GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION (S)

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Imphal, the 14th October, 2019.

No. 24/1/1-2/18-DE(S): In pursuance of Government Office Memorandum No. 29/22/2019-SE(S)Misc dated the 3rd September, 2019 issued regarding "No School Bag Day" on all working Saturdays in respect of all children studying in classes I-VIII in Government/ Government Aided/Private Unaided Schools in the State, the Department of Education(S), Manipur have started implementing the policy with objectives of making schools joyful places of learning, building positive culture amongst the children, providing platform for innovative ideas and to reduce the stress and harmful effects of carrying heavy bags by the young children.

- 2. In order to bring about a more holistic development of a child and also to organize the "No School Bag Day" in a more structured and purposeful manner, various extra and co-curricular activities that are age-appropriate in terms of psycho-motor development stages of a child are required to be kept in mind besides the all important elements of fun and enjoyment. In other words, the children should enjoy the activities that they do on these Saturdays.
- 3. Age-appropriate activities that have thematic connotation to social and environmental well-being, personal hygiene, physical and mental health, cognitive development, etc. should be introduced to the children on these Saturdays.
- 4. Children studying in classes I-VIII may also be allowed to wear causal dresses which may be comfortable to them in doing the activities on these Saturdays. The decision, however, is left to individual schools on whether children may be allowed to wear causal dresses on these days or not.
- 5. Each activity shall be of 30 90 minutes interspaced between a recess of 15 30 minutes each in respect of classroom and school campus-based activities. For visits to other schools/ offices in the vicinity (of the school) or picnics, timings and duration may be set by individual schools. The suggested activities should be interspaced in such a way that children find the activities interesting/ joyful and full of enjoyment thereby making them wait for the next Saturday eagerly.
- 6. The "**No School Bag Day**" should not be construed as a School Holiday and is equally important as other working days of the school.
- 7. Heads of schools, in consultation with class/ school teacher(s), should chalk out list of activities for each class/ section in advance and inform students/ parents accordingly. Stocking of adequate number/

Summer

quantity of drawing-painting equipment, charts and maps, gardening equipment, toy making materials, comic books, story books, etc. is recommended.

- 8. The Department has also uploaded soft copies of books/reading materials which may also be referred regarding activities to be undertaken on these "No School Bag Days" at www.manipureducation.gov.in. Heads of schools and teachers may visit the official website for exploration of activities to be undertaken on these days.
- 9. The suggested activities are tentative/ indicative and advisory in nature and may be modified/ amended/ partially followed as per convenience at the level of the schools concerned.
- 10. With the launching of "No School Bag Day" in schools in the State, the Department of Education(S), Manipur is simultaneously targeting various social media platforms like Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, etc. for the propagation of good practices in School Education in the State so that such good and innovative practices implemented in our schools are known to others for further replication and motivation of the practitioners.
- 11. In this regard, the Department of Education(S), Manipur will be opening several social media platforms so that schools could upload and share the activities/ innovations undertaken on these "No School Bag Days" which shall be regularly monitored at the Directorate of Education(S) by a dedicated team.

Due recognition of such good practices/ innovation (which are uploaded) shall be extended by the Department in an opportune manner and occasion.

A separate guideline/ operating mechanism for the social media platforms of the Department are being separately issued shortly.

(Th. Kirankumar) 14 10 Director of Education (Schools)

Copy to:

- 1. PPS to Hon'ble Minister, Education, Manipur.
- 2. Commissioner (Education/S), Government of Manipur.
- 3. Director (TA & Hills/SW/YAS/SCERT), Manipur.
- 4. Secretary, BSEM/COHSEM, Manipur
- 5. All CEOs of Autonomous District Council, Manipur.
- 6. Addl. Director of Education (S-H/V), Directorate of Education(S).
- 7. All Zonal Education Officers.
- 8. All Secretary/President of Private Schools and Aided Schools
- All Heads of Schools.
- 10. All Concerned.