OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI-110054

F.No. PS/DE/2018/354

Dated: 11-08-2018

SUBJECT: ENSURING SAFETY OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The Directorate of Education keeps reviewing the security scenario in all its Govt./Govt. Aided/ Recognized Private schools from time to time.

A number of Orders, Circulars, Guidelines have been issued periodically in order to sensitize the various school authorities about sprucing up their security-readiness, alertness and arrangements. Accordingly, Circulars /Orders dated 01.02.2016, 02.03.2016, 27.07.2016, 15.09.2017, 18.09.2017, 07.11.2017 etc. were issued in the recent past.

Not only this Directorate, but Hon'ble High Court of Delhi also (vide their Order dated 15.09.2016 in WPC No. 887/2016 & CM No. 3889/2016) took a serious view of the prevailing situation and introduced the concept of Self Inspection of school buildings by various school authorities and submission of Quarterly Safety Reports to the Directorate of Education.

Despite serious endeavors by this Directorate, other agencies and by Hon'ble Courts, the schools- which include some Govt. schools also-respond with only half hearted compliance. In case of some Recognized Private Unaided/Aided Schools, the status of compliance is even more worrisome!

No wonder then, that there is no respite in the number of various types of physical, emotional and sexual assaults on school children-within the school boundaries and outside. In fact, such incidents are on the rise!

In such a grim scenario, it is felt that half hearted approach won't work any more. If our Govt./Govt. Aided/Recognized Private schools are serious about providing foolproof safety and security to the innocent children (whose parents trust us and only, therefore, they entrust us with the responsibility of their wards), then they must ensure compliance of the directions issued vide the aforesaid communiqués.

In particular, adherence to Circular No. F.1(678)/CTB/School Safety/2017/901 dated p7.11.2017 is non-negotiable. This Circular, inter-alia envisages 1) the Constitution of School Safety Sub-Committees for all schools. 2) the concept of Monthly Safety Walk jointly by the members of the School Safety Sub-Committees and 3) Submission of online Safety Reports to the Directorate of Education.

Directorate of Education shall initiate Disciplinary Proceedings against the Heads of its own Government schools and the Estate Managers thereof, if they fail to follow the tenets of above Circulars and Guidelines in word and spirit. Further, this Directorate will be

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constrained to initiate equally severe action against its Aided and Recognized Private Unaided schools- including Withdrawal of Recognition in cases of repeated and deliberate non compliance.

All local bodies are also hereby advised to take similar action in order to enforce the above safety norms to pre-empt any untoward incident endangering the safety of students and thus, inculcate a sense of confidence among the students and their parents.

(SANJAY GOEL)
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Managers/Heads of All Schools in Delhi

Copy to:

- 1. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor (For information)
- 2. Secretary to Hon'ble Dy CM/MoE (For information)
- 3. PS to Commissioners, EDMC/North DMC/SDMC
- 4. PS to Chairman NDMC
- 5. PPS to Secretary Education
- 6. CEO Delhi Cantonment Board
- 7. Spl. DE(PSB) (for ensuring strict compliance)
- 8. Spl. DE(ASB/Admn.) (for ensuring strict compliance)
- 9. All RDEs/DDEs (for ensuring strict compliance)
- 10. OS (IT)