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National Commission for Protection of Child Rights



Towards a New Dawn

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

13.1 The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was constituted by the Government of India, Ministry of Women & Child Development as a statutory body in March, 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, to protect, promote and defend child rights in the country.

Mandate

13.2 The Commission has been mandated to perform all or any of the following functions:

13.3 Under Section 13(1) of the CPCR Act, 2005

- (i) Examine and review the safeguards provided by or under any law for the time being in force for the protection of child rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation;
- (ii) Present to the Central Government, annually and at such other intervals, as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;
- (iii) Inquire into violation of child rights and recommend initiation of proceedings in such cases;
- (iv) Examine all factors that inhibit the enjoyment of rights of children affected by terrorism, communal violence, riots, natural disaster, domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, trafficking, maltreatment, torture and exploitation, pornography and prostitution and recommend appropriate remedial measures;
- (v) Look into the matters relating to children in need of special care and protection including children in distress, marginalized and disadvantaged children, children in conflict with law, juveniles, children without family and children of prisoners and recommend appropriate remedial measures;
- (vi) Study treaties and other international instruments and undertake periodical review of existing policies, programmes and other activities on child rights and make recommendations for their effective implementation in the best interest of children;

- (vii) Undertake and promote research in the field of child rights;
 - (viii) Spread child rights literacy among various sections of the society and promote awareness of the safeguards available for protection of these rights through publications, the media, seminars and other available means;
 - (ix) Inspect or cause to be inspected any juvenile custodial home, or any other place of residence or institution meant for children, under the control of the Central Government or any State Government or any other authority, including any institution run by a social organization; where children are detained or lodged for the purpose of treatment, reformation or protection and take up with these authorities for remedial action, if found necessary;
 - (x) Inquire into complaints and take *suomoto* notice of matters relating to:
 - a) Deprivation and violation of child rights;
 - b) Non-implementation of laws providing for protection and development of children;
 - c) Non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships to and ensuring welfare of the children and to provide relief to such children, or take up the issues arising out of such matters with appropriate authorities; and
 - (xi) Such other functions as it may consider necessary for the promotion of child rights and any other matter incidental to the above functions.
- 13.4 Under Rule 17 of the NCPCR Rules, 2006:**
- (I) Analyse existing law, policy and practice to assess compliance with Convention on the Rights of the Child, undertake inquiries and produce reports on any aspect of policy or practice affecting children and comment on proposed new legislation from a child rights perspective;
 - (ii) Present to the Central Government annually and at such other intervals as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;
 - (iii) Undertake formal investigations where concern has been expressed either by children themselves or by concerned person on their behalf;
 - (iv) Ensure that the work of the Commission is directly informed by the views of children in order to reflect priorities and perspective;
 - (v) Promote, respect and serious consideration of the views of children in its work and in that of all Government Departments and Organizations dealing with child;
 - (vi) Produce and disseminate information about child rights;
 - (vii) Compile and analyze data on children;
 - (viii) Promote the incorporation of child rights into the school curriculum,

teachers training and training of personnel dealing with children.

13.5 Under Section 31 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009:

- (i) Examine and review the safeguards for rights provided by or under this Act and Recommend measures for their effective implementation;
- (ii) Inquire into complaints relating to child's right to free and compulsory education.
- (iii) Take necessary steps as provided under sections 15 and 24 of the said Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act.

13.6 Under Section 44 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and Rule 6 of POCSO Rules, 2012:

- (a) To monitor in the implementation of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012;
- (b) To monitor the designation of Special Courts by State Governments;
- (c) To monitor the appointment of Public Prosecutors by State Governments;
- (d) To monitor the formulation of the guidelines described in section 39 of the Act by the State Governments, for the use of non-governmental organisations, professionals and experts or persons having knowledge of psychology, social

work, physical health, mental health and child development to be associated with the pre-trial and trial stage to assist the child, and to monitor the application of these guidelines;

- (e) To monitor the designing and implementation of modules for training police personnel and other concerned persons, including officers of the Central and State Governments, for the effective discharge of their functions under the Act;
- (f) To monitor and support the Central Government and State Governments for the dissemination of information relating to the provisions of the Act through media including the television, radio and print media at regular intervals, so as to make the general public, children as well as their parents and guardians aware of the provisions of the Act;
- (g) To call for a report on any specific case of child sexual abuse falling within the jurisdiction of a CWC;
- (h) To collect information and data on its own or from the relevant agencies regarding reported cases of sexual abuse and their disposal under the processes established under the Act, including information on the following:-
 - (I) Number and details of offences reported under the Act;
 - (ii) Whether the procedures prescribed under the Act and Rules were followed, including those regarding timeframes;

- (iii) Details of arrangements for care and protection of victims of offences under this Act, including arrangements for emergency medical care and medical examination; and,
 - (iv) Details regarding assessment of the need for care and protection of a child by the concerned CWC in any specific case.
- 13.7 Under Section 109 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015:**
- (1) The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights constituted under section 3, or as the case may be, the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights constituted under section 17 (herein referred to as the National Commission or the State Commission, as the case may be), of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, shall, in addition to the functions assigned to them under the said Act, also monitor the implementation of the provisions of this Act, in such manner, as may be prescribed.
 - (2) The National Commission or, as the case may be, the State Commission, shall, while inquiring into any matter relating to any offence under this Act, have the same powers as are vested in the National Commission or the State Commission under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.
- (3) The National Commission or, as the case may be, the State Commission, shall also include its activities under this section, in the annual report referred to in Section 16 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.
- 13.8 Under Rule 91 of Model Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Rules, 2016**
- I. Review setting up of institutions created under the Act;
 - ii. Develop Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material on child rights and gender sensitivity;
 - iii. Develop protocol for reformation and rehabilitation of children;
 - iv. Create awareness about identification and reporting of crimes against children such as drug abuse, trafficking, child sexual abuse and exploitation including child marriage, and other aspects of violence against children;
 - v. Conduct sensitization workshop for Panchayati Raj Institutions and Municipal Corporations on crimes against children including identification and reporting of crimes for enhanced protection;
 - vi. Develop information material detailing the rights of the child victims or witnesses and their families, and containing useful information in local languages, which may be provided to the victim and her/his family;

- vii. Develop training module for stakeholders along with the State Child Protection Societies and NIPCCD, etc.

13.9 Composition of the NCPCR

The Commission comprises of:

- (i) A chairperson who is a person of eminence and has done outstanding work for promoting the welfare of children; and
- (ii) Six members (out of which at least two shall be women) from the following fields to be appointed by the Central Government from amongst persons of eminence, ability, integrity, standing and experience in - education; child health, care, welfare or child development; juvenile justice or care of neglected or marginalized children or children with disabilities; elimination of child labour or children in distress; child psychology or sociology; and laws relating to children.

Activities

13.10 The Commission looked into various areas and made interventions in the areas of right of children to education, child labour, sexual exploitation of children, trafficking, interstate migration, unregulated children homes, orphanages, HIV/AIDS, health/nutrition. The intervention made by the Commission extended to most States. Five

essential core management principles viz. decentralization, flexibility, institution building processes, convergence and listening to children and their voices guided formulation of policies and delivery of services.

13.11 Juvenile Justice System and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO)

- In a Supreme Court matter the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) sought the views of NCPCR regarding preventive steps towards rape videos and child pornography, etc. The Commission sent its views to MeitY on 3rd April, 2017 that directions may be issued to all Internet Service Providers (ISP) that video clips without censor certificate should not be uploaded either on the internet or on to cell phones.
- The Commission continued to monitor the implementation of JJ Act, 2015 and POCSO Act, 2012 from States/ UTs. During the year under report, the Commission organised two meetings with nodal officers of the States/UTs to review the status of implementation of these Acts on 7th April, 2017 and 23rd November, 2017 at NCPCR. The Commission also held video conferences with State representatives to collect information in this regard. Based on the rigorous follow-up by the Commission, the status of setting up of the infrastructural facilities in States/UTs under these Acts, as received up to 30th November, 2017, is summarized below:

a) JJ Act, 2015 (34 States/UTs)

Name of Unit	Total 680 Districts	Achievements (%)
State Child Protection Society	32 States/UTs	99.11
District Child Protection Units	661	97.20
Child Welfare Committees	607	89.26
Specialized Juvenile Police Units	734	107.94
Juvenile Justice Boards	642	94.41
Children Courts	585	86.02
Probation Officers	536	78.82
Place of Safety	48	
Observation Homes	333	48.97
Special Homes	66	9.70
Open Shelter	270	
Children's Home	3562	
Foster Care	2078	
Fit Facility	88	
Fit Persons	235	
Registered Child Care Institutions	4882	

b) POCSO Act (35 States/UTs)

Name of Units	680 Districts	Achievements (%)
No. of Children/Special Courts	597	87.66
No. of Specialized Juvenile Police Units	737	108.22
No. of Special Public Prosecutors appointed for every Special Court	462	67.84
Victim Compensation Scheme	34/35	97.14
Preparation of procedure/guidelines for Media (u/s 23) to handle POCSO cases	17/35	48.57
Preparation of guidelines for use of NGOs/professionals/experts, etc. (u/s 39)	20/35	57.14

- The Commission enhanced the scope of POCSO e-box through its Mobile App activated at Google/Apple Play store, also provided link at NCPCR website on 4th November, 2017. This would handle cases of cyber crime including cyber bullying, cyber stalking, morphing of images and child pornography.

- NCPCR took cognizance of deaths due to 'Blue Whale Challenge Game' and addressed to Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to stop the use of Blue Whale Challenge Game by children and its circulation on social media in India. In this regard, a meeting was also held with Special Secretary (Internal Security), Ministry of Home Affairs on 28.08.2017. At the instance of the Commission, Hon'ble Minister, MWCD wrote to Union Home Minister and Minister MeitY to take preventive steps on the subject.
- NCPCR addressed to the Chief Secretaries of all States on 26.04.2017 to take suitable steps for preventing child marriages which are solemnized on a large scale on the occasions of Akshay Tritiya/ Akha Teej and prepare a detailed action plan for prevention of such marriages.

