

NCPCR's Timely Intervention Leads to Rescue of 25 Trafficked Children from Train No. 16602 Amrit Bharat Express-

Swift action by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and coordinated efforts of the Government Railway Police (GRP) prevented the trafficking of 25 minor boys from Bihar for child labour.

Upon receiving credible information from the Andhra Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (APSCPCR) regarding the trafficking of children aboard Train No. 16602 – Erode Amrit Bharat Express, NCPCR immediately took cognizance of the matter and directed urgent intervention. The complaint indicated that several minors accompanied by traffickers were travelling towards southern India for the purpose of child labour.

Recognizing the gravity of the situation, Dr. Sanjeev Sharma, Member Secretary, NCPCR, promptly issued directions to the concerned authorities, requesting immediate coordination among the GRP, RPF, Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs), and District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) to rescue and protect the children.

The Anti Child Trafficking Cell (ATC) of NCPCR continuously followed up with three different GRP units along the train route, facilitating real-time coordination and information sharing. Acting on these inputs, the Nellore GRP, in coordination with other GRP and RPF units, conducted a rescue operation between Gudur and Nayudupeta Railway Stations in Andhra Pradesh.

Key Outcomes of the Operation

- i. 5 minor boys rescued from being trafficked for child labour.
- ii. 5 agents/escorts apprehended and secured for legal action.
- iii. Children were found to be travelling from Bihar to Erode, Tamil Nadu, for the purpose of labour exploitation.
- iv. Immediate care, protection, and support services were provided to all rescued children.
- v. The children are being produced before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) and are undergoing the process of restoration, rehabilitation, and reintegration in accordance with the Juvenile Justice Act and child protection protocols.

This successful intervention highlights the importance of inter-state coordination, timely intelligence sharing, and prompt institutional response in combating child trafficking and protecting vulnerable children from exploitation.

Message from NCPCR- Every child has the right to a safe and dignified childhood. NCPCR remains committed to ensuring that trafficked children are rescued promptly, provided with care and rehabilitation, and reunited with safe environments while ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice.