

# JAMSHEDPUR DIOCESAN EDUCATION SOCIETY

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18 April, 2020

**The Secretaries, Principals, Headmasters and the Headmistresses  
Jamshedpur Diocesan Education Society**

**Subject:** Regarding waiving off various fees of the students during the lockdown period.

Dear Fathers and Sisters,

Greetings!

In reference to the above-mentioned subject Jamshedpur Diocesan Education Society is very deeply concerned about all sections of the society, particularly the students, parents and the staff of our institutions.

The pandemic COVID-19 has not left anyone. It has brought disaster to all; rich and poor, old and young. But we all have to accept consciously that it has badly affected the daily labourers and the migrants. Our society is very much concerned about their welfare. As a church-based NGO, we are always with them and work for their welfare.

As we are involved in the teaching apostolate, we are equally concerned about the hardships of hundreds of the teaching and non-teaching staff of our schools, who are also affected like anyone else. Even in adverse situations our staff are trying in every possible way to remain connected with the students and their families. During this lock down period our teachers are imparting not only syllabus-based knowledge but also ethics-based education. Most of our schools are in touch with the students through apps and online classes. The reading materials are provided to the students in the school's websites and regularly uploading the home assignments and topics for the project works. As responsible and committed to teaching, even in adverse conditions our teachers with inventiveness and creativity are imparting life enhancing skills. We are committed to complete the syllabus and prepare every student for future examinations.

We are very much aware of the economic difficulties faced by parents during the lockdown period especially the daily labourers and small businessmen and others. At this juncture, it is very apt to point out that a good percentage of parents who are in service sectors, such as Government and private company services who get a handsome salary at the end of the month even during the lockdown period. Our Honorable Prime Minister and the State Government have suggested to take care of the staff. So, it is our duty and responsibility to pay our staff during this period. Let us be sympathetic towards the families of our staff during this financial hardship. And in current scenario a pragmatic approach is the need of the time.



Our schools are minority private unaided schools. We are solely dependent on the revenue from collected fees for making payments to both teaching and non-teaching staff. Besides this, we need to maintain the infrastructure facility. We are essentially non-profiteering institutions. So, we do not have enough funds at our disposal. At this juncture it is very much worthy to mention that if NO FEE is collected during the lock down period then obviously it is difficult for us to survive and make payment to our staff.

At the same time, we require to be considerate to the deserving parents and strike a balance between hardships of parents and the salaries of our school staff.

So, keeping the above in mind without any prejudice we submit the followings for your kind consideration.

1. No collection of transport fee during the lockdown period. Make a request to the State Transport Department to give us relaxation in road tax and fitness certificates fee as we give relief to the parents.
2. We could waive off computer fee, lab fee, sports and games fee during this period to those parents who are very badly affected.
3. Those parents who face real difficulties in making the fee payments can submit an application in the prescribed format to the Management for its consideration. The fee regulation committee of the Management will decide for the fee concession following the due process.
4. Some schools collect quarterly, half yearly and yearly fees at one time. In order to reduce the financial burden of the parents, the schools could consider monthly payments. The Management will ensure not to levy any late fine.
5. We would ask the parents to make usual monthly payments including the Tuition fee as this is a dire need for us to meet the payments of the staff and the cost of maintenance of the school, while considering the deserving case as above.

We are quite sure that the above suggestions will help to take a decision with discernment which would be fair and just. We from our part always will ensure to continue our work for the well-being of the students and their parents. This is our social obligation.

Yours sincerely,

*Telesphore*

**Most Rev. Telesphore Bluing, SVD**  
**Acting President and Apostolic Administrator**

*David Vincent*

**Fr. David Vincent**  
**Director of Education for**  
**Diocesan Schools**

