

CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education, Gove, of India)



NO. CBSE/AFF./ 2730705/2024/0/555

Date:29.10.2024

ORDER

The Sidhhartha Public School, Tatesar Extension, Kanjhawala, New Delhi-110081 was given Provisional affiliation with the Board for Secondary Level w.e.f. 01.04.2013 to 31.03.2016 & further upgraded to Senior Secondary Level w.e.f. 01.04.2016 to 31.03. 2019. The affiliation is renewed from time to time and is affiliated till 31.03.2029 with affiliation number 2730705. The school was downgraded upto the level of secondary school examination vide order dated 22.05.2024. As per conditions of affiliation, the school shall abide by the provisions of the Examinations and Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board.

AND WHEREAS, all affiliated schools have already been informed through Board's notification dated 18.10.2018 to ensure compliance with the terms and condition mentioned in the Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018 and also that the Board may conduct surprise inspection of school(s) any time to verify the status of compliance. Clause No. 12 of Affiliation Bye-Laws clearly lays down that any non-compliance of Examination and Affiliation Bye-Laws shall be considered as violation and action shall be taken as per the Rules in Chapter 12 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018.

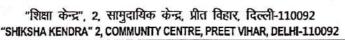
AND WHEREAS, Chapter 14 – "General Rules", provides for the general rules which are required to be mandatorily followed clause No. 14.1 states that, "Every school is bound to follow the Affiliation Bye Laws of the Board mutatis mutandis."

AND WHEREAS, clause No. 14.2 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018, stipulates that, "It is mandatory for every affiliated school to follow the Examination Bye-laws of the Board mutatis mutandis. Further, the clause 14.2.1 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018, provides that, "Every affiliated school shall present a list of number of students and their particulars in respect of Classes IX, X, XI & XII at the time of beginning of an academic session in the manner prescribed by the Board."

29/10

Page 1 of 13











CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education Control India)



AND WHEREAS, the clause 14.2.2 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018, provides that, "No affiliated school shall present the candidates to the Board's examination who are not on its rolls." The clause 14.2.4 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018, provides that "No affiliated school shall present the candidates to the Board's examination who are on its roll but have not attended the school regularly or do not meet the requirement of minimum attendance for appearance in the Board's examination."

The clause 14.2.5 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018 further provides that, "Every affiliated school shall sponsor regularly its bona-fide and eligible students in Boards Class X and Class XII examinations from the year mentioned while granting affiliation/ upgradation regularly without break or inform with reasons thereof in writing well in time about the non-sponsoring of the candidates".

AND WHEREAS, Chapter 11 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws provides that the Board may conduct the inspection of the Schools including the surprise inspection to ascertain and ensure that schools are following the provisions of the Examination Bye-Laws, Affiliation Bye-Laws and any other instructions issued by the Board from time to time. Clause 11.4 of CBSE Affiliation Bye Laws, 2018 related to the Surprise Inspection of the school states that, "The Board may any time get an affiliated school inspected by a committee of one or more members without giving any notice to the school." This activity of surprise inspection can be carried out any time to ensure the due compliance of Statutory Provisions, Bye-Laws of the Board and compliance of any legal mandate and all the schools are bound to offer themselves for such inspection as and when directed.

AND THEREFORE, on the basis of the enabling provisions contained in clause 11.4 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018, the Board conducted Surprise Inspection of Sidhhartha Public School, Tatesar Extension, Kanjhawala, New Delhi-110081 on 03.09.2024 through a two member Inspection Committee.

A. On the basis of the report submitted by the Inspection Committee and analysing the data available with the Board, following inter alia violations were noticed:-

Page 2 of 13

29/10



"शिक्षा केन्द्र", २, सामुदायिक केन्द्र, प्रीत विहार, दिल्ली-110092 "SHIKSHA KENDRA" 2, COMMUNITY CENTRE, PREET VIHAR, DELHI-110092







CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



- The inspection Committee in its report has mentioned that the school is sponsoring students
 of coaching centres/other institutions and also running Sports Academy named Tirathraj which
 is violation of Clause 9.1.3 of the Affiliation/Examination Bye-Laws of the Board.
- ii. As per records available with the Board, last year the school had registered 810 students in class XI (2023-24) which would have been promoted to class XII this year (2024-25) but at the time of inspection only 625 students were enrolled as per attendance register and only 03 students were present in class XII which reflects that the school is still sponsoring dummy/ non attending students which is severe violation of Clause 14.2 of the affiliation/Examination bye-laws of the Board.
- iii. As per the Inspection Committee, physically, the number of children was very less from class IX to class XII. Details are given below:
 - a) Class IX-59 registered 14 Present
 - b) Class X-56 registered 08 Present
 - c) Class XI- not reported-yet officially 03 present.
 - d) Class XII-approx 625 in register but 03 present.

which is a violation of Clause 14.2 of the affiliation/Examination bye-laws of the Board.

