

മേലേഴുത്ത് നം.DTETVM/10294/2025-C1 (ACA) തീയതി : 18-03-2026

സൂചന:- 25.02.2026 തീയതിയിലെ സർക്കാർ കത്ത് നമ്പർ.K3/153/2023-HEDN നമ്പർ കത്ത് .

സർക്കാർ ടെക്നിക്കൽ സ്കൂളുകളിലെ സ്കൂൾ പ്രൊട്ടക്ഷൻ ഗ്രൂപ്പുകളുടെ രൂപീകരണവുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട മാർഗ്ഗനിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളടങ്ങിയ ഉത്തരവിന്റെ പകർപ്പ് അറിവിലേക്കും ആവശ്യമായ തുടർനടപടികൾക്കുമായി ഇതോടൊപ്പം ഉള്ളടക്കം ചെയ്യുന്നു.

Digitally signed by
ANI ABRAHAM
Date: 18-03-2026

ANI ABRAHAM
SENIOR JOINT DIRECTOR (PS)

23:31:13,
നവംബർ 18, 2026

എല്ലാ ടെക്നിക്കൽ ഹൈസ്കൂൾ സൂപ്രണ്ടുമാർക്കും ജീവനക്കാർക്കും
(www.dtekerala.gov.in വെബ്സൈറ്റ് മുഖേന)

"ഭരണഭാഷ- മാതൃഭാഷ"



കേരള സർക്കാർ

ഉന്നതവിദ്യാഭ്യാസ (കെ) വകുപ്പ്

25-02-2026,തിരുവനന്തപുരം

നമ്പർ : K3/153/2023-HEDN

പ്രിൻസിപ്പൽ സെക്രട്ടറി

സാങ്കേതിക വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ ഡയറക്ടർ,

തിരുവനന്തപുരം.

സർ,

വിഷയം:- ഉന്നതവിദ്യാഭ്യാസവകുപ്പ് - സ്കൂൾ പ്രൊട്ടക്ഷൻ ഗ്രൂപ്പുകൾ ആരംഭിക്കുന്നത് - സംബന്ധിച്ച്.

- സൂചന:- 1. G.O(Rt) 726/2026/GEDN Dated: 26-01-2026.
- 2. G.O(Rt) 915/2026/GEDN Dated: 31-01-2026.

സൂചനകളിലേയ്ക്ക് താങ്കളുടെ ശ്രദ്ധ ക്ഷണിക്കുന്നു. സ്കൂൾ പ്രൊട്ടക്ഷൻ ഗ്രൂപ്പുകളുടെ രൂപീകരണവുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട മാർഗ്ഗനിർദ്ദേശങ്ങളടങ്ങിയ സൂചന (2) ലെ ഉത്തരവിന്റെ പകർപ്പ് താങ്കളുടെ അറിവിലേക്കും ആവശ്യമായ തുടർനടപടികൾക്കുമായി ഇതോടൊപ്പം അയയ്ക്കുന്നു.

വിശ്വസ്തയോടെ,
 SANGEETHA S
 UNDER SECRETARY
 പ്രിൻസിപ്പൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയ്ക്കുവേണ്ടി

അംഗീകാരത്തോടെ

സെക്ഷൻ ഓഫീസർ.

**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA****Abstract**

General Education Department – School Protection Group -
Constituted – Orders issued.

GENERAL EDUCATION (G) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.915/2026/GEDN Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 31-01-2026

Read 1 Circular No.16/2011 dated 08.06.2011 of the State Police
Chief, Kerala

2 Standard Operating Procedure for Anti-drug Activities 2023
formulated by the Excise Department

3 Interim Order dated 23.07.2025, passed by the Hon'ble High
Court in WP(C) No.23505/2023 filed by Smt. Sumi
Joseph, Kothamangalam, Ernakulam

Interim Order dated 25.09.2025, passed by the Hon'ble High
4 Court in WP(C) No.23505/2023 filed by Smt. Sumi
Joseph, Kothamangalam, Ernakulam

Interim Orders dated 10.12.2025 and 06.01.2026, passed by
5 the Hon'ble High Court in WP(C) No.23505/2023 filed by
Smt. Sumi Joseph Kothamangalam,Ernakulam.

