

Report

National Workshop on Protection of Child Rights

17th-18th December 2016



National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights



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Acknowledgements



This report on the National Workshop on Protection of Child Rights held on the 17th and 18th of December 2016 in New Delhi contains a summary of proceedings based on the presentations and discussions at the workshop.

The report draws on the valuable contributions made by the workshop participants and resource persons. Special thanks go out to the representatives from the State Commissions, who enriched the workshop deliberations by sharing their field experiences.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms



CCL	Child in Conflict with Law
CNCP	Child in Need of Care and Protection
CPCR Act	Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005
CWC	Child Welfare Committee
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
IPC	Indian Penal Code
JJB	Juvenile Justice Board
JJ Act Amended 2006	Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 and Amendment Act, 2006
JJ Act 2015	Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MHRD	Ministry of Human Resource Development
NALSA	National Legal Services Authority
NCPCR	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NUEPA	National University of Educational Planning and Administration
POCSO Act, 2012	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
RTE Act 2009	Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009
SALSA	State Legal Services Authority
SCPCR	State Commission for Protection of Child Rights
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
UNCRC	UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

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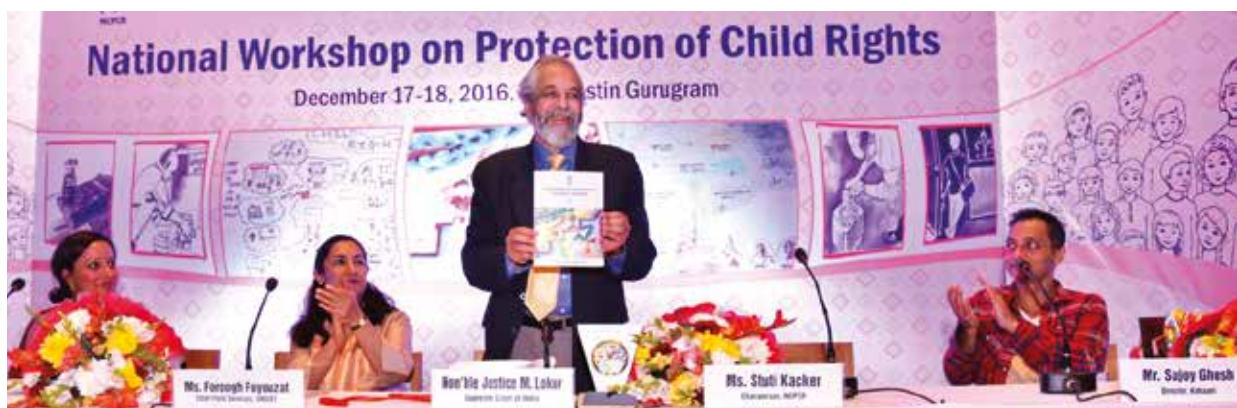
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1.1 Background

Globally, independent national human rights institutions like children’s commissions are viewed as influential bodies promoting child rights in public decision-making and discourse. The establishment of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in March 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, provided the space for such an institution for child rights in India. The Commission’s mandate is to ensure that all laws, policies, programmes, and administrative mechanisms are in consonance with the child rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

The NCPCR in collaboration with UNICEF India have developed a ‘Resource Book for Commissions for Protection of Child Rights’ for use as a ready reckoner by the State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR). The draft of the Resource Book was circulated to all the State Commissions in mid-2016 to get feedback on the contents. This was followed by a meeting in June 2016, organised by NCPCR and UNICEF, for the Chairpersons of State Commissions to further discuss the Resource Book.

Subsequent to the June 2016 meeting, NCPCR and UNICEF India organised a 2 day National Workshop on Protection of Child Rights at the Hotel Westin in Gurugram, on the 17th and 18th of December 2016.



Release of the “Resource Book for Commissions for Protection of Child Rights” by Hon’ble Justice M. Lokur; Left to right on the Dias: Ms. Antara Lahiri, Social Policy Specialist, UNICEF, Ms. Forough Foyouzat, Chief Field Services, UNICEF along with Justice Lokur

The participants at the workshop included 72 representatives from the Government of India, Members and office bearers of NCPCR, Members and office bearers of 17 SCPCRs and UNICEF officers from the central and state levels.

1.2 Objectives of the workshop

Specifically, the workshop had the following objectives:

- (i) Developing a common understanding of the role and functions of Commissions in upholding child rights in India;
- (ii) Exploring the domestic and international laws on child rights;
- (iii) Discussions on the monitoring role of Commissions in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009;
- (iv) Discussions on the roles and responsibilities of Commission Members;
- (v) Sharing of Commissions' insights to get state level perspectives;
- (vi) Exploring emerging issues on child rights in India, including the interaction between child rights and the Sustainable Development Goals.

1.3 Executive Summary

The workshop covered presentations on child rights and the powers and functions of the Commissions under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.

The Commissions' role in the monitoring of safeguarding legislations for children, such as the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children), Act 2015 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 were also discussed. Experts in the field of child rights, education, child protection, media, law, government officials, office bearers and Commission Members came together to discuss and deliberate on recent issues concerning children.

◆ Welcoming the participants, the Chairperson, NCPCR, Ms. Stuti Kacker, explained that the objective of the workshop was to bring the Commissions on to a common platform to plan for a coordinated approach to safeguard the rights of children in India. Ms. Foroogh Foyouzat, Chief of Field Services, UNICEF drew attention to the opportunity, presented by the global commitments towards the Sustainable Development Goals, to converge efforts towards the realisation of children's rights. Brief presentations were made during the inaugural session by Mr. Sujoy Ghosh, noted filmmaker, on the role of the media in highlighting issues concerning children and on the NCPCR's POCSO ebox, by the NCPCR, Media Adviser, Mr. G. Mohanty. Delivering the keynote address, the Hon'ble Justice Madan Lokur, judge in the Supreme Court of India, provided the Constitutional and Legislative framework for the establishment and role of the Commissions.

◆ The 'Resource Book for Commissions for Protection of Child Rights', developed by NCPCR with technical support from UNICEF, was released by Hon'ble Justice Lokur of Supreme Court of India.

