## FEE REGULATORY COMMITTEE (SELF FINANCED SCHOOL) AHMEDABAD ZONE

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NO. FRC/A'BAD ZONE/A'BAD RURAL/638/2020 / 17724-26 DATE: 17.02.2020

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## READ:

- Proposal submitted by Udgam School for Children, Thaltej, Ahmedabad, for the academic year 2020-21 for Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Sections (Gen. and Sci. – CBSE English Medium) along with relevant documents.
- Final Order passed by the Fee Regulatory Committee, Ahmedabad Zone, Ahmedabad, on 14.12.2018 for the academic year 2017-18 and 2018-19 for Pre-Primary, Primary, Upper-Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Sections (Gen. and Sci. – CBSE English Medium).

## PROVISIONAL ORDER DATE: 17.02.2020

1. At the outset, it is made clear that this Provisional Order is passed by the Fee Regulatory Committee, consisting of the Chairman as well as Mr. R. C. Raval, the Member of the committee. As per the Provisions contained in Rule 5(5) of Gujarat Self-Financed Schools (Regulations of Fees) Rules, 2017, the quorum at the meeting of the Committee shall be atleast 2/3<sup>rd</sup> Members of the total strength of the Committee. If there is no quorum at the meeting, the same shall be adjourned for half an hour. Thereafter, the meeting shall be held for the

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transaction of its business. The total strength of the Committee is 5 and for the purpose of the quorum at the meeting at least 3 Members of the Committee should remain present. However, only the Chairman and 1 Member remain present and they have waited for half an hour. Since, no 3<sup>rd</sup> Member has come to the meeting, as per the Provision of Rule 5(5), the meeting is held by the Committee consisting of the Chairman and 1 Member for the transaction of its business.

2. At the further outset, it is to be observed here that the present school namely, Udgam School for Children has filed its proposal only for Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Sections (Gen. and Sci. - CBSE English Medium). However, this very school has initially filed its proposal for the academic year 2017-18 and 2018-19 even for Pre-Primary Section along with Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Sections. It is not clear from the proposal filed by the school for the academic year 2020-21 as to whether the school has discontinued its Pre-Primary Section with effect from academic year 2020-21 or made some other arrangement for Pre-Primary Section. Needless to state that as per the Provisions contained in Section 2(q) of the Gujarat Self-Financed Schools (Regulations of Fees) Act, 2017, "Pre-Primary School" means a Nursery, Junior Kindergarten, Senior Kindergarten level or any school imparting education up to Pre-Primary school level for children having age of 3 to 6 years, by whatever name called and of any medium attached in the prescribed manner to the school. Section 2(u) defines "Self-Financed School" which means any Pre-Primary school, Primary school, Upper-Primary school, Secondary school or Higher Secondary school, established and administered or maintained by any person or body of persons including Trusts and companies and recognized or approved by the competent authority under any law for the time being in force holding affiliation of International or Central or State Boards operating in the State of Gujarat, which are not receiving any financial

grants or assistance from the Central Government or the State Government or any local authority, but it does not include a school giving, providing or imparting religious instructions alone.

- 3. Section 9 of the Act, grants exemption to the school from appearance before Committee. Section 9(1) states that the Fee Regulatory Committee may exempt such Self-Financed Schools that charge amount of Fee lower than the fee prescribed by the Government by notification in the Official Gazette, from the determination of fee. Such Self-Financed School shall file an affidavit to that effect. The second Proviso to Section 9(1) further states that exclusive Pre-Primary classes/ Play Groups/ creches/ not attached to nay school shall be exempted from the application of the provisions of this Act. Rule 11 also deals with "exemption". Sub-Rule (3) of Rule 11 states that exclusive Pre-Primary classes/ Play Groups/ creches not attached to any school shall be exempted under Section 9 of the Act. Explanation to Sub-Rule (3) of Rule 11 states that for the purposes of Section Proviso to Sub-Section (1) of Section 9 and Sub-Rule (3), any tie up, agreement, collaboration of any such Pre-Primary classes/ play groups/ creches with any Self-Financed School either directly or indirectly, or operating under functional/ financial or administrative control of the same management or of the relatives or the Pre-Primary schools being run as franchise or agency by the Primary School shall be considered to be an attachment with such school
- 4. In view of the above Statutory Provisions contained in the Act as well as Rules, the school is required to clarify as to whether it has discontinued Pre-Primary Section with effect from 2020-21 or it has made any other arrangement which may violate the Provisions of the Act or Rules as quoted above. The necessary explanation should be furnished by the school within 2 weeks from the date of receipt of this Provisional Order, irrespective of the fact whether the school is aggrieved by the Provisional Order or not.

