

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL EDUCATION,
ANDHRA PRADESH.**

Present: Sri Vijay Rama Raju. V, I.A.S

Rc.No.ESE02- 28022/29/2024-PLG – CSE Dated:20-11-2025

Sub:	School Education – Prevention of Child Marriages – Comprehensive Instructions to all Field Functionaries including District Education Officers (DEOs), DyEOs, MEOs, Headmasters and Teachers – Orders Issued.
Ref:	Memo No.3032198/General/A2/2025, dated: 11.11.2025, Government of Andhra Pradesh.

ORDER:

The attention of all Regional Joint Directors (RJDSEs) District Education Officers (DEOs), Deputy Education Officers (DyEOs), Mandal Education Officers (MEOs), Headmasters and Teachers is invited to the reference cited above. Prevention of child marriages is a statutory obligation and a critical responsibility of the School Education Department. Child marriage is a punishable offence under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006. The Government has emphasized the need for proactive surveillance, reporting, and awareness activities to ensure the protection of children, particularly adolescent girls and boys enrolled in Government and Government-aided schools.

All the HoDs in the State Head office are requested to coordinate with the district teams in conducting awareness campaigns on the prevention of Child Marriages, conduct monthly review meetings of your in charge district and see that no single child marriage to happen in that district.

Detailed Instructions to Field Functionaries:

A. Responsibilities of District Education Officers (DEOs)

- Constitute a District Child Marriage Monitoring Cell with DyEOs, MEOs representatives from reputed NGOs, and a designated Child Protection Officer.
- Ensure coordination with District Collector, Police, Women & Child Welfare Department, and District Child Protection Unit (DCPU).
- Conduct a monthly review meeting on child marriage prevention activities and maintain district-level data.
- Ensure that all schools display mandatory posters on child marriage laws and helpline numbers.
- Monitor the functioning of School and Mandal-level Child Marriage Prevention Committees.

B. Responsibilities of Additional Project Coordinators:

- Assign the responsibility of monitoring child marriages to the sectoral and asst. Sectoral in their adopted mandals and should submit a report Once every fortnight.

- Conduct monthly review meeting with MEOs along with respective DEOs and carefully monitor the incidents of child marriages if any.
- Conduct surprise inspections in high-risk mandals and submit a monthly risk-assessment report to DEOs.

C. Responsibilities of Deputy Education Officers (DyEOs)

- Oversee mandal-level preparedness and ensure that MEOs are conducting awareness activities regularly.
- Verify reports submitted by MEOs on vulnerable children identified at school level.
- Conduct surprise inspections in high-risk mandals and submit a monthly risk-assessment report to DEO.
- Monitor counselling programmes conducted for adolescent students.

D. Responsibilities of Mandal Education Officers (MEOs)

- Coordinate with Anganwadi workers, ANMs, Ward/Village Secretariats, and Police for prevention activities.
- Hold mandal-level awareness meetings with School Management Committees (SMCs), teachers, and parents.
- Identify villages with historical cases of child marriage and create a Mandal Vulnerability List.
- Ensure that headmasters submit fortnightly reports on attendance and behavioural indicators of at-risk students.
- Ensure SMC meetings include a compulsory agenda item on child marriage prevention.

E. Responsibilities of Headmasters (HMs)

- Maintain a confidential register of vulnerable students based on teacher inputs, attendance patterns, and counselling notes.
- Organize school-level awareness programmes involving parents, adolescent clubs, and local NGOs.
- Inform MEO and local authorities immediately if any suspected or planned child marriage is reported.
- Verify student attendance around festival seasons, summer vacations, and community-specific marriage seasons.
- Ensure that counselling services are provided to girls facing pressure of forced marriage.

F. Responsibilities of Teachers

- Identify early warning signs such as prolonged absenteeism, withdrawal behaviour, or sudden announcements of engagement.
- Report immediately to the Headmaster any information or suspicion related to potential child marriage.

- Conduct classroom sessions on child rights, legal age for marriage, and importance of completing schooling.
- Engage with parents during PTA meetings to discourage dropout and early marriage practices.
- Ensure wide dissemination of helpline numbers (1098-Childline, 100-Police).

G. Awareness & Community Engagement Activities

- Conduct monthly Child Protection Awareness Drives in collaboration with Village/Ward Secretariats.
- Display IEC material on child marriage in all classrooms, corridors, school entrance, and notice boards.
- Organize gender-sensitization workshops and life-skills education sessions.
- Promote reporting culture by explaining the confidentiality of helplines.
- Celebrate National Girl Child Day, International Women's Day, and Child Rights Week with focused campaigns.

H. Reporting, Documentation and Review

- All schools must maintain a Child Marriage Prevention Register updated monthly.
- HMs must send fortnightly vulnerability reports to MEOs; MEOs shall consolidate and send them to DEO.
- All incidents or attempts of child marriage must be reported to Police and DCPU within 1 hour.
- DEOs shall submit a Monthly Prevention Action Taken Report to the Commissioner of School Education.
- Non-compliance or failure to report incidents will be viewed as serious misconduct.

All field functionaries are hereby instructed to treat these guidelines as mandatory and implement them with immediate effect. Strict action will be taken against any negligence or failure in reporting child marriage cases.

VIJAY RAMA RAJU V, I.A.S
DIRECTOR

To

All the HODs of the Department,
All the RJDSEs in the State,
All the DEOs in the State,
All the APCs of SS in the State,

Copy to

The State Project Director, Samagra Siksha for information and necessary action,
Copy Submitted to,
The Secretary School Education for favour of information.