6 G.O.(Rt) No.726/2026/GEDN, Dated. 26.01.2026

ORDER

As per the order read as (3) above, "One of the aspects that we notice and emphasize is the functioning of School Protection Groups, which have also been constituted in colleges as College Protection Groups. These Groups have been formed pursuant to Circular No.16/2011 issued on 8 June 2011 by the State Police Chief. The Circular states that wherever possible the District Police Chief may take initiative to form School Protection Group for every

school where creation of such a group is feasible and this would be purely a voluntary effort without any compulsion on any one to form or join such a group. The School Protection Group may be chaired by the Head of the Institution or the President of the Parent Teacher Association; the Convener of the Group can be the local Station House Officer (SHO) and the Joint Convener may be a police officer designated by the SHO; the Group may include the Ward Member / Ward Councillor, school student leader, two willing parents, two willing teachers, one respectable merchant of the locality, one respectable auto driver and other respectable residents of the area and the duties of the Group are outlined as to collect and communicate information regarding selling and supply of drugs and narcotic substances amongst other illegal activities. These School Protection Groups have been formed in 300 schools in Kochi City. The remit of these School Protection Groups is to identify the issues not only regarding general discipline but also regarding the drug usage.

The Circular was issued almost 14 years ago. The statistics placed on record indicate a rise in related cases over the last decade. The State Government has considered that the concept initiated by the State Police Chief as a voluntary effort may be made formal with the inclusion of representatives of other departments of the State so that these School Protection Groups can be made more effective. More effectively, since the Commissioner of Police states that the information supplied by the School Protection Groups, who will be working at the ground level would aid the police authorities in tackling such issues, the learned Government Pleader states that this aspect will be placed before the Chief Secretary, who can then assign the same to the concerned Secretary of the State Government.

2. As per the order read as (4) above, "It appears, there are the school protection groups, Jagratha Samitis and anti narcotic clubs, all informal bodies with overlapping objects. It was decided that such situation will not yield any proper result and a unified formal mechanism of a single integrated protection group within schools, ensuring comprehensive coverage with focus on anti-drug awareness would be desirable. The Secretary of the General Education Department was directed to formulate and place the order in the next review meeting, which was scheduled to be held after one week.

Since a decision has already been taken that it would be desirable to have a unified formal mechanism from all stakeholders instead of informal groups working independently, we expect that a direction to form formal, integrated protection groups in each school would be issued by the next date of hearing ".

3. In the circumstances stated in the above court orders, Government have examined the matter in detail and are pleased to constitute the School Protection Group in each school as follows:-

Chairman	Head of the Institution
Convenor	The Station House Officer (SHO)
Joint Convenor	Child Welfare Police Officer / Designated Police Officer nominated by the SHO.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTA President • MPTA President • In Government School, a nominee from AEO/DEO • SMC Chairman • Staff Secretary • Two Teacher Representatives

Members

- School Leaders (representatives of boys and girls)
- School Counsellor
- School Parliament representatives
- Alumni Association representatives
- School Development Committee member
- Retired teachers
- Management representatives of aided and unaided schools
- Representatives of SPC/NCC/NSS/Scout & Guides
- Reputed retired personnel within the limits of the school.
- Fisheries department representatives in schools in tribal/coastal areas
- Various political party representatives
- Tradesmen representatives
- Ward member of the Local Government bodies where the school is located
- Representatives of merchants and auto drivers from the nearby area
- The Excise inspector of the concerned range office within the jurisdiction in which the school is situated or a representative nominated by the Excise Inspector

Special Invitees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Representative from Department of Health• Representative from Fire and Rescue Services• Representative from Women and Child Development department• Representative from Technical Education department• Representative from SC/ST department• Representative from Transport Department
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6. The approved Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the School Protection Group is enclosed herewith.
7. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the School Protection Group is also applicable to Technical High Schools under the Higher Education Department.
8. The Orders of Hon'ble High Court of Kerala read as 3rd, 4th and 5th papers above stand complied with accordingly.
9. The Government Order read as 6th paper above stands cancelled.

