



COUNCIL FOR THE INDIAN SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS

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PV/2014/
August 14, 2014

To: All Heads of concerned Schools

Subject: Fire Safety Measures in the Buildings of Schools in Punjab

Dear Principal,

I write with reference to the issue of Fire Safety Measures in the buildings of Schools in Punjab. The Council is in receipt of an Office Memorandum No. 6/44/04-4Edu.4/2/24-48 dated July 18, 2014 citing the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India which states that all School Buildings in Punjab have to provide a compliance report regarding safety of school buildings, installation of fire extinguishing instruments and periodic inspection of them.

All Schools are required to immediately send the compliance report on the above matter to the Department of Education (Education-4 Branch), Government of Punjab, Chandigarh

A copy of the circular issued by Director General School Education Punjab in the matter is attached for your information and necessary action.

With warm regards

Yours sincerely

Lancelot J Fuller
Deputy Secretary

Encl. as above



Government of Punjab
Department of Education
(Education-4 Branch)

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To

1. The Director General School Education, Punjab, Chandigarh.
2. Director, Public Instructions (S.E.), Punjab, Chandigarh.
3. Director, Public Instruction (E.E.), Punjab, Chandigarh.
4. All the Deputy Commissioners in the State of Punjab.

Memo No. 6/44/04-4Edu.4/ 2124-48
Dated, Chandigarh: 18/7/14

Subject: CWP No. 483/2004 – Avinash Mehrotra Versus Union of India and Other – Implementation of the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 13.04.2009.

Reference letter No. 6/44/04-4Edu/1289-90, dated 1.6.2006, No. 2003-06, dated 2.8.2008, No. 2324-25, dated 6.7.2009 and No.7187-90, dated 9.11.2011 on the subject noted above.

2. Vide notification dated 11.7.2006, the Government constituted State Level and District Level Committees. As per the notification ibid, a meeting of the committee was to be held quarterly to ensure action plan as per the orders dated 13.04.2009 of the Supreme Court of India.

3. You are requested to send compliance report, analyzing, the matter regarding the safety of the school buildings of Government schools/Aided schools/Private schools. It may also be intimated, whether the fire extinguish instruments have been installed in all the Government schools/Private aided schools/Private schools in compliance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and further to intimated whether the buildings of these schools are being inspected periodically.

Superintendent 18/7/14

Endst. No. 6/44/04-4Edu.4/ 2149-53

Dated, Chandigarh: 18/7/14

A copy forwarded to the following with the request to send compliance report immediately, so that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India could be informed accordingly:-

1. Chairman, ICSE 47, Pargati House, 3rd Floor, Nehru Palace, New Delhi. (Reference letter No. 5/261-2009-SSA/CW/75440, dated 6.11.2009, copy enclosed).
2. Chairman, CBSE, Sikhsa Sadan, 17 Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area, New Delhi (Reference letter No. 5/261-2009-SSA/CW/75441, dated 6.11.2009, copy enclosed).
3. Chairman, PSEB, Mohali (Reference letter No. 5/261-2009-SSA/CW/75442, dated 6.11.2009, copy enclosed).
4. Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh (Reference letter No. 5/261-2009-SSA/CW/75443, dated 6.11.2009, copy enclosed).
5. Chief Engineer, PWD (B & R), Punjab (Reference letter No. 5/261-2009-SSA/CW/75444, dated 6.11.2009, copy enclosed).

Superintendent 18/7/14

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DIRECTOR GENERAL SCHOOL EDUCATION PUNJAB
SCO 104-106, 2nd Floor, Sector 34-A, Chandigarh
P.no. 0172-2623207, 2621104, 2621106, fax: 2624687

To,

Chairman,
ICSE Board,
47, Pragati House, 3rd Floor,
Nehru Place, New Delhi - 110019

Memo No.5/261-2009/SSA/CW/ 75440
Dated, Chandigarh 6. Nov 2009

Sub: Fire Safety Measures in the Buildings of Schools in Punjab

As you are aware, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgement delivered in CWP No. 483/2004 has directed that :

