

HARYANA GOVERNMENT
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

STATE POLICY ON SAFETY MEASURES

(IN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE AIDED & UN-AIDED SCHOOLS)

Whereas in furtherance of Article 21 & 21-A of the Constitution of India whereby the rights of life and liberty and education have been guaranteed to all school going children, the State Government is committed to ensure safe conditions within the premises of all the Government and Private schools in Haryana.

Whereas in furtherance of the objective mentioned hereinabove, the State Government has notified Haryana School Education (Amendment) Rules, 2007 inter-alia stipulating that every private school seeking recognition shall enclose requisite certificates, pertaining to construction of building, safety of building, fire safety and hygienic conditions, issued by the appropriate competent authorities with the application.

Whereas to achieve the objective set forth in the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and in compliance of the direction issued by the Hon'ble Apex Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 483 of 2004 titled as Avinash Mehrotra v/s Union of India & others, the State Government hereby notifies a State Policy on "*Safety Measures in Government and Private Aided & Un-aided Schools*" situate in the State of Haryana.

All Government and Private Aided & Un-aided Schools situate in Haryana shall be obliged to put in place the following minimum safety standards, in addition to those enshrined in National Building Code of India, 2005, in particular Part IV – Fire & Life Safety and Code of Practice of Fire Safety in Educational Institutions (IS 14435:1997) of the Bureau of Indian Standards, which are enumerated hereinbelow-

1. DISTRICT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- a) Each District in the State shall have a District Education (Safety Measures in Schools) Committee under the chairpersonship of the Deputy Commissioner with the District Education Officer as the Member Secretary and District Elementary Education Officer as the Additional Member Secretary. The other members shall be Fire Station Officer, Civil Surgeon, Superintending Engineer or his nominee, Executive Officer of Municipal Council, District Town Planner and two representatives of Private Schools

and any other person as the Deputy Commissioner may deem fit.

- b) The District Education (Safety Measures in Schools) Committee will be responsible for carrying out the objectives set forth in this policy and ensure compliance of all the conditions mentioned herein, in letter & spirit.
- c) The District Education (Safety Measures in Schools) Committee will periodically carry out awareness campaign among the students and teachers and prepare publicity material pertaining to prevention & control of outbreak of fire and other similar calamities for distribution in the area. Expenditure to be incurred for this purpose will be provided in the annual budget of Education Department, and kept at the disposal of Member Secretary.
- d) The District Education (Safety Measures in Schools) Committee will ensure that all the new schools in the district have a duly certified building plan and Structural Stability Certificate from a Government certified engineer. All the existing schools will also be required to take appropriate steps to render the school buildings safe for the students, and obtain a certificate from the relevant authority within a period of one year.
- e) The District Education (Safety Measures in Schools) Committee will take steps to get the schools inspected at regular intervals for ensuring the adherence to the school building specifications as envisaged in the National Building Code of India, 2005 and other connected provisions as enumerated herein. Expenditure to be incurred, if any, should be demanded from the Education Department in respect of Government Schools and from private Management in respect of private schools.

2. FIRE SAFETY MEASURES

- a) Fire Extinguishers of ISI mark of adequate capacity and numbers should be provided in eye-catching spots in the school building. Fire Extinguishers are to be installed in all Government, Private aided and un-aided schools immediately.

In Government Schools, fire extinguishers will be purchased from funds available in the school itself i.e. Child Welfare Fund / Health Fund /Building Fund etc. Till the time such fire extinguishers are purchased and installed, sufficient number of metal buckets filled with sand and water will be immediately installed in eye-catching spots of the school building.

- b) First Aid Kits will be kept in schools to meet out any eventuality. A list of items to be kept in the First Aid Kit is appended herewith as 'A'.
- c) Emergency telephone numbers and list of persons to be contacted in case of any eventuality shall be displayed on the notice board and other prominent places in the school premises.
- d) Mock drills will be conducted regularly. Wherever possible fire alarm may be provided in those schools which have large infrastructure and science laboratories.
- e) All electrical wiring and equipment will be got inspected and if found defective will be replaced with ISI mark equipments.
- f) No High Tension Lines should run inside or over the premises of a school. Such lines, if existing, should be immediately shifted by bringing the matter to the notice of the District Education Committee.

3. TRAINING OF SCHOOL STAFF & STUDENTS

- a) The State Council of Educational Research & Training (SCERT) will re-design the curriculum of in-service training for teachers so as to include inputs on Safety Measures for preventing and tackling outbreak of fire and other similar calamities.
- b) The District Institutes of Education & Training (DIETs) will also likewise take steps to appropriately modify their curriculum for pre-service & in-service training for teachers.
- c) Fire fighting training to all school staff and students from 6th to 12th standard will be imparted. They will also be trained in providing emergency first aid treatment. Training to handle fire safety equipments, emergency evacuation and protection

in the event of fire and any other emergency would be arranged to be imparted through the Fire & Emergency Wing or any other agency as decided by the District Education Committee.

- d) Emergency Response Mock Drills will be conducted at regular intervals to train the students and school staff.
- e) Fire Safety Day will be observed every year on 14th April with awareness programs and fire safety drills in collaboration with the Fire & Emergency Wing or any other agency as decided by the District Education Committee.
- f) Special lectures on Safety Awareness will be conducted from time to time.

4. SCHOOL BUILDING SPECIFICATIONS

- a) All new School Buildings shall preferably be an “A” class construction with brick /stone masonry walls with RCC roofing. However, where it is not possible to provide RCC roofing only non-combustible fire proof heat resistance material should be used. However, appropriate steps will be taken to ensure that all old school buildings are adequately repaired to render them safe for the students.
- b) Nursery and Elementary Schools shall be housed in single-storied buildings. The maximum number of floors in High & Senior Secondary School buildings, as far as possible, will be restricted to three including the ground floor.
- c) The school building shall be kept free from inflammable and toxic material which, if necessary, shall be stored away from the school building.
- d) The staircases, exits or escape routes, shall adhere to the provisions specified in the National Building Code of India-2005 to ensure quick evacuation or dispersal of children.
- e) The orientation of the buildings shall be in such a manner that proper air circulation and natural lighting is available with open space all around the building as far as possible.
- f) Existing school buildings shall be provided with additional doors in the main entrances as well as the class rooms, if

required. The size of the main exit and class room doors should be enlarged, if found inadequate.

- g) School buildings and students should be insured against fire and natural calamities with an Insurance company.
- h) Kitchen and other activities involving use of fire should be carried out in a secure and safe location away from the main school building.
- i) Provision of water tank and separate piping from the tank with hose reel to the ground floor and first floor will be made.

5. CLEARANCES AND CERTIFICATES

- a) Every school shall have to furnish an NOC from the Fire & Emergency Wing or any other agency to be authorized by the District Education Committee in this behalf as a mandatory requirement for granting permission for establishing or continuation of a school and granting permanent recognition.
- b) Periodical inspection would be mandatory for all Government and Private Aided and Un-aided Schools as may be decided by the District Education Committee.
- c) All the new schools in the district shall have a duly certified building plan and Structural Stability Certificate from a Government certified engineer. However, all the old existing schools shall be required to take appropriate steps to render the school buildings safe for the students.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

- a) The Heads of the Institutions and the President of the Management Committee shall be accountable for any lapse whatsoever under the State Policy.
- b) The District Education (Safety Measures in Schools) Committee shall take all appropriate steps as deemed necessary to monitor the adherence to the safety measures as enumerated herein by all the Government and Private Schools functioning under their jurisdiction.

- c) The institutional heads of all the Government Schools in the State may assess their financial requirement as per the provisions of this policy and raise demand through the District Education Officer or District Elementary Education Officer as the case may be so that the requisite funds are released by the HQ.
- d) Any dereliction in the discharge of obligations as enumerated hereinabove will attract immediate action as per law against the concerned institutional heads and the management of the private schools as the case may be.

ANNEXURE 'A'

First Aid Kit

- 1) Bandage of 2" and 4" width.
- 2) Cotton
- 3) Betadine lotion (100 ml)
- 4) Betadine ointment (15 gm)
- 5) Savlon (100 ml)
- 6) Paracetamol syrup (100 ml)
- 7) Paracetamol tablets (30)
- 8) Combiflam tablets (20)
- 9) Silverex sulphadiazine cream (15 gm) – for burns