(By order of the Governor)
Dr Vasuki K I A S
SECRETARY

To:

The Advocate General, Government of Kerala

The State Police Chief, Thiruvananthapuram

The Director of General Education, Thiruvananthapuram

The Excise Commissioner, Thiruvananthapuram

All Deputy Directors of General Education

All District Educational Officers/ Assistant Educational Officers of
General Education

General Administration (SC) Department

Home Department

Excise Department

Taxes Department

Higher Education Department

Local Self Government department

Health & Family Welfare Department

Transport Department

Woman & Child Development Department

Fisheries Department

SC/ST Development Department

Law Department

Information and Public Relations (Web & New Media) Department (for
publishing in the official Website)

The Stock File/Office copy

Forwarded /By order

Section Officer

School Protection Group

Standard Operating Procedure

1. Background

Children represent the very essence of a society's future. They hold within them the potential to shape and transform the world. The incidents of substance use, POCSO cases, violence, suicidality, absenteeism, etc and disciplinary issues are increasingly reported from the schools. The extensive use of mobile, social media and internet addiction are also found high among school students. As such, it is incumbent upon parents, teachers, society at large, and all agencies entrusted with the care and protection of children to ensure they are afforded the optimal foundation in life. This collective responsibility necessitates a steadfast commitment to their well-being, growth, and development. Involvement of all key stakeholders including teachers, parents, students, local community; and related departments (Police, Education, Excise) are vital in addressing such issues.

2. School Protection Group -

School Protection Group (SPG) refers to various entities or initiatives aimed at ensuring the safety and security of children in schools. The SPG exist to safeguard students, and the school environment from various threats, including violence, and emergencies. The primary goal of school protection group is to create a secure environment conducive to learning and personal development. This may involve implementing safety protocols, conducting risk assessments, and providing training for school personnel and students.

Collaboration with local law enforcement, emergency services, mental health professionals, and other relevant stakeholders are often crucial for the effectiveness of school protection groups. Overall, school protection groups play a vital role in promoting safety and well-being of students and staff in educational settings and their efforts are essential for fostering a positive and secure learning environment.

The SPG shall be formed in schools where its creation is feasible, as per PHQ Circular No. 16/2011 dated 08-06-2011.

3. Vision & Mission

The vision of the project is to establish an intangible, yet formidable, wall of care and protection around every school child in Kerala. It aims to create a secure and nurturing environment that fosters their holistic development and safeguards them from potential risks and threats.

Specific objectives of the initiative are:

- Empowering children: Investing in a nurturing environment for building confidence, security, healthy relationships, wellbeing and happiness.
- Creating a Framework for Safety: Developing comprehensive guidelines for the security and protection of children in school.
- Engaging Stakeholders: Informing and equipping key contributors in monitoring school safety and security measures to ensure a safe and secure environment for children, both on and off school premises.

The following are the strategic framework for accomplishing such objectives:

- Strengthening Security Measures-Implementing stringent security protocols within schools, such as controlled access points, surveillance systems, and trained security personnel to ensure a safe and secure environment for children.
- Enhancing Awareness and Education - Conducting regular awareness programs for students, parents, and teachers on personal safety, cyber safety, and recognizing potential dangers, empowering them with the knowledge and skills to protect themselves.
- Collaborating with Law Enforcement - Establishing strong partnerships with law enforcement agencies to enhance security around schools, conduct regular patrols, and coordinate efforts to identify and apprehend individuals engaged in illegal or harmful activities near educational institutions.
- Ensuring Community Participation- Encouraging active involvement of community members, including neighbourhood associations, Parent-Teacher Associations, and local leaders, to create a collective responsibility and vigilance towards the safety of school children.
- Implementing Counselling and Supportive Services - Providing counselling services within schools to address the emotional and psychological well-being of children, equipping them with coping mechanisms and resilience against negative influences.
- Promoting Safe Transportation - Collaborating with transport authorities and implementing measures to ensure the safety of children during their commute to and from school, such as trained drivers, regular vehicle inspections, and enforcing strict adherence to traffic rules.
- Vigilance against social evils-Setting up a vigilant group to monitor supply of drugs, narcotics substances, pornographic materials, and other harmful substances in the vicinity of schools, and ensuring swift legal action against offenders.