- ◆ The 'Role of the Commissions and building linkages with institutions like the National and State Legal Services Authorities' was discussed. Commissions were asked to use the power mandated to them judiciously and ensure adherence to procedures. The need to improve linkages among government agencies entrusted with similar functions was highlighted and opportunities for collaboration between the National Legal Services Authorities and NCPCR as well as State Legal Services Authorities (SALSAs) and SCPCRs at the State level were discussed.
- ◆ Speakers at the panel discussion on 'Understanding the Commissions' Role for Children's Education' highlighted the progressive features of the RTE Act, 2009 that outline significant changes in the education system, admission procedures, and management of schools. Challenges include the definition and inclusion of out-of-school children and the quality of education and learning outcomes. The monitoring role of the Commissions under the Act and the initiatives by NCPCR, such as the development of guidelines for the re-engagement of out of school children, for eliminating corporal punishment in schools and for safety in schools were shared.
- ◆ Legal experts and representatives from the NCPCR at the panel discussion on 'Exploring the law and role of Commissions under Juvenile Justice (JJ)Act, 2015 and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012', spoke on the structural, procedural and supervisory roles outlined in the provisions of the Acts that included the monitoring role of the Commissions. All agreed that the intent of both legislations is to provide a comprehensive child-friendly justice system and build a culture of respect for children. Developing the capacity of the police and judicial officers on the features of the Acts and strengthening the child protection and rehabilitation systems were identified as crucial to the effective implementation of the legislations.
- ◆ Representatives from 17 State Commissions brainstormed on opportunities for inter-state collaboration, sustaining communications and shared good practices. The need for increased collaboration and the effective use of the social media platform to interact and learn from one another was agreed upon. Participants suggested the setting up of joint task forces, sharing of status reports and developing common reporting and monitoring templates to address common issues concerning children such as trafficking, substance abuse and child labour.
- ◆ An expert panel discussed 'Child Rights Issues in India.' These included research and initiatives on adolescence, the draft Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for children in street situations, the recently amended Child Labour Act, 2016, child trafficking, a pilot initiative on child-friendly police stations, social and financial education programmes and the emerging threats of cyber crimes on children. The role of the Commissions in leading discussions on the development of State Rules on the recently amended Child Labour Act, 2016 and in taking suo motu cognisance of reports on child trafficking were discussed.
- ◆ In the penultimate session on 'Engaging with Different Forms of Media to build Awareness on Child Rights', speakers

Outcomes and Action Points

- ◆ The sessions provided a comprehensive review of the roles and responsibilities of the Commissions as mandated under the CPCR Act, 2005 and the monitoring role assigned to them under the RTE Act, 2009, the JJ Act, 2015 and the POCSO Act, 2012. There was agreement that these mandated roles must be prioritised by the Commissions, members in their work.
- ◆ Opportunities for linkages with academic bodies, Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and other child protection bodies, judicial academies and the NALSA and SALSAs were identified. Commissions were invited to take the lead in ensuring that the Rules for the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation), Amendment Act 2016 are developed in their respective states.
- ◆ Recommendations for the Commissions included using their powers judiciously and in the spirit of the CPCR Act, creative use of their limited resources and ensuring more visibility for the issue of child rights through proactive media engagement. Commissions were encouraged to identify and work with the CSR wings of public sector companies for resources to undertake campaigns and awareness programmes.
- ◆ The sharing of good practices and learning provided insights to the work being done by the SCPCRs at the state level. Opportunities for inter-state collaboration were identified. All participants agreed on the need for increased and sustained colation among the Commissions.

included journalists and communication and media experts from UNICEF and NCPCR. The speakers agreed that a proactive engagement with the media could be invaluable for an informed discourse on child rights issues and for monitoring and tracking media violations against children. Information on the Guidelines for ethical media reporting was provided.

- ◆ At the Closing Session, Ms. Misaki Akasaka Ueda, Chief Planning, Policy and Evaluation; UNICEF thanked the participants for their active engagement and contributions and hoped that the workshop would lead to

increased dialogue with state governments and service providers. Speaking on behalf of NCPCR, Mr. Yashwant Jain, Member, NCPCR, stressed the need for Commissions to explore creative ways to take forward the Commissions' agenda and mandate to protect children's rights.

Given below are summaries of the individual sessions at the workshop that include the panel name, key issues discussed, key outcomes of the sessions and key issues discussed and presented by the speakers. Given in the next chapter are summaries of the individual sessions.

2.1 Inaugural session

2.1.1 Key issues discussed:

- ◆ Welcome address and opening remarks
- ◆ Presentation on POCSO ebox
- ◆ Keynote address
- ◆ Release of the Resource Book for Commissions for Protection of Child Rights

2.1.2. Key outcomes of presentations

The inaugural session included the welcome address by the Chairperson of NCPCR, Ms. Stuti Kacker and the opening remarks by Ms. Foroogh Foyouzat, Chief of Field Services, UNICEF. Mr. Sujoy Ghosh, Director Kahaani 2, spoke on the role of the media and child rights followed by a presentation on the POCSO ebox by the Media Advisor, NCPCR, Mr. G. Mohanty. The Hon'ble Justice Madan Lokur, judge in the Supreme Court of India, delivered the keynote address on the 'Commissions as Guardians of Child Rights in India' He also released the 'Resource Book on Protection of Child Rights' developed by NCPCR with technical support from UNICEF.

2.1.3. The Chairperson, NCPCR, Ms. Stuti Kacker, explained that the National Workshop was the next step from, to bring the Commissions together on a common platform to explore and plan for a coordinated approach to safeguard the rights of children in India. The Resource Book for Commissions for Protection of Child Rights has been developed following requests for ready to use resources. A draft of the book had been circulated among the State Commissions and due diligence had been applied prior to its publication. State Commissions were requested to provide feedback on the book following which an updated version could be developed. NCPCR and the SCPCRs were called on to continue to work in tandem to ensure that the rights of all children in the country are met.



Ms. Stuti Kacker, Chairperson, NCPCR opening the workshop



Hon'ble Justice Madan Lokur giving the inaugural address; From left to right: Ms. Antara Lahiri, Social Policy Specialist, UNICEF India, Ms. Forough Foyouzat, Chief Field Services, UNICEF India, Ms. Stuti Kacker, Chairperson, NCPCR and Mr. Sujoy Ghosh, Director, Kahaani 2

2.1.4. Ms. Foyouzat made the link between the establishment of the Commissions and India's accession to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). She drew attention to the opportunity presented by the global commitments to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to further the cause of children's rights as a number of SDG targets are specific to children. The SDGs call for the involvement of multiple stakeholders, and the Commissions could play an important role in facilitating this convergence and in the monitoring and accountability for the 2030 Agenda.

2.1.5. The Media Adviser, NCPCR, Mr. G. Mohanty shared a video presentation of the POCSO e box, available on the NCPCR website that enables children under 18 years

to report sexual abuse online. Details of the reporting and monitoring procedures of the system were shared. Following the registration of the complaint, a team, which includes a psychologist, is formed to contact and respond to the complainant. The process is child-friendly and the confidentiality of the information is maintained at all times.

