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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1967 ANSWERED ON 06.08.2025

SOPs to address bomb threats in schools

1967 **Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade:**

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

- (a) whether wave of bomb hoax threats targeting schools, especially during examination season is mentally taxing for both students and parents;
- (b) whether strict action will be taken against hoaxers and the outcome made public-without disclosing names or school details if minors are involved;
- (c) whether there are any comprehensive SOPs/ guidelines to address bomb threats in schools and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government propose to educate students and school staff on safety protocols, raise awareness about the consequences of hoax threats and communicate the legal repercussions clearly, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d): Bomb hoax threats came to notice during the conduct of the Supplementary Examination of Central Board of Secondary Education conducted w.e.f. 15.07.2025 to 22.07.2025. Mock drills are conducted from time to time by various agencies like NDRF, Fire Service department, etc. in Kendriya Vidyalayas to educate students and school staff about safety measures to be taken in such situation and also to save others by tackling in various adverse circumstances and take remedial action at the time of Earthquake, Flood, Fire, terrorist attack, bomb threats etc.

Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education has developed Guidelines on School Safety and Security, which, interalia, contain provisions for fixing the accountability of the school management in the matter of safety and security of children studying in Government, Government-aided and

Private Schools. These guidelines have been circulated to all States/UTs/Autonomous Bodies of DoSEL and Stakeholder Ministries on 01.10.2021. The guidelines detail the accountability of various stakeholders and different departments in ensuring the safety and security of children in schools. The guidelines issued by the center are advisory in nature and States/UTs are expected to implement them and they may incorporate additions/modifications to them, if deemed necessary, according to their specific requirements. These guidelines are uploaded on the website of DoSEL at https://dsel.education.gov.in/sites/default/files/2021-10/guidelines_sss.pdf

These guidelines are to be read with National Disaster Management Authority's (NDMA) National Disaster Management Guidelines on School Safety Policy, 2016 which are statutory in nature and are required to be complied without any deviation.

The Ministry of Education has issued a directive on 26th July 2025 to all States and Union Territories to refer the "Guidelines on School Safety and Security" (2021) and the National Disaster Management Guidelines on School Safety (NDMA, 2016) to take urgent steps to ensure the student safety and well-being. This includes mandatory safety audits of schools and child-related facilities as per national safety codes, training for staff and students in emergency preparedness, and the provision of psychosocial support through counselling and peer networks. The Ministry urges Education Departments, School Boards, and affiliated authorities to act without delay in implementing these measures. The Ministry of Education reaffirms its shared responsibility with States and Union Territories to ensure that no child or youth is put at risk due to preventable circumstances.