

**National Commission for Protection of Child Rights,
Government of India**

5th Floor, Chandralok Building, 36, Janpath, New Delhi-110001

No. NCPCR/Edu.1/07/39

May 26, 2009

Additional Guidelines on Corporal Punishment in Schools

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights is concerned about the violence on children in the schools in the country. There have been complaints from children received by the Commission highlighting the insults and humiliation they face while in schools. There are also newspaper reports both in local as well as national dailies that have brought to the forefront the violence children are subjected to in schools.

2. In this regard, Commission's guidelines on corporal punishment issued vide d.o. letter of even number dated 9th August 2007 addressed to the Chief Secretaries/Administrators of the State Governments/Union Territories respectively may be recalled (copy attached), which were to be displayed in every school and publicized adequately.

3. In order to stop corporal punishment of children once and for all and enable school teachers to treat children as equal human beings with respect and dignity, the Commission would like the District Collectors/District Magistrates/Deputy Commissioners (as the case may be) to take the following actions (in addition to the guidelines already issued by the Commission and referred to in para 2 above):-

- (i) To get Block-wise meetings conducted for all the school headmasters on corporal punishment and to convey them that serious action would be taken against the school as a whole on any act of violence on children in the State.
- (ii) To conduct meetings with the District Education Officers, Block Education Officers as well as the Cluster Resource Centres staff on the importance of protection of children's rights and against corporal punishment in schools and to issue instructions to them that they would be held accountable for any instance of violation of children's right and corporal punishment in school.

(iii) To instruct every school headmaster to hold a general body meeting with all parents of the school as well as school education committees or parent-teacher associations on the NCPCR guidelines and the procedures to be adopted for protecting children and their rights in schools.

4. An action taken on the above may be submitted by the District Collectors/District Magistrates/Deputy Commissioners (as the case may be) to the Secretary (School Education) of the State Government/UT concerned by August 1, 2009, who may submit a consolidated report in respect of all the Districts of the State/Union Territory to the Commission by September 1, 2009 along with the copies of the letters/circulars issued by the District Administration with regard to the earlier guidelines as well as these additional guidelines issued by this Commission.

(Shantha Sinha)
Chairperson, NCPCR

The District Collectors/District Magistrates/Deputy Commissioners
of the Districts in the Country.

Cc:

1. The Chief Secretaries/Administrators of State Governments/Union Territories – with the request to issue necessary instructions in the matter.
2. Secretary (School Education) of State Governments/Union Territories – with the request to issue necessary instructions and submit a consolidated report in respect of all the Districts of the State/UT to the Commission by September 1, 2009 along with the copies of the letters/circulars issued by the District Administration in the matter.

(Shantha Sinha)
Chairperson, NCPCR

Encl. Commission's guidelines dated 9th August 2007.

Cc also to:

The Secretary (Education), Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – for information and with the request to issue necessary instructions in the matter from the Ministry to the Chief Secretaries/Education Secretaries/State Project Directors of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan of the State Governments/Union Territories and to give wide publicity to the instructions of the Commission to ensure that children, especially the first generation learners, are treated with respect and dignity in schools.

(Shantha Sinha)
Chairperson, NCPCR