



INDIAN EDUCATION SOCIETY

[Registered under Society's Registration Act, 1860 bearing Reg. No. Bom. 79/GBBSD
and under Public Trust Act, 1950 bearing Reg. No. F-190 (Bom.)]

◆ Raja Shivaji Vidyasankul, Hindu Colony, Dadar (East), Mumbai - 400 014. ◆



IES/Sect/ 37 /2021-22

10.06.2021

NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS OF IES ORION AND IES MANIK VIDYA MANDIR

**Ref : Letter dated 7th June 2021 addressed by 13 parents of IES Orion and
12 parents of IES MVM.**

Sub : Fees for the Academic Year 2020-21.

Dear parents,

1. On 07.06.2021, approximately 25 people, most of whom we cannot identify, because they were having masks on their faces, claiming to be parents of these 2 schools entered the offices of Society without any prior permission, with the intention of creating unruly scenes in the Society office and pressurising, coercing and threatening the management into accepting their demands. Parents who were identifiable despite their masked faces have been named at the appropriate places in this notice. We are not certain that all the people who were present are genuine parents and are not outsiders / persons unconnected with either of the schools.
2. These 25 persons met Shri Shailendra W. Gharse, the Hon. Secretary and CEO, who listened to the demands of the parents, including some demands and gestures made in an aggressive manner.
3. The unruliness of these parents compelled the management to seek assistance from the Matunga police station, since the management was worried about the safety and security of their employees who had reported for duty, as also the safety of their property.
4. The parents repeatedly demanded grant of access to online classes, despite the fact that they had failed to pay the fees, despite several extensions granted by the management for payment of the fees.

Tel.: 2419 9595
2419 9500

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E-mail : admin@ies.edu



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5. One of the lady parents demanded that they would pay only the minimum fees, another parent could be heard saying that the parents were willing to pay the fees with penalty, but online access should be granted first. But this parent was shushed quiet by some others. Some parents threatened that they would defame the school and the management in public media.
6. The interaction with Shri Gharse was recorded by the parents, without his consent and appears to have been live streamed on Face Book by Smt. Akshata Tendulkar and she, alongwith some other parents also made this video recording viral. The management was defamed and sought to be named and shamed in public because the public at large were not made aware of the reduction in fees and extensions of time given by the management to the parents to pay the fees. Stills from either the video recording or independently shot on phone cameras have also been made available to the print media, with a distorted one sided version of events.
7. The employees present have been video recorded without their consent and their faces flashed on Facebook and other media. It is a gross invasion of their privacy.
8. One parent threatened that the parents would bring students to the management office, which is another pressure tactic being used by the parents. He also threatened that these parents would bring the media too for recording and telecasting all this, and no one, including the police, could stop them. He also held out an implicit threat that the parents and / or the students would inflict self harm and ensure that the school and the management would be held responsible for the same. He also threatened to make this viral, thereby defaming the management and ensuring that no parent would seek admission in the school. He held out the threats of using a strong media campaign against the management.
9. One parent mocked the ethics and values of the management and its schools.



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10. False allegations were made against the security persons deployed on the campus by another parent.
11. Shri Gautam Pendse addressed Shri Gharse on the interpretation of the judgments of the Hon'ble Courts and also insisted that the schools had factually increased the fees, since the entire syllabus had not been completed in the Academic Year 2020-21 and therefore, the fees notified by the management was not justified. Shri Gharse replied that while the parent could put forward his point and he would listen to it, it was necessary to understand what the law is on the subject.
12. One of the parents, Smt. Riya Karalkar demanded a 'bare minimum cost' be fixed by the management and that the parents are ready and willing to pay the said amount within a further 6-7 days, but that the online access to classes should be granted immediately.
13. Shri Gharse informed the parents that the management acted on the advice of their legal counsel and, in fact, while the legal team had advised against any reduction of fees, the management had in fact reverted to the fees of the Academic Year 2019-20 as the fees that parents were required to pay as fees in the Academic Year 2020-21. He also pointed out that the difference between the PTA EC approved fees of the Academic Year 2020-21 and that of the Academic Year 2019-20 was refunded to all parents who had paid the fees as per the PTA EC approved fees for the Academic Year 2020-21, instead of telling the parents that the same would be adjusted against future payments.
14. Another parent Shri Tushar Shinde claimed that the behaviour of the management was dictatorial.
15. The repeated demand was for starting online classes immediately, without payment of the outstanding fee arrears.
16. On Shri Gharse stating that he was not the sole authority and he would need to consult the other members of the Governing Council and requesting the parents to submit an application in writing, so that the Governing Council could

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take a decision on or before 10.06.2021 and communicate the decision to all parents, we have received the letter under reply.

