



Circular No.144/2024-25

Date: 01 Feb, 2025

AN ADVISORY FOR PRIVATE VAN USERS

Dear Parent,

This is to bring to your immediate attention a pressing concern regarding the safety of our students who travel to school by private vans. Despite our repeated advisories, vans are not operating in compliance with the relevant Govt regulations that the school has been sharing from time to time.

On January 30, 2025, a private van, run by Mr Pankaj Mondal, was confiscated by the traffic police outside the school premises. The Van ferries the following students:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Siya PS A | 3. Dharitri Chatterjee PS D | 5. Maitri PP E |
| 2. Shruti Yadav PS B | 4. Ishika Soni PP B | 6. Adhya PP G |

Upon investigation, it was discovered that:

- The van in question was a private vehicle, not a commercial one, and was not authorized to ferry students to and from school.
- The driver did not possess the required documents, including a fitness certificate, driving license, and a list of students with relevant details.

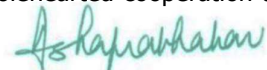
In light of this incident, we urge you to ensure that the private vans hired by you adhere to the following:

- ❖ Ensure the Cab / Taxi / Van is registered with the Transport Department under the School Cab Scheme of the Private Motor Registration Act.
- ❖ To ensure the safety of children, the vehicle registered under the scheme should be equipped with safety features including Speed Governors, GPRS Devices, Fire Extinguisher and a First Aid Box.
- ❖ As an additional safety measure, it is mandatory for the van operators to maintain a record of all the school children being ferried, classwise along with details of parents like phone numbers. (The importance of this is that this data can be shared with the Police for quick action in case of an emergency to ensure safety of a child).
- ❖ Parents hiring such transport for their wards should also know the details of the owner and driver (Residential address / Police verification details of the driver/ Mobile Nos (Personal & Residential) both).

Further, the parents are also required to ensure the following:

- ❖ Private Vans, usually transport more students than their capacity, resulting in overcrowding and thereby endangering the life of innocent children.
- ❖ Some Private Vans do not have any speed governors and indulge in rash driving, hence violate traffic signals and rules.
- ❖ Children are often made to sit in the boot, next to highly inflammable CNG cylinders. Keeping the summer months in mind, this situation can take grave proportions, putting the students' life at risk. Parents must talk to their wards that the children MUST remain highly alert while travelling in the Vans for any kind of foul burning smell. They should immediately raise an alarm and EVACUATE THE VAN and move away from it.
- ❖ Parents are to ensure that the Vans ferrying their wards have proper fitness and registration papers. The antecedents of the driver must be known to the parents.

We appreciate your attention to this matter, and we look forward to your wholehearted cooperation to ensure the safety and well-being of our students.



Asha Prabhakar
(Principal)

Kindness, Resilience, Respect



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