

File No.11011/40/2020-Admn  
National Commission for Protection of Child Rights  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chanderlok Building, 36-Janpath,  
New Delhi-110001

26<sup>th</sup> August, 2020

**Office Memorandum**

**Sub: Minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Statutory Meeting of the Commission held on 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 in the Conference Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) of NCPCR.**

Kindly find enclosed herewith a copy of the minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Statutory Meeting of the Commission held on 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2020, duly approved by the Chairperson, NCPCR, for information and necessary action.

  
(Rupali Banerjee Singh)  
Member Secretary

**Encl./As Above:**

To

1. The Chairperson
2. Member (YJ)/Member (RGA) / Member (PP)/ Member (RT)
3. Advisor (Education / Programme)
4. Sr. CL (Legal)
5. STE (Child Health) / STE (NE Cell)
6. Assistant Director
7. PPS to Member Secretary
8. Minutes Register/Guard File.

**Minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Statutory Meeting of the Commission held on 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 in the Conference Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) of NCPCR, Chanderlok Building, Janpath, New Delhi.**

The 43<sup>rd</sup> Statutory Meeting of the Commission was held on 10.08.2020 at 2:00p.m. in the Conference Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) of NCPCR. The following were present:

1. Shri Priyank Kanoongo. Chairperson
2. Dr. R.G. Anand. Member
3. Ms. Pragna Parande. Member
4. Ms. Rosy Taba. Member
5. Ms. Rupali Banerjee Singh. Member Secretary

The meeting commenced with a welcome note and brief introductory remarks by the Chairperson.

**Confirmation of the Minutes of 42<sup>nd</sup> Statutory Meeting of the Commission held on 15.05.2020:**

The Chairperson informed that the Minutes of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Statutory Meeting of the Commission were treated as confirmed as no comments were received.

**Action Taken Reports (ATRs) on decisions taken in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Statutory Meeting of the Commission held on 15.05.2020:**

As the Action Taken Reports (ATRs) on decisions taken in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Statutory Meeting of the Commission could not be discussed in the meeting, it was decided to review these ATRs on file.

**Pending Action Taken Reports (ATRs) on decisions taken in the 30<sup>th</sup> to 41<sup>st</sup> Statutory Meetings of the Commission:**

As the pending Action Taken Reports (ATRs) on decisions taken in the 30<sup>th</sup> to 41<sup>st</sup> Statutory Meetings of the Commission could not be discussed in the meeting, it was decided to review these ATRs on file.

*Rupali Banerjee Singh*

**I. AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED BY MEMBER (LAWS RELATING TO CHILDREN) –SHRI YASHWANT JAIN:**

**Agenda Item No.1: Activities of LRC Division conducted during Lockdown period:**

The LRC Division is working incessantly right from the beginning of Lockdown period on complaints and other aspects of child sexual abuse and child marriage. A compilation of work done so far during the pandemic period i.e., 24 March to 31st July is placed for information of the Commission at *Annexure- I*.

*Decision: This was noted by the Commission.*

*[Action: Member (YJ)]*

**Agenda Item No.2: Information vis-a-vis POCSO Victims residing in CCIs:**

The Commission has asked all Principal Secretaries of Department of Women and Child Development / Department of Social Justice of all States / UTs vide letter dated 21.11.2019 to share data / information regarding POCSO victims residing in CCIs. After a rigorous follow-up exercise, information has been collected from the States / UTs. The information collected by NCPCR from States/UTs indicates the number of POCSO victims (Boys / Girls) & pregnant POCSO victims residing in CCIs. State-wise data is placed for information of the Commission at *Annexure II*.

*Decision: This was noted by the Commission.*

*[Action: Member (YJ)]*

**II. AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED BY MEMBER (PSYCHOLOGY / SOCIOLOGY) - Dr. R.G. ANAND:**

**Agenda Item No.3: Assessment of Psycho-social situation of children post COVID in southern states of India:**

During this perilous time of COVID-19 pandemic, children are prone to various forms of abuses, exploitation; they are experiencing fear, trauma and anxiety and other psychosocial issues, which may affect their overall development, sometimes with irreparable long-term consequences. Younger children are at greater risk, as high levels of stress and isolation can affect brain development. Levels of stress, anxiety, fear will be exponentially higher among children with single parents, children who are isolated due to being diagnosed as COVID positive, and are in isolation/quarantine, in hospitals or at home and children who have lost their parents/family members, and whose parents / siblings, family members are in quarantine centers or hospitals, being COVID positive.



