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**Subject: -Supreme Court guidelines with regard to safety of school buses carrying Children in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 13029 of 1985 titled M.C Mehta v/s Union of India and others.**

Attention of all the heads of the government and recognized private schools in the UT of Ladakh is invited to the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court of India with regard to school buses carrying children to be followed strictly which are reiterated as under: -

1. School Buses should be painted yellow;
2. School buses must be written on the back and front of the bus, if it is hired bus ON SCHOOL DUTY should be clearly indicated;
3. Buses should have FIRST AID BOX;
4. Buses should be fitted with speed governor of specified standard;
5. The windows of the buses should be fitted with horizontal grills;
6. There should be a fire extinguisher in the buses;
7. School name and telephone must be written on the buses;
8. The doors of the buses should be fitted with reliable locks;
9. To keep school bag safely. There should be a space fitted under the seats;
10. There must be a qualified attendant in the buses to attend the children;
11. Any parent/guardian sit in the buses or a teacher may also travel to ensure these safety norms;
12. The driver should have at least 5 year's experience of driving heavy vehicles;
13. A driver who has been challaned more than twice in a year for offences like red light jump, violation of lane discipline or allowing unauthorized person to drive cannot be employed;
14. A driver who has been challaned even one of the offences of over speeding, drunken driving and dangerous driving etc. cannot be employed;
15. No vehicle shall carry children in excess of the permitted seating capacity. No child should be allowed to sit on the lap of others, if any;
16. Seat belts where ever applicable must be fastened properly;
17. There must be appropriate permit for the vehicles issued by the competent authority as passenger transport vehicle.

  
20.05.22

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