CBSE/ Dir(ACAD)/ 2021  
Date: June 11, 2021  
Circular No. ACAD-44/2021

All Heads of Institutions affiliated to CBSE

Subject: Celebration of National Reading Day, Week and Month–regarding

Ref:
1. F.No.1-69/2021-Sch.3 dated 8th June 2021, Department of School Education and Literacy, MoE, Govt. of India

Dear Principal

The National Education Policy 2020 has placed emphasis on ‘how to read’, ‘learn to read’, read to learn’ and underscored the critical role played by Public/School/Digital libraries towards this end. The P. N. Panicker Foundation has been a key contributor in this area.

Honouring the father of the Library Movement, the late P.N. Panicker, 19th June is being celebrated as Reading Day and the following week as the Reading Week. Started as a Reading Day Celebration on 19th June 1996, it has become a mass movement to promote the culture of reading. On 19th June 2017, Hon’ble Prime Minister launched the 22nd National Reading Month Celebrations and gave a clarion call to propagate the message of ‘Read and Grow’ among all the citizens of the country by 2022.

The 26th National Reading Day will be celebrated on 19th June 2021, the following week as Reading Week and Reading Month will be celebrated from 19th June to 18th July 2021. In the light of COVID-19 pandemic, the P.N. Panicker Foundation has initiated and designed different online reading related activities. The details of these activities are available at the link: pnpanickerfoundation.org

You are requested to celebrate Reading Day, Reading Week and Reading Month by organizing similar online activities as suggested by the Foundation or other activities by leveraging technology. Students may also be encouraged to participate in the online activities and competitions being organised by the Foundation.

Dr. Joseph Emmanuel  
Director (Academics)
Copy to the respective Heads of Directorates, Organizations and Institutions as indicated below with a request to disseminate the information to all the schools under their jurisdiction:

1. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 18-Institutional Area, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi-16
2. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, B-15, Sector-62, Institutional Area, Noida201309
3. The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110 054
4. The Director of Public Instructions (Schools), Union Territory Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh-160017
5. The Director of Education, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim –737101
6. The Director of School Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar –791 111
7. The Director of Education, Govt. of A&N Islands, Port Blair – 744101
8. The Director of Education, S.I.E., CBSE Cell, VIP Road, Junglee Ghat, P.O. 744103, A&N Island
9. The Director, Central Tibetan School Administration, ESSESS Plaza, Community Centre, Sector 3, Rohini
10. The Additional Director General of Army Education, A –Wing, Sena Bhawan, DHQ, PO, New Delhi-110001
11. The Secretary AWES, Integrated Headquarters of MoD (Army), FDRC Building No. 202,Shankar Vihar (Near APS), Delhi Cantt-110010
12. The Under Secretary (Sch.3), Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-01
13. All Regional Directors/Regional Officers of CBSE with the request to send this circular to all the Heads of the affiliated schools of the Board in their respective regions
14. All Joint Secretary/ Deputy Secretary/ Assistant Secretary / Analyst, CBSE
15. All Head(s)/ In-Charge(s), Centre of Excellence, CBSE
16. In charge IT Unit with the request to put this circular on the CBSE Academic website
17. In-Charge, Library
18. The Head (Media & Public Relations), CBSE
19. DS to Chairman, CBSE
20. SPS to Secretary, CBSE
21. SPS to Director (Academics), CBSE
22. SPS to Director (Information Technology), CBSE
23. SPS to Controller of Examinations, CBSE
24. SPS to Director (Skill Education and Training), CBSE
25. SPS to Director (CTET), CBSE
26. SPS to Director (Professional Examinations), CBSE
27. SPS to Director (EDUSAT), CBSE
28. Record File

Dr. Joseph Emmanuel
Director (Academics)
To
The Chairman,
Central Board of Secondary Education,
Shiksha Kendra, 2, Community Centre
Preet Vihar, Delhi-110092

Subject: P.N. Panicker National Reading Digital Day/Reading Month Celebrations 2021-reg.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a communication received from Sh. N Balagopal, Vice Chairman, P.N. Panicker Foundation, Thiruvananthapuram addressed to Secretary, SE&L, MHRD along with a letter from the Adviser, NITI Aayog, on the subject cited above which are self-explanatory.