- iv. Bulk admission were seen from class IX itself.
 - a) Class I to VIII 01 section each.
 - b) Class IX-04 Sections of 45 students each in 2023-24 and 02 Sections of 45+14 students each in 2024-25.
 - c) Class X- 04 Sections having 167 students each in 2023-24 and 02 sections each having 56 students each in 2024-25.
 - d) Class XI- The committee was initially told that they have closed but later on agreed that they have around 120 students in science, though only 03 humanity students were seen in person.
 - e) Class XII-From 810 the number drop to 625 but no. of TCs were only 60.

which is a violation of Clause 14.2 of the affiliation/Examination bye-laws of the Board.

Initially, the Committee was told that class XI and XII were on leave. When the Committee asked for any circular/notice in this regard, it was accepted that it was none attending. The School has not able to justify the absence of Class XI and XII. Later on, the school accepted the fact that the students of Class XI and XII are not attending the classes on regular basis. They are dummy students which is a violation of Clause 14.2. Moreover, Even the number of students in junior classes is doubtful.

Page 3 of 13

29/10







CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (An Autonomous Organisation under the Midster of Education Good at India)



- vi. As per the inspection committee report the school is sponsoring students of unaffiliated school for Board Examination as the number for last year were very high compared to this year. So the students from other schools are appearing to be added at the last moment which is a violation of Clause 14.2 of the affiliation/Examination bye-laws of the Board.
- vii. Further, in few classes, the board outside said 12B, 12C etc but classes IX and X were occupying them. Class XI and XII were seated in one room (12A) with total of 6 students which is a violation of Clause 4.1.
- viii. Admission & withdrawal Register and admission forms were not shown to the inspection committee. Transfer Certificates were shown but the numbers were not matching. Further, the school is also not maintaining the record of Admission Forms which is a violation of clause 14.19.
- ix. The school is not having sufficient teaching staff as per norms of the Board. The school had only one register attendance register of the staff which showed that only 05 staff members were present on the day of Surprise Inspection which is a violation of Clause 5.4 of the Affiliation/Examination Bye-Laws of the Board. The number of PGT's (even on papers) were not commensurate with the strength of students. Mr Pandey was called for Biology lab but it was found that he was not lab assistant but helper.
- X. Teacher attendance register was filled but, as per the Principal, teachers signed in it whenever they come to school. The committee has also noted that it was highly doubtful that the teachers were marking the attendance which is a violation of clause 14.19. The school is not having Special Educator, Counsellor, Wellness Teacher.
- xi. The certificate of land submitted by the school to IC members states that the school is having 9400 sq mtr of land. But the inspection committee reported that the school is having 4690 sq yards +900 sq yards claimed but not connected which is a violation of land requirement of chapter 3 of Affiliation Bye Laws.
- xii. None of the Physics and Chemistry Lab had Lab register and lab assistants which is a violation of clause14.19.
- xiii. All the labs were looking like store rooms with very few components which is a violation of clause 4.2 and 4.4.
- xiv. The school is not having Maths Lab which is a violation of clause 4.5.

29/10

Page 4 of 13



"शिक्षा केन्द्र", 2, सामुदायिक केन्द्र, प्रीत विहार, दिल्ली-110092 "SHKSHA KENDRA" 2, COMMUNITY CENTRE, PREET VIHAR, DELHI-110092







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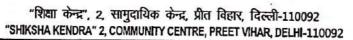




