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SCHOOL & MASS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION

The 18th June 2009

SSA is being implemented in the State since 2001-02 with a goal to achieve universalisation of elementary education. New Primary Schools (NPS) are being opened and existing Primary Schools are being upgraded in order to enroll all the children in the age group of 6-14 years. The Government in the erstwhile Education and Youth Services Department vide their Resolution No. 33891, Dated the 3rd August 1989 stipulated that Primary Schools will be opened in all habitations having population of more than 200 in hilly and tribal areas and 300 in other areas. The Government in School & Mass Education Department vide letter No. 25423(30)/SME, Dated the 9th August 1995 had advised all Collectors to maintain a minimum distance of one km. between the existing Primary School and the new Primary School to be opened and maintain a distance of three km. between the existing Upper Primary School and the proposed Upper Primary School. SSA implementation frame work stipulates opening of NPS/alternative schooling facility within one km. of every habitation. Accordingly, a large number of EGS centers were established in the state under the SSA. Subsequently, EGS centers were closed and new Primary Schools were opened in the habitations having atleast 40 children in 6-11 year age group provided no Primary School is available within one km. of such habitation.

Whereas, the State Project Director, Orissa Primary Education has brought to the notice of the Government that there are about 2.70 lakh out of school children in the age group of 6-14 years and the number of such children is very high in the tribal and backward districts and hence, there is a need to relax the norm for opening of new Primary Schools under SSA in order to improve access to elementary education and the

Government is committed to universalizing elementary education in the State and hence, the Government has been pleased to decide as follows:

1. In KBK districts and Tribal sub Plan Areas new Primary Schools will be opened in habitations having atleast 25 children in the 6-11 years age group provided there is no Primary School within one Km. of such habitations.
2. In all the districts the distance norm for opening of new Primary and new Upper Primary Schools is relaxed in case of natural barrier like river, hilly terrain, dense forest etc.

This has been concurred by Planning and Co-ordination Department vide their U.O.R. No. 65-P, Dated the 18th April 2009.

This Resolution will take immediate effect.

By order of Governor

VANDANA KUMARI JENA
Principal Secretary to Government