Chief Secretaries of the States were also addressed to provide information on: Prohibition of Child Marriage Act State Rules; best practices on prevention of child marriages and rehabilitation of young brides/couples, etc.

- NCPCR addressed to Chief Ministers of all States/UTs on 27.04.2017, requesting to direct all concerned in their States to implement Section 77 & 78 of JJ Act, 2015 strictly to enable children to lead a healthy life.

Further, in order to have effective

implementation of Section 77 and 78 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, NCPCR issued an advisory on 12.07.2017 to all Chief Secretaries, Secretaries (Education), DGPs and Secretaries (Excise Department) of States to ensure effective implementation of these provisions and protection of children from being misused by drug racketeers.

- In pursuance of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP(C) No.102 of 2007, 'Re: Exploitation of Children in Orphanages in the State', NCPCR wrote to Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs on 4th July, 2017 to set up Inspection Committees to inspect all the Child Care Institutions under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 by 31st July, 2017. So far information has been received from 9 States. The matter is being followed up with the States.
- Chairperson, NCPCR addressed letters to I&B Ministry, Indian Broadcasting Foundation (IBF), News Broadcaster's Association (NBA) and Private Channels on 18.07.2017 for telecasting information on missing children.
- NCPCR wrote to the Secretary, Information and Broadcasting on 5th October, 2017 to issue an advisory to all Media Agencies (electronic/print) to prohibit disclosure of identity of children as mentioned under Section 23 of the POCSO Act, 2012 and Section 74 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, so that the best interest of the children are protected across the country.
- It was noticed by the Commission that children who belong to other States are

kept in the CCIs for long period of time. In order to restore such children to their families, NCPCR wrote to all States/UTs on 11th August, 2017 to send the number and names of children who are residing in CCIs and do not belong to the State of residence, or who are CNCP but would like to go back to their families.

Further, to provide identity to such children, NCPCR wrote to Unique Identification Authority of India on 04.11.2017 to issue necessary directions to all concerned authorities across the country to prepare Action Plan for issuing of Aadhaar Cards to children living in Child Care Institutions in a time bound manner.

- A panel of lawyers constituted by NCPCR as per the order of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court, continued to visit Tihar Jail and identified 206 inmates as probable juveniles. The reports of the visits were prepared and sent to the Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLISA) for further action in the matter.

Central Jail, Tihar, New Delhi, has intimated in November, 2017 that 95 inmates have been transferred to Observation Homes for Boys since April, 2017.

The Commission also requested to all the States/UTs to carry out inspection of jails by Panel of Experts to identify probable juvenile who are lodged in jails and report the outcome to the Commission quarterly.

- The Commission continued to monitor provisioning of Aadhaar Cards to all the children in Child Care Institutions in the States and subsequently based on the Aadhaar Card, opening of bank account (of these children) as per the guidelines. During the period under report, 1,41,607 children in the CCIs were provided Aadhaar Cards and Bank Accounts of 29,661 children were opened.
- NCPCR compiled the list of available Victims Compensation Funds/ Schemes in different States/UTs and uploaded on its website on 18.08.2017. Further, NCPCR addressed to all the States/UTs on 29.08.2017 to provide number of child victims and amount distributed under Victim Compensation Fund/Scheme during the year 2016-17.
- In order to support the Central/State Governments and stakeholders for dissemination of information relating to the provisions of the POCSO Act, 2012, NCPCR developed the following materials for circulations:
 - (i) An Easy Guide for implementation of the POCSO Act, 2012;
 - (ii) Ready Reckoner for implementation of POCSO Act, 2012;
 - (iii) A Guide for District Administration for Implementation of Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and the POCSO Act, 2012.
 - (iv) Child Victims of Cyber Crime - Legal Tool Kit;
 - (v) User Handbook on the POCSO Act, 2012

- (vi) Do's and Don'ts on Stay Safe on Internet;

The above materials are also available on NCPCR's website www.ncpcr.gov.in.

- NCPCR developed 'Navigational Guide for Implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015'. The document has been placed on the website of NCPCR.
- The Commission organized 14 State/District level training cum awareness workshops on the JJ Act, 2015 for State/District level functionaries covering the States of Sikkim, Manipur, Chandigarh, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Meghalaya, Punjab and Port Blair.
- NCPCR organized a consultation on Prevention and Rehabilitation strategies for sexual offences against children under the POCSO Act, 2012 on 15th May, 2017. Issues like strategies and programme intervention relating to legal, medical and psychological needs of POCSO victims were addressed. In all, 50 officers of various Ministries/ Departments, States/UTs, NGOs participated in the consultation.
- NCPCR commemorated the 'World Day against Child Labour' on 12.06.2017 in NCPCR by organizing a meeting with representatives of State Resident Commissioners, Labour Department, DCPU and Childline. The participants were apprised on the provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition and



Meeting with Stakeholders on 'World Day against Child Labour' on 12.06.2017

Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 and Rules, 2017. During the meeting, the participants were sensitized on the causes and adverse effects of child labour on the lives of children. The participants also took pledge to stop child labour.

- To formulate post rescue guidelines for trafficked children, for their restoration to their families, NCPCR organized a meeting on 11.07.2017 with Resident Commissioners of States, Child Welfare Committees, Childline and NGOs working on Child Protection and Anti-Child Trafficking issues. Representatives from 10 States participated in the meeting.



Meeting on Child Trafficking Survivors Rescued from Delhi

- In order to address the issues relating to interpretation of the POCSO Act and the problems being faced by the Investigating Officers in the States/UTs, NCPCR organized a consultation with the Nodal Officers/Heads of Cyber Crime Cells of the States/UTs on 17th May, 2017. In all, 46 officers from the Ministries/Departments, States/UTs, NGOs/Civil Society, Lawyers and experts participated in the consultation.
- The Commission organized a special meeting with various stakeholders including State authorities, NGO's, Child Rights organizations to formulate a Training Module/Manual in the light of the Supreme Court judgment in 'Re Exploitation of Children in Orphanages' in State of Tamil Nadu v. U.O.I (W.P (Crl.) No. 102 of 2007) and the new Juvenile Justice Care and Protection Act, 2015 and the Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 on 3rd August, 2017. The meeting highlighted the need for specialized training modules to be formulated in order to facilitate better understanding of the newly formulated laws for various stakeholders such as Child Welfare Police, State Child Protection Societies, Child Protection Units, etc.
- NCPCR organized a consultation on 21.08.2017 to discuss the scope and methodology for developing 'SOP on Crime/Violence against Children' at NCPCR. 25 participants including Retd. Police Officers, Lawyers, representatives from Child Fund India, Childline, TISS-Mumbai and Prayas participated in the same.
- NCPCR in collaboration with State Commissions of Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan organized 4 two day workshops on 'Salient features of POCSO Act, POCSO e-box and Role of Emotional Intelligence' to sensitize students and teachers. Workshops in Chhattisgarh were held in Durg and Raipur districts on 22nd-23rd and 24th-25th August, 2017, respectively and sensitized around 1,200 teachers and students. Workshops in Rajasthan, also supported by Rajasthan Education Department, held in Jaipur and Udaipur on 3rd-4th and 6th-7th September, 2017 respectively, sensitized 1,000 teachers and students.



Workshop on Salient Features of POCSO Act, POCSO e-box and Role of Emotional Intelligence at Raipur



Session with Teachers on Emotional Intelligence at Raipur

- NCPCR initiated the process of developing 'Guidelines and Standard Content for Raising Awareness amongst Children, Parents, Educators and General Public for Digital Safety of Children'. A consultation involving all concerned Ministries and stakeholders was organized in NCPCR on 4th September, 2017.
- A consultation was organized in NCPCR to develop advisory for 'Safety of children living in CCIs' on 12th October, 2017. The meeting was attended by 18 officers/representatives.
- NCPCR organized a consultation to discuss the scope and methodology for preparing 'User Handbook on Foster Care' on 20.09.2017 at NCPCR with the stakeholders and NGOs working in the field of Foster Care.
- NCPCR organized a round table discussion on the topic of "Parental Alienation: A Silent Epidemic & Parenting Alienation" on 24th November, 2017. The meeting was attended by judicial officers, experts, stakeholders, and NGOs. The meeting highlighted the social and psychological effects of parental alienation on children and its adverse effects on overall growth of the child.
- At the instance of NCPCR, BPR&D organized a training programme for Police officers on 'Online Sexual Exploitation of Children and Provisions of POCSO Act' on 11th-12th September, 2017. 35 police officers of NCT of Delhi participated in the same. Representative of NCPCR participated in the training programme and sensitized the participants.
- NCPCR in collaboration with Manipur SCPCR organized a Regional level Consultation on 'Child Rights, Gaps and Challenges in North Eastern States' on 10.10.2017. The consultation was attended by 195 representatives of North Eastern States' Govt. functionaries, Judiciary, child rights activist, Civil Societies and SCPCRs.



Regional Level Consultation on Child Rights in Manipur

- The Commission commemorates 'International Child Rights Day' on 20th November, 2017 by organizing a consultation on 'Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)'. The objective of the consultation was to discuss the

Preventive Strategy of CSA; Child Art as an analytical tool for interpretation of CSA, History of CSA and Male CSA. In all, 18 officers/experts participated in the programme.



