

**EDU. DEPT. URGES MEDIA TO ADHERE TO PCI GUIDELINES WHILE
ON MENTAL ILLNESS/REPORTING ON SUICIDE CASES**

Panaji: February 3, 2026

Directorate of Higher Education have invited attention of media houses about the PCI guidelines on mental illness/reporting suicide cases. In pursuance of Section 24(1) of Mental Health Care Act, 2017 relating to publication/reporting of the news related to Mental Illness, the Council has adopted norm i.e. “The media shall not publish photograph or any other information in respect of person undergoing treatment at mental health establishment without the consent of the person with mental illness”.

The Council has adopted the guidelines in pursuance of World Health Organization report on Preventing suicide: a resource for media professionals-2017 Newspapers and news agencies while reporting the cases suicide must not place stories about suicide prominently and unduly repeat such stories; use language which sensationalize or normalizes suicide, or presents it as a constructive solution to problems; explicitly describe the method used; provide describe the method used; provide details about the site/location; use sensational headlines; use photographs, videos footage or social media links.

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