- B. In order to follow the course of natural justice and to maintain the transparency, a copy of inspection report was provided to the school alongwith the show cause notice dated 13.09.2024.
- C. The School vide its reply dated 10.10.2024 has inter-alia made, the following submissions on the Show Cause Notice dated 13.09.2024 :-
 - (i) In response to point no.1, it is submitted that the school did not sponsor students of coaching centre/ other institution because the Board had already withdrawn the affiliation of Senior Secondary Level vide its order bearing reference No. CBSE/AFF./2730705/2024/00387 dt. 22.05.2024. So it is not possible to provide admission to the students. Secondly, it is admitted fact that school is running a Sports Academy on the name of legendry (Arjuna Awardee) kabaddi player Sh. Tirathraj Raj Chikkara. It is further clarified that the said academy is providing all facilities to the school students only and no commercial activity is carried out by the school. It is also clarified that school is not charging even a single penny from the school students on account of the sports academy. So, there is no question of violation of Clause 9.1.3 of the affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board.
 - In response to point no.2, it is submitted that the affiliation of Senior Secondary level (ii) was already withdrawn by the Board vide its order bearing reference no. CBSE/AFF/2730705/ 2024/00387 dt. 22.05.2024, then the observation mentioned in present point are irrelevant, hence needs no reply.
 - The contents of this para are related to class 11th and 12th and affiliation of Senior (iii) Secondary level was already withdrawn vide its order bearing reference no. CBSE/AFF./2730705/ 2024/00387 Dt. 22.05.2024,by the Board, hence needs no reply.
 - In response to point no.4, it is submitted that the school is situated near the Haryana (iv) Border and there are many Govt. as well as Public Schools situated which are recognized up to the level of class 8th, being this School under approach to them for pursuing further studies. So it is quite natural that the strength in class 9th is higher than class 8th. Remaining contents of this para related to class 11th and needs no reply because affiliation of Senior Secondary level was already withdrawn vide its order bearing reference no. CBSE/AFF./2730705/ 2024/00387 dt. 22.05.2024, by the Board.

Page 5 of 13











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CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

- In response to para no.5, it is submitted that contents of this para are related to class 11th Hence needs no reply because affiliation of Senior Secondary level was already withdrawn vide its order bearing reference no. CBSE/AFF/2730705/2024/00387 dt. 22.05.2024, by the Board.
- (vi) In response to para no.6, it is submitted that the contents of this para is repetitive and reply already mentioned in para no.1.
- (vii) In response to para no.7, it is submitted that contents of this para are related to class 11th and 12th. Hence needs no reply because affiliation of Senior Secondary level was already withdrawn vide its order reference CBSE/AFF/2730705/2024/00387 dt. 22.05.2024,by the Board.
- (viii) In response to para no.8, it is submitted that the updating process of questioned/incomplete records of the school is already started by the school authorities on priority basis and it will be completed at the earliest possible.
- (ix) In response to para no.9, it is submitted that it is wrong and baseless to state that the school does not have sufficient teaching staff. It is clarified that the school has adequate and qualified teaching and non-teaching staff. The certified copy of staff statement is enclosed herewith for your kind perusal.
- (x) In response to para no. 10, it is submitted that it is wrong and baseless to state that the teachers signed the attendance register whenever they come to school. It is clarified that all the staff members are strictly monitored by the higher functionaries. So there is no possibility of violating the rules. It is further clarified that the recruitment process of Special Education teacher, Wellness teacher and counsellor is under process and it will be done at the earliest possible.
- (xi) In response to para no.11, it is submitted that the school has ample land area and infrastructure for running a school up to Senior Secondary level which evidently proved in the earlier Board's orders by virtue of provisional affiliation for Secondary & Senior Secondary were provided to the school. So, the school authority has no hesitation in saying that the findings of the IC seems imaginary and not matched with the ground reality.
- (xii) In response to para no.12, it is submitted that it is admitted that the labs are not in working condition and locked. It is clarified that IC did not aware with the relevant facts

Page 6 of 13

"शिक्षा केन्द्र", 2, सागुदायिक केन्द्र, प्रीत विहार, दिल्ली-110092 "SHIKSHA KENDRA" 2, COMMUNITY CENTRE, PREET VIHAR, DELHI-110092









CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

that the affiliation of Senior Secondary level had already withdrawn by the Board, in that case the labs are not being used at present.