2.1.6 Mr. Sujoy Ghosh, film director, spoke on *Cinema as a medium for building child rights awareness*. He shared that the inspiration for the making of his film, Kahaani 2, based on the issue of child sexual abuse came from a true account narrated to him of a young girl whose inattentiveness in class was discovered to be a result of her being repeatedly sexually abused at home. Owing to her age, she had been unable to understand what was happening to her.

Mr. Ghosh noted that there is very little discussion on the issue of child sexual abuse despite its wide prevalence and expressed the hope for increased opportunities to discuss social issues concerning children in the media.

2.1.7 Delivering the Keynote Address, Justice Madan Lokur, judge in the Supreme Court of India, placed the role and genesis of the Commissions within the legislative and constitutional framework of India and drew attention to several articles and constitutional privileges in the Constitution of India provided to children. These include Article 24, Article 15(3), Article 21A, Article 39, and Article 39(f). Institutions such as the special courts, the JJ Board, Children's Court under the CPCR, courts under POCSO, have also resulted from Acts of Parliament.

The nature of the constitution and roles of the Commissions as independent statutory bodies was highlighted and Commissions were asked to use their powers to give appropriate recommendations to address issues concerning children within their jurisdiction and to initiate research, develop status reports, generate data, and investigate reasons for the incidence of crimes involving children. They were called upon to be vocal advocates for children to ensure that the policy makers and the Parliament hear and respond to their needs.

2.1.8 The Resource Book for Commissions for Protection of Child Rights was formally released by Justice Lokur.

2.2 Role of the Commissions

2.2.1. Issued discussed

- ◆ Understanding the Role of Commissions under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005
- ◆ Building Linkages between National and State Legal Services Authorities and Commissions for Protection of Child Rights: Opportunities for Action

2.2.2. Key outcomes of presentations

The session provided an overview of the role of the Commissions as ascribed under the CPCR Act 2005 and explored the possibilities of building linkages between the National Legal Services Authorities (NALSA), State Legal Services Authorities (SALSA) and the NCPCR and SCPCRs. The Chairperson, NCPCR, Ms. Stuti Kacker, and Mr. Alok Aggarwal, Member Secretary, National Legal Services Authority agreed to jointly write to the SCPCRs and the SALSAs to explore the possibilities of working together at the state level.

The Chairperson, NCPCR, outlined the structure, role and functions of the Commissions as listed under the CPCR Act, 2005. The monitoring role assigned to the Commissions under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Protection of



Participants from States

Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012 were detailed. The composition and powers of the Commissions, under Section 13 of the CPCR Act, 2005 were discussed and suggestions made for the effective functioning of the Commissions for grievance redressal, inquiring into complaints, inspections of homes and advocating for children's rights. The need to use the powers derived from the CPCR Act, 2005, judiciously to minimise procedural defects was highlighted. It was suggested that SCPCRs develop a Vision and Mission statement along the lines of the NCPCR document on this.

Mr. Alok Aggarwal, Member Secretary, NALSA, provided an overview of the establishment and function of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and State Legal Services Authorities (SALSAs). Constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, these institutions provide free legal aid and legal services to a large category of underprivileged persons that include women and children. It was suggested that effective coordination and inter-linkages

would enable government institutions, with overlapping functions, created under different ministries, to play complementary roles. Legal service authorities, Commissions and civil society bodies could work together to share data, reports and information. The State Commissions were invited to use NALSA's reach into the rural areas through para legal set ups for their work and utilise the training modules developed by NALSA's Child Rights cell.



Mr. Alok Aggarwal, Member Secretary, National Legal Services Authority



Left to right on the Dias: Mr. P. Mohandasan, Ministry of Human Resource Development; Prof. Anita Rampal, Delhi University, Mr. Priyank Kanoongo, Member NCPCR and Dr. Nalini Juneja, National University for Educational Planning and Administration

2.3 Understanding the Commission's Role for Children's Education: Panel Discussion

2.3.1. Key Issues discussed

- ◆ Understanding the Right to Education Act
- ◆ Challenges faced in the implementation of the Right to Education Act
- ◆ Understanding the role of the Commissions in monitoring the education sector

2.3.2. Key outcomes of presentations

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE), Act 2009 provides for free and compulsory education for all children aged between 6-14 years. Under Section 31 of the Act, the NCPCR and the SCPCRs have been assigned a monitoring role. The Panel Discussion by eminent academicians, and

representatives from the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and NCPCR focused on several key features of the Act and the issues and challenges relating to its implementation. The speakers agreed on the need to strengthen monitoring mechanisms and enhance learning outcomes. The role of the NCPCR and SCPCRs in creating an enabling, safe and equitable environment for children to enjoy their fundamental right of education with dignity, was highlighted.

2.3.3. In her opening remarks, Prof. Anita Rampal, Delhi University, moderator for the session, called the RTE Act a progressive legislation and spoke of the transformational role that education could play in the lives of children. Contrary to usual practice, the Act has separated the implementation and monitoring agencies and had assigned the NCPCR with the monitoring role and there are expectations from NCPCR in this role that it would seek to protect the rights of children.

2.3.4. Dr. Nalini Juneja, National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA), gave a detailed overview of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. She explained that the RTE Act has made significant changes in the education system, admission procedures, and management of schools, all of which had brought about a paradigm shift in the way education is conducted. The Act bans physical and emotional abuse and discrimination. Specific provisions require that all private schools admit 25 per cent of children from weaker sections. Parents are to constitute 75 per cent of the members of the School Management Committees (SMCs) that are mandated to prepare school development plans and monitor other aspects of school management and operations. She noted the evaluation system continues to function in a traditional way as there is a lack of understanding and training of teachers on the Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE).

2.3.5. Mr. P. Mohandas, Director, Ministry of Human Resource Development, flagged several important achievements and challenges linked to the implementation of the RTE Act. Achievements include nearly 100 per cent access to schooling, and the successful mission of building gender-segregated toilets in schools. Challenges continue in the form of lack of suitable strategies for identification of Out-of-School Children (OoSC), varying definitions of drop out children, monitoring of children enrolled in special training classes and poor learning outcomes across grades. The use of technology and child wise data base (Aadhaar or unique ID) was recommended to improve data

and monitoring of enrollment and retention in schools. Sensitisation of teachers and school staff was necessary to prevent physical and emotional abuse and discrimination in schools. The focus also needs to shift from physical infrastructure to improving the quality of teaching and learning outcomes.

