

GOVT. OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI  
DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION: PHYSICAL EDUCATION BRANCH  
CHHATRASAL STADIUM: MODEL TOWN: DELHI - 110009

No. F.42/DE/PE/2017/

7197-7246

Dated: 11/10/18

To

All the Distt. Dy. Director of Education,  
Directorate of Education,  
Delhi / New Delhi.

**Sub: Regarding selection of School Children items for Republic Day Celebration 2019**

Sir/Madam,

As you are aware like every year, Delhi School children participate in Republic Day Celebration at Rajpath. **I am pleased to inform you that this year also**, the first selection of items of school children by the Expert Committee of Ministry of Defence will take place in last week of October 2018.

As per the letter received from Ministry of Defence( D-Ceremonial) that to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, idea of designing the cultural performance of school children groups for participation in Republic Day Parade, 2019 on the theme specifically connected with '**Gandhi**' has been considered.

You are requested to bring it into the knowledge of all the Heads of Govt./Govt. Aided and Public schools under your jurisdiction.

The list of interested participating schools should reach this office latest by 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 along with the detailed write-up of the items proposed for performance.

It has also been decided that at least one Government school from each zone should compulsorily present one item before the Expert Committee. For this purpose, they have to start preparations right now for these items. Guidelines for participation of school children in the Republic Day Parade is as follow:

**A. Ground performance norms:**

- (i) The Republic Day Parade is held at Rajpath which has a paved width of 40 feet and unpaved path of 14 feet on the northern and the southern sides, thus, providing a total width of 68 feet. The Presidential dais is on the southern side. The Parade advances from Vijay Chowk to India Gate i.e. from West to East and is held in the forenoon on 26<sup>th</sup> January every year. Speed of movement is a good walking pace.
- (ii) Performance area is 134 feet long and 68 feet wide. Time allocation to each children's item shall not exceed 2 minutes including entry and exit.
- (iii) Placards, hoardings or written messages are not generally desired. Teachers, incharges or/and other adults are not allowed to accompany the children in the performing area. All children's items are required to be accompanied by appropriate effects/ music, professionally recorded. All clues need to be incorporated in the sound effect / music. Whistle signals, arm waving signals and the likes are not permitted.

## **B. Age Group:**

26<sup>th</sup> January falls in the beginning of final school terms. Rehearsals take almost three months prior to 26<sup>th</sup> January. It is obvious that children who have board examinations in March / April/ May following the Republic Day Parade cannot be included in the children's items. Children below 11 years of age are usually difficult to manage in public performance at such a scale. It would, therefore be pragmatic to include children of the 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> classes from schools, of age group 11 to 16 years.

## **C. Type of items:**

The items should be simple, aesthetic and inspirational avoiding heavy complicated message giving techniques. The items are a part of a running Parade and the time for performance is very short, thus, the item should be impressionistic and should have a visual appeal. The efforts should be on total impact rather than too many details. The items can be **Creative and Thematic**. It is a difficult and challenging task, as it requires creativity, innovation and choreography of a higher order. The theme can be simple conveying the relevant message from children's view point. The items should be appealing to the children to enhance their awareness besides entertaining them and others. What is important is to first think out a concept and to plan it out with the help of a choreographer, if it has potential of being given a practical shape within the limitations of time and space. The costumes and music should also be creative, pleasant and appropriate to the themes.

The Zonal Cultural Centres may however, present the Traditional Items representing the rich cultural and ethnic tradition of our vast and diverse country. In this case, the costumes and music should be as authentic as possible.

## **D. Selection of Items**

The proposed items for participation in the Republic Day Parade would be examined on ground by an Expert Committee set up by the Ministry of Defence consisting of eminent personalities from different fields such as dance, music, choreography etc. The performance of the proposed participating troupes would be evaluated by the Committee in its various meetings and final selection would be made based on various factors such as relevancy of theme, choreography, music, costumes and overall performance. Only the sample of the costumes to be worn are to be shown in the meetings of the Committee. Once the selection has been made, the participating school/Centre would have to take the prior approval of the Committee before ordering preparation of costumes, jewellery for the performing children. The approval of the Committee would be accorded on the basis of the sketches/designs drawn on paper by the particular agency so as to leave no scope for ambiguity at a later stage.

The services of good designers could also be taken for overall improvement of the item. The costumes made of desired fabrics and jewellery etc. should be ready by 15<sup>th</sup> January i.e. well before the start of the combined rehearsals on the Rajpath.

In case of non-adherence to the instructions given by the Expert Committee to an agency, the permission already given for participation in the Parade could be withdrawn.

**E. Last date for enrolment.**

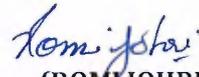
The last date for enrollment as interested contender for participation in the Republic Day Parade, 2019 is 4<sup>TH</sup> October, 2018. The names of the schools/zones etc. Which are interested to participate in the Parade should be sent alongwith the detailed write-up of the proposed item, to Ministry of Defence/D(Ceremonials) by the stipulated date ( 04.10.2018) through the Dte. Of Education, Govt. of NCT, Delhi and Ministry of Culture or any other school/agency interested to participate in the Republic Day Parade.

You are requested to bring these contents into the knowledge of all the schools under your district so that they may start preparations from now onwards to make them enable to be ready to present their schools items before the Expert Committee of Ministry of Defence.

If any Government school requires funds for making preparations of the item to be presented, then the district authorities may send the proposal, well in advance, so that the funds may be allocated to them in time.

The list of interested participating schools should reach this office latest by 4<sup>TH</sup> October, 2018 along with the detailed write-up of the items proposed for performance.

Yours faithfully,

  
(ROMI JOHRI)

Asstt. Director of Education (PE &NI)

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**Copy to:-**

1. Under Secretary (Cer.) MOD, South Block, New Delhi.
2. All Spl. DEs
3. All Addl. DEs
4. All RDEs
5. All DDEs Distt./DDE zone
6. All ADEs, Directorate of Education.
7. All SPEs (Zone 1 to 29)
8. All Head of Schools concerned
9. P.S to Secretary (Edn.) Directorate of Education, Old Sectt., Delhi.
10. P.S. to Director of Education, old Sectt., Delhi.
11. OS (IT) with the request to place the circular on website.