

Forum for Good Governance

Regd. No. 653/2009

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(Retd. High Court Judge)

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L. No. FGG/CS/REP/ 63 /2019

Hyderabad 10th June, 2019

To
The Chief Secretary
Government of Telangana
Hyderabad

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Sir,

Sub: School Education Department – Reducing the load of school bags in Primary, Upper Primary and High Schools – Orders issued – Request for implementation of Government Orders – Reg.

Ref: 1. G.O. Ms. No. 22, School Education (Genl)
Department, dated 18-7-2017

- Commissioner, School Education Proc. Rc No. 843/DSE/Plg-1/2017, dated 21-7-2017
- Commissioner letter Rc.No. 99/Plg-1/2018, dated 17-12-2018

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Government of Telangana vide G.O. first cited has issued certain guidelines to reduce the load of school bags.

The load of school bags, as per survey conducted in various district, is ranging from 6 to 12 Kgs at primary level and 12-17 Kgs at High school level. This has severe adverse physical effect on the growing children which can cause damage to their vertebral column and knees, it also causes anxiety in them. Moreover, in the schools which are functioning in multi storied buildings, the children have to climb the steps with heavy school bags which further aggravate the problem.

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Keeping all this in view Government issued guidelines directing the managements under the government, local bodies, Aided and unaided private schools in the state to implement the guidelines to reduce the load of the school bags for classes I to X with effect from the Academic year 2017-18 onwards. Government also directed the Commissioner to take further necessary action in the matter.

The Commissioner vide ref.2nd cited has issued proceedings directing Regional Joint Directors and D.E.O.s to take further action in the matter. The Commissioner further directed D.E.O.s to observe 1st week of August 2017 as school bag awareness week.

Two years after the issue of G.O. it remained on paper only and the D.E.O.s who were directed to take action have not done anything. We have a reason to believe that the G.O. was issued for publicity purpose only. Forum for Good Governance requests the Chief Secretary to see that the G.O. issued to reduce the load of school bags is implemented strictly atleast from this Academic year.

Yours Sincerely

M. Padmanabha Reddy

Secretary

Forum for Good Governance

Encl : Ref. cited * NOUNCE 003 700

Copy to Commissioner & Director, School Education Department, Govt. of Telangana