In order to assess psycho-social situation of such children and review the situation, in States and facilities in the Districts, of southern states viz; Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Pudducherry, Member Child Psychology & Sociology will visit the Districts and hold review meetings. Meetings will also be held on virtual mode (in contaminated zones).

**Duration- 3 months (August –October, 2020)**

**Decision:** *The Member was asked to prepare a proposal for PAN India and in the first instance it can be started in Southern Region.*

*[Action: Member (RGA)]*

**Agenda Item No.4: Commemoration of World Mental Health Day, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2020:**

The world is experiencing the unprecedented impact of the current global health emergency due to COVID-19 that has also impacted on the mental health of millions of people. We know that the levels of anxiety, fear, isolation, social distancing and restrictions, uncertainty and emotional distress experienced have become widespread as the world struggles to bring the virus under control and to find solutions.

World Mental Health Day is observed on 10 October every year, with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of mental health. This Day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work, and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide.

The theme of this year is "Mental Health for All: Greater Investment – Greater Access"

To strengthen through our alliances, collaborations and partnerships to ensure that investment in mental health is prioritized, particularly during this time within the context of COVID-19, it is proposed.

- (i) To organise a national webinar on the theme of 2020 on 10<sup>th</sup> October by inviting experts and organisations.
- (ii) To conduct social media campaign with media division by series of creatives, video messages by renowned personalities on the social media.

**Decision:** *The proposal was approved by the Commission. However, the Member was asked to put up the proposal on file.*

*[Action: Member (RGA)]*



**Agenda Item No.5: Cases for Counselling and Psycho-Social Support and treatment for mental health disorders and issues to be referred to Child Psychology & Sociology Division:**

Other divisions of the Commission may be requested to refer/transfer the cases in which counselling or psycho-social rehabilitation is to be provided to the child so that the Child Psychology Division can take up those cases individually.

*Decision: This was noted by the Commission and the Member was asked to put up the proposal on file.*

*[Action: Member (RGA)]*

**III. AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED BY MEMBER (JUVENILE JUSTICE) – Ms. PRAGNA PARANDE:**

**Agenda Item No.6: Withdrawal / transfer/suspension of Agenda Items:**

The Commission may find the following agenda items proposed for withdrawal / transfer / suspension in light of the situation presented by COVID-19 pandemic:

- To review the implementation of Section 31 (2) of JJ Act
- Review of Format (Schedule VII –Home Study Report) of Adoption Regulation, 2017
- Conduct a fact finding exercise to analyse whether CWC is appropriately declaring the child as CNCP before sending them to CCI
- Increase the cooperative federalism among CWCs to enable them to work more efficiently and effectively to achieve the goal of proper and effective implementation of the Act in the best interest of the child as envisaged under the JJ Act, 2015 and JJ Model Rules, 2016.
- Conduct fact finding exercise to analyse whether children are being declared Legally Free for Adoption in time or they have to languish in CCIs due to delays in processes
- Conduct a fact finding exercise to analyse whether there is an increase in the trend of surrendering of adopted children by the Adopted Parents
- Conduct a fact finding exercise to analyse the delay which bounds the Child in Conflict with Law (CCL) to languish in observation Homes despite committing the petty offence
- Conduct a fact finding exercise to review the after care policy and schemes of the states regarding leaving CCIs under JJ Act, 2015

*Decision: It was decided that Legal Cell will examine and give its opinion / comments (activity-wise) to the Commission.*

*[Action: Legal Cell]*



IV. AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED BY MEMBER (CHILD LABOUR) – Ms. ROSY TABA:

Agenda Item No.7: A National level virtual Meeting of Labour Secretaries / or Commissioners:

It is proposed to hold a National level virtual Meeting of Labour Secretaries / or Commissioners on status of migrant and trafficking of child labour from one state to other states during COVID-19.

