

Meeting Proceedings regarding **Child Safety on Online education** held on 19.7.2021 under the chairmanship of Director, Directorate of Child Protection.

Members present.

Sri. Vasudev Deputy Superintendent of Police, Crime.

Smt. Girija from Education Department.

Smt. Vasanthi Uppar, District Child Protection Officer, Tumkur District

Smt.Chitra Iyer, Founder of Space 2 Grow.

Sri. Anuj Singhal,Co-founder of Space 2 Grow.

Sri. Pulkit Jain, Co-founder, Vedantu.

Sri. Sridhar, Assistant vice President Academic Operation Vedantu.

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Director, Directorate of Child Protection welcomed the members to the meeting and briefed about the importance of Child Safety on Online Education.

Covid-19 pandemic has led to closure of schools, and the academic teaching is happening through online classes through the concerned schools, which are under the preview of Education Department. But there are other education tutorials also which are functioning parallelly to the education department to provide coaching classes to students. Most of these Education-Technology Companies are registered under the Companies Act.

Children attending Online classes are at a higher risk of facing online abuse that includes Bullying, Stalking, Emotional abuse, pornography and other abuses that need to be addressed in a sensitive, efficient and time bound mechanism that requires formation of Policies and SoPs that need to be adhered by all the stakeholders functioning in the children field. The discussion was held on these issues and the following action points were finalized:

- 1) Police Department has framed an SoP relating to child pornography as per the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka direction regarding Writ Petition No.10208/2018. This SoP pertains to a single aspect and hence needs to be improvised to cover all kinds of abuses faced by children on the Online/Internet. Though this meeting is limited to Child Safety on Online Education as it is the duty of the Directorate of Child Protection to protect children from all types of Online/Internet abuses it was resolved to request the Cyber Police to frame Guidelines Covering both 1. Education/Online teaching related and 2. all Other Online abuses cases. Accordingly it has been decided to write to Cyber Police to frame detailed Guidelines/SoP on to prevent and to give redressal to such online abuses. **(Action : Directorate of Child Protection, CP Section.)**



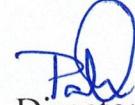
- 2) Many cyber crimes are not being reported due to lack of awareness, due to the fear of stigma and procedures that need to be followed in the police department. Hence it was opined that child related Online abuse cases that are reported could be linked to 1098 child line which would further be dealt by the CWC as per JJ Act 2015. Also IEC should be done to encourage Children to call 1098 Child Help Line to report about Online Abuses. Accordingly 1098 Child Line Staff need to be given training on how to handle calls on Online abuses of Children issues. **(Action : Directorate of Child Protection, IEC & Trg section)**
- 3) Education Department has to frame SoP about the cyber safety and primary measures that should be followed by the students, teachers, parents and the organizations that are functioning for the education of the children. The SoP should include 1. Do's and Don'ts of cyber safety 2. Security-awareness about cyber abuses and 3. Steps to be followed to refrain from online abuses and also 4. Awareness about the legal provisions and 5. Persons who could be contacted for help. Accordingly letter has to be written to Education Department. Government of Tamil Nadu has already issued Guidelines for the safety of Children on Online Education. It is decided to write to Commissioner, Public Instructions, Government of Karnataka to issue similar Guidelines in Karnataka also. Members present in the meeting added that they will give additional points which need to be incorporated in the Karnataka version **(Action : Directorate of Child Protection, CP Section.)**
- 4) It Should be made mandatory in education "curriculum" itself for providing awareness to children about the JJ Act, 2015 and available legal provisions and on Online safety issues, and precautionary measures like not to share intimate information and pictures etc., It is decided to write to Education Department to implement the same **(Action : Directorate of Child Protection, CP Section.)**
- 5) Once Education Department issues Guidelines as above, Directorate of Child Protection can contemplate to issue Orders to make the same binding on the education technical platforms which are not registered with the Education Department but are registered under the Companies Act, too. Also evolve a monitoring mechanism for the same with the help of Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights and Civil Society Organizations. **(Action : Directorate of Child Protection, CP Section.)**



- 6) It is also decided to give training to the Counselors of 14499 free Tele-Counseling facility and Pool of Counselors already developed by Directorate of Child Protection regarding how to provide counseling services to Children who are in need of the same in the context of Online Child abuses.

**(Action : Directorate of Child Protection, IEC & Trg section)**

Meeting was concluded with vote of thanks



20.07.2021

Director,

Directorate of Child Protection,  
Bengaluru.