

Teachers told to come clean on child sex taint

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NCPCR Says Checks Must For All Staff

Concerned over the recent deaths of school children in Delhi, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has recommended thorough verification of school staff and a number of security measures.

The Commission met representatives from HRD ministry, road transport, CBSE, NIMHANS, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) on Monday .

NCPCR chairperson Stuti Kacker emphasised that verification of all staff should be done by each school before appointing them. The Commission has written to all the education boards in the country suggesting that all newly-selected candidates should be asked by the schools to provide affidavits to the educational institution that they have not been accused of any offence under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and Juvenile Justice Act (Care and Protection of Children) Act.

Commission member Priyank Kanoongo said the HRD ministry had been asked to include child safety and security as a separate theme in the upcoming New Education Policy . He also observed that though schools are providing different kind of cocurricular activities such as horse riding, swimming, skating, they are not aware of the safety procedures.