- Encouraging Active Parental Involvement - Promoting parental engagement in their children's lives, emphasizing open communication, and encouraging parental participation in school activities and decision-making processes.
- The School Protection Groups will function as a first line defence against potential risks in and around the school premises thereby creating a safer learning environment conducive for the learning and personal development of the student community.
- It will act as an invisible wall of safety in deterrence and vigilance against drug mafias, drug peddling through students, identifying the early signs of drug use among students and any other physical, mental, economic and emotional exploitation of the children.
- Collect information about suspicious activities or persons attempting to exploit students and alert Police authorities for intervention. Absenteeism is decisive in many issues such as students' academic success, social development, and school discipline. The School Protection Groups will monitor the student absenteeism and loitering of students around the school and nearby premises.
- The collaboration between Police, Excise Department, General Education Department, Women and Child Development Department, Social Justice Department, Transport, LSGD educators, parents, NGOs and local representatives under the School Protection Group umbrella exemplifies a community-driven approach to student safety.
- Engaging parents and community members in regular meetings to reinforce safety messages and share updates on student security.
- Partner with the Education dept to ensure school and district level monitoring of traffic safety, student movement during school hours and prevent the potential threats such as drug sellers or child exploiters.
- Strict regulation and monitoring by Police, Excise and school authorities especially on designated “Hotspot” schools identified for heightened risk and strict implementation of the laws restricting access to harmful products like drugs, tobacco, alcohol and pornography around schools.
- Prohibition of ragging within or outside any educational institutions in the State.

4. School Protection Group - The Structure

- The SPG shall be chaired by the Head of the Institution. The Convener of the Group shall be the Station House Officer (SHO), and the Joint Convener shall be a Child Welfare Police Officer/Designated Police Officer nominated by SHO.
- The members of the group involve PTA President, MPTA President, SMC Chairman, Staff Secretary, Teacher Representatives (2 Nos), School leaders (Representatives of boys and girls), School Counsellor, Representative of merchants and auto drives from nearby area, Jagratha Samithi member, Representatives of SPC/NCC/NSS/Scout&

Guides, reputed retired personnel within the limits of school, and the Excise Inspector of the concerned Range Office having jurisdiction over the school or a representative nominated by the Excise Inspector.

- The representatives of Health, Fire and Rescue Service, Women and Child Development Department etc. are to be included as special invitees.
- In addition, the other members of the “**local jana jagratha samithi**” mentioned in the existing Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for school anti-narcotic activities shall also be included.

5. Roles and Responsibilities of different stakeholders

The following are the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders in the initiative:

5.1 Head of Institution

- Organise and coordinate SPG meetings as per schedule in association with the SHO.
- Chair all the meetings of SPGs.
- Nominate representatives of teachers and students to the SPGs
- Organise various training programmes for the parents, teachers, non-teaching staff and the students.
- Act as the communication point to the students, staff and the PTA.
- Report the status of the initiatives to the SPG.
- Ensure proper utilisation of funds if any transferred to SPGs.
- Keep minutes of SPGs and send reports of the concerned.
- Depute the teaching staff to take care of various activities planned as part of SPG in the school.

5.2 Station House Officer

- Convene all the meetings related to SPG in consultation with the Principal /Head of the Institution with the venue specified in advance.
- Nominate police officers to represent the stations.
- Law enforcement and crime prevention.
- Conduct sensitisation programmes for community leaders and other stakeholders on the matter.

- Ensure quick response in the case of safety issues related to the school.
- Ensure traffic safety and security through regular patrolling/monitoring.
- Managing issues related to the students, parents, school staff, bus crew or any other person in the neighbourhood.
- Help the school to follow up with regular absentees / dropouts from the school.
- Linking students to various services available for children under the police department.

5.3 Teachers' Representatives

- Represent the teaching community in the SPG, ensuring that all teachers share equal responsibility.
- Organise various awareness classes for the students and other stakeholders in association with the clubs/student forums.

