



Forum for Good Governance

Regd. No. 653/2009

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L. No. FGG/GOV/REP/ 35 /2020

Hyderabad
10th July, 2020

To
H.E. the Governor
Telangana State
Hyderabad

Respected Madam,

Sub : School Education Department – Abnormal hike in school fees, unethical practices like forcing the students to purchase lap tops in their schools – Collecting transportation fee – Request for enquiry by Director General, Vigilance – Reg.

Ref : 1. G.O. No. 1, School Education department, dated 1994
2. G.O. Ms. No. 42, S.E. (Prog-I), dated 30-7-2010
3. G.O. Rt. No. 37, S.E. (General), dated 21-3-2017
4. G.O. Ms. No.46, dated 21-4-2020

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Management of private schools in Telangana is increasing the fee abnormally year after year. Added to it many schools are resorting to unethical practice like forcing the parents to purchase school uniforms, socks, shoes, bags etc. from the stores opened in the school premises. If any parent objects to it children are sent out of school.

1. In the year 1994 Government have issued G.O. Ms. No. 1 to regularize the fee structure but private schools did not implement the Government orders.

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2. In the year 2010, G.O. No. 42 dated 30-7-2010 was issued for prohibition of screening test and collection of capitation fee and prescribed fee structure for private schools. The management instead of implementing the instructions filed writ (17096 of 2014) and the Hon'able court granted stay of said G.O. While Education Department is watching helplessly the management is indulging in fee hike and other unethical practices.
3. As there was no action from the Government to control the private schools there were regular adverse print and visual media report which led to public protests. As a fire fighting exercise, Government vide G.O. Rt. No. 37 dated 21-3-2017 have constituted a committee headed by Sri T. Tirupathi Rao former Vice Chancellor, Osmania University to examine and submit a report on the issue of Regularization of fee structure in private schools. This move has temporarily cool downed the heat. Unfortunately Tirupathi Rao Committee was a non starter, the committee took six (6) times extension and finally submitted its report. The Committee report was not taken seriously by Government and the report is gathering dust on the shelves of the Education department.
4. Since last couple of years private schools are turning into stationery and book shops. They are forcing the students to purchase stationery like bags etc and books from the stalls erected in School premises. In this connection Forum for Good Governance submitted a number of representations but no action was taken. It is reported that Hyderabad tops the list of highest school fee collection in India.
5. To control fee hike during academic year 2020-21 Government vide G.O. 46 dated 21-4-2020 have issued the following instructions.
"Not to increase any kind of fees during Academic year 2020 - 21 and shall charge only tuition fee on monthly basis till further orders"

Ignoring the Government orders the School management have hiked the fee, in addition charging transport cost for last three months though the schools have not opened. The management is insisting students to purchase lap tops etc from the school stores to facilitate for on line classes.

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To sum up education in erstwhile A.P. has become a business and many politicians have become businessmen. After formation of Telangana state the trend continued and flourished. Recently Government of Telangana has sanctioned two private universities to active politicians of ruling party is a testimony of how politicians are making business by establishing schools, colleges and universities. Since last one week irregularities being committed by private school management is regularly appearing in media. It is also reported that District Educational Officers are inspecting the schools. The officials at local level are helpless to take action as majority of the schools are owned by politician and their relatives, further they pay bribes to local officials to ignore the mistakes. Under these circumstances the inspection by local officials to control the private schools is not going to give any results.

Keeping all these factors in view, Forum for Good Governance requests H.E. the Governor to kindly order for detailed inquiry by Director General, Vigilance and Enforcement and action taken on erring schools.

Yours Sincerely



M. Padmanabha Reddy

Secretary

Forum for Good Governance