

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION
(PRIVATE SCHOOL BRANCH)
OLD SECRETARIAT, DELHI-110054**

No. F.DE.15 (1407)/PSB/2023/4903-4907

Dated: 31/05/23

Order

WHEREAS, Decent Public School, B-Block Sector-3, Rohini, New Delhi- 110085 (School ID- 1413203) (hereinafter referred to as "the School"), run by the Decent Edu & Child Dev Society (hereinafter referred to as the "Society"), is a private unaided school recognized by the Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi (hereinafter referred to as "DoE"), under the provisions of Delhi School Education Act & Rules, 1973 (hereinafter referred to as "DSEAR, 1973"). The school is statutorily bound to comply with the provisions of the DSEAR, 1973 and RTE Act, 2009, as well as the directions/guidelines issued by the DoE from time to time.

AND WHEREAS, the manager of every recognized school is required to file a full statement of fees every year before the ensuing academic session under section 17(3) of the DSEAR, 1973 with the Directorate. Such statement is required to indicate estimated income of the school to be derived from fees, estimated current operational expenses towards salaries and allowances payable to employees etc. in terms of rule 177(1) of the DSEAR, 1973.

AND WHEREAS, as per section 18(5) of the DSEAR, 1973 read with sections 17(3), 24 (1) and rule 180 (3) of the above DSEAR, 1973, responsibility has been conferred upon to the DoE to examine the audited financial Statements, books of accounts and other records maintained by the school at least once in each financial year. Sections 18(5) and 24(1) and rule 180 (3) of DSEAR, 1973 have been reproduced as under:

Section 18(5): *'the managing committee of every recognised private school shall file every year with the Director such duly audited financial and other returns as may be prescribed, and every such return shall be audited by such authority as may be prescribed'*

Section 24(1): *'every recognised school shall be inspected at least once in each financial year in such manner as may be prescribed'*.

Rule 180 (3): *'the account and other records maintained by an unaided private school shall be subject to examination by the auditors and inspecting officers authorised by the Director in this behalf and also by officers authorised by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.'*

Thus, the Director (Education) has the authority to examine the full statement of fees filled under section 17(3) of the DSEA, 1973 and returns and documents submitted under section 18(5) of DSEA, 1973 read with rule 180(1) of DSER, 1973.

AND WHEREAS, besides the above, the Director (Education) is also required to examine and evaluate the fee increase proposal submitted by the private unaided recognized schools for some of the schools which have been allotted from Director (Education) before any increase in fee.

AND WHEREAS, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the judgment dated 27.04.2004 held in Civil Appeal No. 2699 of 2001 titled Modern School Vs. Union of India and others has conclusively decided that under sections 17(3), 18(4) read along with rules 172, 173, 175 and 177, the DoE has the authority to regulate the fee and other charges, with the objective of preventing profiteering and commercialization of education.

AND WHEREAS, it was also directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, that the DoE in the aforesaid matter titled Modern School Vs. Union of India and Others in paras 27 and 28 in case of private unaided schools situated on the land allotted by DDA at concessional rates that:

“27....

(c) *It shall be the duty of the Director of Education to ascertain whether terms of allotment of land by the Government to the schools have been complied with...*

28. *We are directing the Director of Education to look into the letters of allotment issued by the Government and ascertain whether they (terms and conditions of land allotment) have been complied with by the schools.....*

.....If in a given case, Director finds non-compliance of above terms, the Director shall take appropriate steps in this regard.”

AND WHEREAS, the Hon’ble High Court of Delhi vide its judgement dated 19.01.2016 in writ petition No. 4109/2013 in the matter of Justice for All versus Govt. of NCT of Delhi and Others, has reiterated the aforesaid directions of the Hon’ble Supreme Court and has directed the DoE to ensure compliance of terms, if any, in the letter of allotment regarding the increase of the fee by recognized unaided schools to whom land has been allotted by DDA/ land owning agencies.

AND WHEREAS, accordingly, the DoE vide order No. F.DE.15 (40)/PSB/2019/4440-4412 dated 08.06.2022, directing all the private unaided recognized schools, running on the land allotted by DDA/other land-owning agencies on concessional rates or otherwise, with the condition to seek prior approval of DoE for increase in fee, to submit their proposals, if any, for prior sanction, for increase in fee for the academic session 2022-23.

