CIRCULAR

Subject:- National Museum, ‘Yuvasaathi’ Young Visitor’s Programme

Please find enclosed herewith the letter received from Dr. Venu V., Director General, National Museum regarding Young Visitor’s Programme ‘Yuvasaathi.

All HOSs are directed to inform in advance regarding students’ visit to National Museum while organizing local tour for the students of their schools.

All HOSs are further advised to download the advance booking form and submit duly filled form to the National Museum Authorities to ensure that the students get required attention and time in the Museum.

This issues with the prior approval of the competent authority.

Encl:- As above.

(Dr. (Mrs) Sunita Kaushik)
Addl.D.E.(Schools)

All HOSs through DEL-E

No. DE.23 (502)/Sch.Br./Vol.II/ 1817

Copy to:-
1. PS to Secretary (Education)
2. PS to Director (Education)
3. P.S. to Director General, National Museum.
4. All RDEs for information
5. All DDEs/EOs for information
6. OS (IT) to please paste it on the website.

(Kum Kum Lamba)
ADE (School)
As you are aware, National Museum is an important destination for school excursions. As there are many objects relating to Indian History displayed in the museum, a visit of the Museum is prescribed as mandatory activity for school children.

While National Museum is delighted to welcome school children, the huge numbers of school groups visiting the museum has given rise to a situation which has compelled me to write this letter to you. In October 2013, we received a total of 23,142 students. The number of school children who visited National Museum in November 2013 (till 27 November 2013) has crossed 40,000. According to arrival trends, December figures will exceed those of November.

You will agree with me that each child visiting the museum is entitled to an experience which is both educative and entertaining. However, given the sheer numbers, a visit to the museum has become very rushed and unplanned. The result is that a large number of school children pass through the corridors of the museum every day, without obtaining any input about the treasures, and the visitors to the museum are disturbed by the noise and crowd of the school children.

As part of its commitment to provide an enjoyable experience to school groups, and with a view to regulate visiting times so as to pay proper attention to our young visitors, National Museum has recently started an initiative, *yuvasaathi*, a young visitor programme. The details of the programme may be seen at our website: [http://www.nmi.gov.in/departmentsmuseologyyuvasaathi.htm](http://www.nmi.gov.in/departmentsmuseologyyuvasaathi.htm). The programme ensures that trained guides escort school groups through a specially prepared trails through the museum, explaining and interpreting a selected number of objects in a simple and entertaining way.

The important pre-require for the program is that the school has to pre-book a time slot and date of visit, at least a week before intended time of the visit, to enable the museum to make arrangements and also to regulate the number of young visitors to the museum to a manageable number. The advance booking form is also available on the website [www.nmi.gov.in](http://www.nmi.gov.in) and booking can done online. Information about this programme and the procedure to pre-book the school visit has been sent across all schools. A copy of the brochure distributed to the schools is enclosed for kind reference.

However, despite our requests, it is seen that 95% of the school groups received by the museum in the last two months have come without any advance notice, throwing all our preparations out of gear and creating problems for general visitors.
It is feared that things will become unmanageable in December 2013, if we do not address the situation urgently.

I would request your urgent intervention in the matter, so that strict instructions can be issued to all schools to prepare for a visit to National Museum ONLY after giving advance notice and submitting the advance booking form. An orderly arrangement of the visits will not only ensure that each child visitor is attended to, and also reduce inconvenience to general visitors.

I shall be grateful if urgent instructions are issued on the above lines.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Venu V.

Shri Anindo Majumdar, IAS
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