5.4 PTA/MPTA President

- Represent the parents in the SPG
- Ensure participation of parents and students in various programmes organised by the SPG.
- Proactively involve in various programmes under SPG, inside and outside the school and coordinate with other members of the neighbourhood, merchants associations and auto/taxi drivers.

5.5 Shop Owners/Auto - Van Drivers/Community Leaders

- Act as part of the safety net of the school eyes on the street.
- Act as a vigilant group and inform the concerned the school authorities or the Police Officials if there is any issue coming to the notice of members of the group that may hamper the safety of students or any other concerned.
- Help the police in traffic blocks in the area, if any.

5.6 Student representatives - School leaders / SPC/NCC/NSS / Scouts and Guides/JRC etc

- Represent the student community and raise voice on their behalf.
- Support children in need of care and protection.
- Support SPG in organising and conducting various awareness programmes for the students.

5.7 Other Stakeholders

- The Ward Counsellor / Member shall support in implementing various programmes planned under SPG and shall help in mobilising additional resources if any.
- The Ward Counsellor / Member shall act as a link between the local self-government bodies and the school and shall ensure proper support for the initiatives of SPG in the school and the community.
- The Jagrata Samiti representative shall ensure support of community level structures to the activities of SPG.
- The SPG shall take the support of various departments - Health, Excise and Fire and Safety etc. for raising awareness of students on various subjects, conducting clinics, safety audit etc. as per their mandate.

6. Meeting of SPG

- The SHO shall convene quarterly combined meetings of all the schools having SPGs in the police station limit. The first meeting of the SPGs shall be convened before the commencement of each academic year.
- The Quarterly meeting at station level shall be attended by minimum of 2 members from each school, including the head of institution.
- The school level meeting of SPG shall be convened on a bimonthly basis. The respective members shall be intimated about the meeting at least one week advance.
- The school level meeting shall discuss about each of the items mentioned in the strategic framework mentioned above.
- An annual review meeting shall be conducted at the end of the academic year to evaluate the effectiveness of various initiatives planned and executed.
- Maintain a Checklist that includes activities such as close protection duties, advance security co-ordination, continuous threat assessment etc on a periodic basis.
- Opening of the complaint box shall strictly be made during the review meetings.
- The public residing in the area of the school can attend and give their suggestion in the SPG meetings. The participation of maximum number of people from the local area may be ensured in the meetings.
- Minutes of the meetings shall be recorded by the Chairman (Principal) and Convener (SHO) in a register to be kept at schools. This register will be a permanent record of the school and it shall be the duty of the Chairman and Convener to maintain it properly and

present it to the DPCs and other senior officers visiting the schools, who in turn, shall record their advisory remarks on the margin.

- The Station House Officer & Convener of SPG and Janamaithri Beat Officers of the area shall jointly ensure that timely action is taken on the minutes of the meeting and shall also record the results of such actions in the register.
- At the beginning of each meeting, the members should be informed about the action taken on the issues raised in the previous meeting and reasons, if any, for not taking action/delay in taking action on the remaining issues.
- The views of the SPG should be given due importance while deciding the local policing priorities.
 - The activities proposed to be included under the purview of SPGs are as follows:

6.1 Strengthening safety measures

- The SPG shall identify and enlist the areas to be improved for enhancing the safety of children in school and looked into the status of the same on a regular basis.
- The general safety audit of the school and planning of activities for the academic year shall be done before school opening.
- The SPG shall look into the general surveillance system, including the CCTV cameras wherever it is available, access points, visitors' register and security system in place and suggest for improvement, if any, before commencement of each academic year.
- The committee shall take appropriate steps to orient all the stakeholders inside and outside the school to ensure compliance of instructions /decisions taken by respective SPGs.
- The SPG may install Complaint box / suggestion box in the schools. The School Adalat Committee including the representatives of Police, Principal, Vice Principal, Counsellors, Representatives of teachers and students may open the same on a monthly basis and take appropriate action. The status of the same maybe reported to the SPG.
- If any issues related to drug use are found in the complaints received or the facts discovered, action should be taken as per the existing Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for school anti-narcotic activities.