AND WHEREAS, in pursuance to order dated 08.06.2022 of the DOE, the school submitted its proposal for increase of fee for the academic session 2022-23. Accordingly, this order dispenses the proposal for increase of fee submitted by the school for the academic session 2022-23.

AND WHEREAS, in order to examine the proposals submitted by the schools for fee increase for justifiability or not, the DoE has evaluated the fee increase proposals of the School carefully in accordance with the provisions of the DSEAR, 1973, and other Orders/ Circulars issued from time to time by the DoE.

AND WHEREAS, in the process of examination of fee increase proposal filed by the aforesaid School for the academic session 2022-23, necessary records and explanations were also called from the school through email. Further, the school was also provided an opportunity of being heard on 09th May 2023 to present its justifications/clarifications on fee increase proposal including audited financial statements and based on the discussion, school was further asked to submit necessary documents and clarification on various issues noted. In the aforesaid personal hearing, compliance of Order No. 15/(325)/PSB/2021/2087-2091 dated 21.04.2022 issued for FY 2019-20 were also discussed with the school and the school’s submissions were taken on record.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of clarification as well as documents uploaded on the web portal for the fee hike post personal hearing, the fee hike proposal was evaluated by DOE and the key suggestions noted for improvement by the school are hereunder:

A. Financial Suggestions for Improvement

1. The Accounting Standard 15 - ‘Employee Benefits’ issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India states “*Accounting for defined benefit plans is complex because actuarial assumptions are required to measure the obligation and the expense and there is a possibility of actuarial gains and losses.*”

Further, Para 7.14 of the Accounting Standard 15 defined Plan assets as:

- (a) *assets held by a long-term employee benefit fund; and*
- (b) *qualifying insurance policies.”*

The Directorate in its Order No. 15/(325)/PSB/2022/2087-2091 dated 21.04.2022 issued for FY 2019-20, directed the school to obtain actuarial valuation of its liability towards gratuity and leave encashment and record provision for gratuity and leave encashment in its books of account in accordance with the actuarial valuation report and also invest an amount equivalent to liability determined by the actuary in plan assets as per the requirement of AS-15 issued by ICAI.

On review of audited financial statements for FY 2019-20 to 2021-22, it is noted that the school has obtained actuarial valuation report of its liability towards gratuity for FY 2021-22 and has made correct provision for gratuity in its books of accounts in FY 2021-22. However, the school has not invested any amount in Plan Assets as defined in AS-15. Further, the school has not recorded any liability for leave encashment.

Accordingly, the amount proposed by the school of INR 12,65,000 in its budget for the retirement benefit (gratuity) has not been considered while deriving the fund position of the school because the school has not made any investment in Plan assets as per the requirement of AS-15 issued by ICAI.

Therefore, the school is directed to obtain actuarial valuation of its liability towards leave encashment and record provision for leave encashment in its books of account in accordance with the actuarial valuation report. Also, the school is directed to invest an amount equivalent to liability determined by the actuary in plan assets as per the requirement of AS-15 issued by ICAI within 30 days from the date of issue of this order.

B. Other Suggestions for Improvement

1. Clause 19 of Order No. F.DE./15(56)/Act/2009/778 dated 11.02.2009 states "*The tuition fee shall be so determined as to cover the standard cost of establishment including provisions for DA, bonus, etc., and all terminal, benefits as also the expenditure of revenue nature concerning the curricular activities.*"

Further clause 21 of the aforesaid order states, "*No annual charges shall be levied unless they are determined by the Managing Committee to cover all revenue expenditure, not included in the tuition fee and 'overheads' and expenses on play-grounds, sports equipment, cultural and other co-curricular activities as distinct from the curricular activities of the school.*"

Rule 176 - 'Collections for specific purposes to be spent for that purpose' of the DSER, 1973 states "*Income derived from collections for specific purposes shall be spent only for such purpose.*"

Para no. 22 of Order No. F.DE./15(56)/ Act/2009/778 dated 11.02.2009 states "*Earmarked levies will be calculated and collected on 'no-profit no loss' basis and spent only for the purpose for which they are being charged.*"

Sub-rule 3 of Rule 177 of DSER, 1973 states "*Funds collected for specific purposes, like sports, co-curricular activities, subscriptions for excursions or subscriptions for magazines, and annual charges, by whatever name called, shall be spent solely for the exclusive benefit of the students of the concerned school and shall not be included in the savings referred to in sub-rule (2).*"

Further, Sub-rule 4 of the said rule states "*The collections referred to in sub-rule (3) shall be administered in the same manner as the monies standing to the credit of the Pupils Fund as administered.*"



Also, earmarked levies collected from students are a form of restricted funds, which, according to Guidance Note-21 'Accounting by Schools' issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, are required to be credited to a separate fund account when the amount is received and reflected separately in the Balance Sheet.