Celebration of International Child Rights Day and Consultation on Child Sexual Abuse at NCPCR on 20.11.2017

- NCPCR organised a legal consultation on Child Marriage on 25.04.2017 in collaboration with 'Young Lives' at NCPCR with the objectives to discuss the issues, gaps, challenges and good practices in implementation of Prohibition of Child Marriage (PCMA) Act, 2006 and formulation of SOP to prevent Child Marriages. The workshop was attended by representatives from Ministry of Law, Law Commission, Judicial Officers, National/State Legal Authority, Advocates, NGOs, etc.

Further, a Report on 'A Statistical Analysis of Child Marriage in India' in collaboration with Young lives India was released by NCPCR in the august presence of Justice A.K. Sikri and Secretary, MWCD on 01.06.2017 at New Delhi. The Report

analyses Census 2011 data on child marriage in detail and contains recommendations for stakeholder along-with suggestions for a way forward to combat this custom effectively.

13.12 Inspection of Juvenile Custodial Homes

- Member (Law), NCPCR made a surprise visit to Observation Home, Special Home and Place of Safety at Durg district, Chhattisgarh on 15.04.2017 along with Member of Chhattisgarh SCPCR and DCPO. Member interacted with children, assessed their problems and directed concerned officials to redress them. Member also visited Charama pre-matric girls' hostel in tribal area of Bastar district on 16.04.2017 and generate awareness among girls for protection against child sexual abuse.

- Member (Law), NCPCR made a surprise visit to Observation Home Allahabad, UP on 6th May, 2017. He assessed the problem of children and directed concerned officials to redress them. Member also visited Juvenile Justice Board and interacted with the Members.
- Member (Law), NCPCR along with Chairperson and a Member from Punjab SCPCR made surprise visit to 4 different CCIs i.e., Children Home for Girls, Children Home, Observation Home for Girls and Missionary of Charity in Jalandhar, Punjab on 08.06.2017.
- Member (Law) visited Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 30.06.2017 to 02.07.2017. During the visit on 30.06.2016, Member monitored working of Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Jodhpur in the presence of Members of CWC, Deputy Director (State Social Welfare Department),

Superintendent of Children Homes and DCPO. Member sensitized all the participants on important sections of JJ and POCSO Acts. Member also visited Children Home for Boys, Children Home for Girls, Observation Home and Juvenile Justice Board in Jodhpur district and shared shortcomings observed with concerned officials and instructed them to resolve them.

Member also made surprise visit to Anganwadi centers in rural area of the district and interacted with children and Anganwadi workers and apprised them about Child Rights.

- Member (Law) along-with Member (Education), NCPCR visited 'Kalinga Institute of Social Science', Odisha which educates around 24,000 tribal children on 28.07.2017.
- Member (Law), NCPCR visited Anganwadi Center at Balod, Chhattisgarh on 14th August, 2017.



Visit of Anganwadi Center at Balod Chhattisgarh

- Member (Law) inspected Children Home for Girls and Children Home for Mentally Challenged at Imphal,

Manipur on 09.10.2017 to assess the condition of children and facilities at premises. Member interacted with

children; assessed their problems; and directed concerned officials to redress them. Also concerned authorities were directed to install

CCTV cameras in the Children Home for Mentally Challenged and Police verification of male staff appointed in the Home.



Inspection by Member, NCPCR at Children Home for Girls at Imphal, Manipur



Inspection by Member, NCPCR at Children Home for Mentally Challenged at Imphal, Manipur

- Member (Law), NCPCR made a surprise inspection to SOS Child Village in Balod, Chhattisgarh on 23.10.2017 and ensured proper documentation of children and their adoption process as per JJ Act, 2015. Member also interacted with children and instructed concerned authorities to have police verification of staff members.
- Member (Law), NCPCR inspected SOS Children Home and Girls Children Home, Bhopal on 12th November, 2017 and interacted with children. Member instructed the officials of Homes to follow the provisions of JJ Act, 2015 and POCSO Act, 2012. Member also directed concerned officials to redress the issues raised by children during interaction.
- Member (Law), NCPCR visited Girls Children Home, Port Blair on

19th November, 2017 and interacted with the children and generated awareness among them for protection against child sexual abuse.

13.13 Child Health

- NCPCR in collaboration with Ministry of Panchayati Raj and UNICEF developed and released Handbook, Module and Guidelines on Safe Childhood Programme for Protection of Child Rights at Gram Panchayat level on 05.06.2017 at New Delhi. The



Launch of Safe Childhood Program by Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj

programme was attended by Secretary and Joint Secretary, MoPR, representatives from 14 SCPCR and Society for Rural Development Services (SRDS), UNICEF, Save the Children, and other organisations.

The programme shall be piloted in 14 States initially with the support of SCPCRs. For this purpose, a two days training of Master Trainers was initiated by the Commission in collaboration with UNICEF at State level for the resource persons empanelled with SIRD/PRTI/CTI, etc. on Safe Childhood Program. The trainings were organized by SIRD/PRTI of the respective State covering the States of Bihar, MP, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Assam, Odisha, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh.

- NCPCR initiated process of piloting of Standard Operating Procedures for Children in Street Situations launched in February, 2017, in the States of Delhi, Telangana, Maharashtra and West Bengal.
- a) Maharashtra State Govt. has adopted the SOP on Street Children as prepared by NCPCR and launched the role out programme of SOP on 8th June, 2017 in the august presence of State Women and Child Development Minister Smt. Pankaja Munde.
- b) NCPCR in collaboration with Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi and DCPCR organized an orientation meeting on role out of SOP at Delhi Secretariat on



19.08.2017 for Members of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) of all districts of Delhi and the District Child Protection Officers. During the orientation, a poster on action procedure for CWCs was launched by Chairperson, NCPCR. The orientation was attended by Chairperson, DCPCR; Deputy Director, ICPS; DWCD; Save the Children and 55 participants working for street children.

A meeting with District Magistrates of Delhi was held on 18.09.2017 with the objective to enhance coordination between State departments and district authorities working for children in street situations. The meeting jointly discussed action plan for implementation of SOP, good practices, challenges faced by street children as well as District Authorities while dealing with cases of children in street situations. Chairperson and Member (Law), NCPCR attended the meeting.

- c) At Telangana, NCPCR in collaboration with State Department of Women and Child Welfare and Save the Children launched the roll out of SOP on 01.09.2017 at Dr. MCR HRD Institute. In all, 125 individuals representing the State Department of Women & Child Development, Juvenile Welfare, Correctional Services & Street Children,

Education, State legal authority, Police, Principal Magistrate for JJB, Health, Municipal Administration, DCPUs, CWCs and Telangana SCPCR attended the programme.



- d) The State level role out programme of SOP was organized in Kolkata on 13.09.2017 by NCPCR in collaboration with West Bengal SCPCR, State Department of Women and Child Development, State Social Welfare department and Save the Children. Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Women and Child Development graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Chairperson, WBSCPCR and senior officials of WCD Department, Police, SSA, Municipal Society of West Bengal attended the programme.

- The Commission to combat neo-natal death and early/adolescent pregnancy organised a series of Workshops/ Consultations at Region/State/ District level at Jharkhand on 11.09.2017; Assam on 15.09.2017; Odisha on 26.10.2017; and West Bengal on 31.10.2017. The objectives were to build capacity of the key stakeholders on understanding the impact of child marriage and early pregnancy; to equip the grassroots level workers on tracking/ monitoring child marriage and early pregnancy; and to build sensitization among community on the subject. The workshops/consultations were attended by representatives of State Departments of Health, Education, Women and Child Development, Panchayati Raj; DSWOs, DCPOs, Chairpersons/ Members of CWC, Counsellors, Social workers, Police officials, health professionals, children



State Level Consultation on Child Marriage and Early Pregnancy at Jharkhand on 11.09.2017



Consultation on Child Marriage and Early Pregnancy at West Bengal on 31.10.2017

(from Schools and government shelter homes), Maulvis and Purohits.

- One day Inter-Sectoral Convergence and Sensitization Programme on Substance use in Children was jointly organised by NCPCR, Punjab SCPCR, National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC), AIIMS, Delhi and UNODC on 10th November, 2017 in Amritsar, Punjab. The objective of the programme was to bring all the stakeholders on a common platform to work on specific issues related to substance abuse and its management among children in the state of Punjab.



Inter-Sectoral Convergence and Sensitization Programme on Substance use in Punjab

- On the occasion of International Girl Child Day, NCPCR in collaboration with Dept. of Women and Child Development, NCT of Delhi set up and inaugurated 'Toy Library' and 'Sanitary Napkin Vending Machine & Incinerator' in Children Home for girls, Nirmal Chhaya on 11.10.2017 at Delhi. The programme was inaugurated by Chairperson, Delhi Commission for Women; Chairperson, DCPCR;

and Member (Child Health), NCPCR.

- The Commission sensitized the



Inauguration of 'Toy Library' and 'Sanitary Napkin Vending Machine & Incinerator' in Children Home at Delhi

officials of Delhi Municipal Corporations towards need of toilet facilities for adolescents in public places and instigated them to develop such toilets. As its consequence South MCD developed a Pink Toilet with sanitary napkin facility which was formally inaugurated by Mayor, South MCD on 11.10.2017 in Vikaspuri.

- On the occasion of Universal Children



Pink Toilet at Vikaspuri for Adolescent Girls in Delhi

Day, NCPCR organized 'Baal Utsav' a programme (Mela) dedicated to children living in Child Care Institutions in Delhi on 18.11.2017. The objective of the programme was to

promote child participation and showcase their talents in creative activities. Around 1,000 children in the age group of 11-18 years from Government and NGO run Child Care Institutions of Delhi participated in the programme.



Address by Hon'ble Justice M. B. Lokur to Children at Bal Utsav

- The Commission took *suo-motu* cognizance of a news report published in 'India Today' magazine dated 25.07.2017 stating that the Allahabad High Court has sought a counter affidavit on a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) highlighting malnutrition among the children of several villages in Varanasi district. In this regard, a team from NCPCR led by Member (Child Health), NCPCR visited Varanasi from 20th to 23rd August, 2017 to address the above issue.

