

REPORT ON COMPLAINTS TO UTTAR PRADESH STATE COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

After noticing a possible violation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, I drafted complaint letters to be used to file complaints against school authorities before the Uttar Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights

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Report on Complaints to Uttar Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights

**By –
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1. Concept Note :

The Legal Aid Centre of Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA conducts various awareness programmes to sensitize the society towards a plethora of issues of social importance. As an extension of such initiatives I, a student of the college and a Para Legal Volunteer at the Legal Aid Centre am conscious of the privileges I enjoy and the power it gives me to help others. In pursuance of the same, I assisted parents of underprivileged beneficiaries of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (hereinafter referred to as the RTE).

Article 21A of the Constitution makes it obligatory on the State to provide free and compulsory education to children between the age of 6 and 14 years. Section 3(1) of the RTE Act provides that every child of the age group of 6-14 years shall have a right to free and compulsory education in a neighbourhood school till completion of Elementary Education. The RTE Act provides for constitutionally created independent bodies like the National and State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights.

Section 12 (1) (c) mandates non-minority private unaided schools to keep aside at least 25% of their entry-level seats for children belonging to disadvantaged sections to create a more integrated and inclusive schooling system. It is one of the world's largest programmes for public funding and private provision in education.

As per the said policy, students are selected via a lottery system, and once selected, are provided with books and uniform free of cost. Many of the students whom I used to teach in the slums of Greater NOIDA, got admission as beneficiaries of this policy in premier private schools of the country. After further intervention, it was brought to my knowledge that they have not

received the books and uniform they are entitled to for as long as a year. Consequently, their parents, who already struggle to make ends meet, had to shell out extra money for the costly books and uniform, just so their child does not fall behind. This was brought to my attention by Ms. Aggarwal, one lady of my locality, as she attempted to organize donation drives for these kids to be able to afford the books and uniform. I intervened and informed her that as per law, these kids should be getting free books and uniforms as a matter of right. I explained to her how crowdfunding should not be done for this issue as the state has made a recourse mechanism which we should be approaching. I therefore took the initiative to speak to parents and other ladies involved and explained to them the provisions of the RTE.

2. Objectives :

After identifying this issue, , Ms. Shweta Aggarwal and myself attempted to contact the schools, so as to request them to procure the books and uniform for the children. However, that did not lead us anywhere as the school denied our persistent requests.

After which, I decided to write to the Uttar Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights as I knew that it is the most appropriate forum to take our grievances to.

3. Preliminary Preparations and Conducting the Programme:

I did some basic research about the RTE and the EWS category students and the benefits provided to them. I then visited the website for the Uttar Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights and also registered online complaints there. I explained this process to Ms. Agarwal as well. Further, I drafted one model complaint letter for the students so that their grievance could reach the authorities and they could avail the benefit of Section 12 (1) (c) of the RTE Act. This was customized for all children who kept coming in by Ms. Aggarwal and this shall be continued.

We are awaiting for a response from the UPCPCR. Once we receive a reply, the next step shall be decided.

ANNEXURE



आपकी शिकायत सफलतापूर्वक आयोग को भेजी जा चुकी है

उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य बाल अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग से संपर्क करने के लिए धन्यवाद, आयोग की ओर से आपको शीघ्र ही संपर्क किया जायेगा

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आयोग से संपर्क करने के लिए यहाँ पर पर [क्लिक](#) करें

To,
Member, Education
Uttar Pradesh Commission for Protection of Child Rights,
14-B, Mall Avenue, Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg,
Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226001

SUBJECT : Grievance regarding the failure of school to supply books and uniform as mandated by the Right of children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.

Respected sir/madam,

Greetings!

This is to bring to your kind notice that my ward, _____, aged ___ had secured admission via EWS/DG lottery in _____ school. However, even after persistent efforts, the school has failed to comply with the mandate of **Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009** and supply the books and uniform to us. This lapse by the school is hampering the education of my ward.

I humbly request you to take cognizance of said matter and ensure that my child's education does not get affected and the books and uniform are supplied to us.

Regards,
XYZ
Father/Mother
Contact no –
Address -