The aforementioned Guidance Note-21 also lays down the concept of fund-based accounting for restricted funds, whereby upon incurrance of expenditure, the same is charged to the Income and Expenditure Account ('Restricted Funds' column) and a corresponding amount is transferred from the concerned restricted fund account to the credit of the Income and Expenditure Account ('Restricted Funds' column).

On review of audited financial statements, it was noted that the school charges earmarked levies in the form of Transport Fees, Pupil Fund, Lab Fees and Smart Class fee from students. However, the school has maintained separate fund accounts for these earmarked levies, but the school has been generating surplus from these earmarked levies and has been utilised for meeting other expenses of the school or has been incurring losses (deficit), which has been met from other fees/income. Details of the calculation of surplus/ deficit, based on breakup of expenditure provided by the school for FY 2019-20 to 2021-22 is given below:

Particulars	Transport Fee	Pupil Fund	Lab Fee	Smart Class Fee
For the year 2019-20				
Fee Collected during the year (A)	3,91,150	3,73,413	4,64,171	7,22,528
Expenses during the year (B)	3,94,726	3,81,088	4,64,171	7,27,978
Difference for the year (A-B)	-3,576	-7,675	-	-5,450
For the year 2020-21				
Fee Collected during the year (A)	-	13,944	46,120	-
Expenses during the year (B)	1,01,767	3,815	5,985	-
Difference for the year (A-B)	-1,01,767	10,129	40,135	-
For the year 2021-22				
Fee Collected during the year (A)	-	2,62,220	4,02,212	-
Expenses during the year (B)	5,940	2,65,080	-	-
Difference for the year (A-B)	-5,940	-2,860	4,02,212	-
Total	-1,11,283	-406	4,42,347	-5,450

Based on the above, earmarked levies are to be collected only from the user students availing the service/facility. In other words, if any service/facility has been extended to all the students of the school, a separate charge should not be levied for the service/facility as the same would get covered either under tuition fee (expenses on curricular activities) or annual charges (expenses other than those covered under tuition fee). The charging of unwarranted fee or charging of any other amount/fee under different heads other than prescribed and accumulation of surplus fund thereof prima-facie is considered as collection of capitation fee in other manner and form.

Therefore, the school is directed to evaluate costs against each earmarked levy and propose the fee structure for earmarked levies during subsequent years proposal for enhancement of fee ensuring that the proposed levies have been calculated on a no-profit no-loss basis and not to include fee collected from all students as earmarked levies. Also, the school should appropriately report income from each earmarked levy together with expenses incurred against the same in its audited financial statements following the fund-based accounting.

2. The Directorate of Education in its Order No. DE.15/Act/Duggal.Com/ 203/99/23033-23980 dated 15.12.1999 indicated the heads of fee/ fund that recognised private unaided school can collect from the students/ parents which include:

- Registration Fee
- Admission Fee
- Caution Money
- Tuition Fee
- Annual Charges
- Earmarked Levies
- Development Fee

Further clause no. 9 of the aforementioned order states “No fee fund or any other charge by whatever name called shall be levied or realised unless it is determined by the Managing Committee in accordance with the directions contained in this order”

The aforementioned order was also upheld by the Hon’ble Supreme Court in the case of Modern School vs Union of India & Others.

The Directorate in its Order No. 15/(325)/PSB/2022/2087-2091 dated 21.04.2022 issued for FY 2019-20, directed the school not to collect Pupil Fund’ & “facility charges from students with immediate effect.

However, from the examination of the record of the school, it was noted that the school is collecting pupil fund from all the students and no break-up of cost of utilization of pupil fund is identifiable from the financial statements. Details of collection and utilization of pupil fund provided by the school for FY 2019-20 to 2021-22 is provided below.

