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## **Schools to be exempted from property tax**

Special Correspondent

HYDERABAD: The government here on Tuesday decided to exempt all schools in the State having classes upto SSC and also non-governmental organisations doing social service from payment of property tax hereafter.

The decision is applicable to both government and private schools, Municipal Administration Minister A. Ramanarayan Reddy said.

A definition for NGO for the purpose would be worked out.

The Minister said an exercise was on to rationalise the property tax in case of others. Once the structure was finalised, amendments would be made to the relevant laws, incorporating the changes.

He told reporters later that as decided earlier, government treasuries would begin to pay salaries to all the 40,949 employees of the municipalities and corporations from Wednesday.

He said in case of the poor in slums, regularisation of more than 80 square yards of site would be considered under GO No 166.

The Layout Regulation Scheme would be amended accordingly.

## New master plan

Mr. Reddy said a new master plan was being prepared for Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation as the existing two master plans, one for core area and another for peripherals, lacked the cohesion.

He said drinking water, drainage, sanitation and road facilities would be provided to all the 7,505 slums in the State by 2014, thus making Andhra Pradesh slums-free and steps would be taken to ensure 24x7 water supply in all the municipal areas by 2011.