At the instance of NCPCR, District Magistrate, Varanasi organized two Health camps in Pisore and Bhagatpur villages of Block Harhua, Varanasi District on 23.08.2017 to identify the severe and

Hon'ble Minister of State, Dr.Virendra Kumar, MWCD was the Chief Guest of the Programme along with Hon'ble Judge Supreme Court of India, Justice M.B. Lokur. Dignitaries from Film, Music, Theatre, Media, Health, etc. also graced the occasion with their presence at dais. An interactive session was held between children and the dignitaries present on dais. Children also displayed their talents through cultural programmes.



Cultural Program Performed by Children at Bal Utsav

moderate malnourished children for treatment.

Further, NCPCR held a meeting with District Magistrate and officials from ICDS, ICPS and NGOs and discussed the action plan to eradicate malnutrition in Varanasi District. During the meeting, two blocks were identified by the District Officials i.e., Cholapur and Arajilin for a pilot project. At the instance of NCPCR, it was decided that Nutritional Rehabilitation Centre (NRC) will be opened at the Primary Health Centres (PHCs) of these blocks for treatment of children who are either moderate or severely malnourished and awareness campaign will be carried out with the help of local NGOs working in the field of child health.

After the meeting, on 06.09.2017, NRC at Primary Health Centre in Cholapur Block was

inaugurated. Further, Member (Child Health) held a video conference on 29.09.2017 with CMO, DPO, CDPO and Supervisors of two blocks of Varanasi (Cholapur and Arajiline) to discuss the action plan to combat the issue of malnutrition in their blocks.

- NCPCR in collaboration with Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi and State Bank of India set-up a computer training centre for imparting training to children in Observation Home for boys, Sewa Kutir, Delhi. Hon'ble Justice M.B. Lokur, Hon'ble Justice Mukta Gupta along with Chairperson, NCPCR inaugurated the computer centre on 04.09.2017.
- The Commission undertook various activities to ensure effective implementation of the objectives of 'Swachhata Abhiyaan' from 15th to 31st September, 2017. The activities carried out were:
- ✓ Staff of NCPCR took a pledge on Swachhata on 17.09.2017.

- ✓ Chairperson, NCPCR inaugurated Resource Centre cum Counselling room at NCPCR.
- ✓ Participated in a programme organised at an Aanganwadi Centre, Sunder Nagri with Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi on the occasion of ECCE Day and *Swachhta Pakhwada*.
- ✓ NCPCR organised poster making competition for children in Thalassemia ward of Kalawati Saran Children Hospital on the theme of Swachhta.
- ✓ NCPCR organised poster making competition for children at Children Home for Girls-II, Nirmal Chhaya on the theme of *Swachhta*. Also, sensitized girls on the importance of cleanliness and hygiene.
- ✓ Member (Law) during his visit to Chhattisgarh on 2nd October, 2017 celebrated the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti by running a cleanliness drive and sensitized the community people on cleanliness.



Inauguration of Resource Centre cum Counselling Room at NCPCR



Poster Making Competition for Children in Thalassemia Ward, Kalawati Saran Children Hospital

- NCPCR in collaboration with the Directorate of Women and Child Development, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh organized 2 two day training on 'Continuing Professional Development' for staff of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and other functionaries implementing Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) in the State on 5th-6th April, 2017 and 6th-7th July, 2017 at Shimla. The workshops covered around 100 participants from Child Welfare Committees, CCIs and ICPS staff of all districts of Himachal Pradesh.
- NCPCR in collaboration with Directorate of Women and Child Development and Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences (IHBAS), Delhi organized a two day training on 'Continuing Professional Development' for staff of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and other functionaries implementing ICPS Scheme on 1st and 2nd August, 2017 at Delhi. During the training programme, Chairperson, NCPCR released 'Handbook on Counselling'

prepared by NCPCR. Participants were sensitized on child rights, laws relating to children and essentials of counselling. The workshop was attended by 60 participants including Welfare Officers, Superintendents, Counsellors and Social Workers working in CCIs of Delhi. Member (Law) and Member (Child Health), NCPCR also participated in the programme.

- NCPCR organized a training of Counsellors and Superintendents of CCIs of Tamil Nadu on Child Rights issues, Laws relating to children, Essentials of Counselling and mental health in collaboration with Tamil Nadu SCPCR on 28th-30th August, 2017. 46 counsellors and 20 superintendents from different districts of State were oriented by experts from IBHAS, Delhi; AIIMS, Delhi; and Amrita University, Coimbatore. Handbook on Counselling prepared by NCPCR was distributed to all the participants. Chairperson and Member (Child Health), NCPCR participated in the training programme.



Release of 'Handbook on Counselling' for Staff of CCIs at IBHAS, Delhi

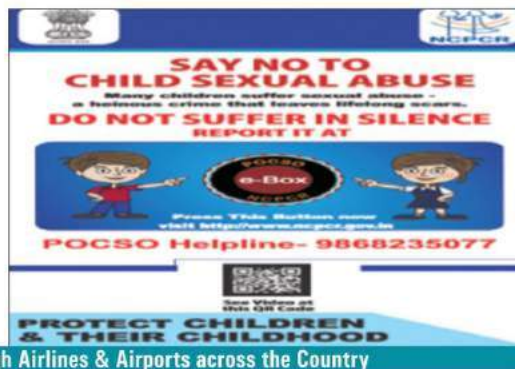


Chairperson, NCPCR Address During Symposium at Child Protection and Mental Health

- NCPCR organised a symposium on 'Child Protection and Mental Health' on 3rd November, 2017 as part of World Congress of Mental Health at New Delhi. The symposium was chaired by Chairperson, NCPCR. Member (Child Health) NCPCR gave a brief presentation on NCPCR's initiatives in the area of Child and Adolescent Mental Health. Presentations were given by eminent experts from Department of Psychiatry, AIIMS; PGIMER, Chandigarh; and IHBAS, Delhi. The symposium was attended by fraternity of Physiology and Psychiatry, students and NGOs working in the field.
- *Guidelines for Child Friendly Police Stations*: The Commission finalized and approved the guidelines on Child Friendly Police Stations. The guidelines are being uploaded on the website of NCPCR.
- NCPCR in collaboration with Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) created awareness among children on child rights issues especially on child sexual abuse during both phases of 'Oorja-CAPE under 19 Football Talent Hunt Tournament-2017' i.e. at New Delhi

from 1st to 15th May, 2017 and Bangalore from 17th to 25th June, 2017.

- An awareness stall was put-up in '4th India International MSME 7 Start Up Expo 2017' at Pragati Maidan from 24th to 26th August, 2017 to sensitize the visitors about Child Rights and NCPCR.
- NCPCR in collaboration with Indigo Airlines carried out a campaign to promote POCSO e-box for a period of one month w.e.f. 01.09.2017 through various mediums such as IndiGo Hello 6E Catalogue, E-ticket itinerary, Bus Panel, Bus Grab Handle and Live Media in Tarmac coaches in Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai.
- NCPCR collaborated with Airport Authority of India (AAI) regarding creating awareness on protection of children from sexual abuse and promotion of POCSO e-box through airports and their magazine across India. Airport Authority of India permitted NCPCR to place the standees for awareness at 66 Airports free of cost from 15.09.2017 to 15.10.2017. NCPCR also collaborated with Delhi Airport which is a private airport for display of standees on child sexual abuse.



Awareness Campaign against Child Sexual Abuse through Airlines & Airports across the Country

- NCPCR collaborated with Media International Pvt. to showcase an audio video message from Hon'ble Minister, WCD addressing child sexual abuse issue at movie halls

across the country. Initially the message was showcased at 12 cinema halls in Delhi for a period of one month from 15.09.2017 onwards.



13.14 Child's Right to Education

NCPCR has been mandated to monitor 'Right of Children to Education' under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. During the period under report, the following activities were carried out:

- A recommendation was sent to Ministry of Labour and Employment vide letter dated 08.09.2017 to include NCPCR in any/all matters pertaining to grievance redressal in respect of Out of School Children on the

PENCIL portal and in the SoP on child and adolescent labour.

- NCPCR organized One Day Multi-Stakeholders Regional Convention of North Eastern States on 05.06.2017 in Guwahati, Assam in collaboration with Assam SCPCR and supported by FICCI, ASSOCHAM and CII. The aim of the Convention was to gain a clear understanding about the situation of children of North Eastern States, with focus on Child Welfare, Child Wellbeing and Child Education and to come up with a road map for companies to invest in child welfare

- and other child wellbeing initiatives in North-East States. The convention was attended by representatives of 8 North-East State Government Departments viz. Social Welfare and Education and SCPCRs. In addition, 37 persons of 26 Corporate Houses and NGOs attended the Convention.
- NCPCR organized two Regional Consultations on 'Educational Discrimination: National Curriculum Framework (NCF) vs. Curriculum in Private Schools' on 15.09.2017 and 26.09.2017 at Regional Institute of Education, Ajmer and Regional Institute of Education, Bhubaneswar respectively. The objective of the consultation was to assess the implementations of Section 29 of the RTE Act, 2009 and highlight the deviations in curriculum followed by private schools affiliated to different Boards from that laid by the academic authority.
 - NCPCR organised a National review-cum-consultation meeting on 'Status of Implementation of Practices for Reducing School Bag Weight' on 24.08.2017 in collaboration with NCERT. The aim of the meeting was to provide a platform for discussion on the need to accelerate efforts for providing uniform quality education and formulate concrete uniform recommendations to address the issue of heavy school bags. The recommendations received are being compiled in form of a report.
 - NCPCR initiated to orient the key functionaries of the Panchayati Raj Institutions by organizing regional level workshops followed by a National workshop. In this series, NCPCR organized two Regional Orientation Workshop on 'Role & Responsibilities of Local Authorities in Implementing RTE Act, 2009 and its Significant in Achieving SDGs' on 20.09.2017 at Puri in Odisha and on 24.11.2017 at Thane, Maharashtra.
 - NCPCR organized awareness workshops on 'Section 17 of RTE Act, 2009 and Guidelines on Eliminating Corporal Punishment in Schools' at Jaipur (09.08.2017); Kanpur (12.08.2017); Guwahati (19.08.2017); Pune (22.08.2017); Nahan (26.08.2017); Patiala (11.09.2017); and Gurugram (06.12.2017). The objective of the workshops was to orient teachers, principals and other stakeholders regarding legislations prohibiting corporal punishment and guidelines on eliminating corporal punishment in schools.
 - To ensure right of children to free and compulsory elementary education of the children of the minority community under RTE Act, 2009, NCPCR organized 2 One-Day Consultations at Mumbai, Maharashtra on 11.09.2017 and Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh on 27.12.2017.
 - NCPCR organised a One-Day National Colloquium on Vocational and Life Skills Training of Out-of-School Adolescent Girls in the age-group 15-18 years on 27.10.2017 at New Delhi.

