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CBSE issues notice, warns schools to ensure no homework policy till classes II

New Delhi: Central Board of Secondary Education, CBSE has issued a notice to all the affiliated schools, asking them to ensure that no homework policy was implemented diligently for Classes I and II. As per the notice sent to all CBSE schools on August 13, the board has asked schools to ensure that the NCERT regulations which govern the curriculum of CBSE schools for Classes I to VIII on light bag and no homework rule for Class 1 and 2 is implemented.

The circular comes after the notice of Madras HC to CBSE, asking it to ensure that the advisories sent out by the board is effectively implemented. Furthermore, the Madras HC yesterday ordered CBSE to publicise the no homework rule in media, so as to educate and inform the parents regarding the advisory.

The order was passed by Justice N Kirubakaran in response to the plea by advocate M Purushothaman. It was asked of the CBSE to follow the syllabus as prescribed by NCERT books and also implement it across the country. CBSE had then in response provided copies of the circulars dated September 15, 2004, and September 12, 2016 which mandated that there should not be any homework assigned to the students of classes 1 and 2.

Schools affiliated to CBSE are required to satisfy the no school bag and no homework for students upto Class 2 as per the CBSE affiliation bylaws. The notice issued further states, "It is also reiterated that since NCERT is an academic authority for classes 1 to 8, all schools may ensure that CBSE circular dated April 17, 2007, on reducing the satchel load and homework for children, is scrupulously followed."

The High Court has asked CBSE to ensure that not only should it issue the advisory but also place checks and take measures to publicise the rule so as to ensure its implementation. The judge said, "People are considering CBSE as a premier board, but it is unfortunate that you do not even have a system to check such violations." Further, the Judge added that, "As you said there were over 18,000 schools affiliated to CBSE, but the board has a staff strength of only 1,200. With such a low staff how could you ensure implementation of rules."

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