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B/45722/RTE/AWES

12 Jan 2017

List B

**EXEMPTION OF ARMED FORCES RUN SCHOOLS FROM RTE ACT 2009 WITH
REFERENCE TO ADMISSION ON 25% EWS STUDENTS**

1. Queries are being raised from the environment with regard to implementation of RTE Act 2009. In this regard it is intimated that the MoD has taken up the issue with the MHRD to extend relief to the Army run schools from the obligation of admitting 25% of the strength of the class from and amongst children of weaker sections/disadvantaged group. The Hon'ble Raksha Mantri in a DO letter dt 24 Sep 2016 addressed to the Hon'ble HRD Minister has requested that Armed Forces run schools be exempted from admitting 25% children from EWS category and notify Army Public schools as '**Specified Category**' under RTE 2009.
2. The issue is being discussed among the two Ministries and additional information requested by the HRD Ministry has also been provided by MoD to notify Armed Forces run schools as 'Specified Category' schools under Clause 2 (p) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009.
3. It is also recommended that during the Civil Military Liaison Conferences at Comd/State levels, the issue be taken up for issuance of directions from the concerned State authorities. The District authorities can be advised not to press the issue of implementation of RTE Act 2009 to the Army Public Schools since our Schools have large percentage of children who are first generation learner and deprived of quality education. The civil administration needs to be sensitized that majority of serving soldiers hail from far flung remote areas across the country where education facilities remotely exist. In addition the following points can also be highlighted.
 - (a) Army opened up its own Army Public Schools for the welfare of its tps and rks basically due to short tenures and frequent movement of its tps from fd area to peace stations and vice a versa and their children not getting admission in other schools both Govt or Private due to midterm transfers or no vacancies available in these
 - (b) If 25% of the seats at Army Public Schools are given to EWS children than the Army will not be able to provide 100% guaranteed admission to its own children and the future of Army personnel children will be bleak as admissions are not being given by other Schools both Govt and Private also.



(c) If the children of the Armed Forces personnel don't get admission in Schools and are not educated properly then it's going to affect their morale and their full attention will be on these issues and will not be able to take on the rigors of the service conditions and may not be able to fully concentrate on their duty for the defence of the country.

4. In view of above, the Local Military Authorities (LMAs) are requested to take up case specific issues with the Local Distt Authorities through personal liaison whereby clarifying our stand in the light of issue having been take up at the Ministerial level.



(Sunil Chandra)
Maj Gen (Retd)
MD AWES

Copy to:-

HQ 40 Arty Div (Edn) - for info with ref to their letter No 108309/GS(Edn) dt 16 Nov 2016.