5. Udgam School for Children, Thaltej, Ahmedabad, has submitted its proposal for fixation of fees structure for the academic year 2020-21 for Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Sections (Gen. and Sci. – CBSE English Medium) along with relevant documents. The Fee Regulatory Committee, Ahmedabad Zone, Ahmedabad, has passed Final Order on 14.12.2018, for the academic year 2017-18 and 2018-19 for Pre-Primary, Upper-Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Sections (Gen. and Sci. – CBSE English Medium). The FRC has determined the fees for the academic year 2017-18 and 2018-19 vide its order dated 14.12.2018. The FRC has also permitted the school to charge and collect the fees for the academic year 2019-20 after giving rise of 5% in the fees determined for the academic year 2018-19. Accordingly, the fees determined by the FRC for the academic year 2017-18 and 2018-19 as well as the fees charged and collected by the school for the academic year 2019-20, on the basis of the order passed by the FRC for the earlier two years, are as under:

No.	Section	Board/ Medium	FINAL FEES DETERMINED BY THE FRC FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-18 (IN RS.)	FINAL FEES DETERMINED BY THE FRC FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-19 (IN RS.)	FEES CHARGEI AND COLLECTED BY THE SCHOOL FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-20 (IN RS.)
1.	Std. 1	CBSE (ENG. MEDIUM)	75865	79658	83636
2.	Std. 2		75880	79674	83664
3.	Std. 3		73795	77484	81354
4.	Std. 4		71635	75216	78974
5.	Std. 5		75250	79012	82964
6.	Std. 6		68350	71767	75362
7.	Std. 7		64180	67389	70756
8.	Std. 8		53830	56521	59346
9.	Std. 9		47305	49670	52150
10.	Std. 10		46210	48520	50946
11.	Std. 11 (Gen)		70005	73505	77182
12.	Std. 12 (Gen)		66000	69300	72772
13.	Std. 11 (Sci)		75005	78755	82698
14.	Std. 12 (Sci)		71495	75069	78820

- 6. Since, the school has now proposed the fees for the academic year 2020-21 which are more than the 5% increase of the fees charged and collected by the school for the academic year 2019-20, the same are required to be examined in light of the documents and financial data produced by the school. The FRC has therefore, undertaken the exercise of determination of Provisional Fees for the academic year 2020-21.
- 7. While, examining the Audited Income and Expenditure Account of the school for the year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019, it appears that the total fees income from the students was Rs. 26,61,06,856/-. The school has also received interest income of Rs. 3,79,857/- and other income of Rs. 5,07,020/-. The school has shown the total expenses of Rs. 27,70,09,223/-. Thus, there was excess of expenditure of Rs. 1,00,15,490/-. While, examining the details of expenses appeared in Income and Expenditure Account, it appears that the school has claimed Rent, Rates and Taxes of Rs. 1,29,59,750/-, Repairs and Maintenance of Rs. 2,08,12,650/-, Fees and Legal Expenses of Rs. 75,98,911/- other expenses of Rs. 54,02,639/- and depreciation of Rs. 1,74,52,946/-. After considering disallowable portion of expenses the FRC has determined the Final Fees for the academic year 2018-19 as indicated above. The said order of FRC has become final.
- 8. As far as academic year 2019-20 is concerned, the school has furnished the Provisional Income and Expenditure Account for the period ended on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019, duly Audited by the Chartered Accountant. As per the said Provisional Income and Expenditure Account for the period ended on 30<sup>th</sup>, September, 2019, the fees income from the students was Rs. 13,71,83,685/-. The school has also received interest income of Rs. 93,871/- other income of Rs. 3,16,420/-. The school has shown the total expenses of Rs. 12,50,30,811/-. Thus, the school has shown the excess of income of Rs. 1,25,63,165/- over the expenditure which is transferred to the Trust. The school has also shown the