*Decision: The proposal was agreed in principle. However, the Member was asked to put up Agenda on file to be discussed with Labour Secretaries / Commissioners.*

*[Action: Member (RT)]*

Agenda Item No.8: A National level virtual Meeting (zone-wise) of SCPCRs blueprint/ or of Child Rights on impact of Covid-19 on children:

It is proposed to hold a National-level virtual meeting (zone-wise) of State Commissions of Protection of Child rights (SCPCRs) blueprint / or of Child Rights on impact of COVID-19 on Children before and after for developing a National Level Blue print or Action Plan to eliminate Child Labour and Child Exploitation.

*Decision: This was noted by the Commission.*

*[Action: Member (RT)]*

Agenda Item No.9: To Conduct a study to review the impact of Covid-19 on the Child Labour:

It is proposed to conduct a study to review the impact of COVID-19 on the child labour and on the Article published on webpage regarding “900 children were trafficked from different districts of Bihar to work in many bangle manufacturing factories in Jaipur Rajasthan”

*Decision: The Proposal was approved in principle by the Commission. However, the Member was asked to enlarge the scope of the proposal.*

*[Action: Member (RT)]*



**Agenda Item No.10:Letter issued to Labour Commissioners of States on published news in National Web page subjected “Evolve system so no Contractor employs Child labour, says Supreme Court”:**

Letter issued to Labour Commissioners of States on published news in National Web page subjected “ Evolve system so no Contractor employs Child labour. says Supreme Court ” Chief Labour Commissioners and State Labour Commissioners are heads, as per Contractor Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act 1970 and Rules 1971.

*Decision: It was decided that Legal Cell will study and suggest actionable points.*

*[Action: Legal Cell]*

**Agenda Item No.11: Training of CWCs of Source & Destination States of Child Labour in 5 regions**

It is proposed to conduct a training of Training of CWCs of Source & Destination States of Child Labour in 5 regions North East South West Centres.

*Decision: Member was asked to identify broad indicators for the purpose of training of CWCs on the basis of SOP to rescue child labour.*

*[Action: Member (RT)]*

**Agenda Item No.12: A virtual Meeting with Railways authorities regarding Child Labour:**

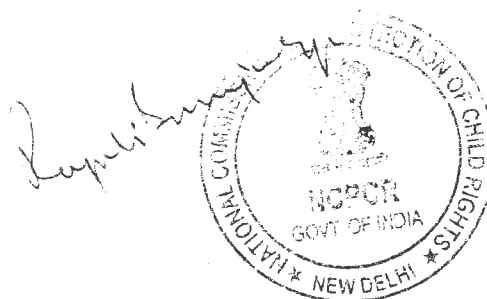
It is proposed to hold a virtual Meeting with Railways authorities regarding Child Labour as discussed in the 40<sup>th</sup> statutory meeting which was held on 18.11.2019 at activity number 5. Earlier this program was to be done physically but due to Covid-19 Pandemic, it is proposed that we may do it now virtually.

*Decision: This was noted by the Commission. The Member was asked to put up the proposal on file.*

*[Action: Member (RT)]*

**Agenda Item No.13: A Virtual meeting with Social Heads of NGOs working at PAN India level:**

It is proposed to hold a Virtual meeting with Social Heads of NGOs working at PAN India level to find out how many migrant child workers have been rescued from working in Hazardous industries.



*Decision: This was noted by the Commission. It was decided to include NITI Aayog also for this virtual meeting. MS was asked to look into the aspects / modalities of involving and ensuring participation of NITI Aayog.*

*[Action: MS]*

**Agenda Item No.14:**A virtual meeting to be held with Director General of Police (DGPs) of all States:

It is proposed to hold a virtual meeting with Director General of Police (DGPs) of all States to find out how many cases have been registered against the offenders involved in child labour and action taken.

