New Delhi,
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NCPCR FORMULATING STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR RESCUE AND REHABILITATION OF STREET CHILDREN IN INDIA.

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) held a meeting here with a group of street children of Delhi to obtain their views in order to formulate a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for rehabilitation of street children in the country. Smt. Stuti Kacker, Chairperson, NCPCR who chaired the meeting invited suggestions from the street children to share their experiences and suggestions. Ms. Rupa Kapoor and Sh. Yaswant Jain, both, Members of the Commission encouraged the children to freely express their views.

The children narrated how they were forced to flee their homes and society and also their getting in to the habit of drugs and stealing. A group discussion was held with the children to obtain suggestions. Some of the suggestions were that there needs to be Contact Points for rescue of children; children who have been successfully rehabilitated should become Peer Educators; Measures to be taken for protecting children from drug peddlers and gangsters and Providing Counseling to rescued children.

The SOP is proposed to be developed in consultation with the Civil Society organizations, State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR), Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Children and other important stakeholders in order to capture their learning and experiences. The Commission has already organized regional consultations at Hyderabad, Patna, Lucknow and Mumbai.

The proposed SOP will include common framework for minimum standard of care and protection of street children, access of such children to quality care and protection, access to foster care and sponsorship as per requirement as well as measures to ensure that no child is forced to live on the street.

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