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School Van Driver Arrested in Lucknow for Sexual Assault

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– Categories: Crime



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A 25-year-old school van driver in Lucknow has been arrested for allegedly sexual assaulting a 4-year-old girl during her commute. The incident occurred in the Indiranagar area and has sparked widespread concern among parents and authorities.

The accused, identified as **Mohammad Arif**, was taken into custody after the child's mother noticed signs of distress and discomfort in her daughter. A medical check-up confirmed

that the minor had been subjected to inappropriate physical contact. The case was promptly registered under the **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act**, along with sections of the **SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act** and the **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita**, as the victim belongs to a Scheduled Caste.

According to the complaint, the girl was traveling to school on **July 14** when the incident occurred. After several days of discomfort, the child revealed her ordeal to her mother, who initially approached the school management. However, the school authorities reportedly attempted to dissuade her from filing a police complaint, citing concerns over the school's reputation.

Upon confronting the driver, the mother alleged that he issued threats and used casteist slurs, warning her against taking the matter forward. "He threatened to kidnap our daughter if we went to the police," the complaint stated according to *The Times of India* report.

Following the FIR, police seized the vehicle and recorded the child's statement in front of a magistrate. A detailed investigation is now underway. Law enforcement officials are also examining the role of the school administration in handling the incident.

"We have arrested the accused and are thoroughly investigating all aspects of the case, including whether other children were targeted," said **ACP Anindya Vikram Singh**. "The school's conduct will also be scrutinized to determine if any negligence occurred."

The case has reignited calls for stricter background checks and monitoring of school transportation staff. Many parents in the city have voiced concerns over child safety and demanded accountability from school authorities.