

Personal Attention

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Directorate of Higher Education,
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-1
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Dated Shimla-1 the May,2018

To

1. All the Deputy Directors of Higher Education in,
Himachal Pradesh
2. All the Principals/ Headmasters'
Government / Pvt. Senior Secondary School in,
Himachal Pradesh

शिमला निदेशालय उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग

15 MAY 2018

Subject:-

Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and Instructions Thereof to Sensitize the School Students/ Children.

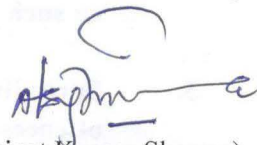
In the recent past there have been **some incidents of sexual abuse against the school children in the Educational Institutions.** In view of such incidents of heinous crime, stringent measures are required to be taken to ensure protection of children from sexual offences and to avert / prevent such incidents in future. To provide safe environment in schools congenial to teaching learning the guidelines as are enumerated hereinafter be indispensably followed.

1. **Sensitization programmes in the Morning Assembly to educate and sensitize the School students / children should be organized regularly.**
2. **Teachers, School Management Committees / Private School Management Committees, Parents and every stake holders of the education system may be sensitized. If any incident (s) of Sexual abuse, comes the knowledge of any of the stakeholders or the common person or general public at large, POCSO Act casts duty on such persons to report such incident to the authorities concerned, immediately.**
3. **Spreading awareness about the provisions of this Act will help to prevent such offences against children and enable timely action to protect children from sexual abuse and exploitation. All the provisions enshrined in the Act ibid may be strictly followed by all the Government as well as by the privately managed Educational Institutions, failing which stern action will be taken against the defaulters.**
4. **Self defense life skills especially to girl students may be imparted in Schools to deal such challenges and also to promote physical, mental and emotional well being.**
5. **In the Morning Assembly students should be given tips about self protection by way of sharing experiences especially to girl students. The students may be guided to move to their School and back to home in groups.**

6. **Parents / guardians should be guided and sensitized the security of their wards. The security issues should be discussed during monthly meetings of School Management Committee and teachers. The School Management Committee should also discuss the protection issues in the meetings and ensure the security of students, particularly of girl students in and outside the school premises.**
7. **Child toll free No. 1098 should be conspicuously displayed in the school at prominent places and students should be trained to contact this number in case of any emergency and difficult circumstances.**
8. **Government of India, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has launched the online solution "e-box" for redressing grievances related to POCSO. The NCPCR 'e-box' button shall enable the children/ students to lodge online registration of grievance pertaining to sexual offence committed against any child. It enables the children/ students to register their complaints in a simplified manner by visiting NCPCR website (<http://www.ncpcr.gov.in/>) and click on e-box. Therefore, maximum children and other stakeholders may be made aware of this facility. It is also directed that this link regarding e-box may be displayed on the entrances, all notice boards and in the class rooms of the schools mandatorily.**
9. **The students/ children must be encouraged to report such case(s), if any, to Principal, Chairperson of Sexual Harassment Committee, Class Teacher or their Parents whoever they feel easy to approach. No such case(s) be hidden at any cost by any person/ official concerned who have the knowledge of any such incident(s).**

Apart from above, all the Deputy Directors of Higher Education in the State are also directed to send the compliance report in the matter in r/o all the Educational Institutions in their respective District to this office, immediately.

The instructions mentioned hereinbefore may be adhered to and implemented in letter and spirit. Any laxity in this matter will be viewed seriously.



(Dr. Amarjeet Kumar Sharma),
Joint Director of Higher Education(C),
Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. Even Dated Shimla-1 the May, 2018
Copy for information and necessary action is forwarded to:-

1. The Secretary (Education) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2, for kind perusal and information please.
2. The Incharge, IT Cell with the direction to upload the same on the Departmental website.
3. Guard file.

Joint Director of Higher Education(C),
Himachal Pradesh