Follow student safety rules or face action, schools told

GOVT DIRECTIVE All government, aided and unaided schools must strictly ensure students safety or else there could be withdrawal of recognition and disciplinary proceedings against principals.

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“DoE shall initiate disciplinary proceedings against the heads of schools and union managers if they fail to follow the terms of student safety guidelines in word and spirit. Further, this directorate will be constrained to initiate equally severe action against the schools, including withdrawal of recognition in case of repeated and deliberate non-compliance to pre-empt any untoward incident endangering the safety of students,” the order said.

The safety guidelines underline the constitution of School Safety Sub-Committees (SSSC) for all schools, monthly safety walk jointly by the members of SSSC and submission of online safety reports to the education directorate.

The guidelines were issued following recommendations from a high-level committee which was formed in the wake of the murder of a seven-year-old boy in a school in Gurugram. The Delhi High Court had, in September 2018, taken a serious view of the safety of schoolchildren and had raised the concept of self-inspection of school buildings by various school authorities.

The government had on August 9 ordered all schools in the city to immediately report to it about any untoward incident such as accident, violence, molestation or protest for quick action.

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