The aim of colloquium was to offer delegates and presenters an opportunity to share the best practices and ideas on the theme, examine the existing models of vocational training, life skills

training and work opportunities and identify existing gaps, and create a road map for convergence of different vocational and life skill training mechanisms.



Speaker at the National Colloquium Addressing the Participants



Member (Education) Addressing the Participants

- To know the status and create awareness on Hon'ble Supreme Court's Guideline on safe and secure transport facilities for school children, 2 One-Day orientation-cum review workshops were organised at District Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh on 28.10.2017 and Sikar (Rajasthan) on 19.12.2017. Three more workshops are planned to be organised in the reporting year.
- NCPCR drafted Guidelines on 'Hostels for Residential Educational Institutions' and sent to MWCD and MHRD for further action.
- A team led by Member (Education), NCPCR visited Kaliabor Tea garden in Nagaon District of Assam on 31st May, 2017 and identified approx. 15 adolescents girls (minors) working in the tea gardens. Two of the girls were interviewed by the team who was informed that they had

dropped out of school to work in the tea garden. An FIR in the matter was registered at police station Kaliabor (FIR no. 74/17 dated 01.06.2017) by the Labour Inspector of Kaliabor, Nagaon, Assam.

Subsequently, the Commission wrote a letter to Deputy Commissioner with copy to Superintendent of Police Nagaon, Assam and sought action taken report in this matter.

- The Commission has been receiving complaints regarding fee hike by schools without following the due procedures and/or schools charging fees under heads/sub-heads without requisite approvals. The schools also go to the extent of discriminating against children causing them mental stress and harassment. Some states have regulated the fee system either by notifying Fee and Fund Regulatory Committee (FFRC) or issuing circulars for implementation of CBSE byelaws,

etc. To bring uniformity and convergence in efforts to regulate the fee structure of private schools, a model framework for effective regulation of fee structure of private schools is being developed.

As a first step, letters have been sent to all Principal Secretaries/Secretaries, School Education of all States/UTs with a copy to Chief Secretaries of respective States and SCPCRs for compliance.

- As per Section 29 (1) of the RTE Act, 2009 appropriate Government shall notify an academic authority to lay down curriculum and evaluation procedure for elementary education. Following this, Government of India notified NCERT as academic authority for the said purpose. One of the major reasons of private schools following books other than NCERT (academic authority) is because evaluation system followed by C.B.S.E. affiliated schools is in conflict with NCERT's Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) concept. C.B.S.E.'s evaluation system is different from that given by NCERT (academic authority) resulting in a different curriculum to be taught in such schools, which in turn leads to the need for additional and/or different study material/books thereby resulting in non-uniform educational system and complaints from parents regarding commercialization of education. Hence, to supplement and help in effective implementation of C.B.S.E.'s

circular, the Commission believes that it is important to maintain uniformity and equality in all aspects, from curriculum to evaluation procedure throughout all schools in the country falling under the ambit of RTE Act, 2009.

Hence, the Commission wrote to C.B.S.E. to revoke its CCE pattern suggested for classes VI-VIII and implement the evaluation pattern as given by the academic authority i.e. NCERT. Based on C.B.S.E.'s letter, Commission sought information from NCERT as to whether the pattern suggested by C.B.S.E. for evaluation in classes VI-VIII is in consonance with that of NCERT and whether it is the domain of C.B.S.E. to suggest evaluation pattern for elementary classes. Responding to Commission's letter, NCERT vide letter dated 22.06.2017 stated that the pattern suggested by C.B.S.E. is not in consonance with NCERT's pattern.

Also, after examining C.B.S.E.'s reply to the Commission and its brief note to HMHRD, certain discrepancies were observed between the two. Hence, a letter has been written to C.B.S.E. seeking clarification on the difference in its response to NCPCR and HMHRD. Also, exercising its power u/s/ 14 (c) of the CPCRA Act, 2005, NCPCR has sought an affidavit from C.B.S.E. on whether the uniform system of assessment, examination and report card for classes VI-VIII as per NCERT's norms and if the same has been authenticated and validated by the academic authority i.e. NCERT.

- During the period under report, the Commission initiated following studies to ensure the right to education of children:
- ✓ National Annual Report on Safe and Secure School Environment;

- ✓ Review of implementation of 25% admission of children of EWS categories in Delhi;
- ✓ Devising Pathways for Appropriate Repatriation w.r.t. educational facilities and well-being of children of displaced Primitive Tribes;
- ✓ Education and Vocational Training of children staying at Children Homes;
- ✓ Education and Vocational Training of children staying at Observation Homes & Special Homes;
- ✓ Educational Status of Children of Traditional Sex Workers in India;
- ✓ Mainstreaming of Out of School Children (OoSC) and Effectiveness of Special Training;
- ✓ Child Abuse and Vulnerability of Children (Safety and Security issue) studying in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs), Ashram School and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs);
- ✓ Case study of district Dhulia, Maharashtra with 100% digitalized ZP Schools.

The studies are at different levels of progress.

- The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) in collaboration with i4c conducted a Smart India Hackathon 2017, a 36-hrs non-stop digital programming competition in which innovative solutions were provided for any given problem statement. The finale of Smart India Hackathon 2017 for NCPCR was

held on 1st-2nd April, 2017 at Sagar Institute of Research and Training, Bhopal. Based on the 3 rounds of judging, three teams were selected for first, second and third position and two teams were given consolation prizes.

- Member (Education) participated in the '*Inter-Ministerial Consultation on Education in the Union Budget 2017-18*' under the Chairpersonship of Principal Advisor, NITI Aayog on 20.03.2017. For this, a document on NCPCR's vision and recommendations on the inter-ministerial convergence was submitted. In April, a meeting was held with OSD, NITI Aayog. After the discussion, a proposal for Joint Consultation on social sector outcome monitoring- Education and the rights of the child has been submitted on 18.05.2017.
- A meeting between Member (Education) and representatives of UNESCO India was held at NCPCR on 12.06.2017 to collaborate on a proposal shared by UNESCO India for offering technical inputs for developing IEC materials/posters on POCSO Act, 2012 and gender based violence against children in school settings.
- Member (Education), NCPCR held a meeting with Vice Chairman, IGNOU on 03.07.2017 to discuss the prospects of initiating a certificate course on child rights. Based on an expert group meeting on 10.10.2017 and a workshop on 31.10.2017, an outline of the 03-months course has been developed. Further, the course content will be developed as per the outline.

- NCPCR organized a model Child Rights Mela with a special focus on Drugs de-addiction at Ganj Basoda, Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh on 14.11.2017 with the involvement of the District Administration, State

SCPCR, Local Administration, Civil Societies and Volunteers. The Mela was participated by around 20,000 children. Chairperson and Members, NCPCR participated and interacted with children.



Child Rights Mela at Ganj Basoda, Madhya Pradesh

13.15 Complaints of Child Rights Violations/Deprivations and Suo-moto Actions by the Commission

The NCPCR, under Section 13 of 'The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005 is mandated to enquire into complaints related to the violation of child rights.

During the year 2017-18 (from April to December, 2017), the Commission received 1,264 new complaints pertaining to deprivation and violation of child rights excluding complaints related to education. As against this 1,558 complaints including pending ones were processed and closed during the period.

The POCSO e-box launched by the Commission to deal with the cases of sexual offences against children under POCSO Act, 2012 remained in practice. During the period under report, it received 837 hits, out of which 24 cases were found to be related to offences covered under POCSO Act, 2012.

13.16 Suo-moto Actions

- The Commission received a request to seek financial aid and medical treatment for a child suffering from HIV on 13.04.2017. The Commission wrote a letter to Deputy Commissioner, Yadgir, District for suitable action and sought action taken report in the matter.
- The Commission received a complaint from Child Help Foundation, Mumbai seeking medical support for a girl suffering from cancer. The Commission took cognizance of the matter and requested Additional Chief Secretary, Public Health Department, Maharashtra to look into the matter under intimation to the complaint.
- The Commission received a complaint on 27.04.2017, regarding non-availability of services and resources in the Anganwadi Centers of Varanasi District. The Commission took cognizance of the matter and

addressed a letter to Joint Secretary, Women and Child Development Department, Uttar Pradesh on 02.06.2017 for seeking action taken report.

