

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
'A' WING, SHASTRI BHAWAN,
NEW DELHI – 110 001

No. 3105/63/2011-BC-III

Dated: 23rd Nov., 2012

To

All TV Channels

Subject : Guidelines for Media Reporting on Children – Reference from National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR).

Sir/Madam,

It has been brought to the notice of this Ministry by NCPCR vide its letter dated 26.9.2012 (copy enclosed) that the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, vide its order dated 8.2.2012 and 7.3.2012, in the matter of AK Asthana Vs. UOI & Anr (Civil W.P. 787/2012) has constituted a Committee with Ms. Dipa Dixit, Member, NCPCR (as Convener) and the representatives of M/o WCD, M/o I&B, PCI, NBA, Govt of NCT of Delhi, Ms. Anuradha Shukla, the then Principal Magistrate, JJB, Delhi and Ms. Mina Kabir, Voluntary Social Worker, as Members.

2. The Committee formulated the 'Guidelines for Media Reporting on Children' after due deliberations which were presented to the Hon'ble High Court on 7.8.2012. The Court vide order dated 8.8.2012 has directed that the Guidelines, in so far as Media is concerned, be implemented with immediate effect. NCPCR has circulated these guidelines to PCI, NBA, IBF, UNI, INS, PTI, DDn., AIR, etc., besides this Ministry for information and necessary action.

3. In the Guidelines proposed for media reporting on children, it has been stated that the media coverage on matters relating to children may have long term consequences on their overall development, life and dignity; and lack of care by media in this regard may entail real risk of children facing harm, stigma, disqualification, retribution, etc. The privacy, dignity, etc. of children is of the utmost importance, which are to be preserved and protected at all times, while reporting of news, programmes, etc. on and for children.

4. In its Order passed on 8.8.2012, the Hon'ble High Court has directed, inter-alia, that the Committee is still deliberating on the Guidelines for the other stakeholders in the system and some more time will be required for framing the said Guidelines. The Hon'ble Court has directed that the Guidelines, insofar as Media is concerned, be implemented with immediate effect. (The copies of the court order and the guidelines are enclosed).

5. Accordingly, all the TV channels are required to ensure strict compliance with the above order passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

Yours faithfully,



(D.C. PATHAK)

Under Secretary (BC-I)

Tele. No.23387930

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.



SHANTHA SINHA
Chairperson

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

राष्ट्रीय बालक अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

77

D. O.No.32/1/2012-NCPCR(PD) /25653

Dated: 26.09.2012

Dear *Shri Uday Verma,*

The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, vide its order dated 8th February, 2012 and 7th March, 2012 in the matter of A. K Asthana Vs. UOI & Anr. (Civil W.P. No.787/2012), had constituted a Committee with Ms. Dipa Dixit, Member, NCPCR (as Convener) and the representative of MWCD, M/o I&B, PCI, NBA, Government of NCT of Delhi, Ms. Anuradha Shukla, the then Principal Magistrate, JJB, Delhi and Ms. Minna Kabir, Voluntary Social Worker, as Members. The Committee under the aegis of NCPCR formulated the *Guidelines for Media Reporting on Children* after due deliberations held in its meeting on 04.04.2012, 15.05.2012 and 04.08.2012. These Guidelines were presented to the Hon'ble High Court on 07.08.2012. The Hon'ble High Court vide order dated 8.8.2012 has directed that the Guidelines, in so far as Media is concerned, be implemented with immediate effect.

The Guidelines along with the order dated 8.8.2012 have been circulated to the M/o Information and Broadcasting, Press Council of India(PCI), News Broadcasters Association (NBA), Indian Broadcasters Federation (IBF), United News of India (UNI), Indian Newspapers Society (INS), Press Trust of India (PTI), Door Darshan (DD), All India Radio (AIR), etc. for information and necessary action.

I am forwarding a copy of the Guidelines along with the order dated 8.8.2012 for the information and record of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Development.

