

OSCPCR Visit Report

District: Cuttack

Date: 6th February, 2013

Member: 1. Smt. Saraswati Hembrum, Chairperson, OSCPCR
2. Mr. Rajendra Meher, Member, OSCPCR
3. Manojranjan Das, OSD, OSCPCR

Activities Undertaken:

1. Interaction with Child Welfare Committee – CWC
2. Interaction with Child Line Staff
3. Meeting and interaction with Basundhara on Institutional Child care
4. Visit paediatric ward of SCB Medical College, Cuttack
5. Visit Utkal Balashram

Description:

A. Interaction with Child Welfare Committee – CWC

The OSCPCR team was cordially welcome by the Chairperson Shri. Mishra and share their work update before the commission. (Activity update attached) Term of the committee has expired and now in the extended period for another six months. All the members are active in their role and doing things according to the Act.

During the discussion following issues raised by CWC;

1. Di- institutionalisation process needs a fresh look in its approach and mechanism. Release of sponsorship support needs to be streamlined.
2. The inspection committee formed by W&CD to monitor the child care institutions are not doing well. The same task can be given to CWC, so as to avoid another committee in the district
3. A dedicated professional to CWC will expedite the performance of CWC and will helpful in handling various mandates effectively.
4. Funds release mechanism to various CCI needs to be streamline and made regularise
5. Financial Provisions at CWC level be made to organise more awareness camp at district level
6. Engagement of Media has to be ensured through a guideline or letter etc. for giving space for publishing cases.

B. Interaction with Child Line Staff

The Commission had also interacted with all the staff members of Child line managed by Basundhara. The team briefed the commission about the various processes in dealing with a vulnerable child and share their progress report (Copy attached). During the discussion following issues raised by the team and requested intervene.

1. The toll free number 1098 is not functioning properly and many time disrupted since last two years in the state. Commission assures to raise this issue before the Child Lind India Foundation for immediate solutions.
2. A strong move from Government for rendering medical care to all the children admitted for medical care has to arrange. At the present arrangements the medical is not very cooperating to handle the issue as it includes costs and other recourses

C. Meeting and interaction with Basundhara on Institutional Child care

A good interaction organised with the Director Smt. Saila Behera , Director of Basundhara and her colleague on the issues of Institutional Child care practices in general and standard care guideline in particularly. Following issues are raised by the Basundhara team before the commission for further action.

1. The grant-in-aid provided by Government (Rs. 750/-) per child per month is not adequate to maintain the prescribed food/nutrition as the market price of various items has gone up
2. The Government has to provide recourses to maintain the standards as prescribed
3. Release of funds need to be made regular to all CCI to implement the programme effectively.
4. The team requested the Commission to organise a consultation to discuss on the subject of standard care in institutions.

D. Visit paediatric ward of SCB Medical College, Cuttack

As per the schedule plan the Commission has visited the paediatric ward of SCB Medical College. From the arrangements the commission feels that the management was not serious and prepared for the visit and took it very lightly. No data/information provided by the authorised person on various issues such as; Infrastructure available, Manpower (Doctor and patient ration etc.), Case review (number cases admitted, treatment, cure, follow up, death etc).

Further the commission wanted to know the Grievance redressal mechanism and position of Swasthya Bikas Samity of the institutions which, the person attended to the commission could not provide. So, a proper review of the process could not take place. However the team has visited the ward and interacted with the patients and care givers on the treatment and services.

The Commission decided to put this issue before the government and management for compliances.


E. Visit Utkal Balashram


The team visited the Utkal Balashram (a government run CCI) and interacted with staff and children. The management of the centre lies with Government and DSWO is the Secretary of the Organisation. It seems that, the centre is doing as per its capacity; however following areas needs attentions;

1. There is a great scope to expedite the Di-institutionalisation programme in the centre as lot of children heaving biological parents are residing in the centre.
2. The centre is also facing financial problems as the funds flow to the centre from the government is not regular.

- 3. The governance system of the centre (organise General body and Governing body) as per the constitution is not regular which hamper the decision making process needs to give attention.
- 4. A qualified professional staff as a programme manager will be very much helpful to expedite the child care process in the centre in a professional ways.

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Odisha State Commission for
Protection of Child Rights
Bhubaneswar


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