- The Commission received a complaint on 07.06.2017 regarding death of a new born child due to lack of medical and transport facility in Nasik, Maharashtra. The Commission contacted District Collector, Nasik, Maharashtra and State Department of Health and Family Welfare for taking appropriate action on 13.06.2017 followed by a reminder letter.
- The Commission received a complaint on 07.06.2017 regarding death of a girl bitten by snake, due to lack of medical and transport facilities. The Commission sent a letter to District Collector, Jalgaon, Maharashtra on 13.06.2017 for inquiry and seeking action taken report followed by a reminder letter.
- The Commission received a request letter on 16.06.2017 regarding financial and medical help for treatment of a 22 months old girl suffering from heart disease. The Commission sent a letter to the Principal Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Chhattisgarh for appropriate action under intimation to the complainant on 22.06.2017.
- The Commission took suo-motu cognizance of a news report

published in 'The Indian Express' dated 21.08.2017 regarding death of newborns in B. R. Ambedkar hospital after alleged drop in oxygen pressure to the special care unit. A letter was sent to District Magistrate, Raipur District along with copy to Principal Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare on 21.09.2017 seeking action taken report.

- The Commission received a complaint dated 08.09.2017 alleging sex determination test at Arora Ultrasound scan and X-Ray Center, Ferozepur, Punjab. It was also alleged in the complaint that the X-Ray Centre situated behind the H.M.DAV Senior Secondary Public School creates high radiations and affect health of children. A letter was sent to District Magistrate, Ferozepur, Punjab along with copy to Principal Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare for taking appropriate action.
- The Commission received a complaint on 15.09.2017 regarding 15 infants admitted in the ICU of Sri Venkateswara Ramnarain Ruia Government Hospital, Tirupati after getting antibiotic IV injection. Letters were sent to District Collector/ Magistrate, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh and Principal Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare seeking action taken report.
- NCPCR took *suo-motu* cognizance of a news report broadcasted on NDTV on 17.08.2017 alleging a 16 year old girl of Hyderabad married to a 65 year old man from Oman for Rs. 5 Lakh'.

NCPCR immediately wrote to Chief Secretary, Telangana and DGP of the State and sought detailed factual report about the matter and action taken to recover the girl.

13.17 Review Meeting by Minister and Sharing of Views with International Delegates

- Hon'ble Minister of State, WCD Dr. Virendra Kumar paid a visit to NCPCR on 13th October, 2017 to review the functioning of the Commission. Chairperson, NCPCR made a presentation on the functioning and achievement of NCPCR. Issues related to implementation of JJ and POCSO Acts and Child Rights were also discussed. The review meeting was participated by Chairperson, all Members, Member Secretary and other senior officials of the Commission.
- A delegation from Malaysia consisting of Minister of the Prime Minister's Department, in-charge of Legal Affairs and other Ministers visited NCPCR on 4th May, 2017. The delegation discussed about the Child Rights issues and was apprised about the initiatives taken by the Govt. towards protection of children against sexual abuse and ways to establish Special Courts for handling child sexual abuse.
- Ms. Kate Gilmore, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights paid a visit to NCPCR on 30th October, 2017 and

interacted with the Chairperson and Members of the Commission. Issues pertaining to child rights, implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and the POCSO Act, 2012 were discussed.

- Prof. Marelize Schoeman and Prof. Michelle Karels, University of South Africa, South Africa visited NCPCR on 01.11.2017 to understand the situation of Juvenile Justice system and the legal and administrative responses to the issue and interacted with Chairperson, Members, and other senior officials of the Commission.

13.18 Information Education and Communications Activities

- NCPCR designed 9 hoardings on provisions of POCSO Act, 2012. During the period under report, some of the hoardings were displayed in Children parks of Horticulture Department in Delhi.



Posters Displayed at Parks in Delhi for Awareness on Protection of Children from Sexual Abuse, 2012

- NCPDR conceptualized, designed and launched Social Media Publicity Campaign on NCPDR's Facebook and Twitter handles to popularise POCSO e-box.
- Developed guidelines on 'Children Stay Safe on the Internet' and published the same in leading

newspapers of all States/UTs to sensitize children, parents and teachers.

- NCPDR published an appeal in leading newspapers of all States/UTs on 'Blue Whale Challenge Game' for parents and teachers to protect their children.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPDR)
3rd Floor, Chhatrapati Shivaji Bhavan, 36, Jangpeth, New Delhi-110001

APPEAL

Recently, there have been several instances where young children have committed suicide, apparently after having played the online game "BLUE WHALE CHALLENGE". NCPDR appeals to parents, teachers and well wishers to watch out for any abnormal behaviour in children, which could be linked to "BLUE WHALE CHALLENGE".

BE ALERT WHEN

- Child has visible signs or unusual wounds /marks on the body, specially on arms or lips.
- Child is keeping unusually aloof sitting on the edge of a tall building with legs dangling.
- Child is watching horror movies for a long time.
- Child is waking up at odd hours say at 4:20am.
- The child is listening to weird psychedelic music.
- Child is posting depressing contents and selfies on social media sites.

WHAT TO DO

- Interact closely with the child.
- Keep watch on his movements.
- Spend quality time with the child.
- If it's serious, take help of a professional counselor.
- Keep a watch on the browsing history of the child.
- Put parental controls by installing Apps & sync the child's email/social media accounts with your phone or PC.

Current information/numbers of such games are likely to be published upto 10 years under AJ Act, 2015 and 2016.

#killbluewhalechallenge

For further information visit www.ncpcr.gov.in

Appeal to Protect Children from Blue Whale Challenge Game Published in Newspapers

Children Stay Safe on the Internet

- Check with your parents before posting personal pictures online.
- Use privacy settings on social media sites, to protect your privacy.
- Tell your parents/guardian if someone makes you uncomfortable, scared or confused online.
- Meeting someone you know only online can be dangerous, make sure you inform your parents/guardian about any such request.
- Use strong passwords having alphabets, numerical and special characters.
- Limit your online friends to people you actually know in real life.
- Play only those games which are reliable and recommended.
- Always download apps from official app store of your phone.
- Close the window immediately, if you see any images of violence, nudity, pornography and other content that are not right for your age. Tell your parents about this, immediately.
- Do not disclose your personal information like your address, school name, phone number, or current location, etc. This information should never be shared online.
- Never send pictures or videos online to strangers.
- Never open files, games, music or videos sent to you by any unknown person online. It may be a virus or malware.
- Do not reply to text, e-mail or pop up messages that ask for personal details.
- Do not share your location with strangers.
- Do not play games with strangers or online bullies.
- Do not share your password with anyone, not even your friends.
- Do not fill up any survey, membership or application form asking for your personal information or request to participate in programmes / game -shows, etc.

Government of India
National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

Advertisement on Safety Measures to Protect Children on Internet.

13.19 Other Initiatives

- NCPDR examined Draft Rules on 'Rights of Persons with Disability Act' and forwarded its comments to Ministry of Social Justice.
- NCPDR organized a meeting on 23.08.2017 in NCPDR on the issues relating to women and children safety in the matters arising out of abandonment, divorce and domestic violence including maintenance allowance and double

taxation. The meeting was participated by representatives from Ministry of Finance, MWCD, NCW, NHRC, NALSA, Law Commission, Indian Law Institute, Justice and Care, etc.

- NCPDR invariably requires data on various aspects of Child Rights to carry out its day to day activities. Thus, NCPDR prepared State Profile for each state containing data upto district level. Further, for a better comparative view of the situation, an indexing of

States on their performance on 7 identified key indicators was carried out. The profiles thus prepared were shared with the MWCD and detailed discussions were held in a meeting with Secretary, MWCD on the subject. The Ministry forwarded the State Profiles to NITI Aayog for its consideration.

- Chairperson, NCPCR held a meeting with Vice President of India on Child Rights issues on 13.11.2017 at New Delhi.
- Chairperson, NCPCR held a meeting with Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog on 15th November, 2017 at NITI Aayog, New Delhi where Chairperson, NCPCR discussed important issues related to Child Rights.
- To encourage the use of the Official Language in the Commission, Hindi Pakhwada was celebrated from 14th-27th September, 2017. During the celebration, competitions like essay writing, poetry, speech and dictation (for Group 'D' employees only) in Hindi were organized. The winners of each competition were awarded with prizes during the closing ceremony.
- NCPCR addressed to Chairpersons

of all State Commissions requesting them to facilitate development of 'State Policy for Children' in their respective States in consonance with the National Policy for Children, 2013. During the period under report, responses were received from 9 States informing 4 States i.e. Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Goa and Kerala had prepared the same and 5 States i.e. Odisha, Delhi, Manipur, Meghalaya, Assam were in process of preparing the State Policy for Children.

- MWCD organized 'Hausla 2017- Bal Sansad', a programme for children on 16 November, 2017 at New Delhi and was participated by Children from different States. Member (Law) represented NCPCR in the programme. Hon'ble Minister of State, MWCD and Member (Law), NCPCR interacted with children.

13.20 State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR)s

The State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR)s constituted in almost all the States/UTs continued to work in coordination with NCPCR. During the period under report, NCPCR organised a two day National Consultation for Chairpersons and Members of SCPCR)s at Gangtok, Sikkim on 27th-28th May, 2017 to strengthen effective coordination with the States authorities. In all, 183 officers from States/UTs and NCPCR participated in the consultation.

14



Central Adoption Resource Authority



Towards a New Dawn

Central Adoption Resource Authority

14.1 Role & Charter of CARA: Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), earlier an autonomous agency, has now become a Statutory Body as per the provisions under Section 68 of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (Act No. 2 of 2016), which was notified on 31st December, 2015 and has come into force w.e.f. 15th January 2016. It functions as a nodal body at the National level for promoting and regulating adoption of Indian children. As per the JJ Act, 2015, CARA has been mandated to undertake the following:-

- (a) Promote in-country adoptions and to facilitate inter-State adoptions in coordination with State Agencies.
- (b) Regulate inter-country adoptions.
- (c) Frame regulations on adoption and related matters from time to time, as may be necessary.
- (d) Carry out the functions of the Central Authority under the Hague Convention on Protection of Children & Cooperation in respect of inter-country adoption.
- (e) Any other function as may be prescribed.

