GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 92 ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024

Guidelines on school safety in Uttar Pradesh

92 # Shri Naveen Jain:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of the new school safety guidelines to ensure safety of students

in both private and Government schools;

(b) the details of safety concerns addressed by the guidelines; and

(c) the efforts made by the Ministry for the implementation of the guidelines in the States including the State of Uttar Pradesh?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 92 FOR 04.12.2024 ASKED BY HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT SHRI NAVEEN JAIN REGARDING GUIDELINES ON SCHOOL SAFETY IN UTTAR PRADESH

(a) to (c): Government of India has issued various guidelines from time to time for ensuring safety and security of children in schools to all States/ UTs. Education is in the Concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the administrative control of respective State Government and UT Administration. The guidelines are as under:-

1. Guidelines on School Safety and Security by Department of School Education and Literacy issued on 01.10.2021. These guidelines are uploaded on the website of DoSEL at https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/2021-10/guidelines_sss.pdf

2. NCPCR examined and compiled different guidelines and developed a comprehensive manual titled- "Manual on Safety and Security of Children in Schools" dated 26.02.2018. The manual is available at the link:

https://ncpcr.gov.in/uploads/165604923562b54e531fe87_manual-on-safety-and-security-ofchildren-in-schools-sep-2021-2465-kb.pdf

3. Guidelines on School Safety Policy by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) issued on 27.02.2017. These guidelines are available at the link: <u>https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/rte/Guidelines_feb.pdf</u>

These guidelines shared with all States/UTs interalia contain provisions for ensuring the safety and security of children in schools and fixing the accountability of various stakeholders and different departments. DoSEL guidelines are advisory in nature and States/UTs are expected to implement them and they may incorporate additions/modifications to them, according to their specific requirements.

The guidelines aim to foster collaboration among stakeholders for a safe school environment, raise awareness of existing safety policies, clarify roles in implementation, assign accountability for child safety during school activities and transportation, and enforce a strict 'Zero Tolerance Policy' against negligence.

DoSEL's guidelines on School Safety and Security are to be read with National Disaster Management Authority's (NDMA) National Disaster Management Guidelines on School Safety Policy which are statutory in nature and are required to be complied without any deviation.

The NDMA guidelines provide for monitoring of implementation of the National Disaster Management Guidelines on School Safety Policy on designated activities like conducting annual mock drills, installation of fire-extinguishers, training of students and teachers in school safety and disaster preparedness, adherence to safety norms with respect to storage of inflammable and toxic material and grant of recognition certificate only to those schools that comply with structural safety norms specifically pertain to fire safety.

DoSEL on 22.08.2024 reiterated States/UTs to implement the Guidelines on School Safety and Security in spirit to ensure the safety and security of children in schools.

Uttar Pradesh Government has on 14.10.2024 circulated the 'Guidelines on School Safety and Security' dated 01.10.2024 issued by Department of School Education and Literacy.