

Late-night order to extend summer break baffles parents, schools



Parents were not aware that the schools in the state were supposed to be shut for one more week and some said they were ill-prepared for the last-minute change

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Gurgaon: Madhur Prabhakar, a parent, was in a dilemma on whether or not to send his four-year-old daughter to school on Monday morning. Like him, the state government's late-night order to extend the summer vacation by a week left many parents in Gurgaon perplexed as they hadn't received any such communication from schools. The state's education department had declared the extension of vacation around 11.50pm on Sunday.

Many parents in the city claimed they were ill-prepared for the last-minute change. The government has

their plan and send their ward to school. "It was difficult for us to ensure that our daughter reaches school on time. We missed the school bus as well, so I had to drop her," said Prabhakar, whose daughter is studying at Shiv Nadar School.

Many other parents also complained about the last-minute change in the vacation schedule. Many schools in the city and parents were not aware that the schools in the state were supposed to be shut on Monday.

Jitesh Sehgal, a parent, said, "I had dropped my children at school in the morning. We are still not aware if they are extending summer holidays."

When contacted, the education department has not stated why the circular could not be issued earlier in the day. Some private schools though held classes on Monday, saying they had not received the circular.

Some schools like Shiv Nadar conducted polls, and asked parents to decide whether the school should reopen or not. However, a few other schools like Ryan International, Blue Bells were able to inform parents on the extended summer vacation.

"We informed parents on the WhatsApp group after the CMO tweeted about the extended summer break," said Peeya Sharma, principal, Ryan International School.

Suncity principal, Rupa Chakrobarty, said, "We will extend the summer vacation once we get notification from the state government."

The Haryana education department said it would take action against private schools if they were found open on Tuesday.

The district education officer, Premlata Yadav, said, "We have issued a circular to all government and private schools in the state. As the order came late, we issued a circular on Monday. We will take action against schools if they are open on Tuesday."

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— MADHUR PRABHAKAR
A PARENT

extended the vacation owing to the prevailing heat-wave condition in the region and across the state.

As he was aware of the government circular, Prabhakar decided not to send his four-year-old daughter to school, and accordingly he and his wife planned their day. However, when he went for jogging in the morning, he found school buses plying. When he enquired about the circular with the school authorities, they claimed the school had not received any such circular, and that's why it was open.

The couple again had to change

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The couple again had to change their plan and send their ward to school. "It was difficult for us to ensure that our daughter reaches school on time. We missed the school bus as well, so I had to drop her," said Prabhakar, whose daughter is studying at Shiv Nadar School.

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