2.3.6. Mr. Priyank Kanoongo, Member NCPCR, focussed his presentation on Section 31 and 32 of the RTE Act that outline the role of the Commissions in monitoring and grievance redressal. Key discussion points included the need to strengthen the coordination between NCPCR and SCPCRs to monitor the implementation of the Act and the need to fix responsibility for safety and security of children in schools, re-engaging out-of-school children and extending the benefits of RTE to the children studying in minority institutions. Participants were informed of several initiatives by the NCPCR, for the effective monitoring of the RTE Act, which include the development of guidelines for the re-engagement of out-of-school children and for eliminating corporal



Mr. Priyank Kanoongo, member NCPCR, addressing the participants

punishment in schools. Information was shared on NCPCR's first Annual Report on Safe and Secure School Environment to be released in 2017. State Commissions were requested to regularly monitor School Management Committees (SMCs) and help in the preparation of School Development Plans. Mr. Kanoongo, suggested that the SCPCRs effectively utilise the provisions for monitoring under the SSA Framework by MHRD.

2.3.7. Concluding the session, Prof Anita Rampal urged the Commissions to work towards forming an efficient network to ensure that children get an education system which is dynamic, non-discriminatory and truly enabling.

2.4 Panel Discussion: Exploring the law and role of Commissions under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

2.4.1. Key issues addressed

- ◆ Presentation on the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
- ◆ Presentation on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.
- ◆ Challenges faced in Implementation of JJ & POCSO Acts.
- ◆ Understanding the Role of Commissions in monitoring of JJ Act, POCSO Act and other penal laws

2.4.2. Key Outcomes of Presentations

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 replaces the Juvenile Justice Act of 2000 as amended in 2006 and 2011 and has been enacted to create a separate system to dispense justice to children and ensure their care, protection and rehabilitation. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act 2012 was formulated to effectively address the heinous crimes of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children. A panel comprising of legal experts and representatives from the SCPCR and NCPCR discussed the key features of these legislations and the monitoring role assigned to the Commissions under the Act. All panelists agreed on the intent of both legislations to promote a culture of respect for children. The challenges in the implementation of the Acts and the role of the Commissions in monitoring the Acts were highlighted.

2.4.3. Moderating the session, Mr. Arun Mathur, Chairperson, Delhi, SCPCR urged all Members of Commissions to update their knowledge on the new provisions in the JJ Act and POCSO Act. He observed that while there are a number of good legislations in our country, the implementation of these remained a challenge.

2.4.4. Ms. Arlene Manoharan, CCL, National Law School, Bengaluru made a detailed presentation on the structural, procedural and supervisory role and functions enshrined in the provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act 2015. The JJ Act, 2015, is an overarching law that builds on the progressive framework of the JJ Act, 2000, and is more rights focussed. The



Left to right on the Dias: Ms. Michelle Mendonca, Counsel to Secure Justice; Mr. Yashwant Jain, Member, NCPCR; Mr. Arun Mathur, Chairperson, Delhi SCPCR; Ms. Arlene Manoharan, Centre for Child and Law, National Law School, Bangalore and Mr. Kulbir Krishnan, Advisor (POCSO), NCPCR

child protection and rehabilitation framework has been strengthened and the functions of the Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) and the Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) have been enhanced, with the scope of orders that may be passed by these bodies clearly listed. The Act also provides for the possibility of convergence of services and establishing linkages with civil society for service delivery.

2.4.5. Ms. Michelle Mendonca, Counsel to Secure Justice, (CSJ) summarised the various provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act 2012, a special law dealing with sexual offences against children. An overview of the various offences covered under the different sections of the Act was presented. The Act provides for a child-friendly justice system and significant steps have been taken to make the entire procedure of investigation and trial child friendly. Reporting of sexual offences against children has been made mandatory and the Act allows for early/interim compensation to be given to the victim for physical as well as mental trauma.

The POSCO Act, 2012 aims to build a culture of respect for children and the Commissions were urged to support in the strengthening of this feature and in improving the culture of reporting and building trust.

2.4.6. Mr. Kulbir Krishan, Adviser (POCSO), NCPCR termed the POCSO Act, 2012 and the JJ Act 2015 as revolutionary legislations, comprehensive and with the best interest of the child the main concern at all stages of they judicial process. Challenges in the implementation of both legislations include a lack of information and awareness among officials and concerned departments about the provisions of these laws. Determining the age of the child, criminalising of sexual acts between consenting 16-18 year olds and the issue of mandatory reporting are other challenges that need to be addressed. Ground realities, such as the lack of resources and manpower need to be addressed as reporting under the POCSO Act increases. Measures for publicising the provisions of the Act and imparting periodical training to police and judicial officials on the



Mr. Yashwant Jain, member NCPCR, addressing the participants

provisions of the Act through appropriate institutions were recommended.

2.4.7. Mr. Yashwant Jain, Member, NCPCR, urged the participants to be proactive in their efforts and to overcome the limitations of resources with creative solutions. Members were asked to familiarise themselves thoroughly with all the legislations related to children, the RTE, POCSO, JJ Acts, in order to make informed recommendations and promote awareness on the Acts. Prioritising the strengthening of CWCs and JJBs in their states, ensuring inter-departmental coordination through monitoring and information sharing and including the inspections of Children's Homes in their travel schedule, ensuring the registration of these Homes were suggestions made to strengthen the implementation of the Act by the Commissions.

2.4.8. In the wrap up remarks. Mr. Mathur suggested that Commissions prepare special status reports on the implementation of the Acts in addition to the annual report that could be laid on the floor of the assembly.

2.5 Group session and Plenary on Presentations

2.5.1. Key issues discussed

- ◆ *Specific areas for collaboration between different State Commissions on inter-state issues*
- ◆ *Working with the State government machinery to address child rights issues. Good practices developed.*
- ◆ *Methods/ sources used to identify issues on which action is required (outside of grievances and complaints)*
- ◆ *Issues on child rights and implementation on which Commission members would like more information/ ideas*
- ◆ *Good ways to learn and share between commissions regularly*

2.5.2. Key Outcomes of Presentations

The group session witnessed an enthusiastic exchange of ideas among representatives of the different Commissions on the opportunities for collaboration, sharing of good practices and identifying key challenges faced in the execution of their roles. Participants were divided into three groups and given a set of 5 questions to be discussed amongst them. The template containing the questions for the Group session and the listing of groups can be found in Annexure 4.3. Presentations on the group discussions were made at the plenary held on Day 2 that was chaired by the Chairperson, NCPCR, and Members NCPCR,



Group work

Mr. Yashwant Jain and Ms. Rupa Kapoor. Presenters for the three sessions included Mr. Sushil Verma (Group 1) Ms. Shatabdi Subodh Pande and Ms. Runumi Gogoi (Group 2) and Ms. Kiran Tigga (Group 3). All participants agreed on the need for increased and sustained collaborations.

