

Diocese of Thamarassery

Bishop's House, P.B. No. 1, Thamarassery P.O., Calicut – 673 573, Kerala, India

30 May 2026

Dear Fathers,

As the new academic year begins and children are being admitted to Class I and other higher classes, parents and teachers are requested to pay special attention to the following matters.

According to Government Order No. 109/2023/P&ARD issued by the General Administration Department of the Government of Kerala, the official community name of members of our Church belonging to the General Category (those not eligible for caste reservation benefits) has been standardised as “**Syro-Malabar Syrian Catholic.**” Henceforth, this name should be used in school records and all other official documents.

Therefore, when admitting students who are members of the Syro-Malabar Church and belong to the General Category (those not entitled to any other caste reservation benefits) to Class I, parents and teachers should ensure that the entry in the **Caste/Denomination** column of the school admission register is recorded accurately as “**Syro-Malabar Syrian Catholic.**”

However, members of the Syro-Malabar Church who currently receive **OBC/OEC reservation benefits** should continue to use their existing community names in school registers and records.

Abbreviations such as **RC, RCSC, RCS, SC** and similar forms that were used in the past should no longer be used in official documents connected with the Government. In documents, the **Religion** column should be entered as “**Christian,**” and in the **Caste/Denomination** column below it, the new designation mentioned above should be entered.

Special care should also be taken to make the necessary corrections in the records of children who are already studying in schools. School authorities should make these corrections on the basis of an application submitted by the parent or guardian.

All parents, headteachers and teachers are requested to follow these instructions and ensure that all records are corrected accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Mar Remigiose Inchananiyil

Bishop of Thamarassery Diocese