

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2588
ANSWERED ON 18/12/2024

New school safety guidelines in Jharkhand

2588 # Shri Pradip Kumar Varma:

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 Government and Private schools;
- (b) the details of the safety concerns addressed by these guidelines; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has made efforts to direct the State of Jharkhand to implement these guidelines?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SH. JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(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. 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-of-children-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: https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/rte/Guidelines_feb.pdf

These guidelines shared with all States/UTs including Jharkhand 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. 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 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 to the States/UTs including State of Jharkhand to implement the Guidelines on School Safety and Security in spirit to ensure the safety and security of children in schools.