2. Earlier also, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) had issued advisory to all Heads of the Institutions affiliated to CBSE to promote reading among school children. This year, due to the pandemic, online/digital reading is also being promoted. As per the request made by the Foundation and in pursuance of the letter from NITI Aayog, CBSE is requested to issue advisory to all the concerned institutions to spread the message of learn to read and read to learn, through offline/online reading.

Yours faithfully,

(Vinayak T. Likhar)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel No. 23381782
Email- vinayak.likhari@nic.in

Endl.: As above.

Copy to:


(ii) Shri N. Balagopal, Vice Chairman, P.N. Panicker Foundation, Krishnalaya, Opp. Govt Arts College, Thycud, Thiruvananthapuram- 695014. Email: kedesindia@gmail.com
Mobile No. 9447064944.
D.O. No. P-11057/17/2018-HRD

02nd June, 2021

Dear Madam/Sir,

The National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 has placed renewed emphasis on ‘how to read’, ‘learn to read’, ‘read to learn’ and underscored the critical role played by Public/School/Digital libraries towards this end. The P.N. Panicker Foundation has been a key contributor in this area.

2. Honouring the father of the ‘Library Movement in Kerala’, the late Sri. P.N Panicker; the State Government of Kerala has been celebrating 19th June as the ‘Day of Reading’ and the following week as the ‘Reading Week’ since 1996. This initiative commenced in collaboration with P.N. Panicker Foundation, paved the way for the launch of Reading Mission 2022. In furtherance of the lofty objectives of this Mission, the Hon’ble Prime Minister inaugurated the 22nd National level Reading Day and Reading Month celebrations at Kochi on 17th June 2017.

3. In view of the pandemic, the celebrations this year will be held online. Further, they will comprise a variety of Covid-awareness related activities including webinars on Covid appropriate behaviour. The target audience is to include School/College students, teachers, faculty members and librarians. Your State/UT may organise similar activities with an enhanced focus on promoting online/ offline reading.

4. The Reading Mission stands to benefit greatly from your engaged leadership in this regard. May I request you to direct all District Magistrates (DMs) of your State/UT to virtually chair District Level Organising Committees as in earlier years. The DMs may be advised to guide the Reading Mission towards the envisioned outcomes by 2022 in the larger interest of our children and the nation.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Prem Singh)

(To All Chief Secretaries of States as per Annexure)
Annexure

To:

Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh-522238
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar-79111
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Assam, Dispur-781000
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Bihar, Patna - 800015
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Chattisgarh, Raipur - 492001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Goa, Panaji - 403001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat, Gandhinagar-382010
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Haryana, Chandigarh - 160017
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla - 171002
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir, Jammu - 180001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi - 834004
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka, Bangalore - 560001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram - 695001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal - 462003
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai - 400001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Manipur, Imphal - 795001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya, Shillong - 793001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Mizoram, Aizawl - 796001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Nagaland, Kohima - 797001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar - 751001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Punjab, Chandigarh - 160009
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Rajasthan, Jaipur - 302001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok - 737101
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai - 600009
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Telangana, Hyderabad - 500022
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tripura, Agartala - 799001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow - 266001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Dehradun - 248001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal, Kolkata - 700001
Chief Secretary, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, New Delhi - 110003
Chief Secretary, Govt. of Puducherry, Puducherry - 605001
Chief Secretary, UT of Andaman & Nicobar, Port Blair - 744101
Adviser to Hon'ble Administrator, UT of Chandigarh, Chandigarh - 160009
Adviser to Hon'ble Administrator, UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Silvassa - 396230
Adviser to Hon'ble Administrator, UT of Daman & Diu, Daman - 396210
Adviser to Hon'ble Administrator, UT of Lakshadweep, Kavaratti - 682755
Adviser to Hon'ble LG, UT of Ladakh, Civil Secretariat, Leh-Ladakh - 194101
Copy to:

Secretary, Dept. of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, with a request to send similar circulars from your side to all States/UTs.
Secretary, Dept of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, with a request to send similar circulars from your side to all States/UTs.
Principal Secretary, Dept of School and Mass Education, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751001
Principal Secretary, Dept of School Education, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Mantralaya, Ballabh Bhawan Bhopal, MP - 462004
Principal Secretary, Dept of School Education & Literacy, Govt. of Jharkhand, MDI Building, Jharkhand Mantralaya, Dhurva Building, Ranchi, Jharkhand - 834004
P.N. Panicker Foundation, 509, Sangeeth Nagar, Thycud, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala – 695014

(Dr. Prem Singh)