



प्रियंक कानूनगो
Priyank Kanoongo
अध्यक्ष
Chairperson

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS
नई दिल्ली-110 001
New Delhi - 110 001



D. O. No. 32-177/2019/NCPCR/LC
Dated 25th October, 2019

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To,

Principal Secretaries/Secretaries
Department of Women & Child Development of all States/UTs

Madam/Sir,

As you are aware, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been mandated under the CPCRA Act, 2005 to ensure that the rights of children are protected especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. In addition, the Commission has also been mandated to monitor the implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (Section 109, JJ Act, 2015).

During various inspection visits to Child Care Institutions (CCIs) in various parts of the country, certain contrary yet significant trends came into the notice of the Commission. On one hand, children belonging to a particular religion are being placed in Homes managed by the religious institution of the same faith was evident. Though this is done with the direction of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), it is not in consonance with the spirit of secular principles upheld in the Constitution of India.

On the other hand, it was observed during visits in government as well as NGO- run CCIs that there is another set of Homes where children are placed in CCIs irrespective of their religion, but religious texts pertaining to a specific religion are being taught to all children such as Bible was being taught in some CCIs visited during inspection. Children who are in need of care and protection face multiple deprivations and are vulnerable to get influenced. The United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) states that "States Parties undertake to respect the right of the child to preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations as recognized by law without unlawful interference".

In both the above cases, one of the most vulnerable groups of children is deprived of their basic rights as individuals and citizens of the country. Hence, the Commission u/s 13 (1) (a) recommends that necessary corrective measures be taken to uphold the right to identity of one of the most vulnerable group of children. Also, necessary directions be passed to all the stakeholders for being vigilant to such practices during the inspection visits in CCIs.

You are also requested to share the compliance report in this regard with the Commission.

Yours sincerely,


25.10.2019
(Priyank Kanoongo)

Copy to:

The Chairpersons, SCPCRs of all States/UTs for necessary action at their end

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