

No. EDN-HE (21) F (13) 03/20203
Directorate of School Education
Himachal Pradesh

Dated: Shimla-171001 the April, 2025

To

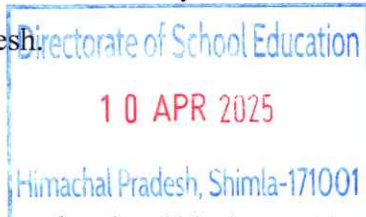
All the Deputy Director of Higher / Elementary Education,
Himachal Pradesh.


Subject:- Implementation of SOP on Portrayal of Sahibzadas of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib.

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of D.O. No. NCM/81/197/2022 dated 23rd January, 2025 alongwith its enclosures received from the Chairman, National Commission for Minorities, EX-Officio Member, National Human Rights Commission, India through Secretary (SJ&E) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh Shimla-2 vide letter No. SJE-B-A04/10/2023 dated 13th March, 2025 on the subject cited above.

In this context, it is intimated that the Chairman, National Commission for Minorities, National Human Rights Commission, India has intimated that the National Commission for Minorities (NCM), GOI has formulated a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to ensure that no individual or organization portrays the figures of Sahibzadas of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib and their family members in stage, plays, dramas, or similar performances.

Now therefore, you are directed to circulate these instructions amongst all the Heads of educational institution under your control and also ensure to implement the same in all the schools of Himachal Pradesh.





Director School Education,
Himachal Pradesh

Endst.No. Even dated Shimla-171001 the April, 2025

Copy for information and necessary action to:-

1. The Chairman, National Commission for Minorities, National Human Rights Commission, India, New Delhi-110003 w.r.t. his letter refers above.
2. The Secretary (SJ&E) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-2
3. The Director of Higher Education, H.P, Shimla-1.
- ✓ 4. The Nodal Officer-IT Cell, Directorate of School Education, H.P, Shimla-1 with the remarks to upload the same on departmental website.
5. Guard file.


Director School Education,
Himachal Pradesh

SJE-B-A04/10/2023
Government of Himachal Pradesh,
Department of Social Justice & Empowerment-B

From

The Secretary (SJ&E) to the
Government of H.P. Shimla-2

To

1. All the Administrative Secretaries to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171002.
2. All the Heads of Departments of H.P.

Dated Shimla-2 13 March, 2025

Subject:- Implementation of SOP on Portrayal of Sahibzadas of Shri Guru Govind Singh Sahib.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of D.O No.NCM/81/197/2022 dated 23.01.2025 received from Sh. Iqbal Singh Lalpura, Chairman, National Commission For Minorities, National Human Rights Commission, GoI, New Delhi on the subject cited above and to say that the National Commission for Minorities (NCM), National Human Rights Commission, GoI, has formulated a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to ensure that no individual or organization portrays the figures of Sabhibzadas of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib and their family members in stage plays, dramas, or similar performances.

You are therefore, requested to take necessary action and issue appropriate instructions for strict compliance to the SOP.

Yours faithfully,

(Jeewan Singh)

Joint Secretary (SJE) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. As above

Dated: Shimla-2

March, 2025

Copy forwarded to Sh. Iqbal Singh Lalpura, Chairman, National Commission For Minorities, National Human Rights Commission, GoI, New Delhi w.r.t. his D.O letter referred to above for information please.

(Jeewan Singh)

Joint Secretary (SJ&E) to the
Govt. of Himachal Pradesh

Ms. Rishi
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Planning
General

सिंह लालपुरा

Iqbal Singh Lalpura



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भारत सरकार

Government of India

अध्यक्ष, राष्ट्रीय अल्पसंख्यक आयोग

पदेन सदस्य, राष्ट्रीय मानव अधिकार आयोग, भारत

Chairman, National Commission For Minorities

Ex-Officio Member, National Human Rights Commission, India

23.01.2025

D.O. No. NCM/81/197/2022

Dear Sh. Saxena,

As you are aware, the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) formed under the NCM Act, 1992 has been inter-alia, entrusted with the responsibility to safeguard the interests of the Minority communities.

2. The Commission has taken cognizance of a representation received from Advocate Ms. Neena Singh, requesting that the acting and portrayal of "Sahibzadas" of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib and their family members in stage plays and drama shows be ceased. The petitioner has raised objections against certain schools that have misinterpreted the guidelines, specifically staging plays that depict the Sahibzadas being bricked alive.

3. In light of the sensitivity of the matter, the Commission has formulated a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) to ensure that no individual or organization Portray's the historical figures of the Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib and their family members in stage plays, dramas, or similar performances. The same is enclosed herewith for information and appropriate action.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Iqbal Singh Lalpura)

Shri Prabodh Saxena,
Chief Secretary,
Government of Himachal Pradesh,
H.P. Secretariat,
Shimla-171002

ब्लाक-3 (तीसरी मंजिल) एवं ब्लाक-14 (पहली मंजिल), सी.जी.ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स, लोधी रोड, नई दिल्ली - 110 003

Block-3 (3rd Floor) & Block-14 (1st Floor), CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003

दूरभाष/Tel. : 011-24366312 फैक्स/Fax : 011-24368410

Email : chairman-ncm@nic.in • Website : www.ncm.nic.in

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to Cease and Desist from Acting and Playing as "Sahibzadas" of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib and their Family Members in Stage Plays/Drama Shows

Purpose:

According to faith of Sikh religion and the "Sikh Rehat Maryada" (Code of Conduct dictated by Shri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib ji) and order of Shri Guru Granth Sahib, nobody is allowed to act/show himself/herself and/or represent himself/herself as any of Sikh Gurus and their family members. It has been noticed that some schools across India have held Stage Show Plays where School Children are acting as the younger "Sahibzadas" and depicting the Sahibzadas being bricked alive.

The purpose of this SOP is to establish guidelines for ensuring that no individual or organization misrepresents the historical figures of the Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib and their family members in stage plays, dramas, or similar performances.

Scope:

This SOP applies to all actors, directors, producers, event organizers, and performers involved in stage plays, drama shows, or any other form of public performance where individuals are cast or portrayed as the Sahibzadas of Shri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib and their family members.

Background:

According to Sikh history, Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh, the younger sons of tenth Guru Gobind Singh ji, at the tender age of 9 and 6 years respectively, were bricked alive and martyred in Sirhind (Punjab) on December 26, 1704 by Wazir Khan.

Government of India commemorates 26th December as "Veer Baal Diwas" every year to pay homage to the great valour and supreme sacrifice of Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh.

Guidelines

- (i) Idol worship and people acting as Sikh Gurus and their family members is prohibited and considered disrespectful.
- (ii) Persons may not act/show himself/herself and/or represent himself/herself as any of Sikh Gurus and their family members, as Guru Sahibs and their family members are not to be depicted in any stage play or drama by persons.
- (iii) The children are not allowed to dress up as Sahibzade or imitate their person. This is against Sikh tenets and practices.

(iv) The reverence of Sikh Gurus and their family members can be narrated only in written or verbal form. The history of Sikh Gurus and their family members can be shown through animation.

The portrayal of historical figures, particularly the Sahibzadas of Guru Gobind Singh Sahib, is an issue of great cultural and religious importance. This SOP ensures that the 'Rehat Maryada of the Sikhs' is maintained while honoring the sacrifice of the Sahibzadas.

PSD