With *regards*

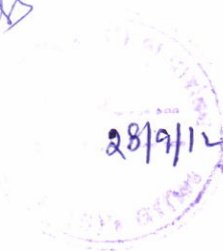
Yours sincerely,

Shantha
(Shantha Sinha)

Shri Uday Verma,
The Secretary,
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting,
7th Floor, 'A' Wing, Shastri Bhawan
New Delhi - 110001

O/o US (INSAT & CRS)
Dy. No. 45389
Date 8/10

8.10.12
SO(BC-III)
15/10/12
arts



वर्तमान अवर सचिव (बी. सी.)
O/o Under Secretary (B.C.)
अ. सं./Dy. No. 45389
दिनांक/Date 08/10/12

सचिव का कार्यालय (सं. प्र. सं. ००००)
Secretary's Office (I&B)
अ. सं./Dy. No. 45389
दिनांक/Date 27/9/12

Discussed. Pl put up in file. Meet 7/10/12
US(BC)
US(BC-D)

IN THE DELHI HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI
WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 787 OF 2012

IN THE MATTER OF :

COURT ON ITS OWN MOTION

...PETITIONER

VS

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

... RESPONDENT

MEMO OF PARTIES

From

COURT ON ITS OWN MOTION

...PETITIONER

VS

UNION OF INDIA

Through its Secretary,

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare,

Govt. of India, Nirman Bhawan,

New Delhi.

... RESPONDENT No. 1

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL

TERRITORY OF DELHI

Through its Chief Secretary

DELHI SECRETARIAT, I.P. ESTATE, NEW DELHI-02

...RESPONDENT No. 2

8/10/12
1/1/12
en.



NEW DELHI

DATED

Certified to be True Copy
Examiner Judicial Department
Delhi Court of Delhi
Authenticated Under Section 10
Indian Evidence Act.

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* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

+ W.P.(C) 787/2012

A.K. ASTHANA

..... Petitioner

Through: Petitioner in person.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR

..... Respondents

Through:

Mr. Jatan Singh, Adv. for UOI.

Ms. Zubeda Begum, Adv. for
GNCTD.

Mr. Aagney Sail, Adv. for NCPCR.

Mr. A.J. Bhambhani with Ms. Nisha
Bhambhani, Ms. Lakshita Sethi &

Ms. Bhavita Nodi, Advs. for NBA.

CORAM:

HON'BLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJIV SAHAI ENDLAW

ORDER

08.08.2012

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1. The Committee *inter alia* comprising of the representatives of Union of India. Government of NCT of Delhi, NGOs working for the welfare of the children, representatives of the media etc. constituted vide order dated 08.02.2012 has proposed Guidelines for Media Reporting on Children.

2. The News Broadcasting Association (NBA) which also participated in the said meetings of the said Committee have however got recorded their dissent to the inclusion of the words "from a child rights' perspective" in Principle 2.1 of the Guidelines which is as under:

"2.1 Involvement of children in news programmes documentaries etc. must evidently be editorially justified from a child rights' perspective."

W.P.(C) 787/2012

Page 1 of 2



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Judicial Department
High Court of Delhi at
Kirti Bhawan Building, Section 70
Indraprastha, New Delhi.

3. It is the contention of the counsel for NBA that inclusion of the said words limits the justifiability of involvement of children in news / programmes / documentaries.

4. It has been suggested and agreed by all parties concerned that the words "including" before the words "from a child rights' perspective" be incorporated in Principle 2.1 of the Guidelines and which will read as under:

"2.1 Involvement of children in news / programmes / documentaries etc. must evidently be editorially justified including form a child rights' perspective."

5. It is further stated that the Committee is still deliberating on the Guidelines for the other stakeholders in the system and some more time will be required for framing the said Guidelines.

6. List on 26th September, 2012. In the meanwhile, the Guidelines, insofar as Media is concerned, be implemented with immediate effect.

[Signature]
ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE

[Signature]
RAJIV SAHAI ENDLAW, J

AUGUST 08, 2012
'gsr'



W.P.(C) 787/2012

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[Signature]
Examiner Judicial Department
High Court of Delhi
Authorised Under Section 70
Indian Evidence Act.

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IN THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF DELHI

AT NEW DELHI

Civil Writ Petition No. 787/2012

115

IN THE MATTER OF:

A.K. Asthana

....Petitioner

Versus

Union of India & Anr.

....Respondents

Next Date - 08/08/2012

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Aagney Sain
Aagney Sain

Counsel for NCPCR

#102, New Lawyers Chambers,

M.C.Setalvad Block, Supreme Court of India,

Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi - 110001

*Keating Copy
to Anant K. Asthana
Petitioner in Person*

New Delhi

Filed On: 07.08.2012

Received Copy

*Recd
for Subeeta Begum
7/8/12*

FILED COPY
Filing No. 2605
Duty Registrar



JANAK SINGH, CASE

*Received Copy of
Hemant Kumar
for Mr. A. J. Phandani Adv
For M.B.A
H.S. Jindal
7/8/12*

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Examiner Judicial Department
High Court of Delhi
Authorised Under Section 70
Indian Evidence Act.