



School Education Department,  
Secretariat, Chennai – 9.

**Letter No.30354/SE5(2)/2018-1, dated 28.11.2018**

From

Thiru. Pradeep Yadav, I.A.S.,  
Principal Secretary to Government

To

All District Collectors. (By name cover)

Sir/ Madam,

Sub: School Education – Declaration of holidays for schools on account of rains - Grounds for declaration – Other related guidelines – issued - Regarding.

I am directed to state that it has been noticed that the District Collectors resort to declaring holidays for schools even on a normal rainy day without realising that it disturbs entire lesson plan for teaching and learning. On mere warnings of cyclone, irrespective of intensity, school holidays are declared in a routine manner on the previous day itself. It has been noticed that on the days of holiday on account of rains, there is bright sunshine. For any relief measures also, the Government Schools are normally the first target for selecting as centres without even exploring other facilities such as community halls, service centres, cyclone shelters, etc in the vicinity. As a result, studies of students studying particularly in Government schools are adversely affected. There is also a pre-determined schedule of tests and examinations, which gets derailed due to declaration of too many holidays on some pretext or the other.

**NP**

Therefore, in order to protect the interest of students, the following guidelines may be adhered to while declaring holidays;

- i. Only in case of severe inundation or flooding in any area leading to paralysis of transport facilities school holidays may be declared. Mere rain or drizzle should not be taken as cause for declaring holidays.
- ii. The decision to close schools may be taken three hours before the opening of schools taking into account the situation prevailing at that time.
- iii. The Chief Educational Officers shall assess the gravity of situation and suggest the area and day for declaring holiday to the District Collector.
- iv. Holiday may be restricted to the affected areas only. Revenue District need not be the unit of declaration of holiday. Educational District, Block or any other local body could even be the unit for declaring holiday.

- v. The announcement for declaring holiday on other accounts such as local temple festivals etc. should also contain the day on which compensatory classes would be held.
- vi. Each holiday declared in any area should be duly compensated by opening schools in that area on Saturdays so that students do not miss any lesson planned for the day of holiday.
- vii. Efforts should be made to open schools at the earliest. Camps, if any should be shifted to other facilities available in the vicinity. Pumping out of water in case of water logging and cleaning of premises should be given the utmost priority in the scheme of relief and rehabilitation.

2) In this connection, you are requested to exercise extra caution in declaring school holidays. You may also keep the Government informed of such holidays.

Yours faithfully



for Principal Secretary to Government.



28-11-18

Communicate to all C.E.O's.