6.2 Orientation for teaching and non-teaching staff in the school

- Before the commencement of each academic year, the SPG shall organise half day orientation programme for the teachers, non-teaching staff, school counsellor, school van crew, security staff and other stakeholders to common areas of concerns and systems put in place to address the same.
- School Protection Groups may organize regular awareness classes for children in association with various stakeholders and students forum inside the school. Inputs on road safety, substance abuse, social media / Cybercrime, POCSO Act etc. and other issues relevant to the school as identified by the school authorities and the police may also be included in the sessions for the students.
- Various child protection measures and systems in place under the government (like CWC, JJB, Kaval and Kaval Plus projects, Snehapoorvam, Mission Valsalya project etc.) and the services offered by them also may be mentioned during the programme.
- The facilitator may stress upon the level of understanding, maturity and the confidentiality required to handle cases related to children and their families.
- The SHO may give an overview of the cases reported from the area in which children are a party and suggest the ways to combat the same.

6.3 Sensitising Parents

- The SPG may organise input session for the parents in association with the Parent Teacher Association and the MPTA. Efforts may be taken to ensure the active participation of both the father and the mother.
- In addition to the sessions on road safety, substance abuse, social media /Cybercrime, POCSO Act etc., growth and development of children / changes in adolescent stage and the ways to support children in studies may also be included.
- Various dimensions of Positive Parenting to be stressed upon during the session. The session may be concluded with an open forum to discuss and clarify the doubts of parents.

6.4 Orienting Students

- SPG may organise regular awareness classes for children in association with various stakeholders and students' forum inside the school. Inputs on road safety, substance abuse, social media / Cybercrime, POCSO Act etc. and other issues relevant to the school as identified by the school authorities and the police may be included in the sessions for the students.
- Real life stories of reported cases from the State with videos / paper cuttings may be used to convey the content of the sessions. The session may use activities and games and other mediums like street play, puppet show etc to attract the children.

- Efforts may be taken to identify and develop student volunteers / peer leaders to support and guide the students.
- The SPG may take initiatives to orient students to life skills. The school may use the module - 'Ullasaparavakal' developed by SCERT / Our Responsibility to Children Project etc in this regard.
- The students may be given opportunities to have field visits to the Police Station, Care centres for elderly, Palliative care patients and other Welfare programmes for the underprivileged in the community.
- Self-defence classes for the students may be organised in association with the Police Stations.
- The Kerala Police Cyber Division through the Cyber Dome Wing has expressed its willingness to actively involve in cyber safety awareness initiatives across the state, especially in the domain of protecting the children from online threats. In order to achieve the objective, they have proposed to reinvigorate the Kid-Glove initiative, a flagship program aimed at spreading awareness among school children and promoting digital safety in a structured and sustainable manner.
- Similarly, the SPG shall take the support of various departments - Women and Child Development, Health, Excise and Fire and Safety etc. for raising awareness among students on various subjects, conducting clinics, safety audit etc as per their mandate.

6.5 Sensitising and networking with the community

- The SPG in association with the respective Police Stations may take initiatives to
 - orient the Auto/Taxi/Van drivers/ Shop Owners at station level and they can be linked to the safety network of respective schools.
 - The Asha workers, Anganwadi workers, Kudumbashree members may also be sensitised and linked to SPG in the schools.
 - The topics suggested for inclusion in the programme are:
 1. laws related to the appropriate age of children
 2. problems faced by children
 3. role of community representatives
- The awareness about this programme should be given to the children before it is put into action.

6.6 Installation of Complaint Box – Safe and Child-Friendly Reporting System at Schools

- The District Nodal Officers and Station House Officers shall ensure that Complaint boxes are installed at every school as part of the School Protection Group.
- Complaint boxes shall kept at a place accessible for every students in the school.
- Such complaint boxes should be promptly opened during the school level meeting of School Protection Group and the details of the complaint shall properly be recorded as part of the meeting minutes.
- The School Protection Group members including the SHO, Principal, Vice Principal, Counsellors, Representatives of teachers and students may open the same during the meeting and take appropriate action on it.
- The status of the same may be reported to the District Nodal Officers.

