

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



F. No. 25019/18/2023-24/NCPCR/EDU DR9316 Date-@08/2024

To.

Principal Secretaries of School Education Department of all States/UTs (as per the enclosed list)

Subject- Schools subjecting children to corporal punishment and discrimination during festivals reg.

Madam/Sir,

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) (hereinafter referred to as 'the Commission') is a statutory body constituted under Section 3 of the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005 to protect the rights of children and address other related matters in the Country. The Commission is further mandated to monitor the proper and effective implementation of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012; Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and Right to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

- Over the years, it has been observed by the Commission through various news reports that children are subject to harassment and discrimination by the school teachers and other staff on account of celebration of festivals. It has been noticed that schools do not allow children to wear rakhi or tilak or mehandi in schools during the festivals such as Raksha Bandhan and subject them to harassment, both physical and mental. It may be noted that corporal punishment is prohibited in schools under Section 17 of the RTE Act, 2009. A letter in this regard was issued on 30.08.2023.
- As the festivals are approaching, it is requested to issue necessary directions to the 3. concerned authorities and ensure that schools do not observe any such practice that may expose children to corporal punishment or discrimination.
- A compliance report may kindly be shared with the Commission along with the copy of order issued in this regard latest by 17.08.2024.

Yours sincerely,

(Priyank Kanoongo)