

**OFFICE OF THE TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER,
J&K GOVERNMENT, JAMMU**

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**The Director,
School Education, ✓
Jammu Province/ Kashmir Province.**

NO:TC/JK/PS/97-105 Dated: 2.02.2012
Sub: Hon'ble Supreme Court's guidelines for School Buses.

Sir,

A Public Interest Litigation (PIL) titled All J&K Tata Sumo Association V/S State and others has been filed in the Hon'ble High Court of J&K for streamlining of traffic in Jammu city. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has also issued guidelines for schools both private and Govt. regarding operation of school buses. The copy of the guidelines is enclosed.

You are requested to circulate these guidelines among all the schools both private and Govt. and ask them to strictly adhere to these guidelines.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above

Mehraj Ahmad Kakroo
21/2/2012

**(Mehraj Ahmad Kakroo), IAS,
Transport Commissioner &
Chairman, State Transport Authority,
J&K, Jammu**

Copy to the:

- 1-2. Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir for information.
 03. Commissioner /Secretary to Govt. Transport Department, J&K Jammu for information.
 04. Inspector General of Police, Traffic, J&K Jammu for information.
 - 5-7. Regional Transport Officer, Jammu/Kashmir and Kathua for necessary action. Government of Jammu & Kashmir
- Directorate of School Education Kashmir

Dated: 13 - 02 - 2012

Copy of the above forwarded to:-

- Chief Education Officer.....(All)
- President, Private School Association, Kashmir. } for information and compliance.
- PS to Transport Commissioner & Chairman State Authority, J&K Jammu, for information of the Transport Commissioner.
- P.A to DSEK for inf of the DSEK.

Mehraj Ahmad Kakroo
13.2.12
Public Relations Officer
Directorate of School Education
Kashmir

Chandigarh: Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, has laid down certain guidelines to be followed by the enforcement and educational authorities with regard to safety of school buses carrying children.

To comply with these directions the guidelines have been incorporated in permits issued to school buses by State Transport Authority, U.T., Chandigarh. The Challenging Officers of State Transport Authority are enforcing these guidelines by carrying out checking of school buses from time to time. State Transport Authority, U.T., Chandigarh has reiterated these guidelines and has issued instructions to all the Principals of Government & Private School, Association of School Bus Operators and Association of the Private Schools. They have been advised to comply with the directions regarding school buses in letter and spirit keeping in view the safety of school going children.

The gist of the guidelines is summarized below:-

1. School buses should be painted yellow.
2. School Bus must be written on the back and front of the bus. IF it is hired bus, "on School Duty" should be clearly indicated.
3. Bus should have a First Aid Box.
- 4: Bus should be fitted with speed governor of specified standard.
5. The windows of Bus should be fitted with horizontal grills.
6. There should be a fire extinguisher in the Bus.
7. School Name & Telephone No. must be written on the Bus.
8. The doors of the Bus should be fitted with reliable locks.
9. To keep the school bags safely, there should be a space fitted under the seats.
10. There must be a qualified attendant in the Bus to attend to Children.
11. Any parent or guardian sitting in the bus or a teacher may also travel to ensure these safety norms.
12. The driver should have at least 5 years of experience of driving heavy vehicles. 13. A driver who has been challaned more than twice in a year for offences like red light jumping, violation of lane discipline or allowing unauthorized person to driver cannot be employed.
14. A driver who has been challaned even once for the offence of over speeding, drunken driving and dangerous driving etc. cannot be employed.

As per Section 2(47) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 an educational institution bus is a transport vehicle and therefore requires a permit to ply on the road. Being a transport vehicle it would also need to undergo mandatory fitness test every year without which the permit cannot be renewed.

They have been advised that the drivers of the school buses are required to maintain traffic discipline. Any lapse on this account will invite stern action against the defaulters or violators of above instructions & will be challaned or prosecuted accordingly.