



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
CIVIL SECRETARIAT, JAMMU

Subject :- Safe transportation, boarding/de-boarding arrangements, etc. for school children- instructions thereof.

Government Order No. 118 –Edu of 2016

Dated: 01 .04.2016

1. Whereas, there have been serious concerns regarding safety of school children during transportation as also boarding/ de-boarding arrangements manifested in overloading of vehicles carrying school children, non-observance of traffic regulations, irregular parking of vehicles outside school premises, crossing over of busy roads in vicinity of the school by school children in a dangerous manner, etc., often leading to tragic incidents, sometimes fatal; and
2. Whereas, pursuant to the Hon'ble Supreme Court directions, circular instructions vide endorsement no. Edu/Legal/J/542/2012/2015 dated 29.06.2015 have been issued regarding safety of school buses carrying children; and
3. Whereas, the private educational institutions are issued permission/ recognition subject to fulfilment of essential requirements which includes NOC from Traffic Department that stipulates following conditions:
 - (i) *It should be ensured by the concerned management/Principal that sufficient parking place is kept for parking of vehicles in order to avoid wrong/roadside parking in front of the school. In this regards, an affidavit duly sworn before 1st Class Judicial Magistrate needs to be filed by the Principal/Management of the said school.*
 - ii) *The road in front of the school be kept free from all hassles in order to ensure un-hindered/smooth flow of normal traffic. The Principal/Management shall also ensure that the vehicles of the school, if any, shall remained park in the designated parking slots inside the school premises.*
 - iii) *The Principal/Management Committee of the school in question will employ a person at their own for proper regulation of the school vehicles, if any, so that movement of normal traffic is not disrupted. They will also ensure that the vehicles belonging to the parents of the children studying in that school shall not remain parked outside the school premises under any circumstances and in this regard, an affidavit needs to be filed by the concerned sworn before 1st Class Judicial Magistrate.*
 - iv) *The school should conform to the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India viz-a-viz safety of the school children under all circumstances.*

v) *In case of deviation of the above conditions at any stage the NOC shall be treated as cancelled ab-initio.*”

4. Whereas, there are complaints that the space earmarked by the school management to be available for parking is utilized as playground, resulting in the school transport spilling over to the roads which creates traffic jams and chaotic conditions ; and

5. Whereas, many mishaps due to lack of supervision during boarding /de-boarding of school children as also during transit have come to note, including fatalities due to reversing of vehicles or jerky movements; and

6. Whereas, it is evident that it is the school that has to ensure safe transport and boarding/ de-boarding arrangements within the premises and the roads abutting the school by ensuring that boarding/de-boarding takes place within the premises under adult supervision, specifically engaged for such purpose, at predetermined locations, preferably with one way movement i.e. without any reversing of vehicles, irrespective of whether the students travel by school transport or private transport. Further, as per permission/recognition requirements, the school has to have suitable arrangements for children's arrival/ departure and therefore if the boarding /de-boarding is outside school premises on a public road for want of space within, the school has to deploy sufficient staff to ensure proper management, in consultation with the Traffic Police, while following the same principles as applicable within the premises. Besides, every vehicle used as school bus has to have a qualified attendant in the vehicle. Moreover, under no circumstances, the children should be required to cross a road that has vehicular traffic plying on it; and

7. Whereas, guidelines have been issued by the Traffic wing of J&K Police vide U.O. No. THQ/PS-24/SOP/2016/443-50 dated 29.02.2016 which are required to be complied with by all concerned; and

8. Whereas, onus is also cast on the authorities competent to grant permission/ affiliation/ recognition to ensure that proper arrangements are in place and, accordingly, it is directed that Committee comprising of Higher Secondary School Principal (Cluster Incharge), ZEO/ZEPO of the zone, along with representatives of JKBOSE and Traffic Department, shall conduct inspection of private educational institutions falling in the area of jurisdiction i.e. the cluster and report as to whether the school management has made operational a proper plan as envisaged in the guidelines/circular instructions referred supra. The Directors shall notify the schedule for inspections, giving priority to schools with large enrolment or in crowded areas or near Highways/busy roads and the school management shall be duty bound to facilitate the inspections. Also, at least two representatives from amongst the parents shall be associated in the process. The Directors shall also ensure that the inspections are conducted within a month's time. The inspection reports shall be acted upon by the competent authorities to ensure compliance within a reasonable time frame.

9. Further, it is directed that the competent authorities before granting affiliation/recognition in future, shall make necessary modifications in their proformas for inspections, duly incorporating the traffic management issues and the inspection committees shall specifically comment on each of the aspects mentioned above that concerns safety of children.

10. It is also directed that every school shall display details of the traffic management plan and boarding/de-boarding arrangements including the details of staff deployed for the said purpose on its website and prominent space in the school building accessible to parents. J&K Board of School Education and Director School Education shall have responsibility of giving wide publicity to these instructions and organize interactions at various levels with parents/school management/school children to sensitize them in this regards. They shall also devise a complaint redressal mechanism to monitor the complaints received in this regards and redressal thereof.

11. These directions shall also apply to schools other than those affiliated under JKBOSE, (e.g. CBSE, ICSE, etc.) in pursuance of the powers vested in the State government under the Jammu and Kashmir School Education Act 2002 as well as the affiliation rules of the respective Boards.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Sd/-
(Shaleen Kabra)
Commissioner/Secretary to Government
School Education Department

No. Edu/Legal/J/542/2012/2015

Dated:- 01.04.2016

Copy to the:-

1. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Governor.
2. Secretary to Government, Transport Department.
3. Chairman, JKBOSE.
4. MHRD.
5. Transport Commissioner, J&K
6. Inspector General, Traffic, J&K.
7. Chairman, CBSE
8. Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.
9. Commissioner, Navodya Vidayala Samiti.
10. Director School Education, Kashmir.
11. Director School Education, Jammu.
12. Private Secretary to Hon'ble Advisor (D).
13. Private Secretary to Commissioner/Secretary to Government, School Education Department.
14. Government Order file (w.3.s.c.)/Stock file.


(Anil Sargotra)
Deputy Secretary to Government