projected income and expenditure statement for the year ended on 31st March, 2020. As per the said statement, the total income of the school is Rs. 27,56,93,785/-. The projected expenditure for the year ended on 31sr March, 2020 are Rs. 29,21,90,095/-. Thus, there was excess of expenditure of Rs. 1,64,96,310/- over the income. While, giving details of projected expenditure, it is found that the school has claimed Rent, Rates and Taxes at Rs. 2,74,91,933/-, Repairs and Maintenances of Rs. 1,94,98,636/-. Professional Fees and Legal Expenses of Rs. 63,34,953/- other expenses of Rs. 46,99,252/- and depreciation of Rs. 1,20,73,942/-. The strength of the students in 2019-20 is 3835. If the total expenses of Rs. 29,21,90,095/- are divided by number of students i.e. 3835, the cost per student comes to Rs. 76,190/-. After considering disallowable portion of the expenses claimed by the school and on the basis of the order passed by the FRC for the academic year 2017-18 and 2018-19 and after adding 5% increase in the fees determined for the academic year 2018-19, the school has charged and collected the fees for the academic year 2019-20 as indicated above.

9. The school has submitted the Projected Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021. As per the said statement total income estimated is Rs. 30,24,14,478/- and total expenses projected by the school for the very same period are Rs. 30,03,14,698/-. Thus, there was excess of income of Rs. 20,99,780/-. If the total expenses of Rs. 30,03,14,698/- are divided by number of students i.e. 3835 (on assumption that the same strength would continue in 2020-21), the cost per students would come to Rs. 78,308/-. This cost per student would further be reduced if the disallowable portion of expenses are deducted from the total expenses. In this view of the matter, the fees proposed by the school are on the higher side and the same cannot be approved. However, considering the fact that fees for some of the Standards, namely, Standard 7,8,9 and 10 are less than the cost per student arrived at as

above, instead of approving the fees proposed by the school, the FRC deems it fit to give 5% increase in the fees charged and collected by the school for the academic year 2019-20, on the basis of the order passed by the FRC for the academic year 2017-18 and 2018-19.

10.In the above view of the matter and considering the documents and financial data available on record, the FRC hereby determines the Provisional Fees for the academic year 2020-21 as under:

No.	Section	Board/ Medium	FEES PROPOSED BY THE SCHOOL FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-21 (IN RS.)	PROVISIONAL FEES DETERMINED BY THE FRC FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-21 (IN RS.)
1.	Std. 1	CBSE (ENG. MEDIUM)	92,000/-	87,818/-
2.	Std. 2		92,030/-	87,847/-
3.	Std. 3		89,489/-	85,422/-
4.	Std. 4		86,871/-	82,923/-
5.	Std. 5		91,260/-	87,112/-
6.	Std. 6		82,898/-	79,130/-
7.	Std. 7		77,832/-	74,294/-
8.	Std. 8		65,281/-	62,313/-
9.	Std. 9		57,365/-	54,758/-
10.	Std. 10		56,041/-	53,493/-
11.	Std. 11 (Gen)		84,900/-	81,041/-
12.	Std. 12 (Gen)		80,049/-	76,411/-
13.	Std. 11 (Sci)		90,968/-	86,833/-
14.	Std. 12 (Sci)		86,702/-	82,761/-

## **Terms and Conditions:**

 It is directed that the School is not permitted to collect fees for any quarter of 2020-21, more than provisional fees determined for the year 2020-21.

- It is further made clear that the school is not permitted to collect fees under any other head including under the head of Admission Fees except one month fees by way of admission fees only in case of new admission and thereby causing any extra burden on the students.
- Any other fees collected under the head Transportation, uniform charges, meal or food charges or other activities should be optional and the same should not be made compulsory. The details of such fees should also be furnished to the FRC.
- 4. Any violation of this order shall be dealt with by the FRC in accordance with law, on being brought to the notice of the FRC by any aggrieved party.
- 5. The FRC has considered the provisional fees determined for Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Section (Gen. & Sci. –CBSE English Medium) for the academic year 2020-21 on the basis of documents and financial data available with the FRC. Considering the same, 5% increase is given in the fees determined for earlier year.
- 6. The school is directed to place the order determining provisional fees on its notice board as well as on its website.

SD/-(JUSTICE K. A. PUJ) CHAIRMAN

> SD/-(R. C. RAVAL) Member

To, The Principal Udgam School for Children, Thaltej, Ahmedabad.

Copy to:

- 1. District Primary Education Officer, Ahmedabad Rural.
- 2. District Education Officer, Ahmedabad Rural

यीइ डॉ-ओ शन्टर इी नियमन समिती अमहावाह जोन अने જિલ્લા शिक्षणापिकारी अमहावाह शहेर, अमहावाह.