- (xiii) It is a matter of record and clarification are mentioned in point no. 12.
- In response to point no. 14, it is submitted that the maths lab was not working at (xiv) working at that time. Now, it is properly maintained and in working accordingly. At last it is pertinent to mention here that school authorities always acted bonafidely on their part and followed all the instructions issued by the competent authority time to time. So, the folded hands school authority is praying to the competent authority to withdraw the present Show Cause Notice on merit basis and oblige.
- D. The analysis of the submissions made by the School in its reply dated 10.10.2024 and the violation found:-
 - (1) In response to point no.1, the school has submitted that it is not sponsoring the students for coaching centre/ other institutions because the Board had already withdrawn the affiliation of Senior Secondary Level vide its order bearing reference No. CBSE/AFF./ 2730705/2024/00387 dated 22.05.2024, so it is not possible to provide admission to the students. The school has not clarified on the point that the committee has noted that in Class XI in Session 2023-24, the school has registered 810 students which naturally would have been promoted to Class XII this year (2024-25). At the time of inspection, it was found that 625 students were found enrolled as per attendance register and only 03 students were present in Class XII which reflects that the school is indulged in sponsoring the dummy /non attending students. The submission of the school that it has already been downgraded vide Boards decision dated 22.05.2024 and that it is not possible to provide the admission to the students is not tenable and reasonable as the order dated 22.05.2024 and reaffirmed vide order dated 07.08.2024, the students who were in 2023-24 in Class XI have moved to Class XII in 2024-25 are allowed in the LOC and hence, these students should have been in Class XII, whereas the finding of the IC on 03.09.2024 repeated acts of the school that not only the student again shows the registration/enrolment data is in huge mismatch but, the physical presence of the students was not found. Further, the school has not submitted any document/evidence to justify the high absenteeism in Classes IX to XII on the day of inspection. The Board had taken a lenient view in the order dated 07.08.2024 by permitting class XII Students of the current

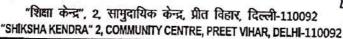
Page 7 of 13

466

29/10









CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



session 2024-25 from the same school keeping in view of the future of the students and to ensure that the students do not face hardship in the crucial year of Class XII. The objective of the Board was to mitigate the problems which might have been faced by the students of Class XII in case they were shifted to other nearby schools. However, during the inspection, it is found that neither the students nor the adequate infrastructure and teachers were available. As reported by the IC in its report of the surprise inspection, "the principal agreed about having non-attending students". Therefore, the finding of the committee is confirmed that the school is still in the process of having dummy/non attending students and has violated clause 14.2 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018.

(2) The Inspection Committee had noted that on the day of inspection, the physical presence of the students was very less in Classes IX to XII where as per the school records 59 students were register in Class IX but only 14 were present, 56 were registered in Class IX but only 08 were found present, in Class XI as per the information submitted by the Principal 120 students were enrolled in the attendance register but, only 03 were found present in class XII and 625 was stated to be as per the attendance register but only 03 students were physically found present by the committee in class XII. It is notable that the previous inspection had also revealed the similar activities on the part of the school where the school had registered high number of enrollment in Class IX, X, XI & XII (247, 223, 810 & 929 respectively session 2023-24). Hence, there is no clarification for the high number of enrollment in the senior classes from 9 to 12 and subsequently the physical absence of the students on the day of surprise inspection. The school has not clarified the reason for the absence of the students on the pretext of being downgraded, however, this submission of the school can not be accepted as the students of Class-XII of the school were permitted to appear from the school itself for the session 2024-25. Further, even after being downgraded, the school was required to run classes upto X as per norms of the Examination and Affiliation Bye-Laws. Therefore, simply stating that since "the affiliation of Senior Secondary Level was already withdrawn by the Board vide its order bearing reference No. "CBSE/AFF/2730705/2024/00387 DT. 22.05.2024, then the observation mentioned in present points are irrelevant, hence need no reply." Therefore, the submission of the school is not tenable and hence, the school has violated Rule 14.2 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board.

Page 8 of 13

29/10

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- (3) The school has stated that this point needs no reply as the Affiliation of Sr. Secondary was already withdrawn vide order dated 22.05.2024. Whereas, another order dated 07.08.2024 was issued wherein the Board after taking lenient view had permitted class XII Students of the current session 2024-25 from the same school keeping in view of the future of the students and to ensure that the students do not face hardship in the crucial year of Class XII. However, intentionally, the school has chosen to remain silent on this point conveyed vide order dated 07.08.2024. This clearly shows the malafide intention of the school to hide facts and to continue the sponsoring of the dummy students/non attending students after taking the advantage of the leniency shown by the Board. The school was also asked to clarify the absence of the students in Class IX & X. However, the school has again remained silent on this point as well. Therefore, it is confirmed that irregularities are committed by the school in the admissions of Class IX & X as well. The school has therefore violated Clause 14.2. The school has not given even a single justification about the absence of students in Class XII which have been permitted by the order dated 07.08.2024 itself to appear in coming examination through the same school only. No justification has been given for physical absence of 622 students as only 03 were found present on the day of inspection out of 625 students as communicated in Show Cause Notice dated 13.09.2024. This firmly leads to the facts that the school is in violation of Clause 14.2 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws and sponsoring the dummy/non attending students.
- (4) As per point No. 4(e) of the SCN dated 13.09.2024, the school was asked to clarify "Class XII- from 810 the number drop to 625, but no. of TCs were only 60". However, the school has again re-iterated that its affiliation of Senior Secondary was already withdrawn vide order dated 22.05.2024, therefore, no reply is required. However, the school again intentionally remained silent on order dated 07.08.2024 according to which the students of Class XII of the school were permitted to appear from the same school in the session 2024-25 examination. Therefore, the school could not justify the issuance of lesser no. of TCs as compare to the number of dropped candidates from 810 to 625. This again substantiates the point that the school is still not adhering to mandatory provisions of Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board.
- (5) This point has already been addressed in points 1 to 4 above.

