

Government of Odisha  
Department of School & Mass Education

No. 16054 /SME, Dated. 1.8.19  
SME-MSSA-MSSA1-0100-2018

From

Sri Remish Kerketta, OAS(SAG)  
Additional Secretary to Government

To

The DEE, Odisha, Bhubaneswar  
The DSE, Odisha, Bhubaneswar  
All Collectors

Sub: Implementation of the guidelines for reduction of weight of school bags and instructions of MHRD, Govt. of India.

Sir

In inviting a reference to the subject cited above, I am directed to say that this department has issued guidelines to reduce the weight of school bags for the students of classes I to X vide this department Notification No.5707 dated 08.03.2019. Subsequently, the Regional Director, CBSE, Bhubaneswar has also been requested to issue necessary instructions to the CBSE affiliated schools under his jurisdiction and monitor whether the guidelines issued by the State as well as CBSE for reduction of load of school bags and use of NCERT prescribed books are being scrupulously followed by these schools. But it has come to notice that some of the schools affiliated to CBSE and ICSE boards are not adhering to the guidelines issued by this department in this regard as well as the instructions issued from the MHRD, Govt. of India.

You are therefore requested to take necessary action for implementation of the same in all schools of the state irrespective of their affiliation to any board and monitor the same for implementation to reduce the weight of school bags , use of books prescribed by SCERT/ NCERT only, no home task for children of classes I & II in all schools of the state. Hon<sup>1</sup>ble NCPCR is regularly following up on the above issues and asking for compliance.

For better monitoring and compliance of the directions, squads at district level may be constituted under the orders of District Collector with the DEOs/ DPCs as Chairman and BEOs/ DCPOs/ Police Officers/ any other officers/ NGOs, as the District Collector may decide, as members of the squad. These squads may make visit to schools including private english medium schools, affiliated to CBSE/ ICSE by giving prior notice

or on surprise visit to verify their compliance on above mentioned points. All complaints on violation of any of the provisions must be verified by the squad and report submitted to the respective directorates and department.

An action taken report must reach the department by 30.09.2019.

Yours faithfully

*R. K. Jaiswal*  
Additional Secretary to Government

Memo No. 16055 Date 1.8.19

Copy forwarded to the Regional Director, CBSE, Plot No. 4(PT), Sailashree Vihar, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar, District Khordha-751021, Odisha/ The Chairman, CISCE, P 35-36, Sector VI, Pushp Vihar, Saket, New Delhi – 110017 for information and necessary action. They are requested to issue the necessary instruction to all the affiliated schools for the state of Odisha to follow the guidelines and instruction of MHRD scrupulously.

*R. K. Jaiswal*  
Additional Secretary to Government

Memo No. 16056 Date 1.8.19

Copy forwarded to All District Education Officers/ All District Project Co-ordinators, SSA/ All BEOs for information and necessary action. The District Education Officers are requested to place the matter before the District Collector to get the squads constituted for implementation of the guidelines and monitoring of the same in the schools.

*R. K. Jaiswal*  
Additional Secretary to Government