



# National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

Government of India



New Delhi

May 25, 2016

## **NCPCR calls for school safety and security to be an integral part of New Education Policy**

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has asked for strict action against the schools neglecting safety and security of children in its recommendations to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) for inclusion in the New Education Policy, 2016. It has also suggested setting up of a State Education Commission like other service commissions in the country to streamline and ensure universal elementary education. **Shri Priyank Kanoongo, Member** (Education) stressed on the need for evolving better School Management Systems in the country, for which NCPCR wants creation of a new service cadre, Indian Education Services at the Central level in the pattern of IAS, IPS, IRS, and other civil services.

NCPCR has suggested that the appropriate government may take necessary action to prepare children of age 3-6 years for primary education As per Section 11 of the RTE Act, 2009 and the benefits of RTE Act under Section 12 (1) (c) in form of per-child expenditure that is reimbursed to the school for children in age group 3-6 years, should be extended to all pre-primary schools such as Anganwadi Centres, in addition to private schools. The Commission has also recommended for providing free and compulsory education at the secondary level by including children from 15-18 years in RTE Act, 2009. Apart from infrastructural facilities, emphasis should also be on learning and it is important to redesign Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) to fit in the Indian context, it has said in its recommendation.

To avoid any inferiority complex among children, NCPCR has asked for provision of same type of uniform for children in private and government schools. Acknowledging the fee issues of private schools, it has recommended introduction of regulated fee structure to prevent unfair fee hike by these schools. Also Children under 25% EWS category in private schools should get Mid Day Meal. "To benefit all children, Academic Body as declared under RTE should play a vital role in preparing and translating the books in multiple languages and publish multilingual dictionaries and glossaries, especially to cater to the needs of tribal children", the recommendations stated.

Other important recommendations are: localizing vocational educational courses by outlining national level model occupational courses by institutions like NCERT (as done by National Skill Development Corporation) that can be adopted at the district level by DIETs based on local needs and resources; steps to revamp teacher education programs by revising the syllabus for pre-service and in-service teacher education duly incorporating the areas of sustainability, RTE Act 2009 & its implications, Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act, 2000 and 2015, POCSO Act 2012, other child related laws and acts.

NCPCR's 'Recommendations on Proposed New Education Policy 2016' is a result of discussions at four regional consultations organized by the Commission in collaboration with State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) covering all States/UTs. The suggestions received during these consultations were studied by an Expert Committee. Thousands of participants including representatives from SCPCRs, educationists, University Vice-Chancellors, State Department of Education, Institutions/NGOs working in the field of Education, Teachers & students from several schools and colleges deliberated upon 13 themes suggested by MHRD under School Education. An exclusive session for children was the special feature of the consultations in which children/students from different government as well as private schools, children in need of care and protection and rescued children shared their views.

##