

**District Consultation on Child Protection**

**District Panchayat Bhawan**

**Gyanpur, Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi)**

**19<sup>th</sup> August, 2011**

**A Report**

**National Commission For Protection of Child Rights**

**New Delhi**

## **Introduction of Meeting**

The purpose of the meeting is to ensure child protection, their care and participation by re-identifying the issues of child abuse and to strengthen the district and the state based child protection system such as JJBs, CWCs, DCPS, ICPS etc.

## **Key Points for Discussion**

- Forms of Child Abuse and Exploitation.
- Causes and consequences of Child Abuse and Neglect.
- Prevention, intervention and rehabilitation services.
- Prevention strategies and current data collection systems.
- Enhancing role and capabilities of child protection professionals.
- Children's organization's role in preventing Child Abuse and Neglect.

On 19<sup>th</sup> of August 2011, a consultation was held on the issue of child protection in presence of Dr. Yogesh Dube, Member, NCPCR. The major point of discussion was to review the status of Integrated Child Protection Scheme delivery system, status of children in the state of Uttar Pradesh and the role of Child Welfare Committee (CWC) and Juvenile Justice Board (JJBs) in child protection. The participants were, Mr. Ramesh (Additional Superintendent of Police, Mr. Alok Priyadaeshi (Deputy Superintendent of Police), Mr. Mayaram Verma(CO, Bhadohi), Deep Narayan (CO, Aurai), Dr. Asha Rai (D.P.O), Mr. Dinesh Prasad (D.P.R.O), Mr. R. D. Ram (Probation Officer), Mr. V. P. Singh (C.M.O) and Mr. K.R. Gupta(D.S.W.O).

This consultation was organized by Dr. Shambhunath Singh Research Foundation with the support of Plan India. The consultation was aimed at initiating an analytical review of the services available for the child's care and protection in the presence of concerned government officials, police personnel, media persons, N.G.Os workers and some stake holders and to prepare a future action plan to ensure that no child remains out of the services provided under ICPS.

In the consultation the major point that emerged was no proper coordination between the CWC and JJ board inspite of being under the same department. Children issues in every aspect are extremely miserable and neglected. It was emphasised that all the departments should introspect and should coordinate with each other for the protection of children in need of care and protection.

In the consultation, the malpractices in the Aanganbadi Centers and the other departments related to the care and protection of children was emphasised. There were serious concerns among the participoants about to how to ensure proper functioning of the different schemes meant for children.

It has come up during meeting that since the SJPU have been formed in the district there is need to ensure its better functioning. The personnel of SJPU should be trained. Secondly it is also important that Probation Officer should perform his/her duties as per the law. Training of CWC members and JJBs members on the child protection issues were major point of discussion in the consultation.

The participants emphasised that the shelter for the children of special need must have some basic amenities such as safe water, health, medical, yoga, proper treatment and life skill training etc. They also suggested opening a counseling center for the children of special need,

In the workshop it was emphasised that all police personnel should be child friendly and along with that they should also have stick board, hoardings, wall writing regarding concerned issues. Need of new child line with better system was also came up during discussion.

Dr. Yogesh Dube, felt that the condition of children are not at all satisfactory. He explained that inspite of the existing system, due to lack of proper implementation we are compelled to face many problems in ensuring the rights of the children and providing the benefits of various scheme to them. He also spoke about the activities of National Commission For Protection of Child Rights and how NCPCR has been widely working on the protection of child rights. He said in India child labour is very high in comparison to other country. He emphasised that the violation of child rights is very high in Uttar Pradesh. Dr. Dube suggested the Information, Education and Communication related to protection of rights of the children should be given more importance. He felt need that police personnel should be more flexible and more polite while handling children matter. He also recommended strengthening the local bodies so that children must be provided more protection in their surroundings. Dr. Yogesh Dube told that commission is working with government officials in six indetified districts i.e Bhadohi, Sonbhadra, Varanasi, Moradabad, Aligarh and Firozabad to stop the violence against children on priority basis.

2. A meeting was also scheduled with the District Administration but, it got cancelled, as the newly appointed District Magistrate had not taken charge till the proposed date of meeting and Superintendent of Police and A.D.M. of Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi) district were on leave.

### **Way Forward**

- The Child Rights Commission is working in close collaboration with government officials on the child rights issue in the six identified districts of Uttar Pradesh such as Sonbhadra, Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi), Varanasi and similarly the district of West UP such as Firozabad, Muradabad and Aligarh.
- In November, 2011 a public hearing is proposed to be conducted on child protection issues in presence of Dr. Shanta Sinha, Chairperson of the National Commission For Protection of Child Rights.