Page 9 of 13

29/10



"शिक्षा केन्द्र", २, सागुदायिक केन्द्र, प्रीत विहार, दिल्ली-110092 "SHIKSHA KENDRA" 2, COMMUNITY CENTRE, PREET VIHAR, DELHI-110092







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- CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)
- (6) This point has already been addressed in points 1 to 4 above.
- (7) The school was asked to clarify "Further, in few classes, the board outside said 12B, 12C etc but classes IX and X were occupying them. Class XI and XII were seated in one room (12A) with total of 6 students which is a violation of Clause 4.1" as the students of Class XII were permitted to appear from the same school. However, the school took the plea by stating that since Affiliation for Senior Secondary Level was already withdrawn, therefore, it needs no reply. No clarification/logical response had been received from the school on this point.
- (8) In response to para no.8 of the show cause notice, where it was noted by the inspection committee that the school had not provided the Admission & withdrawal Register, admission forms, Transfer Certificates to the committee and not such records were maintained, the school has submitted that it is in the process of updating the incomplete records for which the school has started on priority basis and it will be completed at the earliest possible. The school has neither shown the said records to the inspection committee nor provided the same with is reply dated 10.10.2024 which is after more than one month of the inspection. These records on Admission and Withdrawal Register, Admission forms, TCs etc. are the crucial records to ascertain the genuineness of the bonafide admissions and enrolments. If, the records are still being updated/ prepared by the school, the same had not been made in compliance of the Affiliation Bye-Laws leading to the inference and conclusion that the school was not admitting the bonafide students and was in the process of sponsoring non attending students making gross violation of Clause 14.19 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws.
- (9) In response to the finding of the committee that school was not having sufficient number of teaching staff, only one attendance register of all of the staff was available and only 5 teaching staff members were present on the day of surprise inspection and that the number of PGTs were not in commensuration with the strength of students. The school has refuted the said finding stating that it is wrong and baseless and that the staff members are strictly monitored by the higher functionaries. Though, the school has submitted a list of 49 teachers which is without any salary statement, service record and attendance register to substantiate the claim of the school. The response of the school is very cryptic and unreasonable as it has not submitted the copy of attendance registers for teachers, salary statement of teachers and staff and the service records to support its

Page 10 of 13

"शिक्षा केन्द्र", 2, सामुदायिक केन्द्र, प्रीत विहार, दिल्ली-110092 "SHIKSHA KENDRA" 2, COMMUNITY CENTRE, PREET VIHAR, DELHI-110092









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submissions that it has adequate number of qualified and trained teachers. Therefore, this is violation of 5.2, 5.4 & 14.19 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board.

- (10) In response to point no. 10 of Show Cause Notice, the school has simply negated the point raised in regard of irregularities in signing of the teachers attendance register by the teacher. However, no substantial proof has been submitted w.r.t. the teachers availability, maintenance of teacher attendance register, service records of the teachers. This is a clear violation of 5.2 & 14.19 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board. The school has stated that "the recruitment process of Special Education teacher, Wellness teacher and counsellor is under process and it will be done at the earliest possible.", whereas the school has mentioned the name of the special educator as Ashwini Kumar in the list of staff statement appointed in 2019. Therefore the school is contradicting its own statement. Hence it is proven that the school has violated the clause 2.4.11 & 2.4.12.
- (11) On the issue of total land area of the school which has been noted to be 4690 Sq.yard. by the inspection committee whereas the school has submitted the land certificate of 9400 Sq.mtr. It is also reported by the inspection committee that the school has claimed 900 Sq.yrds land area also, but the same is not connected to make it a single plot as per the requirement of Chapter 3 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws. The submission of the school to this issue is that it has ample land area and infrastructure for running a school upto Senior Secondary Level which has evidently proved in the earlier Board's orders of provisional affiliation for Secondary and Senior Secondary Level. It is also submitted that the finding of the IC seems imaginary and not matched with the ground reality. No copy of registered land documents and the land map have been provided by the school to show that land as claimed by the school is a single and contiguous plot as per the requirement of the Clause 3.1.1 of the Affiliation Bye-Laws.
- (12), (13) & (14) In response to the deficiencies noted by the inspection committee for the labs, where the physics and chemistry labs were not maintained with the lab registers and no lab assistant were found, all the labs were very poorly seen like store rooms without having recommended infrastructure and facilities as required by the Affiliation Bye-Laws and Board's guidelines and that school was not having the math lab which is mandatory for Secondary Level, the school has refuted the findings of the committee stating that for Senior Secondary Labs no clarifications are required as the affiliation to the Senior

