

Forum for Good Governance

Regd. No. 653/2009

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L. No. FGG/CS/REP/ 113 /2022

Hyderabad 23rd August, 2022

To The Chief Secretary Government of Telangana Hyderabad

Sir,

Sub: School Education – Pathetic condition of school buildings – Collapse of school building seriously injuring 3 children – Request to improve the school buildings – Reg.

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Condition of School buildings is very bad in the state of Telangana. During last 8 years not much is done atleast to repair the old buildings leave alone construction of new buildings. Many school buildings lack toilets and other infrastructure facilities. There is ample number of cases where the classes are run under the trees due to fear of collapse of the old buildings.

In Venkatapuram village of Mulugu district a portion of old school building has fallen down on 3 children badly injuring them. The print and visual media is full of news about the dilapidated school buildings in many places in the state, but the cataract infested school education department is not able to see them.

Government of Telangana has taken up a massive scheme for comprehensive development of school infrastructure under the caption Mana Ooru Mana Badi. For implementation of the scheme G.O. No. 4 was issued with financial out-lay of Rs. 7,300/- crores.

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The G.O further mentions that, in Phase I during the year 2021-22 about 9123 schools with an out lay of Rs.3500 crores will be covered. But in reality not a single school was taken up and not a rupee spent. Again in 2022 – 23 phase II started, without any budget allocation for all practical purposes the scheme is a non starter. When tenders were finalized for some works and purchases, lot of corruption took place and finally on the intervention of High Court the tenders were withdrawn by the Government.

There are about 53 teacher unions, some are recognized and some are not. The office bearers of these multiple unions in the name of union activity do not attended school. Sec. 24 (1) of Right to Education Act 2009, says, "A teacher shall perform the following duties namely, maintain regularity and punctuality in attending schools and conduct and complete the curriculum", but in practice it is never followed. Schools have opened about 2 months back still required books were not supplied to students, hardly about 60% of the students are covered, and same is the case with supply of uniforms. Lack of advance planning and required budget is the root cause for this problem.

With attractive slogans-like "KG to PG, Mana Ooru – Mana Badi, Mana Basti – Mana Badi, Badi Bata" etc. the Government is feeding the people with false promises and in a way cheating them. Government have money for construction of MLA camp offices, Collector offices, State Secretariat and Temples, when it comes to just repairing the dilapidated school buildings there is no money. During last 8 years large number of private schools have opened and flourishing at the same time, hundreds of Government schools are closed for various reasons. It is something like "Nero fiddles while Rome burns".

Forum for Good governance request the Chief Secretary to take urgent steps to attend to repair of the dilapidated school buildings so that the structure doesn't collapse on the kids. The teaching standard in Government schools also needs improvement.

Yours Sincerely

Travalla

M. Padmanabha Reddy

Secretary

Forum for Good Governance

Encl: News paper clippings

Copy to

Prl. Secretary, School Education department, Government of Telangana

Director, School Education Department, Government of Telangana