



Regd. No. 14/1957-58

अखिल भारतीय प्राथमिक शिक्षक संघ ALL INDIA PRIMARY TEACHERS' FEDERATION

DELHI OFFICE

Shikshak Bhawan, 41, Institutional Area, D-Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058, INDIA
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July 27, 2020

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To,
Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' Ji
Hon'ble Minister,
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi -110001

Sub.: Accessibility of On-line Education and other Challenges

Respected Sh. Nishank Ji,

Greetings from AIPTF on behalf of 2.3 million primary teachers.

We appreciate your visionary approach and steps taken by your good office to ensure that children receive education in spite of lockdowns to curb the spread of corona virus. The on-line teaching for elementary schools to maintain the continuity of learning process has some benefits but more demerits.

In this context we reviewed the status of on-line teaching for public schools with our 24 state affiliates through series of webinars. The state teachers and their leaders have raised their concerns. The All India Primary Teacher's Federation is being represented by these states raises the following issues for immediate action from the Government:

- It has been found that only 15%-20% children in the rural areas are benefitted by on-line classes. Whereas in urban areas it is only 30-40% children are benefitting. The All India Primary Teacher's Federation expresses its concern over a deepening digital-divide between the students and parents which is not healthy for a just and humane society;
- Experts have echoed their concerns that On-line teaching is adversely affecting the mental and physical well-being of children therefore we demand that on-line classes for elementary classes should be stopped with immediate effect and conducting small sized classes with 8-10 children in each class to ensure continuity of learning should be started with proper preventive measures;
- It has been noticed that many teachers miss the opportunity to equip themselves due to lack resources like smart phones, internet etc. Considering the situation, the All India Primary Teacher's Federation demands that teachers should be provided necessary equipment/tools before imparting training. We demand that till then, trainings should be either postponed or stopped till further notification;
- We demand that schools which were used as quarantine centers should be sanitized first before teachers or students come to schools to check the spread of virus; You may be aware that schools do not have Hand-washing facilities, lack of functional toilets, poor infrastructure for social distancing etc. and it is mandatory to ensure all these facilities before re-opening of schools;



Contd.....2/-



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- We would like to draw your attention that teachers played an equally important role like other corona warriors in distributing ration, food and other tasks which were assigned by the government during the lock down and lost their lives also. We seek justice for the teaching community that they should be included in the list of "Corona Warriors" and teachers should be brought under the scheme of insurance of Rs. 50 lakhs in case of emergencies.
- It has been reported from the states that teachers were not paid salary and in certain cases duration is more than 4-5 months. It is very unfortunate that their rights are denied, some of the teachers have committed suicides due to financial crunch; therefore the All India Primary Teacher's Federation demands from Central and state governments to make necessary arrangements to release their salaries immediately;

We seek to initiate a dialogue with government authorities on implementing policy matters in the post pandemic phase which is directly related to teachers and students. A healthy dialogue with teachers' organization will ensure effective implementation of policies and teaching fraternity will feel elated if their perspective in the classroom teaching is considered before decision-making.

We are hopeful that you will give attention of our concerns and strengthen public education system in the country and will be pro-active in curbing the role of private players in education.

With best regards

(Ram Pal Singh)
President-AIPTF

Copy to :

1. Hon'ble Chief Ministers of Concerned States
2. The President/General Secretary of State Affiliates
3. Chief Coordinator, EI-Asia Pacific Region