14.2 JJ Act, 2015: Government has notified Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Chapter VIII of the Act, provisions for adoption of orphan, abandoned & surrendered children and also adoption of children by relative, as defined in the Act. The Act has adequate safeguards mechanisms for the children to ensure their best interest and provides for reporting of all adoptions in the country including relative adoptions. Further, all adoptions under the Act have to proceed as per the Adoption Regulations framed by Central Adoption Resource Authority and notified by Government of India.

14.3 Adoption Regulations, 2017: CARA has framed the Adoption Regulations, 2017, as mandated under Section 68 (c) of JJ Act, 2015 which shall be effective from 16th January, 2017 and would replace the Adoption Guidelines, 2015. The Adoption Regulations have been framed keeping in mind the issues and challenges faced by CARA and other stake holders including the Adoption Agencies & Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs). This will further strengthen adoption programme in the country by streamlining the adoption process. Transparency, early deinstitutionalization of children, informed choice for the parents, ethical practices and strictly defined timelines in the adoption process are the salient aspects of the Adoption

Regulations. Important changes incorporated in the Adoption Regulations, 2017 are as enumerated underneath:-

- (a) Procedures related to adoption by relatives both within the country and abroad have been defined in the Regulations.
- (b) Procedure related to adoption of step-children.
- (c) Validity of Home Study Report has been increased from two to three years.
- (d) The time period available to the domestic PAPs for matching and acceptance, after reserving the child referred, has been increased to twenty days from the existing fifteen days.
- (e) District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) shall maintain a panel of professionally qualified or trained social workers.
- (f) There are 32 Schedules annexed to the Regulations including model adoption applications to be filed in the Court and this would considerably address delays prevalent in obtaining the Court order.
- (g) CARA shall be facilitating all adoptions under the JJ Act, 2015 through Child Adoption Resource Information & Guidance System (CARINGS) and all kinds of adoptions, including adoptions by relatives shall be reported to CARA, which would enable safeguards for all adopted children by maintaining their record and ensuring post adoption follow up.

14.4. Objective of CARA: To ensure best interest of children; citizen centric approach enabling Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs) to take informed decision; online registration, referral (based on seniority), reservation & matching system and eliminating offline matching for transparency. The new Child Adoption Resource Information & Guidance System (CARINGS) has leveraged technology for bringing greater transparency in the adoption process and also minimize delays in the adoption process through e-governance.

14.5. Organizational Structure: CARA is headed by CEO and has a sanctioned strength of 27 officers and staff altogether. The Authority has a Steering Committee with the following members as defined in the JJ Act, 2015:-

- (a) Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, Chairperson- ex officio.
- (b) Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, dealing with Authority-ex officio.
- (c) Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, dealing with Finance-ex officio.
- (d) One member from a State Adoption Resource Agency.
- (e) Two members from Specialised Adoption Agencies.
- (f) One adoptive parent.
- (g) One adoptee.
- (h) One advocate or a professor having at least ten years of experience in family law.

- (I) Member-Secretary, who shall also be Chief Executive Officer of the Organization.

14.6. Associated Authorities and Agencies:

The Authorities and Agencies associated with CARA in the adoption process are tabulated underneath:-

S.No	Stakeholders (Registered in CARINGS)	As on 20 Dec. 2017
(a)	Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs)	464
(b)	District Child Protection Units (DCPU)	608
(c)	Child Care Institutions (CCIs)	1864
(d)	Authorized Foreign Adoption Agencies (AFAAs)	81
(e)	Central Authorities of foreign countries (CAs)	76
(f)	Indian Missions abroad	23
(g)	Registered PAPs (In-country)	18671
(h)	PAPs (Inter-country)	992

14.7. CARINGS: Child Adoption Resource Information & Guidance System (CARINGS), an e-governance initiative on adoption, was launched in February 2011 and hosted in the official website of CARA i.e. www.cara.nic.in. This web based monitoring system provides a transparent and child friendly adoption process across the nation. It facilitates expeditious and smooth adoption, ensures transparency in the adoption process, increases accountability of implementing agencies, creates a network of stakeholders and maintains a national database to enable effective policy making and research. CARINGS provides online monitoring of the adoption and post-adoption process by CARA at central level and State Government at the State level. Salient features of CARINGS have been enumerated underneath:-

- (a) Bringing transparency in the adoption process.

- (b) Minimizing delays in the adoption process.
- (c) Enabling prospective adoptive parents (PAPs) to take informed decisions.
- (d) Obtaining intelligent analysis from the database for helping in taking policy decisions.
- (e) Bringing improvements in the adoption system by providing online monitoring of the adoption and post-adoption process by CARA at central level and SARA/State Govt at the state level.
- (f) Creating a database for diligent policy planning.
- (g) Create linkages between adoption agencies and child care institutions to have the complete database of all children without parental care, so that they can be placed in a family at the earliest.

- (h) Enabling profiling of the child & the parents for better matching and facilitating parents desiring to adopt, by providing them relevant information and status track.
- 14.8. **Important Programme Activities Initiated:** Some of the important activities initiated are enumerated underneath:-
- (a) **SAA-CCI Linkage:** Linkage between Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) and Child Care Institutions (CCIs) have been established with a view to reach every child without parental care. The SAA-CCI linkage should be expedited in the state as per the order passed by Hon'ble Justice Lokur, Supreme Court of India for mandatory registration and linkages of CCIs with SAAs to be completed by 31st December, 2017, so that Linkage between Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) and Child Care Institutions (CCIs) is established with a view to reach every child without parental care. So far, 1655 children from 269 CCIs have been linked for their rehabilitation through adoption. Childline survey data has indicated that there is large number of adoptable children in the thousands of CCIs pan-India. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is in constant touch with the State Governments through video conference for reviewing the same. Circulars have already been issued from the Centre to States from time to time to expedite the process of registering and linking all the CCIs.
- (b) **Special Needs Children:** There was a need for a paradigm shift in the mind-set of people regarding "Special Needs Children". CARA has introduced a Special Needs Children module, which is visible to all Registered PAPs, to promote adoption of special needs children. 31 & 236 children having special needs have been placed in adoption within the country and abroad respectively with the help of this module on CARINGS. Their adoption has been facilitated due to the following measures taken:-
- (i) List of Legally Free Special Need children is directly accessible.
- (ii) There is no queue for reserving a Special Needs child.
- (iii) Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) promote and facilitate such Adoptions.
- (c) **Immediate Placement Module for Hard to Place Children:** CARINGS has facilitated adoption of hard to place children through a newly introduced immediate placement module. There are children who despite being legally free for adoptions, were not being reserved or accepted by parents despite numerous referrals. These were generally older children or children with minor correctable medical needs. The module for immediate placement children was launched on 26th September, 2016. Till date 372 children have been placed in adoption through this module (including pre-adoption foster care).
- (d) **Continuation of Counselling Centre at CARA:** The Counselling Centre inaugurated by Ms. Leena Nair,

Secretary (WCD) & Chairperson of the Authority in 2016 was continued during 2017. Counsellors have been empaneled for this purpose. The request and appointment for counseling is fixed online through CARINGS for both in-person & tele-Counseling. Several PAPs have been counselled through this facility. Extension of Counselling facilities at the State & District levels through the respective State Governments is under implementation.

- (e) **Helpline 1800-11-1311 at CARA:** The Toll free Helpline number was introduced with three Tele-Counsellors answering the queries of PAPs. On an average, tele-Counsellor handles 100 calls per day.
- (f) **Jan Sampark:** CARA had organized 3rd January Sampark activities during the period of April, 2017 till date. CARA initiated this interaction programme where people are invited to seek clarifications as well as redressal of their grievances. By this, a space can be created where people whose life has been touched by the adoption can come in contact with the concerned person directly and get all their queries addressed. This has resulted in enabling PAPs to take a better informed decision and grievances can be reduced.
- (g) **Quarterly Facebook Live Chat:** CEO CARA has started quarterly web outreach for connecting with the Stakeholders. Live interactions on

Facebook to promote adoption Programme and address the query related to adoptions was conducted on 13th July & 10th October, 2017. The interaction was well received and many issues were addressed directly through the interaction. The reach in each of the live sessions was more than 20,000.

14.9 New Policies Initiatives and Information: The new policy initiative during the current year have been enumerated underneath:-

- (a) **Rating system for Agencies.** It has been decided that there would be mechanism to incentivize the better performing Agencies by developing a rating system for the agencies which will categorise them in Below Average, Average, Good and Excellent.
- (b) **Change of referral from "upto 3 children in single referral to three children in three referrals, with a time gap of 60 days between the referrals".** In the light of the fact that the number of PAPs registered has become too large vis-à-vis the availability of the children legally free for adoption.
- (c) **Information about our Online Query/Grievance Redressal System Module:** Query/Grievance module has been made operational, which can be accessed through CARA's web-site. All grievances or queries shall be responded within three working days and their status can be checked or supplementary details/queries may be added subsequently by using the Reference Number and mobile/e-mail provided. There is a provision to raise

the level to the Appellate if the grievance/query has not been responded to in three working days. An auto acknowledgement response would be sent stating that your Query/Grievance has been received and it would be responded to within three working days, so as to assure the people of timely redressal/response.

- (d) **Preference to single female PAP over 40 years of age:** It had been decided that preference may be given to single female PAP over 40 years of age, who are financial capable. As on date 43 single females PAPs have taken children in adoption after implementation of this Policy. This Policy would be reviewed again.
- (e) **Module for Inter-Country Prospective Adoptive Parents (PAPs):** A new Initiative for Inter-Country Prospective Adoptive Parents has been implemented in CARINGS to enable registered Inter-Country PAPs to track their

status at various stages in their adoption process.

