



National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
Report on the activities carried out during December, 2018-January, 2019

Major Activities undertaken

JJ Act

• **Inspection Visit at Perumbakkam, Chennai**

The Commission took cognizance of the complaint received from Ms. Shivani Chaudhary, Executive Director, Housing and Land Rights Network (HLRN) and Ms. Vanessa Peter, Information and Resource Centre for the Deprived Urban Communities (IRCDUC) stated, '*Forced Eviction in Navalur Nedunchezin Nagar, Chennai in the mid-academic year (a week before school examination) violates the rights of the children*' dated 10/12/2018. Thereafter, Member (Child Psychology), NCPCR probed into the matter and visited Perumbakkam, Chennai for fact finding on 19th -20th December, 2018. Based on the visit report, the Commission sent a letter to District Collector, Chennai to ensure the education of these children and send an action taken report.

• **Fact-finding home inspection concerning a child with developmental disability**

The Commission took cognizance of a request received from grandfather of a 16 year girl where the said girl is suffering from developmental delays and due to constant negligence by her parents she is in dire need of medical care and intervention to recover. A fact-finding team was constituted under the leadership of Member (Child Psychology), NCPCR alongwith experts from Childline India Foundation and the Institute of Human Behaviour & Allied Sciences (IHBAS) to probe into the matter. The team made an inspection visit to the house of said girl on 09/01/2019.

• **Inspection Visit at Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu**

Concerning the significant number of complaints about child marriages in Thanjavur district, Member (Child Psychology), NCPCR visited the district and held a meeting at District Collector office with concerned officials and stakeholders. The meeting deliberated upon the functioning of Child Welfare Committees, Child Care Institutions and other aspects pertaining to Child Rights and Child Protection initiatives undertaken at the district. During the meeting a resolution was passed in the presence of the District Collector Thanjavur,

Member NCPCR and 19 other prominent officials working towards safeguarding the rights of the children of the district.

Member also visited two Child Care Institutions along with Chairperson CWC, District Child Protection Officer and other officials to understand the existing dynamics and to obtain an honest picture.

- In pursuance of directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (Crl.) No. 102 of 2007, 'The State of Tamil Nadu vs. UOI & Ors. (Re: Exploitation of Children in Orphanages), NCPCR started work of carrying out social audits of all CCIs across the country which includes Children Home, Open Shelter, Observation Home, Special Home, Place of Safety, Specialised Adoption Agency and Fit Facility through Academy of Management Studies (AMS), Lucknow. During the period under report, regular meetings between AMS and NCPCR were held in order to prepare draft report.
- **Inspection of Child Care Institutions in Odisha**
As directed by the MWCD, NCPCR conducted Inspections of the Child Care Institutions in Odisha. The first phase of the Inspection was conducted between 12th -17th December, 2018 in 60 Child Care Institutions and 8 hostels covering 19 districts of Odisha. The Inspection was led by the designated teams from the Commission and the members from the Odisha State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (OSPCPCR), District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) & Child Welfare Committees (CWCs). The findings of the inspection is compiled in a report and submitted to MWCD and State Govt. for further necessary action.

Laws related to Children

- The Commission took suo-motu notice of news report of child starvation titled as 'भूख सहन नहीं हुआ तो आदिवासी गरीब बच्चों ने खा लिया ज़हर' pertains to Ratlam district. After taking cognizance of the matter the Commission constituted a fact finding team including a Member of MPSCPCR and visited the family of child. During the visit, the child was found stable. The team held a meeting with concerned district officials in the matter.
- The Commission took cognizance of a matter of sexual abuse to a 9 year old girl by her mother's friends. After taking cognizance, NCPCR involved Childline to visit the family of

the said girl. NCPCR continuously monitored the matter and gave directions to the local police and Childline resulting into the lodge of FIR u/s 8 & 10 of POCSO Act.

Child Health

- The Commission took cognizance of the complaint regarding alleged starvation of a new born child at, Siwandhi Village, Bokaro District. It is alleged that the said child was abandoned by his father and financial condition of the family was also not good. After taking cognizance, a report was sought from District Collector, Bokaro. Jharkhand SCPCR conducts an inquiry in this matter.

A detailed action taken report was received from ADM, Bokaro, Jharkhand stating that on Commission's directions an inquiry team was sent to visit the said new born child. Team members met the concerned child and his mother. They were provided with 20 kgs of rice under Chief Minister's Food Relief Fund. The Gram Panchayat Head was directed to look after the mother and the child. Medical services were also made available to the lactating mother and the new born child.

