

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 91
ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024**

New Safety Guidelines for Schools

*91. Shri Biplab Kumar Deb:
Shri Naba Charan Majhi:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of the new guidelines for ensuring safety of students in both Government and private schools;
- (b) the details of the safety concerns to be addressed by the guidelines; and
- (c) whether the Government has issued any directions to the State Governments to implement the guidelines?

**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 LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 91 FOR 02.12.2024 ASKED BY HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT SHRI BIPLAB KUMAR DEB AND SHRI NABA CHARAN MAJHI REGARDING NEW SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS

(a) to (c): Government of India has issued various guidelines from time to time for ensuring safety and security of children in schools, 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 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 States/UTs to implement the Guidelines on School Safety and Security in spirit to ensure the safety and security of children in schools.