6.7 Stakeholder Convergence and Role Integration

- The School Protection Group shall function as a multi-departmental convergence platform by integrating the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholder departments and agencies, including Kerala State Legal Services Authority (KeLSA), Women and Child Development Department, Health Department, Motor Transport Department, Excise Department etc.
- This convergence model leverages each department's strengths, creating a holistic support and protection system around students in schools. It enhances preventive, responsive and legal measures for their safety and well being.

6.8 School Protection Group and Anti Ragging Policy

- The School Protection Groups play a vital role in preventing ragging incidents by fostering safe environments, increasing vigilance and providing platforms for reporting and intervention in schools.
- The School Protection Groups has to implement a comprehensive anti-ragging policy and various mechanisms to prevent and address any incidents of ragging whereby ensure ragging-free schools.
- The members in School Protection Group can be involved directly in anti-ragging committees and can lead proactive, on-going initiatives to address and prevent ragging. Integrating members of the School Protection Groups into anti-ragging committees and empowering them with clear roles in vigilance, education and reporting can significantly decrease the occurrence of ragging incidents.

- School Protection Groups can significantly enhance anti-ragging awareness programmes by leading, supporting and creatively implementing a range of activities that resonate with both students and staff.
- The members of School Protection Groups can be integrated into anti- ragging committees and can conduct awareness and sensitization programmes, orientation programme for freshers, mandatory executing of students and parents' anti- ragging undertaking affidavit, Visible Anti-Ragging Advocacy, accessible reporting mechanisms, comprehensive mentoring and counselling etc.
- The presence and purpose of complaint boxes during orientations and awareness programmes shall be made so that the students will know how to use them as a safest means to reporting mechanism.

6.9 Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and the role of School Protection Group

- The School Protection Groups can prevent child sexual abuse by disseminating knowledge, building protection skills and acting as vigilant monitors within the school environment.
- The Special Juvenile Police Units, Child Welfare Police Officers and Child Protection Officers can support these efforts through legally mandated reporting and multifaceted child welfare interventions, ensuring a comprehensive, child-centred approach to prevention and protection.
- Such a model not only supports detection and reporting but shapes a school culture intolerant of abuse, where every adult understands their responsibility to protect children and ensure justice is served.

7. Monitoring

The SPG shall be monitored by both Police and Education departments.

- In Police department, the following monitoring mechanism is in place for monitoring the effective implementation of the project.
 - The Social Policing Division shall monitor the project at the State Level.
 - The DCP (Administration) in Cities & Addl. SPs in other districts will monitor district level activities of the project.
 - The Sub Divisional Police Officers shall preside the functioning of the School Protection Group at the sub divisional level.
 - The Station House Officers will effectively monitor the project at the Police Station level.

- The present State and District Level Advisory Committees for SPC Project shall be responsible for monitoring all the SPD Projects.
- Similarly, a definite monitoring hierarchy at the School, Sub Division, District and State Level shall be created entrusting specific monitoring tasks under the General Education Department for the effective implementation of the project.

7.1 Selection of Lead Schools at Sub Division and District Levels:-

- It will be ideal to select appropriate Lead Schools for conducting effective district and sub division level School Protection Group training that can be scaled across all educational institutions while maintaining quality standards and community engagements.
- The selection of lead schools for district-level School Protection Group training programs requires careful evaluation based on infrastructure, governance and community engagement capabilities. Lead schools shall possess adequate physical infrastructure, training facilities, technological infrastructure, accommodation support and location accessibility to host district-level training programs.

8. Miscellaneous Provisions

- An action plan and activity calendar should be prepared and reviewed monthly by the School Protection Groups, and monitored by forming a state level committee for effective implementation.
- A core group should be formed to implement the School Protection Group action plans, monitor activities, each member assigned with proper duties and responsibilities.
- Vulnerable families and children should be identified and an action plan should be developed with the help of the Child Protection Committee without victimizing the child.
- A State level indicator should be established to assess the psychological and mental well-being of the child.
- The participation in awareness, cultural and sports activities organized through School Protection Group be considered as a criterion for granting credit points to the students.