- (i) Before granting recognition or affiliation the concerned State Government and Union Territories are directed to ensure that the buildings are safe and secured from every angle and they are constructed according to the safety norms incorporated in the National Building Code of India;
 - (ii) All existing government and private schools shall install fire extinguishing equipments within a period of six months.
 - (iii) The School buildings be kept free from inflammable and toxic material. If storage is inevitable, they should be stored safely.
 - (iv) Evaluation of structural aspect of the School may be carried out periodically. We direct that the concerned engineers and officials must strictly follow the National Building Code. The safety certificate be issued only after proper inspection. Dereliction in duty must attract immediate disciplinary action against the concerned officials.
 - (v) Necessary training be imparted to the staff and other officials of the School to use the fire extinguishing equipments.
- 4.1 The Education Secretaries of each state and Union Territories are directed to this order within one month after installation of fire extinguishing equipments.
- 4.2 List this petition on 7.12.09 to ensure compliance of this order."

2.0 You are therefore requested to ensure that while granting recognition/affiliation to any school in Punjab that the above orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court are complied with and the buildings of those schools are safe and secured from every angle and they are constructed according to the safety norms incorporated in the National Building Code of India (Copy of relevant extract enclosed).

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Director General School Education
Punjab, Chandigarh

28 (27/2/1) 356 132 505 543

Government of Punjab
Department of Education
(Education-IV Branch)

ORDER OF GOVERNOR OF PUNJAB

To ensure that school buildings have proper fire safety measures the Governor of Punjab is pleased to constitute committees at State and District Level as follows :-

(A) State Level Committee

(i) Director General School Education	Chairman
(ii) Representative of the Architect Department	Member
(iii) Representative of the Engineering Department	Member
(iv) Representative of the Health Department	Member
(v) Representative of Fire Works Department	Member

(B) District Level Committee

(i) Deputy Commissioner	Chairman
(ii) Representative of the Architect Department	Member
(iii) Representative of the Engineering Department	Member
(iv) Representative of the Health Department	Member
(v) Representative of Fire Works Department	Member

These Officers should appoint the conveners of this committee as per their choice, and hold quarterly meetings. It will be the duty of these Committees to carry out the following ten points action plan :-

- (1) Fire Protection Arrangements as prescribed in the National Building Code of India Part-IV Fire Protection 1997 be enforced in all Schools (Photocopy enclosed).
- (2) Enough emergency exits should be provided. Minimum width of staircase should be 1.5 meters so that children can be evacuated in shortest possible time.
- (3) Underground/Overhead water storage tanks exclusively for fire fighting should be provided.
- (4) Portable fire extinguishers should be provided in the schools.
- (5) School buildings should be free from inflammable and toxic materials.
- (6) Cooking of food where essential should be done at a safe place away from the building where students are located for education.

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- (7) Thatch or other combustible material should not be used in the construction.
- (8) Teachers and other staffs of the schools should be sensitized to their responsibility for the safety and well being of the students. They should also be trained in the use of Fire Extinguishers in case of emergency.
- (9) School emergency plan be made by each school and evacuation drills should be conducted at regular intervals.
- (10) Good House keeping should be ensured.
- (11) Any other aspect as felt necessary due to local requirements.

Dated, Chandigarh :
9 May, 2006

Sarvesh Kaushal
Secretary School Education
Punjab, Chandigarh.

Endst.No.6/44/04-1Edu.4/1289

Dated, Chandigarh: 1/0/06

A Copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action :-

- 1. Director General School Education-cum-Special Secretary School Education.
- 2. Director, Public Instructions (SE), Punjab Chandigarh.
- 3. Director, Public Instructions (EE), Punjab Chandigarh.
- 4. Director, SCERT, Punjab, Chandigarh.
- 5. All Deputy Commissioners in the State.
- 6. All the District Education Officers (SE and EE), in the State.

2/0/ Special Secretary (J)

Endst.No.6/44/04-1Edu.4/1290

Dated, Chandigarh: 1/0/06

A copy of above is forwarded to the Director, Information and Public Relations, Punjab, Chandigarh with the request to release a press note about the above order in the public interest.

2/0/ Special Secretary (J)

1/0/06