Particulars	Pupil Fund
For the year 2019-20	
Fee Collected during the year (A)	3,73,413
Expenses during the year (B)	3,81,088
Difference for the year (A-B)	-7,675
For the year 2020-21	
Fee Collected during the year (A)	13,944
Expenses during the year (B)	3,815
Difference for the year (A-B)	10,129
For the year 2021-22	
Fee Collected during the year (A)	2,62,220
Expenses during the year (B)	2,65,080
Difference for the year (A-B)	-2,860
Total	-406

Further, in the fee structure submitted by the school with fee increase proposal, that it is noted that the school is collecting INR 5,000 per annum per student as “AC facility charges” which is also not in compliance with the recommendation of the Duggal committee.

The fee head namely ‘Pupil Fund’ and ‘AC facility charges’ has not been defined for recognized private unaided school and the purposes for which the school has been utilizing this may get

covered either from the tuition fee or from the annual Charges. The charging of unwarranted fee or charging of any other amount/fee thereof prima-facie is considered as collection of capitation fee in other manner and form. Therefore, the school is directed not to collect Pupil Fund' & "facility charges from students with immediate effect and submit the compliance report within 30 days from the date of issue of this order.

3. As per Clause 14 of this Directorate's Order No. F.DE./15 (56)/ Act/2009/778 dated 11.02. 2009 states "*Development fee, not exceeding 15% of the total annual tuition fee may be charged for supplementing the resources for purchase, up gradation and replacement of furniture, fixtures and equipment. Development Fee, if required to be charged, shall be treated as capital receipt and shall be collected only if the school is maintaining a Depreciation Reserve Fund, equivalent to the depreciation charged in the revenue accounts and the collection under this head along with and income generated from the investment made out of this fund, will be kept in a separately maintained Development fund Account.*"

As per Para 99 of Guidance Note-21 Accounting by Schools (2005) issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India states "*Where the fund is meant for meeting capital expenditure, upon incurrance of the expenditure, the relevant asset account is debited which is depreciated as per the recommendations contained in this Guidance Note. Thereafter, the concerned restricted fund account is treated as deferred income, to the extent of the cost of the asset, and is transferred to the credit of the income and expenditure account in proportion to the depreciation charged every year.*"

Para 102 of the aforementioned Guidance Note-21 also states "*In respect of funds, schools should disclose the following in the schedules/notes to accounts:*

(a) *In respect of each major fund, opening balance, additions during the period, deductions/utilisation during the period and balance at the end.*

(b) *Assets, such as investments, and liabilities belonging to each fund separately.*

(c) *Restrictions, if any, on the utilisation of each fund balance.*

(d) *Restrictions, if any, on the utilisation of specific assets.*"

The Directorate in its Order No. 15/(325)/PSB/2022/2087-2091 dated 21.04.2022 issued for FY 2019-20, directed the school to follow the requirement of clause 14 and accounting treatment specified under Guidance Note-21 issued by ICAI and maintain a separate bank account for deposit of development fund and accordingly utilize it purchase, up gradation and replacement of furniture, fixtures and equipment.

However, on review of the audited financial statements of the school of FY 2019-20 to 2021-22, the school is not treating development fee as capital receipt and has utilized part of the development fund for meeting salary expenditure of the school. Further, the school has not opened to separate bank account for collection and keeping of the development fund balance.

Further, no disclosure is given on the face of the balance sheet for "Fund utilized against assets", which should be equal to the cost of all assets purchased out of the development fund and this account should be written off in the proportion of depreciation charge to income and expenditure account which the school has not been following.

Therefore, the school is directed to follow the requirement of clause 14 and accounting treatment specified under Guidance Note-21 issued by ICAI and maintain a separate bank account for deposit and utilization of development fund. Further, the school should ensure that the development fund is utilized only towards the purchase of furniture, fixture and equipment not for other purposes.

After detailed examination of all the material on record and considering the clarification submitted by the school, it was finally evaluated/ concluded that:

- i. The total funds available for the FY 2022-23 amounting to INR **1,26,06,261** out of which cash outflow in the FY 2022-23 is estimated to be INR **1,46,49,104**. This results in deficit of INR **20,42,842** for FY 2022-23 after all payments. The details are as follows:

