



## **GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

No.LSGD-IB1/117/2020-LSGD Local Self Governmet (IB) Department Thiruvananthapuram, Dated:01/12/2020

## CIRCULAR

Sub: LSGD - Kerala State Commission for Protection of Child Rights-Providing support to online education - Instructions issued.

Ref: 1. Letters No.LSGD-IB1/117/2020 dated 16.06.2020 and 18.07.2020.

 Order dated 07.09.2020 in CRMP No. 3044/01-C/C1/2020/KeSCPCR, 3848/01-C/C1/2020/KeSCPCR, 2883/01-C/C1/2020/KeSCPCR of the Kerala State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Thiruvananthapuram.

In the context of Covid-19 pandemic the schools in Kerala could not be reopened for the regular schooling. However, to compensate for the loss of regular classes, the State Government introduced online classes through KITE Victers channel from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 onwards. At the same time or even earlier some of the CBSE and ICSE schools in the State also introduced online classes through Mobile/Smartphone/Tab/Computer Application. The Kerala State Commission for Protection of Child Rights through various mode of communications have received many complaints in this regard.

The Commission initiated a suomoto case under Section 13 (1)(j) of the said Act and issued notices to all the respondents concerned to respond in accordance with each ones roles and responsibilities. The Principal Secretary to Government, Local Self Government Department who was impleaded as Second respondent, furnished the action taken report as per letters referred to first above. A micro finance initiative with the help of Kudumbashree and KSFE has been launched by Local Self Government Department for providing laptops to members of the community network of Kudumbashree.

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It has been noticed that in some places, due to lack of electricity connectivity, poor electricity supply, poor net connectivity, non availability of personal smart phones, laptops, TV, etc., there are still students not able to attend online classes regularly. It is the duty of the Local Self Government to ensure that every child is given the opportunity to attend online education, where regular schooling is not possible. To assess the situation, a quick school level survey has to be made and remedial action taken.

In the above circumstance, the Kerala State Commission for Protection of Child Rights as per Order referred to second above has directed the 7<sup>th</sup> Respondent i.e. Director General of Education to issue a Circular directing every school to conduct a quick survey regarding online classes and to share the State Level Data along respondents 1- (Chief Secretary), 2-(Principal Secretary, LSGD) and 4- (Secretary, General Education Department). There was also a direction to the respective school authorities to share the information with respective Local Self Government Authorities for intervention and support.

In this circumstance, it is hereby directed that all Local Self Government Institutions shall intervene and support the schools of their jurisdiction to ensure that online education program is entitled to every child, by facilitating necessary infrastructure based on the school survey report.

U.V. JOSE IAS ADDITIONAL SECRETARY

Forwarded / By order,

Amilal

Section Officer.

To:

Commissioner for Rural Development, Thiruvananthapuram.

Director of Urban Affairs, Thiruvananthapuram.

Director of Panchayat, Thiruvananthapuram.

(They are directed to communicate the Circular instructions to all local bodies coming under their control for necessary action)

Executive Director, Information Kerala Mission, Thiruvananthapuram.

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