*Decision: The proposal was considered and it was decided to merge this item with Agenda Item No.7. All the DGPs and Labour Secretaries of all States to be invited for this virtual meeting.*

*[Action: Member (RT)]*

**Agenda Item No.15:**Investigation or Inquiry of child labour cases in collaboration with CIF:

It is proposed to conduct Investigation or Inquiry of child labour cases in collaboration with CIF.

*Decision: The Member was asked to put up the proposal on file.*

*[Action: Member (RT)]*

## V. **AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED BY CHILD HEALTH DIVISION:**

**Agenda Item No.16:**Celebration of PoshanMaah 2020:

September month is celebrated as **Rashtriya PoshanMaah** (National Nutrition Month) to emphasize the need for healthy nutrition. The primary objective of the celebration of PoshanMaah is to take the messages of POSHAN to the grass root level. The programme focuses on 8 themes – Antenatal Care, Optimal Breastfeeding (Early & Exclusive), Complementary Feeding, Anemia, Growth Monitoring, Girls-education, diet, right age of Marriage, Hygiene & Sanitation, Food Fortification.

It is proposed to (i) hold a media campaign to celebrate “PoshanMaah” in September, 2020; (ii) Hold a webinar on importance of Nutrition during Covid-19 pandemic; (iii) Write letters to SCPCRs to observe PoshanMaah in their respective States/UTs.

*Decision: This was noted by the Commission.*

*[Action: Child Health Division]*





**Agenda Item No.17: Research Study on ‘Nutritional Status of Children of Korku Community, Khalwa block, Khandwa’:**

While conducting the benches / camps in Aspirational Districts, the Commission took cognizance on the matter where children belonging to the Korku tribe, predominantly living in the Khalwa Block of Khandwa districts of Madhya Pradesh, are highly prone to malnutrition. The major factor contributing to higher incidents of malnutrition in community, according to the district administration, were illiteracy and lack of care for children. The community is also superstitious and most of them take their children to quacks for treatment. In recent times, the problem of child malnutrition has worsened in the area. Even after referring children to NRC centre their condition has still not improved. In some cases, children have died due to malnutrition. Thus, Child Health Division would propose to conduct a research study to examine the issue of malnutrition by engaging experts from ICMR and other institutes to conduct study in the block. A detailed proposal with concept note will be submitted on file after approval.

*Decision: This was noted by the Commission.*

*[Action: Child Health Division]*

**Agenda Item No.18: To review the nutritional/ health status of children of tribal community in Aspirational Districts:**

The tribal population primarily inhabits rural and remote areas and is among the most vulnerable and marginalized section of the society. Moreover, they lag behind all other social groups in various social, health and developmental indicators. In 2011, while 40.6 per cent tribals were below the poverty line, the proportion among the rest was 20.5 per cent. In the health area, the key indicators among tribes remain very poor. For example, according to the National Family Health Survey 4 (NFHS-4) (2015-2016), the under-5 mortality among the tribal population was 57.2 per 1000 live births compared to 38.5 among others, and the infant mortality rate (IMR) 44.4 per 1000 live births versus others of 32.15.6. A child born to a ST family in India has 19 per cent higher risk of dying in the neonatal period and 45 per cent greater risk of dying in the post-neonatal period compared to other social classes. The Commission would propose to formulate a research tool to gather data on the health situations amongst tribal children in current and review the implementation of central/state sponsored schemes in these areas.

*Decision: The proposal was approved in principle.*

*[Action: Child Health Division]*



## **VI. AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED BY PROGRAMME DIVISION:**

### **Agenda Item No.19: State Review Meetings through Video-Conferencing (VC):**

NCPCR being the monitoring authority under various child related Acts/Laws, is mandated to undertake various activities to ensure effective implementation of the Laws and policies. As per Commission's monitoring mandate under CPCR Act, 2005; RTE Act, 2009; POCSO Act, 2012 and JJ Act, 2015, State Level Inter-Departmental Review Meetings have been planned in the months of September-October, 2020.

