



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



**URC**

F. No. 25019/18/2023-24/NCPCR

Date-30/08

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) (herein 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, 2001; and Right to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

2. 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 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 festival of *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.

3. Therefore, it is requested to issue necessary directions to the concerned authorities and ensure that schools do not observe any such practice that may expose children to corporal punishment or discrimination.

Yours sincerely

(Priyank Kanoongo)