17. Shri Gharse assured that if parents cleared the fee arrears, steps would be taken to ensure that such children would be brought upto date with other class students on the academics.
18. We repeat that the interpretation sought to be given by some of the parents to the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court is not correct, but we have been advised not to disclose anything further, beyond what has been already communicated to the parents.
19. The aforesaid acts/omissions of threatening including but not limited to bringing students to the management office, unruliness of the parents, gestures on the social media because the public at large were presented a one sided distorted version of the issue and not made aware of the reduction in fees and extensions made in an aggressive manner, mocking the ethics and values of the management and live streaming on social media as also making it viral clearly establishes that it was pre planned with pre determined agenda and has caused incalculable harm /damage to the reputation of the school /defamed the management in of time given by the management to the parents to pay the fees in the social media as detailed hereinabove. The same was done to ensure that the management succumbed to the demands of these parents and consequently also seeking to instil fear, demoralize the Teachers/employees thereby affecting and / or leading to disruption of the smooth functioning of the School. Such acts / omissions are per se causing anxiety and/or mental trauma which cannot be tolerated.
20. The parents indulging in acts of threatening and defaming the School are therefore called upon to forthwith cease and desist from directly and / or indirectly indulging in any of the aforesaid act / omissions which has the effect of defaming the school and also affecting the smooth functioning and peaceful atmosphere of the School which cannot be tolerated.



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21. The aforesaid unethical behaviour of these parents has tarnished the fair name image and reputation of the institution which is more than 100 years old and set to enhance the educational career of many young children who come from various families for education.
22. The fact that the aforesaid acts are pressure tactics to pressurise the Management to reduce fees and not done due to genuine/bonafide reasons is apparent from the fact that Smt. Akshata Tendulkar who was an active organizer of this assembly and appears to have taken the lead, and who also live streamed the meeting on her Face Book page has paid the full fees for her child.
- 23. Without being influenced or prejudiced by the illegal recording made of the aforesaid meeting and the same being made viral, and, the attempt to defame the management, the Governing Council has rejected the demand made in the aforesaid letter for any further reduction in fees and for starting online classes immediately, without fee arrears being cleared.**
24. We are not dealing with all the contentions/ statements made in the aforesaid letter at this juncture, save and except to state that while individual replies may not have been communicated to the parents, the decision of the management has been conveyed through notices uploaded on the school website from time to time ; parents who had not cleared the fee arrears had been given sufficient time to clear the fee arrears and the possibility of stoppage of online access had also been conveyed to the parents. The issue of LC and late fee payment charges should not be mixed up with the issue of refusal to pay fees – the parents were required to clear their fee arrears in its entirety before the close of Academic Year 2020-21, but had been granted several extensions, including the last one upto 31.05.2021. In so far as the Government communication referred to in paragraph 2 (b) is concerned, the same is answered in the judgment and order of the Hon'ble Bombay High Court dated 01.03.2021.
- 25. All parents who have not paid the fees are once again requested to clear the fee arrears at their earliest.**

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26. It is also a matter of deep regret that one parent decided to use extremely abusive abominable and gutter snipe language while addressing a communication to the School. Some other parents have also addressed communications while using unpleasant language.
27. We reserve our right to take action against any parent who has defamed the management or encouraged the defamation of the management on social media or causes any harassment to any of our employees.
28. We have chosen to upload this reply on the website, instead of addressing the signatories to the letter, to ensure that all parents are kept informed of what has transpired during the meeting and also of the management decision.
29. We also acknowledge the support given to the school by those parents who paid the school fees as per the fee payment schedules.

Sd/-	Sd/-	Sd/-	Sd/-
(Arvind B. Vaidya)	(Achala S. Joshi)	(Satish M. Lotlikar)	(Satish R. Nayak)
President	Trustee	Trustee	Trustee