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REPORT OF VISIT TO BOUDH DISTRICT ON
REVIEW OF VARIOUS CHILD PROTECTION MECHANISMS,
IMPLEMENTATION OF RIGHT TO EDUCATION AND HOLDING CAMP COURT

19th – 20th, February 2013

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Odisha State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (OSCPCR)

Background:

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 36 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 (4 of 2006), the State Government make the Orissa State Commission for Protection of Child Rights Rules, 2009 which was notified on the 25th November 2009. The Commission normally perform the functions, such as 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, inquire into violation of child rights and recommend initiation of proceedings in such cases and 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.

As a part of the above mandate the commission has visited the district and organised various programme along with district administrations.

Objective of the visit:

The objectives of the visit are as follows;

1. To review and assess the functioning of various child protection mechanism in the district and recommend measures for effective implementation.
2. Monitor the implementation of Right to Education act and get a first hand sense on what is happening in the ground
3. Organise camp court in the district to hear cases of grievance/complain related to child protection and redress existing cases with the commission.

Visit Team:

The team constituted of Smt. Saraswati Hembrum, Chairperson, OSCPCR, Mr. Rajendra Meher, Member, OSCPCR and Mr. Manoranjan Das, OSD, OSCPCR

Coordination on sites:

Prior to visit the district the OSCPCR has sent formal communication along with a agenda. Apart from this several round of interactions with various district level officials including Collector and Superintendent of Police organised to ensure their participation and overall arrangements. The DSWO, DPC and DIPRO were contacted specially to see the overall coordination, field visit and formal meetings.

List of Programme Visited:

During the period team have visited/performed following programmes;

1. Visit Anganwadi Centre
2. Visit Primary Schools
3. Interaction with various stakeholders including Children
4. Visit Kasturaba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya
5. Visit Child Care Centres
6. Special School for deaf and dumb
7. Investigate sexual abuse registered case
8. Organise meeting with CWC, JJB, SJPU & Mahila & Sushu Desk,
9. Organise RTE monitoring meeting with District SSA
10. Press meet

Observation and Recommendations:

During the visit the commission has noted many good practices in the institutions and good commitment among the concerned authorities. After carefully observations/visit to programmes, interaction with various stakeholders and verify available records and documents the commission has recommend following specific things to the district administrations with an objective to improve the quality of the programme.

SI no	Programme	Activity undertaken	Recommendations
1	Anganwadi Centre	Visit Palas , Bhaliapadar and Chandrapur Anganwadi Centres, interaction with beneficiaries and verify centre documents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Anganwadi Worker has to give more attention on running quality Pre primary schools 2. Personal health and hygiene of all children coming to centre has to ensured 3. In some centres during the visit Commission has identified seal "chatua" without level of manufacturing date. The administration and other concerned authorities has to ensure that, proper level with manufacturing detail is ensured 4. The fund flow to various Anganwadi centres for running cooked food in the centre is not regular as a result the programme is hampering. The administration is advised to ensure proper fund flow to all centres. 5. Monitoring to various centres particularly at the Supervisory level is

			seems week. The concerned authorities are advised to look in to it properly.
2	Primary Schools	Visit Chandrapur, Kamira and Khandapada Primary schools, interaction with SMCs member, Teacher and Children	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All the teachers has to ensure proper class room transactions so as to enhance the teaching and learning process effectively 2. Government has created many provisions in the school such as idea box, podium, library etc. The school has to make proper use of all these for the betterment of the children. 3. Understanding on Child Rights among children and teaching staff seems week. Hence, the commission advised the DPC to make necessary arrangements to orient and disseminate appropriate information among the children.
3	Kasturaba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya - KGBV	Visit Purunakatak KGBV. Interaction with staff and children	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The construction of KGBV building has to expedite as the students are staying in a single class room and suffering a lot 2. State Government has to consider in upgrading the standard of the present school to continue the education of the children after completion of 8th standard.
4	Child Care Centre	Visit Ramakrishna Balashram, Birnarasingha Pur	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The organisation has to make effort on maintaining standard care practices as prescribed by State Government 2. There is no any individual care plan prepared for the children. The organisation has to prepare individual care plan for each individual children and follow it properly 3. The organisation has to come out from the charity based approach for the children to right based approach 4. Government has to make special

			provision to build capacity of CCIs and monitor the practice of various guidelines, notifications and policies developed time to time.
5	Visit special school	Visit special school for deaf and blind run by ASWSRO	<p>The school is undergoing severe internal governance problem since last three years which affects the entire school including children and their education. After care interaction with school management, children and district administration the commission has recommended following measures;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The school management and district administration has to ensure that children will not be used in making any dharna and demonstration 2. The district administration will take proactive measures to resolve the internal governance issue for the best interest of the children 3. The administration will ensure required food subsidy, teaching learning materials and health care facilities for the children

Camp court:

The commission has heard 9 registered cases related to child protection and RTE in the district. Out of nine 9 cases, 8 cases has resolved and one cases could not because of lack of appropriate documents provided by DPC. Apart from this during camp court Commission has received seven cases related to violation of child rights.

