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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ **CONT.CAS(C) 1550/2024**

PRIZLEEN KAUR THROUGH HER MOTHER KULJEET KAUR AND ORS.Petitioners

Through: Mr. Arkeneil Bhumik, Ms. Rupam Jha, Mr. Adhiswar Suri, Ms. Ibansara Syiemliem, Ms. Suparna Jain, Mr. Dushyant Kaul, Advs. for Dr. Amit George, Adv.

versus

DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION & ORS.Respondents

Through: Mr. Abhinav Singh, Ms. Swag Agarwal and Mr. Praveen Kumar Kaushik, Advs. for DOE.

Mr. Sanjay Sehgal and Mr. Shivesh Sehgal, Advs. for R-2 and R-3.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DHARMESH SHARMA

ORDER

16.10.2024

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1. Pursuant to the previous directions of this Court dated 27.09.2024, Mr. Ajay Arora, Chairman of the respondent-school is present through VC.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioners, however, submits that insofar as the present three petitioners are concerned, the directions of this Court have been implemented, and they have been provided with the books, as well as school uniform in terms of the provisions under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, except that the winter uniforms are promised to be supplied soon.



3. However, during the course of proceedings, it is brought to the fore that, there are many other students in EWS category, who are yet to be provided with the books, as well as the school uniform.

4. Learned counsel appearing for the respondent-school submits that the costs/expenditures incurred in providing the books and school uniform to students under the EWS category have not been reimbursed/refunded by the Department of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi, for the past three years.

5. First things first, let a reply be filed by the School Authorities through Mr. Ajay Arora, spelling out as to how many EWS category students have been supplied with books and school uniform; and how many of the students are yet to be supplied with such necessities. Further, what provisions are being made for supply of the winter uniform to the students falling under such category be also spelled out in the reply. Let a reply be filed within ten days from today.

6. It manifestly appears that the Directorate of Education is also indirectly and substantially failing in performing its statutory duties to ensure timely distribution of books and school uniform to such category of students. Evidently, the Directorate of Education is not adhering to any prescribed timeline in making reimbursement of such expenses to the schools.

7. Therefore, an enquiry is called for, as to what is the present status of reimbursement/refund of such amount to every school in Delhi, who are entitled to such benefits of reimbursement/refund. The Directorate of Education shall submit a detailed statement of the pending dues for each school located in Delhi, which are entitled to reimbursement for the cost of books and school uniforms over the last three years.



8. Re-notify on 28.10.2024 at the “End of the Supplementary List”.

9. A copy of this order be given *dasti* to Mr. Abhinav Singh, Additional Standing Counsel for GNCTD, for the necessary compliance and information to the Directorate of Education. The Director and Deputy Director of Education shall appear in person before this Court, on the next date of hearing at 02:30 PM to explain the aforesaid anomalies.

DHARMESH SHARMA, J.

OCTOBER 16, 2024/g