

No.3105/63/2011-BC.III
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
'A' WING, SHASTRI BHAWAN,
NEW DELHI - 110 001

Dated the 8th August, 2012

DIRECTIVE

Subject : Protection of identity of Children in Need of Care and Protection and juveniles in conflict with Law.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was set up in March, 2007 under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, with the mandate to ensure that all laws, policies, programmes, and administrative mechanisms are in consonance with the Child Rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Any person contravening these provisions is also liable to penalties, as prescribed under the provisions of Section 21 (2) of the said Act.

2. On the subject matter, the Commission has recommended that necessary directives/set of protocols be issued to the entire print and electronic media to refrain from publishing the names, pictures, home address, school address and other parameters of their identity of such children who need to be reported upon by media on account of certain circumstances including difficult circumstances. As such disclosures only tend to leave their imprint and affect the social and mental health of children in their crucial stage of development.

3. All news & current affairs TV channels are required to abide by the provisions contained in the Cable Television Networks Rules 1994 and Rule 6(1)(d) thereof provides that no programme should be carried in the cable service which denigrates children. Thus, by virtue of this provision, the channels are already required to carry the programmes involving children with due care, maturity and sensitivity.

4. Accordingly, all news and current affairs TV channels are hereby requested to ensure compliance of the aforesaid directives of NCPCR as also the provisions of the Cable Television Networks Rules 1994 while telecasting any content involving children. Any violation may entail stringent action as per the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, rules promulgated thereunder and the terms and conditions of uplinking and downlinking guidelines.


(NEETI SARKAR)
Director (BC)

To

All News & Current Affairs TV Channels

Copy to:

1. Shri K.V.L. Narayanrao, President, News Broadcasters Association ME-5, Sah Vikas Apartments, 68, Patparganj, Delhi - 110092.
2. Shri Uday Shankar, President, The Indian Broadcasting Foundation, B-304, 3rd Floor, Ansal Plaza, Khelgaon Marg, New Delhi - 110049.