Review meetings

In the visit there was also two review meeting organised with the objective to review the implementation of Right to Education initiatives and functioning of various child protection mechanism in the district.

Following are the key recommendations for different committees/bodies;

Committee	Observation	Recommendations
Child Welfare Committee	From the proceeding and progress review it seems	1. The Commission has recommended the JJ State Selection committee to immediately

	that the committee is not functioning as required. Sitting are not organised as per the mandate and not all the members are active. The committee does not have any independent office setup to transact its regular business.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> take steps to select new committee member 2. The DSWO advised to transfer the allotted money to CWC account immediately, so that the committee can take steps to run its business effectively 3. The committee has to create special awareness to aware public on the role and function of CWC for better address of various child protection issues.
Juvenile Justice Board	It seems that the board is working well in the district and as per the member they do not have any problem. During the meeting the member shared some cases of success.	The Commission recommended the member to document the cases handled successfully and share it with state authorities for wider dissemination among various stakeholders.
SJPU	The SJPU is formed in the district officially but no any meeting and training organised for the members.	The State Government is recommended to develop a special operational guideline for the SJPU members along with required training and support. The Superintendent of Police recommended organising the periodic meeting of SJPU member and reviewing the programme accordingly.
DCPS	The District Child Protection Society – DCPS has formally formed in the district since last two years. The District office failed to provide any update on the functioning of the committee.	The Commission has recommended the district administration to constitute taking active member from civil society. Apart from this regular meeting has to organise as per the byelaw for necessary business transactions.
RTE	The district SSA is making every effort to implement various planned activities in relation to RTE. The DPC has made a presentation on the overview of the status of RTE in the district. The commission has also	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The DPC recommended making available proper data with detail segregation. There should be always two categories on various activities on completion and under process. 2. The Commission has recommended to follow strictly the grievance redress mechanism as per the government of

	<p>sought few clarifications from the participants. There is huge data mismatch on many of the categories. The data provided by DPC does not match the data available with OPEPA. Apart from this there is no proper data and process available on grievance redress as per the government notifications. The data shared on children out of school and intervention by district is difficult to belief. (Total out of School children: 90, Covered under RTE : CWSN- 42 & NRBC – 48) As per the field experiences and media report many children are engage as a child labour and migrating other part of cities along with their parents. This was shared by many members in the press meet.</p>	<p>Odisha notifications</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The district is lacking behind in implementation of “Sikshya Sambad” hence recommend the district SSA to strictly follow the guideline. 4. The Commission strongly recommend to the state government to go for a out of school survey in the district and district administration is recommendation to ensure proper mainstream them in school.
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Press meet:

There was a press meet organised by DIPRO. Around 20 press from electronics and print media participated in the meet. Smt. Saraswati Hembrum, Chairperson and Mr. Rajendra Meher, Member OSCPCR addressed the press. We make a small presentation about the various programmes organised in last two days along with orient the participants on various power and function of the Commission. The commission extend thanks to all media people in highlighting various child protection issues in the district. The commission also responded various questions raised by participants.

General Recommendation:

The Commission appreciate the active involvement of district administration including Collector and Superintendent of Police and other district authorities during the visit of the Commission. It helps the commission to review the programme jointly with active involvement of personnel's.

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For the better convergence and effective implementation of various child protection mechanism in the district the Collector has to organise time to time review meeting (preferable in two/three months) with all the committee/bodies in the district. Women and Child Development Department of Government of Odisha has to develop and share a simple tool with all Collectors to monitor the programme effectively. This will help the district administration to monitor various programme more structure way.

Follow up:

The commission will undertake a follow up review of various decisions and recommendations after three months i.e. in the month of May 2013

Attachments:

1. Programme schedule
2. Media coverage
3. Selected Photographs


Member
Odisha State Commission for
Protection of Child Rights
Bhubaneswar


25/4/2013
Chairperson
Odisha State Commission
for Protection of Child Rights.