Particulars	Amount (in Rs.)
Cash and Bank balances as on 31.03.22 as per Audited Financial Statements	2,09,929
Investments as on 31.03.22 as per Audited Financial Statements	2,00,362
Liquid Funds as on 31.03.2022	4,10,291
Add: Fees for FY 2021-22 as per Audited Financial Statements	1,14,28,047
Add: Other Income for FY 2021-22 as per Audited Financial Statements (Refer Note 2 Below)	1,63,507
Add: Additional Income of Annual Charges and Development Fund (Refer Note 3 Below)	3,72,576
Add: Additional Fees due to increase in fee @5% from 01.07.2022 (Refer Note 4 Below)	4,32,203
Total Available Funds for FY 2022-23	1,28,06,624
Less: FDR in the joint name of Manager, School and the Secretary, CBSE as on 31.03.2022 (Refer Note 1 Below)	2,00,362
Net Available Funds for FY 2022-23 (A)	1,26,06,262
Less: Budgeted expenses for the session 2022-23 (Refer Note 5 Below)	1,40,24,916
Less: Salary arrears as per 7th CPC (Refer Note 5 and 6 below)	6,24,188
Total budgeted expenditure (B)	1,46,49,104
Net Deficit (A-B)	20,42,842

Note 1: The detail of fixed deposit held by the school as per the audited financial statements for the FY 2021-22 is provided below:

Particulars	Amount (in INR)	Remarks
FDR in the joint name of CBSE & School	2,00,362	Deducted while calculating available funds of the school.
Total	2,00,362	

Note 2: All fee and other income as per audited financial statements for the FY 2021-22 have been considered with the assumption that the amount received in FY 2021-22 will at least accrue during FY 2022-23.

Note 3: The Department vide its Order No.F.No.PS/DE/2020/55 dated 18.04.2020 and Order No.F.No.PS/DE/2020/3224-3231 dated 28.08.2020 had issued guidelines regarding the chargeability of fees during the pandemic COVID 2019. The department in both the above-mentioned orders directed to the management of all the private schools not to collect any fee except the tuition fee irrespective of the fact whether running on the private land or government land allotted by DDA/other land-owning agencies and not to increase any fee in FY 2020-21 till further direction.

The department in pursuance of the order dated 31.05.2021 in WPC 7526/2020 of Single Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and interim order dated 07.06.2021 in LPA 184/2021 of the Division Bench of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and to prevent the profiteering and commercialization, again directed to the management of all the petitioners private unaided recognized schools through its Order No. F. No. DE.15 (114) /PSB /2021 /2165-2174 dated 01.07.2021:

- (i) "to collect annual school fee (only all permitted heads of fees) from their students as fixed under the DSEAR,1973 for the academic year 2020-21, but by providing deduction of 15% on that amount in lieu of unutilized facilities by the students during the relevant period of academic year 2020-21". And if the school has collected the fee in excess to the direction issued by the Hon'ble Court, the same shall be refunded to the parents or adjusted in the subsequent month of fee or refund to the parents.
- (ii) The amount so payable by the concerned students be paid in six equal monthly instalments w.e.f. 10.06.2021.

From review of the audited financial statements for the FY 2021-22 and based on the further information provided by the school post personal hearing, it has been noted that the school has reported 100% of the tuition fees and annual charges and development fees at 85% in its audited financial statements of FY 2021-22. Therefore, the income collected by the school during the FY 2021-22 with respect to tuition fee, annual charges and development fees has been grossed up to make comparative income with the FY 2022-23. The detailed calculation has been provided below:

Table A

Particulars	Income as per Audited Income & Expenditure Account for the FY 2021-22	Income Considered while deriving the fund position for the FY 2022-23	Remarks
Tuition fee	86,39,363	86,39,363	As per the information provided by the school, Annual Charges and Development Charges collected in FY 2021-22 at the rate of 85% in compliance of the Directorate's order dated 01.07.2021 and thus, difference amount of INR 3,72,576 has been considered.
Annual Charges	12,30,249	14,47,352	
Development Charges	8,81,014	10,36,487	
Total	1,07,50,626	1,11,23,202	

Note 4: The school was allowed to increase fee 5% vide order No. 15/(325)/PSB/2022/2087-2091 dated 21.04.2022 issued for FY 2019-20 from 1st July, 2022. The school has submitted that it has increased the fee @5% from 1st July 2022. Accordingly, additional income on account of fee increase will also accrue to the school in FY 2022-23 and thus, following amount has been considered as funds available with the school:

Fee heads	Actual receipt in FY 2021-22	Grossed Up	Total Expected Fee	Increased fee (with fee increase @5% for 9 months)
Tuition fees	86,39,363	-	86,39,363	89,63,339

