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Delhi school rape: Kejriwal orders magisterial inquiry, DCW seeks report within 3 years

MAIL TODAY BUREAU | NEW DELHI | MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal tweeted that he has ordered magisterial enquiry and will develop protocol for all schools to ensure children safety.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The state government ordered a magisterial inquiry into the Shahdara school rape.
- The incident took place at Tagore Public School in Shahdara's Gandhinagar area.
- DCW chief Swati Maliwal has asked for a copy of the CCTV footage from the school.

A day after a five-year-old girl was raped allegedly by a peon inside a classroom in a private school in Northeast Delhi's Shahdara, the state government on Sunday ordered a magisterial inquiry into the incident.

The incident took place at Tagore Public School in Shahdara's Gandhinagar area. The probe committee, headed by sub-divisional magistrate Vivek Vihar, will have to submit its report within three days. The accused Vikas was arrested on Saturday. Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal tweeted, "Shameful. Won't be tolerated. Police doing its job. Ordered magisterial enquiry. Will develop protocol 4 all schools 2 ensure children safety (sic)."

Police said Vikas was under the influence of alcohol when he allegedly committed the crime. The peon, however, denied sexually assaulting the child.

During a counselling session, the girl described the accused as a "man wearing a cap". Police arrested Vikas based on this and other descriptions given by the child. The child's father works as a tailor in a garment factory. "There are cameras inside the school premises. The girl should see them and try to identify the accused. I did not rape her," he told reporters. When asked whether he was drunk, he said, "I have a quarter every day. So what?"

The Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) has issued a notice to the school and asked for a report within three days. DCW chief Swati Maliwal has also asked for a copy of the CCTV footage from the school.

"Vikas lured the minor with a candy and took her inside an empty classroom where he sexually assaulted her," said DCP Nupur Prasad.

The officer said that after raping her, Vikas "put his hand on the victim's mouth and threatened her of dire consequences".

"The matter was reported to the police after 3 pm, when the minor complained of pain in her abdomen. Her mother noticed bleeding in private parts," Prasad added.

"Today, it has happened with my child. Tomorrow, it could be any other. I want the school to be shut down," the victim's mother said.