

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ASSAM SECRETARIAT, DISPUR

No. PMA. 627/2010/258

Dated Dispur the 24th Feb, 2014

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub : Neighbourhood Norm

Subsequent to the adoption of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, Government of Assam framed the Rules there under dated 11th of July, 2011 and the Act came into force in the state from 1st April, 2010.

And whereas, under the provision of the said Act the neighbourhood is defined in the Part-III(4) of the THE ASSAM RIGHT OF CHILDREN TO FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION RULES, 2011.

As per provision of the Act, every Child of the age group of 6-14 years, shall have a right to free and Compulsory Education in the neighbourhood till completion of Elementary Education. The area or limits of neighbourhood shall be as follows:

"The areas or limits of neighbourhood within which a school has to be established by the State Government or the Autonomous Council, as the case may be, shall be as under :-

- (a) In respect of children in Classes I-V, a school shall be established within a walking distance of one km. of the neighbourhood, with a Child Population of at least 30 Children in normal area and at least 20 children in a special focus area Viz. Char, Tea-Garden etc. within the age group of 6-11 Years, having at least a population of 200 in the habitation. The population norm will be reduced to 80 in case of habitations located in hilly, forest and remote areas of the state, notified by the deputy Commissioner of being so.
- (b) In respect of children in classes VI-VIII, a school shall be established within a walking distance of 3 km. of the neighbourhood with not less than 45 Children within the age group of 11-14 Years, having at least a population of 500 in the catchment area. The population norm will be reduced to 200 in case of habitations located in hilly, forest and remote areas of the state, notified by the Deputy Commissioner of being so.
- (c) The maximum number of student strength will be 300 in a Lower Primary School, while the same will be 500 for an Upper Primary School.
- (d) State Government or Autonomous Council, as the case may be, may establish more Schools or expand or upgrade the existing Schools in any neighbourhood of a School, if the need arises, keeping in view any increase in enrolment in existing School above the maximum student strength limit or increase in child population of 6-14 years age group in that neighbourhood.
- (e) In case of the distance criterion, the minimum criterion for opening of a Lower Primary Schools may be reduced below 1km if any natural barrier or National High Way or Railway track is there on the route to the School, which poses a threat to the safety of the small children. The same is to be notified by the Deputy Commissioner of being so.

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(2)

- (f) In case of the urban areas, the population in a neighbourhood will be 300 for Lower Primary and for Upper Primary, the same will be 500 for Upper Primary Schools.
- (g) A Lower Primary School will be eligible to enrol a maximum of 150 Children in urban area, where as the same will be 210 for UP schools in an urban area.
- (h) In case of Char area, the distance norm for Lower Primary Schools will be reduced to ½ KM and for Upper Primary, it will be two KM. But population norm will be same as of a general area, as mentioned at (a) and (b) above.

Sd./- Subhash Ch. Das, IAS
Additional Chief-Secretary to the Government of Assam
Education Department

Memo No. PMA. 627/2010/258-A

Dated, Dispur the 24th February, 2014

Copy to :

1. All Deputy Commissioners.
2. Mission Director, SSA, Assam, Kahilipara, Guwahati – 781 019
3. Principal Secretary, Bodoland Territorial Council, Kokrajhar/Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, Diphu/Dima Hasao Autonomous Council, Haflong.
4. Joint Secretary, Finance (EC-III) Department, Assam Secretariat, Dispur.
5. Director, Elementary Education, Assam, Kahilapara, Guwahati-781 019. He is requested to circulate it to all DEEOs immediately.
6. Director, Education, BTC, Kokrajhar.
7. OSD to the Hon'ble Minister, Education, Assam, Dispur for information of the Hon'ble Minister.

By order etc.,



(P. Lahon, ACS)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of Assam
Elementary Education Department.