Responses to the five questions are consolidated below

2.5.3. Specific areas for collaboration between different State Commissions on inter-state issues

Key issues for inter-state collaborations included child trafficking, substance abuse among children missing children and rehabilitation of children engaged in child labour. Suggestions for collaboration included forming of joint task forces and joint inspections by SCPCRs of bordering states, holding regional/

zonal workshops, improving coordination between child helplines of different states, developing Standard Operating Procedures on tracking and rehabilitating missing children and sharing data and status reports. States could use commonly developed templates for reporting on Migrant and Missing Children.

2.5.4. Work with the State government machinery to address child rights issues. Good practices developed.

- ◆ Most SCPCRs reported conducting regular meetings with their government functionaries. SCPCR Chhattisgarh uses video conferencing for conducting such meetings and for training officials, while SCPCR Manipur holds regular meetings with District Commissioners, Superintendents of Police and District Judges to discuss issues of trafficked and missing children.

SCPCR Odisha and SCPCR West Bengal communicate with District Commissioners to promote child labour-free districts.

- ◆ SCPCR West Bengal, SCPCR Gujarat, and SCPCR Andaman Islands shared information on the events they held to celebrate the International Child Rights Day. SCPCRs of Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, and Andhra Pradesh have conducted training and sensitisation programmes for various stakeholders on child rights.
- ◆ Surveys have been conducted by SCPCR Assam on juveniles in prisons and by SCPCR Chandigarh on children in street situations and children with disabilities. The recommendations made by SCPCR Chandigarh based on a survey on safety in school buses have been accepted by the State Governments of Punjab and Haryana.

- ◆ SCPCR Maharashtra has worked with the State Women and Child Development department to develop a Child Policy and an action plan to implement it and has helped develop the Chiraag mobile app to report instances of child sexual abuse. SCPCR Odisha has worked with the state government to develop a toll free helpline. SCPCR Andhra Pradesh has worked with the zila panchayats on their 'Smart village, Smart wards' concept to ensure that 7 out of the 20 non - negotiable indicators for the project are related to children.

2.5.5. Methods/sources used to identify issues on which action is required (outside of grievances and complaints)

Presenters shared the following sources to identify issues: Suo motu cognizance; Data



Group work

analysis, Field Visits; Inspections of homes and schools, Public Hearings. Interaction with children, Media reports and analysis, reports from NGOs, PRI members, SHGs, jail visits and surprise inspections in schools.

2.5.6. Issues on child rights and implementation on which Commission members would like more information/ ideas

A comprehensive training for new Members in State Commissions including skill development on interacting with children was requested. Information and training on the recently amended JJ Act, 2015 and the POCSO Act, 2012, SOP on Children Homes as per the J.J. Act, 2015, the development of a compilation of different Supreme Court and High Court judgments related to cases of child rights violation and templates for inspection of Homes/Shelters were other suggestions made. Queries included the follow up for children enrolled in schools under the EWS quota after grade VIII, places of safety, dealing with delay in payment of interim compensation, measures to tackle substance abuse among children and steps to be taken to



West Bengal State Commission



Odisha State Commission

ensure compliance following the registration of Homes.

2.5.7. What would be a good way to learn and share between commissions regularly?

There was appreciation for a recent initiative by NCPCR to start a WhatsApp group among the Members of the various State Commissions. Suggestions included the use of Facebook and developing a website for each Commission to upload reports and events. Participants recommended video conferencing among Chairpersons of all Commissions every quarter apart from regular regional and national level consultations, workshops and interstate visits. Sharing of annual reports, leaflets, and success stories and the development of a monthly newsletter were other suggestions given.

2.5.8. Wrap up and open session

The Commissions were invited to share additional good practices in their states during the open session by the Chairperson, NCPCR. These are shared below:

- ◆ **West Bengal:** SCPCR has been participating in the *Bondhu Kolkata* initiative that involves the convergence of police, MWCD, State SCPCR and NGOs during Durga Puja to track missing children and elderly persons.
- ◆ **Assam:** A conference in Guwahati was held for youth for social development on the issue of child rights;
- ◆ **Chhattisgarh:** The SCPCR conducted a programme called '*Hamare Mantri*' where children interacted with the minister and asked questions on issues relating to them;
- ◆ **Andaman Islands:** The SCPCR has made 30-40 small videos for the Whatsapp platform on child rights,
- ◆ **Jharkhand:** The SCPCR has worked with the Human Resource Department (HRD) to share information on the rights of children, promoting gender equity in schools and training teachers to ensure friendly relations in schools.
- ◆ **Andhra Pradesh:** The SCPCR has maintained a continuous engagement with the PRIs to develop consolidated child protection mechanisms for tracking of missing children and sharing information.
- ◆ **Odisha:** The SCPCR has developed resource material on migration and has identified 11 areas as sources of migration. During visits to districts hostels, they recommended the addition of psycho-social counselling, which was accepted.

Closing the session, the Chairperson, NCPCR applauded the work being done by the different Commissions and mentioned that NCPCR would follow up with them for more details on their initiatives. She suggested that the Commissions prioritise their work on the mandated roles under the CPCR Act, the JJ Act, RTE Act and the POCSO Act.

2.6 Panel Discussion: Child Rights Issues in India

2.6.1. Key issues discussed

- ◆ Presentation on adolescence related issues: Latest research from India
- ◆ Presentation on Street Children in India
- ◆ Presentation on Child Labour
- ◆ Presentation on Child Trafficking
- ◆ Sharing experience on Child Friendly Police Stations
- ◆ Presentation on Financial Inclusion of Children
- ◆ Presentation on Cyber Crime

2.6.2 Key Outcomes of Presentations

During the course of their work, Commissions have to work on various issues concerning children and the violation of their rights. Many of these have been specifically mentioned in the CPCR Act, 2005. Information on the latest research and initiatives on some of these issues such as adolescence, children in street situations, child labour, child trafficking, child-friendly police stations, social and

financial inclusion and cyber crime was shared by representatives from the Government departments and experts from civil society organisations. Commission members were encouraged to identify and highlight key issues in their respective states.

2.6.3. Moderating the session, Ms. Rupa Kapoor Member, NCPCR spoke of an earlier experience of working with an NGO that had exploited children. This had led her, in her capacity now as a Member, NCPCR, to insist on talking confidentially with the children of the Homes she went to inspect about possible abuse they may be facing. Ms. Kapoor noted that Commission members need to be updated on data and the issues faced by children.