- MWCD forwarded a complaint to NCPCR regarding poor condition of District Hospital Gulbarga Institute of Medical science (GIMS), Kalaburagi, Karnataka. It was alleged that 5 babies have died during the last 9 months in the said hospital. After taking cognizance of the matter, a report was sought from District Magistrate Kalaburagi and Karnataka SCPCR. The report so received from Deputy Commissioner, Kalaburagi was forwarded by Joint inspector, District Health & Family Welfare Officer Kalaburagi & Director GIMS, Kalaburagi. The ATR highlighted that reason for malnourishment in newborns is maternal malnourishment. The Department of Women and Child undertakes *Matru Purna Yojana* to improve the nutritional status of pregnant and lactating mothers. The hospital administration has taken steps to improve the condition of the said hospital and construction of 60 bedded SNCU is underway. The labor room expansion and renovation of Mother & Child hospital are underway. MCH hospital human resource recruitment file is in the finance department for sanctioning of posts.

Strengthening of peripheral areas (PHC, CHC, Doctors and Nursing Care) with regard to maternal and newborn care to decrease the overload on GIMS hospital is ongoing. A separate MCH hospital is being renovated. The Advisory Committee members from NCPCR and CARA visited the hospital for inspection and found some positive changes.

- Representatives from NCPCR participated and sensitized children on child rights issues in Saksham Cycle Day organized by Indian Oil Corporation at Indore, M.P.

Education

- The Commission collaborated with NITI Aayog and signed the 'Statement of Intent' to establish and strengthen innovation ecosystem through AIM's flagship initiatives and programs in the benefit of students and start-ups.
- NCPCR is in process of conducting a study on child abuse and vulnerability of children (Safety and Security issue) studying in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs), Ashram School and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs). During the period under Report, the field work is completed in KGBVs and is in progress in Navodaya Vidyalayas.
- NCPCR initiated a study on 'Compliance of implementation of section 12 (1) (C) of the RTE Act, 2009 pertaining to admission of children from EWS/DG category in private unaided schools', covering three States i.e. Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. During the period under report, the financial bids of 7 qualified agencies/institutions were open on 31.12.2018 by the committee formed for the purpose.
- NCPCR represented in 2 meetings of Task Force Committee constituted by MHRD to go into the reasons for suicides in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) on 14th & 21st January, 2019. In this regard, an inspection visit was undertaken to JNV Mahindergarh, Haryana on 20.01.2019 with other Members of Task Force Committee. The team interacted with the JNV school management, Parents, Staff and Children were undertaken.
- NCPCR drafted the Rules of Procedures for Stand Alone Hostels for Children in January 2019 to be submitted to MWCD for perusal and further suitable action.
- The Commission in an ongoing matter of implementation of section 29 (1) of the RTE Act, 2009 w.r.t. curriculum laid down by academic authority in private schools received clarification from Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE) where Chief Executive & Secretary, CISCE has submitted that the curriculum is in consonance with National Curriculum Framework (NCF), which was prescribed by NCERT pursuant to



Section 29 of RTE Act, 2009. NCPCR sought comments of NCERT on CISCE statement on 18.01.2019.

Child Labour

- QRC team of NCPCR carried out a rescue operation at NBCC construction site, East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi. During the raid QRC rescued 15 children from the site and produced them before Child Welfare Committee. FIR has been lodged on 10.12.2018 u/s 14 of Child Labour Act, 1986.
- NCPCR team coordinated a rescue operation on 27.12.2018 at Golden Venna Hotel, Mount Abu and rescued 4 children. All children were produced before concern CWC and FIR was lodged u/s 79 of JJ Act, 2015 and IPC 374 against the employer. After completing the formalities, children were sent to Shelter Home Mount Abu (Rajasthan).
- The Commission took cognizance of a complaint received from Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC) on a documentary on 'Carpets from India' aired by ARD-Public German TV Channel, in the show PLUSMINUS on 25th October 2018 regarding child labour in the carpet industry of the Agra, Uttar Pradesh. To deal with the issue, a strategy meeting was organized by NCPCR with Carpet Export Promotion Council, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India and UNICEF. In the meeting it was decided to conduct a fact finding exercise by a team headed by Member (Child Psychology), NCPCR in Agra area to find out the ground reality. For conducting the fact finding exercise, a meeting was held with the District Administration, Agra on 4.12.2018 under the chairmanship of Member (Child Psychology), NCPCR. Subsequently, the team comprises of officials from NCPCR, UNICEF, and the District Administration conducted a fact finding exercise and a survey in the carpet making area of Agra from 4th -8th December, 2018. The team covered 14 Industries (factories), 63 households, 12 schools (habitations) and 6 Anganwadis spread in 5 Community Development Blocks and 14 habitations in the district of Agra. The major areas covered in the district include Fatehabad, Shamsabad, Etmadpur and Fatehpur Sikri. A report based on the inspection and survey was prepared and circulated to stakeholders for their information and comments, if any.