Annual Charges	12,30,249	2,17,103	14,47,352	12,84,525
Development Charges	8,81,014	1,55,473	10,36,487	9,19,882
Lab Fee	4,02,212	-	4,02,212	4,17,295
Total	1,11,52,838	3,72,576	1,15,25,414	1,15,85,041
Impact of fee increase				4,32,203

Note 5: All budgeted expenditure proposed by the school has been considered while deriving the fund position of the school except the following:

Head of Expenditure	2022-23 (in INR)	Amount disallowed (in INR)	Remarks
Gratuity	12,65,000	12,65,000	The school has not made investment in Plan assets as is prescribed in AS-15, therefore amount proposed by the school has not been considered.
Salary Teaching Staff	1,19,00,000	14,26,810	Restricted to 130% of expenditure incurred in FY 2021-22
Annual function	2,00,000	2,00,000	Restricted to 110% of expenditure incurred in FY 2021-22
Staff and guest expenses	75,000	49,500	
Teaching Aid	50,000	22,500	
Electricity and water charges	3,00,000	1,43,800	
Horticulture expenses	2,50,000	1,33,400	
Advertisement Expenses	1,00,000	94,820	
Building & Furniture Repair Expenses	5,00,000	2,15,254	
Salary arrears as per 7th CPC	30,00,000	30,00,000	
Pupil Fund Expenses	3,37,000	3,37,000	Neither Income nor expense has been considered on the assumption that earmarked levies are collected on no profit no loss basis
Vehicle Running Expenses	1,75,000	1,75,000	
Total	1,81,52,000	70,63,084	

Note 6: In accordance with Section 10(1) of Delhi School Education Act 1973, scales of pay and allowance, medical facilities, pension gratuity, provident fund, and other prescribed benefits of the employees of a recognized private school shall not be less than those of the employees of the corresponding status in schools run by the appropriate authority.

Further, Directorate of Education has adopted the Central Civil Serviced (Revised Pay) Rules, 2016 vide Circular No 30-3(17)/(12)/VII pay Comm./2016/11006-11016 dated 19.08.2016 and No. 30-3(17)/(12)/VII pay Comm./Coord./2016/12659-12689 dated 14.10.2016 for employees of Government Schools.

Further, in exercise of the powers conferred under clause (xviii) of Rule 50 of the Delhi School Education Rules, 1973, vide Competent Authority order No DE.15 (318)/PDB/2016/18117, dated 25.08.2017, the managing committees of all Private unaided Recognized Schools have already been directed to implement central Civil Services (Revised Pay) Rule, 2016 in respect of the regular employees of the corresponding status with effect from 01.01.2016 (for the purpose of pay fixation and

arrears). Further, guidelines/detailed instructions for implementation of 7th CPC recommendations in Private Un-aided Recognized Schools of Delhi has been issued vide DOE order dated 17.10.2017.

The school has submitted 7th CPC arrears for 5 teachers. 4 out of 5 are already retired and full and final settlement has been made. Moreover, the school has not implemented the recommendations of 7th CPC despite directions were given to the school vide order No. 15/(325)/PSB/2022/2087-2091 dated 21.04.2022 issued for FY 2019-20 but the school has not implemented the same and even has not provided the salary arrears liability in the financial statements. However, salary arrears of remaining staff amounting to INR 6,24,188 has been considered in the funds availability position of the school. Moreover, as per school's reply during hearing, the school has implemented the recommendations of 7th CPC partially. Thus, the school is again directed to implement the recommendations of 7th CPC in full within 30 days from the date of issue of this order. A strict action against the school would be initiated u/s 24(3) of DSEA, 1973 for non-compliance with the direction cited above.

- ii. In view of the above examination, it is evident that the school does not have adequate funds to carry on its operation for the academic session 2022-23 on the existing fee structure. In this regard, Directorate of Education has already issued directions to the schools vide order dated 16.04.2010 that,

“All Schools must, first of all, explore and exhaust the possibility of utilising the existing funds/reserves to meet any shortfall in payment of salary and allowances, as a consequence of increase in the salary and allowance of the employees. A part of the reserve fund which has not been utilised for years together may also be used to meet the shortfall before proposing a fee increase.”

