

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3690
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH MARCH, 2018**

Security Audit of Schools

3690. SHRI OM BIRLA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has formulated school safety and security manual which is likely to provide right to the parents and other associated individuals to demand Security Audit of the schools and if so, the details along with the salient features of the manual;
- (b) whether the intended time within such manual is likely to be implemented throughout the country;
- (c) whether the Government intends on putting the manual before public for their suggestions and opinions and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the norms as to the establishment of CCTV, staff police verification, etc. if implemented are likely to increase the burden on the school management;
- (e) if so, whether the Government also intends to provide any aid to the school authorities in implementing new guidelines; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)**

(a) to (d) The State and Union Territory Governments have the direct responsibility to ensure safety and security of students in schools under their territorial control. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has issued guidelines in October, 2014 to all State/UT Governments for ensuring safety and security of school children, including preventive mechanisms and procedures required to be put in place in the schooling system alongwith relief and redressal strategies in case of any incident.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has also suggested authorities at different levels such as SMC, School Principal, School Management, Education Department and Boards, to conduct safety audits in schools. NCPCR has developed a Manual on safety and security of children in school setting.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has issued school safety policy guidelines which were circulated to all States and UTs in September, 2017 for compliance. The guidelines provide for conducting quarterly safety audits by the School Management Committee (SMC) in schools including fire safety and food safety. The guidelines are in public domain and hosted on www.mhrd.gov.in.

Further, CBSE has issued a circular on 12.09.2017 directing the schools affiliated to the Board to take measures such as psychometric evaluation of teaching and non-teaching staff, safety audit of premises, CCTV monitoring, character antecedents verification, visitor management, training of staff and setting up Internal Complaints Committee on sexual harassment and Committees under Protection of Children from Sexual Offence (POCSO) Act, 2012 etc. to ensure safety of children. For corporal punishment, the Board has incorporated a provision in the Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board for preventing cruelty towards children. Under Rule 44.1 (d) of Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board, the school Managing Committee has been empowered to place an employee under suspension if “he/she is charged with cruelty with any student or any employee of the school”. Rule 8.5 of Affiliation Bye-Laws provides that the school should scrupulously observe prescription from the Municipal Authority/ District Collector/ Transport Department regarding drinking water, fire safety and transport precautions in the school. The Board has also issued comprehensive guidelines for safe and effective use of internet and digital technologies including CCTV cameras in schools and school buses.

Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has issued a circular on 22.12.2014 to all KVs to take necessary precautions including installation of CCTVs etc. It is mandatory for all KVs to implement School Safety policy 2016 prepared by NDMA.

The detailed guidelines for ensuring safety and security of students in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas have been issued from time to time including the guidelines for installation of CCTV in all JNVs. JNVs are fully residential, co-educational senior secondary schools with separate hostels for boys & girls. Female teachers working as Housemistress and Associate housemistresses look after the girl students. Matrons are also appointed. Female employee is appointed on part time basis for cleaning girls hostels. School level complaint committees and cluster level complaint committees are functional. At headquarter level moral turpitude cases are dealt by summary trial committees.

(e) and (f) The Schedule to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for norms and standard for a school, which inter alia stipulate for all-weather school building. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is the designated scheme to support States and UTs in meeting the objective of RTE Act, 2009. Under SSA scheme, School Management Committees (SMCs) can avail of training on all aspects of safety and security of children in schools. The guidelines on Food Safety and Hygiene for School Level Kitchen under the Mid Day Meal scheme stress on the safety aspects of procurement, storage and preparation of food items. Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) also provide for safe and secured school campus for secondary education. Under SSA and RMSA schemes the Central Government provides financial assistance to States and UTs for elementary and secondary education including school infrastructure.