2.6.4. Dr. Renu Singh, Young Lives, shared information on the period of adolescence and the findings on adolescents from the Young Lives study on child poverty. The study identified inter-generational transmission of poverty and indicated widening gender inequities as children entered adolescence.

Poverty and caste were causes for adolescents dropping out of school and a majority of them reported facing violence at home. There is a need to focus on job opportunities and skill development for this group, to prevent them from falling into the traps of poverty. Other suggestions included running campaigns to counter violence and long hours of domestic chores and child work and the need for inter-sectoral convergence and coherence in planning for smooth transitions during adolescence and for an enabling and supportive environment focusing on gender and social equity.

2.6.5. Ms. Bidisha Pillai, Save the Children, described the process leading to the development of 'Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Care and Protection of Children in Street Situations' by NCPCR in partnership with organisations working on the issue. Findings from a research study on children in street situations in 5 Indian cities undertaken by Save the Children and NGO partners indicated their vulnerability to emotional, physical and sexual and substance



Left to right on the Dias: Dr. Lata Narayan, TISS Mumbai; Dr. Onkar Sharma, Regional Labour Commissioner, Ministry of Labour; Dr. Ravi Kant, Shakti Vahini; Ms. Bidisha Pillai, Save the Children; Ms. Rupa Kapoor, Member, NCPCR; Dr. Renu Singh, Young Lives; Mr. Vineet Kumar, Cyber Peace Foundation; Mr. Motwani and Ms. Santoshi Agarwal, SP, Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh



From left to right – Ms. Nanu Bhasin, Director Press Information Bureau; Mr. Mohanty, Media Advisor; NCPCR; Ms. Sonia Sarkar, UNICEF; Mr. Alok Mehta, Outlook India Hindi Editor; Ms. Aarti Dhar, Journalist

abuse due to lack of secure shelter, health and adult care. The development of the SOP for Care and Protection of Children in Street Situations, through a consultative process, is an attempt to ensure that these children have access to social security schemes, health insurance and identity to ensure their protection, restoration and rehabilitation within the existing constitutional and legislative framework.

2.6.6. Dr. Onkar Sharma, Regional Labour Commissioner, Ministry of Labour, called the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act 2016 an important stepping stone to make India child labour free, and highlighted the key features of the Act that prohibits the employment of children below 14 years and regulates the conditions of work for adolescents. It is the only labour law where the offence is cognisable. Concerns expressed by civil society on the listed exceptions are expected to be addressed by a Technical Advisory Committee appointed by the Ministry of Labour. The Rules of the Act are currently being framed through a consultative process

and the SCPCRs were requested to help their State Governments in framing the State Rules for the Act. A suggestion was also made for NCPCR to develop SOPs for prevention of child labour and act as a convergence point for the various departments involved in the issue.

2.6.7. Mr. Ravi Kant, Shakti Vahini, made a detailed presentation on the various legal and institutional aspects of the issue of child trafficking and the involvement of multiple factors in the act (recruiters, transporters, exploiters, multiple locations). The definition of human trafficking under Section 370 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) is comprehensive as it includes all kinds of 'exploitation'. The consent of the victim is immaterial in determination of the offence of trafficking. The institutional framework in place to provide justice to the victims includes the Police, Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTU), Special Juvenile Police Units (SJPU) and Juvenile Welfare Officers (JWO). The scope for State Commissions to intervene in situations of child trafficking was

discussed. These could include regular visits to shelter homes, ensuring the adoption of victim - friendly legal procedures, monitoring the implementation of the Supreme Court judgment on missing children and the role of Para Legal Volunteers (PLV). State Commissions could ensure that the district machinery is kept motivated and efficient.

2.6.8. Mr M.A. Motwani (SDO, Chhattisgarh Police) and Ms. Santoshi Agrawal (SI, Chhattisgarh Police) shared information on the 'Child friendly Police station', a pilot project of the Mahasamund District Police Department and UNICEF, inaugurated in March 2016. A corner in the police station has been developed into a child-friendly space and the district police have been sensitised on children's issues and on how to interact with children. The initiative has been appreciated by the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, who has agreed to implement it in the whole state. Other reformative steps include the construction of a separate toilet for women in the police stations and the launch of a campaign called '*Hamar Police, Hamar Sang*' to connect with the rural population. Complaint boxes have been placed in every school and college that are opened regularly and the police have started self-defence training for girls in schools. Over 4,000 girls have been trained in these camps.

2.6.9. Dr. Lata Narayan, Tata Institute for Social Services (TISS) Mumbai, made a presentation on the activities of *Mel Jol*, a registered NGO set up as an outcome of TISS's work on child rights. The Aflatoun social and financial education programme of the organisation has reached out to 544,608 children in 12 states in India and is operating in 120 countries through Aflatoun

International. The operational strategy and the curriculum and methodology of the programme was shared. It has strong linkages with child rights, child protection, child development and child empowerment and is replicable, adaptable, need based and age appropriate. The programme is in line with the Draft National Education Policy (NEP), 2016, the mandate of the SDGs and the UNCRC, and supplements and complements the government's efforts for financial education.

2.6.10. Mr. Vineet Kumar, Cyber Peace Foundation, shared data on the widespread usage of smart phones and the internet in India among adults and children. Low awareness on cyber laws among Indians makes them vulnerable to cyber crimes. Online threats to children and young people include child sex, cyber bullying, blackmailing, and material on child sexual abuse. Provisions under the IT Act 2000 and the POCSO Act, 2012 cover child pornography, grooming, sex webcam recording, live webcam streaming of sexual conduct, cyber bullying, child pornography, grooming, sex webcam recording and live webcam streaming of sexual conduct. The mechanisms to address cyber crimes, such as online reporting, were shared. Suggestions included the creation of a Nodal Agency to protect children online, developing the right legal and investigative framework, effective use of technologies like Artificial Intelligence and providing counselling centres for psychosocial support to victims of cyber crime.

2.6.11. Summarising the deliberations of the session, Ms. Rupa Kapoor noted that there was a need for the Commissions to be vigilant on the existing and emerging challenges to children's

safety and protection and expressed the hope that there would be detailed deliberations on the issues that were discussed.

2.7 Session on Engaging with Different forms of Media to build Awareness on Child Rights

2.7.1. Key issues addressed

- ◆ The role of the media in building awareness on child rights.
- ◆ Building linkages with Press Information Bureau for media awareness and sensitisation
- ◆ Strategies to involve media in reporting on child rights
- ◆ Opportunities to link with the Press at the regional level.