Grievance Redressal Mechanism

- During the period under report, 310 grievances were redressed.
- The Commission took cognizance of 26 suo-moto cases related to POCSO.

North East

- To strengthen the effectiveness of functioning of CWCs, NCPCR organised a 'Two Days State Level Sensitization cum Training Workshop for the Chairperson and Members of Child Welfare Committee' in collaboration with Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (ASCPCR) at Guwahati, Assam on 22 - 23 January 2019. The said training programme was attended by more than 120 participants included Chairpersons and Members of CWCs, JJBs in Assam and other stakeholders such as ICPs and ICDS staff, State Police, Assam SCPC and Assam SCPCR.
- NCPCR published through its website and E Procurement Portal 'Call for proposals from interested Institutions / Organisations/ NGOs/ CSOs/ Consulting Organizations/ Universities for organising Seminar/ Conferences/ Workshops/ Conventions/ Colloquiums on child rights related issues in North Eastern States; on 09.01.2019.

Other Activities

- NCPCR organized a National Workshop of SCPCRs on 2nd December, 2018 at New Delhi with a view to strengthen the functioning of the Commissions and effective implementation of mandates as provided in the CPCR Act. The workshop was participated by around 120 participants from 29 State Commissions. Hon'ble Judge Mr. M.B. Lokur, Supreme Court of India was Chief Guest of the occasion. SCPCRs presented their issues, concerns and achievements along with functioning and administrative structure of their respective Commissions.
- NCPCR organised a workshop with media professionals on 05.12.2018 at New Delhi. The aim of the program is to create awareness about the rights of the children, the role of Media, and to create a society in which every child gets its constitutional and legal rights. About 100 media persons from different media houses i.e print, electronic and web media institutions



participated in the program and shared their ideas regarding implementation of constitutional and statutory provisions related to Child Rights.

- In pursuance of directions of MWCD, NCPCR created Mediation Cell to deal with cases of International Child Abduction. During the period under report, received complaints were processed as per the norm. Also, meetings with Advocates of Mediation Cell to discuss the complainants and to discuss the SOP for Mediation Cell were held on 13.12.2018 & 30.01.2019 respectively.
- The meeting of Sexual Harassment Committee of NCPCR was held on 06.12.2018.

Visits

Chairperson

- Participated in discussions at National Level on effective implementation of JJ Act, 2015 at Ashoka Hotel organized by JJ Committee, Supreme Court of India on 01.12.2018.
- Attended 'Street Dreams-a Dramatic Presentation from real incidents' organized by Salam Balak Trust at LTG Auditorium, Mandi House, Delhi on 03.12.2018.
- Participated in National Conference 'Plan for Every Child' organized by Plan India at IHC, Delhi on 05.12.2018.
- Attended release program of 'Report on Human Trafficking' organized by Prayas, an NGO at New Delhi on 14.12.2018.
- Attended release of Study Report 'The Right Start investing in the early years of education' organized by Save the Children in India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 17.12.2019.
- Participated in the Raisina Dialogue, Session: "From Labour to Leadership: Investing in Children" at Mumtaz Mahal, Taj Palace, Diplomatic Enclave, New Delhi organized by Observation Research Foundation on 10.01.2019.
- Gave Key note address at the seminar on 'What works to reduce child marriage?' and release the report at IHC, New Delhi on 22.01.2019 organized by Population Council.

- Gave inaugural address in National Level Course on 'Deviane among street children' organized by LNIN National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science at Rohini, Delhi on 28.01.2019.
- Visited Mumbai, Maharashtra from 8th to 10th December, 2018 to attend one day National Convention on 'Forum Deprivation to Development: Role of Ujjwala of Life'.
- Visited Bhopal, MP from 20th -22nd December, 2018 to convene meeting with Chairperson, MPSCPCR and to inspect AWC.
- Visited Mumbai, Maharashtra from on 19th-20th January, 2019 to attend a plenary session of National Convention on Good Governance 'Sushashan Sangam' at Mumbai.

Member (LRC)

- Attended and addressed participants in 3 days consultation programme for developing curriculum on child protection for in service police officers of Chhattisgarh organized by CID, Chhattisgarh from 03-05th December, 2018.
- Participated as panelist in live debate on Cabinet's decision on Amendments in POCSO Act telecasted on Rajya Sabha TV.

Member (Child Psychology or sociology)

- Visited Perumbakkam, Chennai on 19th -20th December, 2018, in regard to conduct a fact finding inquiry in a complaint matter.
- Visited Agra on 4th December, 2018 and held meeting with District Collector, Agra.
- Visited Tamil Nadu on 31.12.2018 and held meeting with District Collector Thanjavur on child protection issues.

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9/5/19

G. Suresh, AD