Page 11 of 13

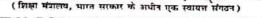


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CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
(An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education, Cover of India)

Secondary Level has already been withdrawn by the Board and in that case labs are not being used at present. On the issue of pitiable conditions of all the labs which looked like store rooms without proper maintenance and used for practical works, the school has stated that clarifications have already been given that labs are not in use due to downgrading of the affiliation, whereas on the issue of non availability of math lab, the school has admitted that during the time of inspection, the math lab was not working condition and now it is functional. The reply of the school and its admission on the facts that labs have not been maintained properly and not in working condition goes to show that the school is not maintaining the basic infrastructure for academic excellence and quality education. The submission of the school that it had been downgraded by the Board and hence no reply on the labs is not acceptable as the students who are appearing in Board Examinations for session 2024-25 are allowed to appear from the same school vide order dated 07.08.2024 and if the labs and other infrastructure has not been maintained in accordance with the provisions with the Affiliation Bye-Laws of the Board, the school is proved to have not maintained the infrastructure on labs and is in gross violation of clauses 4.2 & 4.5 and 14.19 of Affiliation Bye-Laws.

E. Conclusion:

The school was disaffiliated vide order dated 22.03.2024, subsequently on the representations submitted by the school and for the interest of the students the order dated 22.05.2024 was modified to the extent that the school was downgraded upto secondary school examination level and vide order dated 07.08.2024 the students of class XII of the current session were permitted from the same school for Board's examination 2024-25. In order to ensure that the school is following the affiliation Bye-Laws, a surprise inspection was conducted on 03.09.2024. However, the school still has not mended its ways. Thus, the following violations are established beyond doubt:-

- 1. The school is indulged in sponsoring dummy/non attending students.
- 2. The school has got a very high absenteeism.
- 3. The school has severe infrastructural deficiencies.
- 4. The school is not maintaining section teacher ratio 1:1.5 with trained and qualified teachers.

Page 12 of 13

29/10



"शिक्षा केन्द्र", २. सामुदायिक केन्द्र, प्रीत विहार, दिल्ली-110092 "SHKSHA KENDRA" 2, COMMUNITY CENTRE, PREET VIHAR, DELHI-110092





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CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Education Cost of Legis)



5. The school has committed irregularities in maintaining essential school's records such as AWR and attendance registers, teachers attendance.

Accordingly, it is for consideration as to which of the penalties mentioned in the clause 12.1 of the Affiliation Bye Laws be imposed on the school. Since the violation observed are clearly manifesting wilful non-observance of the Affiliation Bye Laws to the extent of deliberately sponsoring non bonafide students and manipulation of records, therefore it can only be concluded that the school is liable for the severest of the penalty as can be imposed viz. withdrawal of affiliation.

Hence, as per the approval of the competent authority of the Board, the following orders are issued:-

- 1. The affiliation granted to the school upto secondary level is withdrawn with immediate effect.
- 2. Student in class X and XII are permitted to appear from the same school for session 2024-25.
- However, the students who are presently in class IX and XI shall be shifted to nearby school by Regional Officer, Delhi (West). The school shall not take any new admissions or promote the students of lower classes in IX and XI by natural progression, hereafter.
- 4. The school may seek restoration of affiliation upto secondary level after lapse of one academic year i.e. from 2026-27 after ameliorating the deficiencies pointed out with regard to running upto secondary level.
- 5. The school may seek restoration of affiliation upto senior secondary level only at least after 02 academic years of restoration upto secondary level, if so sought and granted.

JOINT SECRETARY (Aff.)

THE MANAGER, SIDHHARTHA PUBLIC SCHOOL, TATESAR EXTENSION, KANJHAWALA, NEW DELHI-110081.

Page 13 of 13