2.7.2. Key Outcomes of Presentations

The Media has the power to mould and motivate government and public response. A panel of media experts, journalists and representatives from the government and UNICEF discussed the role of the Media in promoting awareness on child rights. A proactive engagement with the Media could be invaluable for an informed discourse on child rights issues and for monitoring and tracking media violations against children. The speakers highlighted the challenges in engaging with the Media and suggested simple measures to ensure more media attention to the causes of the children. All of them suggested using the internet and social media platform for creating awareness on children's rights.

2.7.3. Introducing the session, the moderator, Media Adviser, NCPCR, Mr. G. Mohanty, spoke of the challenges in eliciting the engagement of the media on children's issues.

2.7.4. Ms. Sonia Sarkar, UNICEF elaborated on the role of the Media and the need to leverage its power to investigate violations of the rights of children, to help sensitise other stakeholders and to influence policy making. Currently media coverage on child protection is mostly event based and there is a lack of editorial and expert articles in the press. The nature of coverage on certain children's issues had also led to a mistrust of the Media among child rights advocates. There is a need for the Commissions' proactive involvement and guidance to help the Media to report ethically and responsibly.

2.7.5. Ms. Nanu Bhasin, Press Information Bureau (PIB) outlined the lack of resources and the lack of expertise to handle media on sensitive issues like child rights as two major obstacles and challenges faced by the State Commissions. It was suggested that the SCPCRs could avail of the services of the state units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting that include Doordarshan, All India Radio and the Press Information Bureau (PIB). The PIB organises capsule workshops called *Vartalaap* with the Media on a regular basis and the Commission Members can seek assistance in organising interactions on child related issues. The services of the Directorate of Field Publicity and Song and Drama Division of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting can be used for organising programmes aimed at Information Education and Communication (IEC) and Inter Personal Communication (IPC).



Ms. Stuti Kacker, Chairperson NCPCR responding to queries by participants

2.7.6. Ms. Aarti Dhar, independent journalist, shared her earlier experiences on reporting on child marriage when she was posted in Chhattisgarh and noted that most journalists, particularly at the local level, are not aware of child rights and related issues. The need for larger community mobilisation that included schools, gram sabhas and other institutions at the ground level was suggested. The role of NCPCR and SCPCRs as sources for providing authentic information to journalists was highlighted and Commission members were advised to regularly reach out to the Media using language that is local and simple.

2.7.7. Mr. Alok Mehta, Senior Editor, Outlook (Hindi) presented an overview of the functioning of the Press, and the opportunities for engaging with media at the regional

level. The lack of awareness among stringers appointed by vernacular newspapers, needed to be addressed, given their reach in far out places. It was suggested that providing accurate information in simple language would ensure proper reporting of facts. The development of interesting feature stories on issues like education, health and nutrition and approaching retired judges for authored articles on current legislation and judgements were suggested to elicit the interest of editors of newspapers. Similarly, articles related to health issues of children, written by doctors, would find more readership, thereby increasing the chances of their getting published.

2.7.8. In the open session that followed, several participants shared their initiatives in mobilising media support. The Media Adviser,

NCPCR, shared information on the Delhi High Court guidelines on ethical media reporting that is available on the NCPCR website.

2.8 Closing session

2.8.1. At the closing session, Ms Misaki Akasaka Ueda, Chief, Policy, Planning and Evaluation, UNICEF, extended her gratitude to all the participants for enriching the event with their active engagement. Reference was made to the inspirational keynote address by Justice Lokur, who spoke of the mandate of equality and non-discrimination enshrined in the Constitution of India. The opportunity provided by the SDGs to work further in achieving the rights for all children was highlighted. Ms. Ueda pointed to the crucial role that the Commissions can play in bringing together government, media, experts, civil society and children to ensure that every child and the last child gets justice. She expressed the hope that the workshop

would lead to increased dialogue with state governments and service providers.

2.8.2. Speaking on behalf of NCPCR, Mr. Yashwant Jain, Member, NCPCR thanked all the participants for attending the collaborative NCPCR - UNICEF workshop. He also thanked all the speakers and the experts who had presented at the sessions and contributed to new learning during the two-day workshop. Mr. Jain suggested that Commissions explore the possibility of involving different stakeholders such as opinion makers, corporates, government officials, faith-based and religious leaders, in their endeavour to reach the largest possible audience for creating awareness on child rights. He thanked UNICEF for supporting the development of the Resource Book, noting that a Hindi translation would also be available to the States. Concluding the event, Mr. Jain thanked all the colleagues who had worked incessantly to make the workshop a success.

3

Conclusions and Moving Forward

3.1. The workshop saw the coming together of office bearers and Members from 17 SCPCRs and the National Commission and officers from UNICEF state and central offices.

3.2. A summary of the key outcomes and action points is given below:

- ◆ The sessions provided a comprehensive review of the roles and responsibilities of the Commissions as mandated under the CPCR Act, 2005 and the monitoring role assigned to them under the RTE Act, 2009, the JJ Act,

2015 and the POCSO Act, 2012. There was agreement that these mandated roles must be prioritised by the Commissions members in their work.

- ◆ Opportunities for linkages with academic bodies, Child Welfare Committees and other Child Protection bodies, judicial academies and the NALSA and SALSAs were identified. Commissions were invited to take the lead in ensuring that the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation), Amendment Act 2016 Rules are developed in their respective states.



Vote of thanks by Mr. Yashwant Jain, Member NCPCR and Ms. Misaki Akasaka Ueda, UNICEF in the presence of Ms. Stuti Kacker, Chairperson NCPCR and Ms. Rupa Kapoor, Member NCPCR

- ◆ Recommendations for the Commissions included using their powers judiciously and in the spirit of the CPCR Act, creative use of their limited resources and ensuring more visibility for the issue of child rights through proactive media engagement. Commissions were encouraged to identify and work with the CSR wings of public sector companies for resources to undertake campaigns and awareness programmes.
- ◆ The sharing of good practices and learning provided insights to the work being done by the SCPCRs at the state level. Opportunities for inter-state collaborations were identified. All participants agreed on the need for increased and sustained collaboration among the Commissions.



