

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION
KASHMIR

Subject:- Instructions regarding Charging of Tuition Fee etc by recognised unaided Private Schools during lockdown period in lieu of COVID-19 pandemic

CIRCULAR

Whereas, the Administrative Department vide Order No: 100-Edu of 2020 dated: 30-03-2020 issued instructions to Private Schools in view of COVID-19 pandemic in Jammu and Kashmir with the directions that the last date of deposit school fees is extended upto 30th April 2020 without any late fees and no school shall either charge any fee for the online Learning/assignments or shall link the result of the child on the basis of home assignment. The Management bodies of all CBSE/BOSE affiliated Private Schools of UT Jammu & Kashmir were directed to issue appropriate directions in this regard.

Whereas, the Administrative Department vide Circular No: 01-Edu of 2020 dated: 14/5/2020 issued following instructions for compliance by all concerned.

- *Only Tuition Fee shall be charged from students on monthly basis instead of quarterly basis for the lockdown period*
- *No fee hike shall be made during academic session 2020-21*
- *Annual fee, if any can be charged monthly on pro-rata basis, after schools reopen.*
- *No School shall deny access to online education material/Classes/continuous assessment to poor/deserving students unable to pay school fees due to prevailing situation.*
- *Separate view regarding transport charges shall be taken separately.*

Whereas, the Fee Fixation Committee vide Order No: 01-FFC of 2019 dated: 28/01/2019 has already regulated and fixed the fee of Private Educational Institutions of J&K under the following captions.

- i. *Tuition Fee (monthly basis) which be reflective of the recurring expenditure being incurred for running the school such as the salary of staff, electricity bill, water supply bills etc.*
- ii. *Annual Fee which include the annual depreciation of the investment made for setting up of the school clubbed with repair and maintenance costs and may also include all other one time fees such as Examination fee, Computer fee, Sports Fee etc wherever applicable.*
- iii. *Transport Fee to be charged only from the students availing the transport facility of the school on an actual basis.*
- iv. *Voluntary Special Purpose Fee such as the picnic, tour and excursions etc completely voluntary in nature;*

Any other fee as may be approved by the Committee after following the procedures prescribed. Provided that the students, parents/guardians shall be given the option to pay the above fee(s), suitably in monthly/quarterly instalments.

Whereas, complaints are pouring to this Directorate that the school management are charging tuition fee as well as miscellaneous fee under the caption of **Tuition Fee** which totally contradicts with the Fee fixation Committee order dated: 28/01/2019 as mentioned above.

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Whereas, the Hon'ble High Court under PIL No: 07/2020 with CM Nos 1964/2020, 1972/2020, 1976/2020 & Caveat No: 546/2020 has passed order dated: 10-06-2020 discharging the Caveat impluning therein that Caveator has already taken some measures for the benefit of the student community as well as these schools and the staff posted therein in terms of Circular No: 01-Edu of 2020 dated: 14-05-2020 issued by the Principal Secretary to Government, School Education Department. The Government is seized of the matter and has already taken certain measures, of the view it would be unnecessary to keep this petition on board, if the petitioner has still any grievance or plea left, he may approach the Principal Secretary to Government, School Education Department and take up the matters with him for his consideration and decision thereof.

Whereas, this Directorate issued Circular instructions under No: DSEK/GS/54-Misc/153-60 dated: 17/6/2020 to all recognised Private Schools to adhere with the aforesaid instructions in letter and spirit while collecting the monthly tuition fee during the lockdown period of COVID-19 pandemic as already circulated by the Administrative Department vide Circular No: 01-Edu of 2020 dated: 14-05-2020.

Whereas, complaints are pouring on frequent basis to this Directorate that some recognised Private schools are still charging tuition fee as well as Miscellaneous fee under the caption of Tuition Fee and also denying access to online education material/classes/continuous assessment for not paying tuition fee inspite of clear cut instructions circulated vide aforesaid circular dated: 17-06-2020 by this Directorate.

It is again impressed upon to the recognised Private Schools to adhere with the aforementioned instructions in letter and spirit, incase any violation/non-seriousness strict action shall be. initiated against the particular School in terms of relevant provisions of Law which includes de-recognition thereof without further intimation.

Sd/-
Director School Education
Kashmir

No: DSEK/GS/54-Misc/212

Dated: 13-07-2020

Copy to the:-

01. Principal Secretary to Government, School Education Department, Civil Secretariat, Srinagar for information.
02. Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir for information.
03. Deputy Commissioner _____ for information.
04. OSD to Advisor (S) to Hon'ble Lt. Governor for information.
05. Joint Director Information. He is advised to wide publicity of the circular through print and electronic media.
06. Chief Education Officer _____ for information.
07. P.A to Director School Education, Kashmir for information.
08. President, Private Schools Association for information and strict compliance.
09. President Parents Association, Kashmir for information.
10. I/C Website for uploading the circular.

Joint Director Schools
Directorate of School Education
Kashmir

