
17.	Result of action taken for overstayal, if any:	
18.	Details of sureties:	
19.	If extension is sought for, date of dispatch of proposal to Government:	
20.	G.O. No. and date of Sanction of furlough:	
21.	Period of extension sanctioned:	
22.	Due date for surrender:	
23.	Date of surrender:	
24.	Period of overstayal, if any:	
25.	Result of action taken for overstayal, if any:	

FORM - II*[see rule 11(1)(ii)]***REPORT OF PROBATION OFFICER.**

No.

Dated:

PID No.

Name:

Prisons:

1. If the prisoner under reference is released on furlough, -
 - (a) what will be the reaction in the locality:
 - (b) what will be the feelings of the victim's relatives:
 - (c) whether the life of the prisoner himself will be safe.
2. Whether the concerned local Station House of Police has been consulted in the case of first release on furlough and if so what are his views:
3. A brief past history and conduct of the convict prisoner:
4. Whether his release on furlough will be welcomed by the people in the locality:
5. Whether he has got any property of his own, and permanent abode, if so, the particulars and the probable worth and its address. (This information may be gathered in consultation with Village Administrative Officer concerned).
6. Whether there are any persons (relatives or friends) who can stand as surety for the convict prisoner? If so, their full address and status:
7. In case he was on temporary release previously, how did he conduct himself during that period:
8. Whether the release on furlough is recommended:
9. Any other remarks

PLACE:

DATE:

Signature of the Probation Officer

FORM - III

[see rule 15(2)(i)]

(Form of bond to be obtained from a convict prisoner to be released on furlough.)

Whereas I (Name)..... PID No. son / daughter of inhabitant of (place)have been ordered to be released on furlough under the Tamil Nadu Prisons (Release on Furlough) Rules, 2026 by the Government of Tamil Nadu on condition of my entering into a bond to observe the conditions specified hereafter, I hereby bind myself as follows:-

- (i) that during the period of my furlough, I will agree to be under Police / Probation Officer surveillance;
- (ii) that I will report at the specified Police station / Probation Officer daily once, if so ordered;
- (iii) that I will reside at the place specified by the Superintendent or the Director General of Prisons or the Government, as the case may be and will not go beyond the limits of that place;
- (iv) that I will be of good behaviour and will not commit any offence during my furlough;
- (v) that I will not associate with any bad characters; or lead a dissolute life;
- (vi) that I will surrender myself to the Superintendent of Prison on expiry of furlough or on recall notwithstanding the expiry of the period of furlough, and
- (vii) In case of breach of any of the above conditions on my part, I hereby bind myself to forfeit the Government of Tamil Nadu a sum of Rs.5000/- (Rupees five thousand only) and to render myself liable to be brought back to the prison from which I was released on furlough.

Dated this day of - - - -

Signature:

Before me:

Signed:

Superintendent

Jailer....Prison....., Central Prison / Special Prison for Women.....

FORM - III – A*[see rule 15 (2) (i)]***SURETY BOND***(Form of surety bond to be obtained from a convict prisoner to be released on furlough)*

WHEREAS I (Name).....PID No. son / daughter of inhabitant of (place).....have been ordered to be released by the Government of Tamil Nadu on furlough on condition of my entering into a bond to observe the conditions specified hereafter, I hereby bind myself as follows:-

(i) that I will accept and fulfil the conditions specified below till the date of expiry of my furlough period sanctioned in Proceedings No. /G.O. Rt. No..... Dated.....

(i)

(ii)

(iii)

In case of breach of any of the above conditions on my part, I hereby bind myself and my properties mentioned below to forfeit to the Government of Tamil Nadu and a sum of Rs..... (Rupees) and I also further agree that the Government of Tamil Nadu may collect the said amount from me either by proceedings against my undermentioned properties or my other properties as if the said amount were an arrear of land revenue or by otherwise proceeding against me legally and to render myself liable to be arrested to undergo the unexpired portion of sentence of imprisonment on the date of release.

Particulars of properties.

(Here enter the particulars of properties)

Signed by Thiru.....

Dated this.....day of.....20.....

Witnesses:

(1)

(2)

Signature

Form - III – B

*[see rule 15 (2) (i)]**(Form of surety bond to be obtained from sureties for prisoner to be released on furlough.)*

WHEREAS we (Name).....(First surety) son / daughter of.....inhabitant of (place).....(Name).....(second surety) son / daughter of.....inhabitant of (place).....jointly and severally declare ourselves and each of us sureties for Convict Prisoner number/PID Number (name).....son / daughter ofwho is undergoing imprisonment for.....in the (name of prison)and who is to be released on *furlough* as per Proceedings No. /G.O. Rt. No..... Dated..... or for the subsequent extended period, if any we hereby bind ourselves as follows:
that we shall see that the above prisoner fulfil all the conditions specified in the bond executed by him.

In case of breach of any of the conditions on the part of the above convict prisoner, we hereby bind ourselves and our properties mentioned below to forfeit to the Government of Tamil Nadu and a sum of Rs.5000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) and we also agree that the Government may collect the said amount from us either by proceedings against the under-mentioned properties or our other properties as if the said amount were an arrear of land revenue or by otherwise proceeding against us legally.

Particulars of properties.

(Here enter the particulars of properties)

Dated this.....day of.....20.....

Signature of the sureties.

Witnesses:

1.

2

Executed before me.

Signature of the Tahsildar
DesignationDHEERAJ KUMAR,
Additional Chief Secretary to Government.