*Decision: The proposal was considered by the Commission. All the Members and concerned Divisions were requested to give their agenda / talking points for the review meetings within two working days.*

*[Action: Programme Division]*

### **Agenda Item No.20: District-Level Meetings through Video-Conferencing (VC):**

The Commission has conducted 55 camps / bench till 01.02.2020 wherein a large number of complaints have been received. The complaints have been forwarded to the concerned district authorities in the form of detailed Grids. Now for redressal of the complaints in a timely manner, one VC per District with the concerned District Authorities responsible for redressal of complaints along with the Nodal Officer of the Camp / Bench have been planned in the months of August-September, 2020.

*Decision: It was informed that a lot of complaints are pending in the Commission. The Members were requested to be present in the district level meetings through video conferencing where they have conducted the Benches / Camps.*

*[Action: Programme Division]*

### **Agenda Item No.21: Document to Combat Child Trafficking, Post Lockdown Situation due to COVID-19 Pandemic:**

In the on-going situation due to COVID-19 pandemic, the children especially those in difficult circumstances are prone to different kind of crimes against them including trafficking. To discuss different aspects of keeping children safe from any violence / threat, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) held series of virtual discussions with State C'PCRs and other important stakeholders including the NITI Aayog and Civil Society Organizations. The Commission also conducted various rescue operations for children during the lockdown period and taken up inquiries as per its mandate u/s 13(1) of CPCR Act, 2005. Based on the various best practices and discussions



with relevant stakeholders and experts, drawing reference from the recent guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) i.e. "Advisory on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking, especially during the period of COVID-19 pandemic" vide dated 06th July 2020; NCPCR has formulated a document on "Preventing Child Trafficking, Post Lockdown Situation due to COVID-19". The document gives a detailed description of the preventive measures and role of different stakeholders in combating child trafficking in an effective way. The same is available on NCPCR's website at

<https://ncpcr.gov.in/showfile.php?lang=1&level=1&&sublinkid=2003&lid=1914>.

*Decision: This was noted and ratified by the Commission.*

*[Action: Programme Division]*

**Agenda Item No.22:India's Rich Tradition and Child Rights:**

One of the functions of the Commission is to ensure that children enjoy their rights under any circumstances, examine factors that inhibit the enjoyment of rights [section 13(d)]. As per article 31 of the United Nation's Convention on Rights of the Child (UNCRC), every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities. Recently, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi while addressing the people of the nation through *Man Ki Baat* on 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 spoke about the rich heritage of traditional indoor games of India and how our children can learn so much from these games. Also, Hon'ble Prime Minister emphasized on the learnings from the experiences and life of the grandparents and senior citizens. Keeping in view the role of traditional knowledge in developing values and skills among children, NCPCR is taking an initiative to develop a compendium of Indian traditional games and create awareness among children and general public. To develop the compendium, NCPCR has requested the co-operation of SCPCRs and State Tribal Research & Training Institutes in exploring such indigenous indoor games that are exclusively or primarily associated with your State/UT. The information will be collated in form of a compendium and shall be further developed in form of videos, creatives, booklets etc. for creating awareness.

*Decision: This was noted by the Commission. All the Members were requested to give their suggestions.*

*[Action: Programme Division]*

**Agenda Item No.23: National Report on Safe and Secure School Environment:**

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) had conducted a sample survey on the status w.r.t various safety parameters in schools under its mandate being the monitoring authority of RTE Act, 2009 and as per its function u/s 13 (1). The survey was carried out in collaboration with State Education Departments and State



Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs) with voluntary participation of pre-service teacher educators and school children. Twelve States/UTs participated in the survey and collected data from 26071 Schools including both Government and private schools. The survey highlights the status of safety and security in school in terms of infrastructural facilities; health and hygiene; psycho-social aspects; monitoring mechanisms; and teacher training. The report critically presents and analyses the school readiness in preventing and handling any threat to child safety in schools. It will provide a useful insight into the status of compliance of schools with safety and security parameters. The report has been uploaded on Commission's website and is available at <https://ncpcr.gov.in/showfile.php?lang=1&level=1&&sublinkid=1998&lid=1911>.

*Decision: This was noted and ratified by the Commission.*

*[Action: Programme Division]*

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

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