AND WHEREAS, in the light of the provisions of DSEA, 1973, DSER, 1973, guidelines, orders and circulars issued from time to time by this Directorate, the proposal of the school for the session 2022-23 have been evaluated and certain financial suggestions have been identified (appropriate financial impact has been taken on the fund position of the school) and certain procedural suggestions which were also noted (appropriate instruction against which have been given in this order) that the sufficient funds are not available with the school to carry out its operations for the academic session 2022-23. Accordingly, the fee increase proposal of the school is accepted.

AND WHEREAS, considering the financial situation and existing deficiencies and keeping in view that salary and other employee's benefits can be paid to the teachers and staff smoothly, the fee hike is allowed to the school with the suggestions for improvement. The school is hereby further directed that the additional income received on account of increase fee should be utilized at first instance only for payment of salary and salary arrears and submit the compliance report within 30 days from the date of issue of this order.

AND WHEREAS, it is relevant to mention charging of any arrears on account of fee for several months from the parents is not advisable, not only because of the additional sudden burden fall upon the parents/students but also as per the past experience, the benefit of such collected arrears is not passed to the teachers and staff in most of the cases as was observed by the Justice Anil Dev Singh Committee (JADSC) during the implementation of the 6th CPC. Keeping this in view, and exercising the powers conferred under Rule 43 of DSER, 1973, the Director (Education) has accepted the proposal submitted by the school and allowed an increase in fee by 10% to be effective from 01 April 2023.

AND WHEREAS, the fee proposal of the school alongwith relevant materials were put before the Director of Education for consideration and who after considering all the material on the record, and after considering the provisions of section 17 (3), 18(5), 24(1) of the DSEA, 1973 read with Rules 172, 173, 175 and 177 of the DSER, 1973 has found that funds are not available with the school for meeting financial implication for the academic session 2022-23. Hence, for smooth payment of salaries and other employee's benefit, the fee hike is required to the school.

AND WHEREAS, the act of the school of charging unwarranted free or any other amount/fee under head other than the prescribed head of fee and accumulation of surplus fund thereof tantamount to profiteering and commercialization of education as well as charging of capitation fee in other form.



AND WHEREAS, the school is directed, henceforth to take necessary corrective steps on the financial and other suggestion noted during the above evaluation process and submit the compliance report within 30 days from the date of issue of this order to the D.D.E (PSB).

Accordingly, it is hereby conveyed that the proposal for fee hike of **Decent Public School, B-Block Sector-3, Rohini, New Delhi- 110085 (School ID- 1413203)** filed by the school in response to the Order No. F.DE.-15(40)/PSB/2019/4440-4412 dated 08.06.2022 for the academic session 2022-23, is accepted by the Director (Education) with the above conclusion and suggestions and the school is allowed to increase the fee by 10% for session 2022-23 to be effective from 01.04.2023.

Further, the management of said School is hereby directed under section 24(3) of DSEA&R 1973 to comply with the following directions:

1. To increase the fee only by the prescribed percentage from the specified date i.e. 01.04.2023.
2. To ensure payment of salary is made in accordance with the provision of Section 10(1) of the DSEA, 1973. Further, the scarcity of funds cannot be the reason for non-payment of salary and other benefits admissible to the teachers/ staffs in accordance with section 10 (1) of the DSEA, 1973. Therefore, the Society running the school must ensure payment to teachers/ staffs accordingly.
3. To utilize the fee collected from students in accordance with the provisions of Rule 177 of the DSER, 1973 and orders and directions issued by this Directorate from time to time.

Non-compliance of this order or any direction herein shall be viewed seriously and will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of section 24(4) of Delhi School Education Act, 1973 and Delhi School Education Rules, 1973.

This is issued with the prior approval of the Competent Authority.

Nandini

(Nandini Maharaj)
Additional Director of Education
(Private School Branch)
Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi

To
The Manager/ HoS
Decent Public School,
B-Block Sector-3, Rohini,
New Delhi- 110085 (School ID- 1413203)

No. F.DE.15 ¹⁴⁰⁷ (*)/PSB/2023 / 4903-4907

Dated: 31/05/23

Copy to:

1. P.S. to Principal Secretary (Education), Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi.
2. P.S. to Director (Education), Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi.
3. DDE North West-B (II) ensure the compliance of the above order by the school management.
4. In-charge (I.T Cell) with the request to upload on the website of this Directorate.
5. Guard file.

Nandini

(Nandini Maharaj)
Additional Director of Education
(Private School Branch)
Directorate of Education, GNCT of Delhi