14.10. Activities During the Year 2017-2018 (upto December, 2017): In order to train and spread awareness on the new Adoption Regulations, 2017, CARA has been organizing orientation and training programmes for various stakeholders as an outreach and training initiatives, to promote legal adoptions. The details are as under:-

- (a) **State Orientation Programmes:** The State Level Orientation programmes are being conducted for Multi-Stakeholders participants comprising of representatives from Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs), District Child Protection Units (DCPU), Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA, State Government Department dealing with Adoption matter, Regional Passport Office, Birth Certificate Issuing Office, faculty of NIPCCD and adoptive parents. Following orientation programmes have been conducted during the last one year:-

S. No	Date of Programme	Programme Details
(i)	12 Apr 2017	Assam State Orientation Programme at Guwahati
(ii)	21 Apr 2017	Nagaland State Orientation Programme at Kohima
(iii)	28 Apr 2017	Mizoram State Orientation Programme at Aizawl
(iv)	11 May 2017	Kerala State Orientation Programme at Thiruvananthapuram
(v)	15 May 2017	Jharkhand State Orientation Programme at Ranchi
(vii)	23 Jun 2017	Pondicherry State Orientation Programme at Pondicherry
(viii)	20 Jul 2017	Dadra Nagar Haveli State Orientation Programme at Silvassa

S. No	Date of Programme	Programme Details
(ix)	21 Jul 2017	Daman & Diu State Orientation Programme at Nani Daman
(x)	1 Aug 2017	Haryana State Orientation Programme at Panchkula.
(xi)	11 Aug 2017	West Bengal State Orientation Programme at Kolkata
(xii)	1 Sep 2017	Odisha State Orientation Programme at Bhubneshwar
(xiii)	16 Sep 2017	Manipur State Orientation Programme at Imphal
(xiv)	16 & 23 Sep 2017 and 7 & 14 Oct 2017	A series of training programmes for District level functionaries in Delhi on the various aspects of Family Strengthening and Alternative Care conducted by Centre for Early Childhood Development and Research, Jamia Millia Islamia

(b) **Judicial Training Programmes:**

The Orientation Programme was conducted for Director/Faculty, Senior Judicial Officers (Ld. DJs and ADJs of District Court and

Principal Judges of Family Courts) at National/State level Judicial Academies. Following training programmes for the Judiciary have been conducted:-

S. No.	Date of Programme	Programme Details
(i)	01 & 02 Apr 2017	Annual National Seminar on Working of the Justice Boards in India at National Judicial Academy, Bhopal.
(ii)	08 & 09 Apr 2017	Judicial Training Programme on Child Adoption under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2017 for Judges and other Judicial Officers at National Judicial Academy, Bhopal
(iii)	15 Apr 2017	Orientation and Training Programme for Judicial Officers at Delhi Judicial Academy, New Delhi
(iv)	16 Apr 2017	Judicial Training Programme on Child Adoption under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2017 for Judges and other Judicial Officers at Bihar Judicial Academy, Patna, Bihar
(iv)	29 & 30 Apr 2017	Judicial Training Programme on Child Adoption under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2017 for Judges and other Judicial Officers at Odisha Judicial Academy, Cuttack
(v)	19 & 20 May 2017	"Conference on Capacity Building for Other Stakeholders" at Delhi Judicial Academy

S. No.	Date of Programme	Programme Details
(vi)	15 Jul 2017	Judicial Training Programme on Child Adoption under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2017 for Judges and other Judicial Officers at Madhya Pradesh Judicial Academy, Jabalpur
(vii)	28 Jul 2017	'Conference on Integration of Knowledge, Skill and Attitude in Adjudication' at Delhi Judicial Academy
(viii)	29 & 30 Jul 2017	Judicial Training Programme on Child Adoption under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2017 for Judges and other Judicial Officers at Maharashtra Judicial Academy, Mumbai
(ix)	31 Jul 2017	'Orientation and Training Programme for Judicial Officers of Karkardooma Courts, New Delhi on Juvenile System' at Karkardooma Court
(x)	12 Aug 2017	'Workshop for Additional District Judges on Adoption at National Judicial Academy, Bhopal
(xi)	6 Sep 2017	Training Programme for Judicial Officers at Dwarka District Court, New Delhi on Juvenile System
(xii)	13 Sep 2017	Training Programme for Judicial Officers at Patiala House Court, New Delhi on Juvenile System
(xiii)	05 Nov 2017	Judicial Training Programme on Child Adoption under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2017 for Judges and other Judicial Officers at Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, Chennai



Judicial Training Programme on Child Adoption under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2017 for Judges and other Judicial Officers at National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on 8th and 9th April, 2017



Judicial Training Programme on Child Adoption under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2017 for Judges and other Judicial Officers at Madhya Pradesh Judicial Academy, Jabalpur on 15th July, 2017



Review Meeting on Implementation of the Adoption Programme by the States and Union Territories – Challenges and Way Forward on 24th October, 2017 at New Delhi

- (c) **Review Meeting on Implementation of the Adoption Programme by the States and Union Territories:** CARA organized a Review Meeting on Implementation of the Adoption Programme by States & UTs on 24th

October, 2017 at Indian Habitat Centre New Delhi. The Principal Secretary of the Department concerned of all State/Union Territories who are the Chairperson of the State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA) or the Director of the Department concerned

who is the Member Secretary of SARA was invited attended the meeting.

The objectives of the meeting were:-

- (i) Review/Progress of the Adoption Programme in the States.
- (ii) To discuss the issues and concerns pertaining to Adoption Programme being implemented by the State Government and specially the role of SARAs, DCPUs & CWCs.
- (iii) Sharing of Good Practices and way ahead to further streamline, regulate and expedite the adoption process.
- (d) **National Seminar on Adoption:** Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India

organized HAUSLA 2017, as part of the Children's Day Celebration Week from 14th to 20th November, 2017, which included various activities for children on issues relating to survival, development, protection and participation of children. CARA organised 'National Seminar on Adoption', on 15th November, 2017 at "Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra", Chanakyapuri, New Delhi as part of HAUSLA 2017. The Seminar was attended by approximately 300 participants, which included representatives of AFAA, SAA, DCPU, SARAs & CWCs, Grown up Adoptees, Prospective Adoptive Parents and students from Dept. of Social Work of Delhi University, Jamia Millia Islamia, Amity University & NIPCCD.



National Seminar on Adoption on 15th November, 2017 at Parvasi Bhartiya Kendra, New Delhi

The seminar focused on the following:

- (i) Developing Mechanisms and Strategies so that SARAs and other State Functionaries are strengthened to address grievances at various levels and to provide assistance and support to all concerned at all levels.
- (ii) Importance of Counselling in the Adoption Programme and

preparation of Older Children for Adoption.

- (iii) Rehabilitation & social re-integration of children in need of care and protection.

14.11. Inspections/Visits of Adoption Agencies: Officials/staff from CARA have inspected a number of adoption agencies during the year 2017-2018. Details are tabulated underneath:-

S. No	State	Numbers of Adoption Agencies Inspected/Visited
(a)	Delhi	04
(b)	Maharashtra	03
(c)	Uttar Pradesh	01
(d)	Punjab	01
(e)	Andhra Pradesh	01
(f)	Madhya Pradesh	02

(*upto December, 2017)

14.12. Publicity & Awareness: CARA had placed advertisement in newspapers all across the country, on reporting of the abandoned children to spread awareness on the same. Awareness on counseling in the process of adoption was advertised in Delhi through hoardings/publicity campaigns through DAVP. Some other notable initiatives undertaken for awareness are given below:-

- (a) Production of video and audio spots and broadcast/telecast.
- (b) Digital Cinema.
- (c) Designed and distributed contact directory of all stakeholders.
- (d) Issued online adoption Newsletter "Kilkariyan"

- (e) SMS campaign on promotion of Adoption.

14.13. Major Achievements: While achievement cannot be quantified, some of the major accomplishments during the year 2017-18 can be classified as under:-

- (a) Full implementation of the online adoption process through CARINGS with all the stakeholders including more than 460 adoption agencies registered.
- (c) Sensitising the PAPs about the legal adoption and the online process which has resulted in a large pool of suitable PAPs (more than 18000) registered on CARINGS for adopting a child.
- (d) Fast-tracking of rehabilitation of special

needs children through Special Needs Module and hard to place children through Immediate Placement Module.

- (e) **Indus Awards:** CARA has received two awards i.e. one for Social Impact Excellence and other is for “Best Technology” during Indo-Global skills summit and Expo - 2017 on 28th July, 2017 at Hotel Lalit, Connaught Place, New Delhi organised by the Indus Foundation. The Indus Foundation is a registered non-profit trust (No. 236/10) under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882. The Foundation is dedicated to the promotion of

education, skills, start-ups, and entrepreneurship in India. The Foundation is well established in India and internationally for over 20 years.

- (f) **'SKOCH Order-of-Merit Award', 2017:** CARA bagged 'SKOCH Order-of-Merit Award', 2017 during 50th Skoch Summit on 20th & 21st December, 2017 at Constitution Club of India, New Delhi. It is awarded in recognition of the CARINGS application being listed in the 'Top 80 Technology Projects in India'.

14.14. **Adoption Database:** Details of In-country & Inter-country Adoptions have been tabulated underneath:-

Year	In-country	Inter-country	Total
2015-2016	3011	666	3677
2016-2017	3210	578	3788
2017-2018*	2131	471	2602

* upto 20th December 2017

14.15. Budget and Expenditure

(Rupees in crores)

Financial Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate (proposed)	Actual Expenditure (as on 31 Dec 2017)
2017-2018	10.50	10.50	510.83