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Teo urges parents to report misuse of children's media content to MCMC

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Deputy Communications Minister Teo Nie Ching. Bernama Pic

KULAI: Deputy Communications Minister Teo Nie Ching has urged parents and guardians to promptly report any unauthorised use of their children's images and videos on social media platforms to the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC).

She said MCMC has the power to remove social media content involving children that was uploaded without consent of parents or guardians to ensure no exploitation of minors for personal gain.

She said although the Communications Ministry has no specific guidelines on the matter, it was important to adhere to existing guidelines outlined by the Education Ministry since 2017 concerning the use of social media involving teachers and students.

"In principle, it is very important to get parental consent when it comes to using images and videos of children. Consent is necessary and it (the power to remove content) applies to all platforms. Action will be taken if the upload was done without permission.

"So if we receive complaints about TikTok videos or other platforms using images or videos of children without parental consent, MCMC will contact the platform to remove them," she said.

The Kulai Member of Parliament said this after attending a Mosque and Surau Donation Handover Programme in conjunction with Ramadan at a shopping centre here today.

On March 18, Communications and Multimedia Content Forum of Malaysia (CMCF) chairman Rafiq Razali urged teachers not to use their students as content on social media, especially without parental consent.

On March 4, Education Minister Fadhlina Sidek was reported as saying that teachers must not misuse social media platforms and that strict action would be taken if they violated the relevant guidelines.

Meanwhile, on the handover programme, Teo said RM87,000 had been donated by the Kulai Parliamentary Office to 29 mosques and 58 surau located within the constituency for this year's Ramadan. -- Bernama