Annexures

4.1 Agenda

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

17th -18th DECEMBER, 2016 AT HOTEL WESTIN, GURUGRAM

AGENDA

DAY 1: DECEMBER 17, 2016		
TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
8.30 am	Registration	
	INAUGURAL SESSION	
9.45 -9.55 am	Opening remarks	Ms. Stuti Kacker, Chairperson, NCPCR
9.55 -10.10 am	<i>Opening Address:</i> Child Rights and Commissions - Achieving SDGs for all children	Ms. Foroogh Foyouzat, Chief Field Services, UNICEF
10.10 -10.20 am	Video Screening on POCSO e-box	Mr. G. Mohanty, NCPCR Media Adviser
10.20 -10.40 am	Cinema as media for building child rights awareness	Mr. Sujoy Ghosh, Director, Kahaani 2
10.40 -11.00 am	<i>Keynote Address:</i> Commissions as Guardians of Child Rights in India Release of Resource Book	Hon'ble Justice M. Lokur, Supreme Court of India
11.00-11.30 am	Tea/Coffee Break	

DAY 1: DECEMBER 17, 2016		
TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
	SESSION-I	
11.30 – 11.40 am	Understanding Role of Commissions under the Commissions on Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005	Ms. Stuti Kacker, Chairperson, NCPCR
11.40 – 11.50 am	Building Linkages between National and State Legal Services Authorities and Commissions for Protection of Child Rights: Opportunities for Action	Mr. Alok Aggarwal, Member Secretary, National Legal Services Authority
11.50 – 12.00 pm	Open Discussion	
	SESSION-II	
	<i>Panel Discussion: Understanding the Commission's Role for Children's Education</i>	
12.00 – 12.05 pm	Opening Remarks	Moderator: Prof Anita Rampal, Delhi University
12.05 – 12.20 pm	Understanding the Right to Education Act	Dr. Nalini Juneja, National University for Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA)
12.20 – 12.35 pm	Challenges faced in Implementation of Right to Education Act	Mr. P. Mohandasana, Director, Ministry of Human Resource Development
12.35 – 12.50 pm	Understanding the Role of Commissions in monitoring the Education Sector	Mr. Priyank Kanoongo, Member, NCPCR
12.50 – 1.10 pm	Open Discussion	
1.10 - 1.15 pm	Wrap Up Remarks by Moderator	
1.15 pm	Lunch	

DAY 1: DECEMBER 17, 2016

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
	SESSION – III	
2.00 pm	<i>Panel Discussion: Exploring the law and role of Commissions under Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012</i>	
2.00 – 2.05 pm	Opening Remarks	Moderator: Mr. Arun Mathur, Chairperson, Delhi SCPCR
2.05 pm – 2.20 pm	Presentation on the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015	Ms. Arlene Manoharan, Centre for Child and Law, National Law School, Bangalore
2.20 pm – 2.35 pm	Presentation on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012	Ms. Michelle Mendonca, CSJ
2.35 – 2.45 pm	Challenges faced in Implementation of JJ and POCSO Act	Mr. Kulbir Krishan, Advisor (POCSO), NCPCR
2.45 - 3.00 pm	Understanding the Role of Commissions in monitoring of JJ Act, POCSO Act and other penal laws	Mr. Yashwant Jain, Member, NCPCR
3.00 – 3.15 pm	Open Discussion	
3.15- 3.20 pm	Wrap Up Remarks by Moderator	
3.20 – 3.45 pm	Tea/Coffee Break	
3.45 pm – 5.30 pm	Group Work	
7.30 pm	Cultural Evening: Reception and Dinner (Westin Ballroom and Lawns)	

DAY 2: 18th DECEMBER, 2016

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
	SESSION – I	
9.00- 9.45 am	Presentation by 3 Groups on Group Work (15 minutes each)	Moderator: Chairperson/ Members, NCPCR
9.45 – 10.00 am	Open Discussion	
	SESSION – II	
10.00 am	<i>Panel Discussion: Child Rights Issues in India:</i>	
10.00 – 10.05 am	Opening Remarks	Moderator: Ms. Rupa Kapoor, Member, NCPCR
10.05 – 10.15 am	Presentation on adolescence related issues: Latest research from India	Dr. Renu Singh, Young Lives
10.15 – 10.25 am	Presentation on Street Children in India	Ms. Bidisha Pillai, Save the Children
10.25 – 10.35 am	Presentation on Child Labour	Dr. Onkar Sharma, Regional Labour Commissioner, Ministry of Labour
10.35 – 10.45 am	Presentation on Child Trafficking	Mr. Ravi Kant, Shakti Vahini
10.45 – 10.55 am	Sharing experience on Child Friendly Police Stations	Ms. Neha Champawat, SP, Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh
10.55 – 11.05 am	Presentation on Financial Inclusion of Children	Dr. Lata Narayan, TISS, Mumbai
11.05 – 11.15 am	Presentation on Cyber Crime	Mr. Vineet Kumar, Cyber Peace Foundation
11.15 -11.30 am	Open Discussion	
11.30 – 11.45 am	Tea/Coffee Break	

DAY 2: 18th DECEMBER, 2016

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
	SESSION-III	
11.45 – 12.45 am	Session on Engaging with Different Forms of Media to build Awareness on Child Rights Open Discussion and Group Work	NCPCR Media Adviser and UNICEF
1.00 pm	Closing Session Vote of Thanks	UNICEF NCPCR
1.30 pm	Lunch	

4.2 Group work -Template

The groups are listed below:

Group 1: Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Goa. Chair: Mr. Priyank Kanoongo, Member NCPCR. Note taker - Madhulika, Presenter, Mr. Sushil Verma

Group 2: Rajasthan, Assam, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Odisha, Chhattisgarh. Chair: Mr. Yashwant Jain, Member, NCPCR. Presenters: Ms. Shatabdi Subodh Pande and Ms. Runumi Gogoi.

Group 3: Andaman Nicobar, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra. Chair Ms. Rupa Kapoor, Member NCPCR. Presenters: Ms. Kiran Tigga and Mr. Balaraju M.

Questions

I. Please identify in the group:

- a. A Chairperson to moderate the group
- b. A Presenter who will make the power point presentation on the group's discussions at 9: 00 am on Sunday December 18. Please also identify a Note Taker who will record all the discussions in the group and help the Presenter develop the presentation.

II. Please answer the following questions in your group. Please allow all States the chance to give their views on each question.

III. Please support the Presenter to prepare a presentation on the basis of the discussions in the group.

Questions for Discussion

1. Identify specific areas for collaboration between different State Commissions on inter-state issues? (e.g. – around issues of trafficking, missing children). Give examples on how this collaboration can be developed.
2. Please explain how you work with the State government machinery to address child rights issues? Please give examples of good practices you have developed.
3. What methods/ sources do you use to identify issues on which action is required (outside of grievances and complaints)?
4. Any issues on child rights and implementation on which you would like more information/ ideas?
5. What would be a good way to learn and share between commissions regularly?



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