



ANNUAL REPORT

2024-2025





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NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

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NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS
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Preface

It is a matter of privilege to present the Annual Report of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) for the year 2024–25, as envisaged under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.

The Annual Report of the NCPCR for the year 2024–25 presents a comprehensive account of the initiatives, interventions, and achievements undertaken by the Commission towards the promotion and protection of child rights in the country. The Commission continues to address the vital issues related to protection of children from Sexual Offences, Juvenile Justice eco-system, Child Labour, Education, Health and Child Trafficking. Initiatives of the Commission comprise of several activities including holding the Benches at various places, organizing the sessions on capacity building & training of various stakeholders, arranging awareness programmes in collaboration with District Administration and State/UT authority and collaborating with the various Government and Non-Government entities.

NCPCR organised (बाल सफरी के जंजरी) 2.0 under which 100 bordering and adjoining districts were covered. This facilitated the capacity building of police and District Administration which helps in better rescue and rehabilitation of trafficked children.

NCPCR conducted Pariksha Parv 2.0 as part of its continued efforts to promote the holistic well-being and mental health of children during examinations through awareness generation, expert guidance, and active stakeholder engagement. The initiative significantly contributed towards fostering a child-centric, supportive, and stress-free examination environment, in alignment with the vision of nurturing confident, resilient, and empowered Exam Warriors.

The Commission has continued to implement multiple initiatives, adopting both preventive and corrective approaches, to eliminate child labour and to safeguard the rights

and welfare of every child. In this regard, a Pan-India Rescue Campaign addressing child and adolescent labour was conducted from January to December 2024. In compliance with Hon'ble Supreme Court directions, in *Re: Children in Street Situations*, the Commission has been actively facilitating coordinated rescue and rehabilitation efforts for CISS children across the country in collaboration with the concerned State authorities.

The initiative of organizing Camps/Benches for grievance redressal entered its third phase in 2024-25 and was extended to districts with a high tribal population, as well as Aspirational Districts. During the year under report, a total of 24 such Camps/Benches were organized.

During 2024-25, the NCPGR organised 260 programmes at the National, Regional, State, and District levels to address emerging child rights concerns and strengthen mechanisms for the protection, promotion, and welfare of children across the country.

The Commission formulated a comprehensive Protocol for Restoration and Repatriation of Children under the Juvenile Justice system to facilitate safe and effective family-based restoration of children. To strengthen digital monitoring, transparency, and timely intervention, the GHAR (Go Home and Reunite) Portal was developed to track the progress of each child until successful repatriation and rehabilitation. During 2024-25, four Internal Committee meetings were convened to review the implementation and progress of the GHAR Portal since its inception.

The Commission has continued to function with renewed commitment, adopting a proactive, responsive, and child-centric approach to address emerging challenges and safeguard the rights and well-being of children.

The Commission remains steadfast in its endeavour to strengthen institutional mechanisms, enhance outreach, and ensure that no child is left behind. It reaffirms its commitment to work in close coordination with all stakeholders to create a safe, inclusive, and enabling environment for every child in the country.


(Violet Pranchand)
Chairperson, NCPGR

ABBREVIATIONS

AIR	All India Radio
AIIMS	All India Institute of Medical Sciences
ACBTA	Asian Cognitive Behavioral Therapies Association (ACBTA)
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
AWW	Anganwadi Workers
BEOs	Block Education Officers
BRCCs	Block Resource Centre Coordinators
CBSE	Central Board of Secondary Education
CCIs	Child Care Institutions
CHC	Community Health Center
CIWA	Central Institute for Women in Agriculture
CPCR	Commissions for Protection of Child Rights
CPGRAMS	Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System
CSA	Child Sexual Abuse
CSAM	Child Sexual Abuse Material
CWC	Child Welfare Committee
DARPG	Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
DCP	Deputy Commissioner of Police
DCPU	District Child Protection Units
DCPO	District Child Protection Officer
DIETs	District Institutes of Education and Training
DLSA	District Legal Services Authority
DSLISA	Delhi State Legal Services Authority
DSP	Deputy Superintendent of Police
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
FAA	First Appellate Authority
FCRA	Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act
FIR	First Information Report
HOD	Head of Department

ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Scheme
ICPS	Integrated Child Protection Scheme
IHBAS	Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences
IPC	Indian Penal Code
J&K	Jammu and Kashmir
JJ Act	Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
KVS	Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan
MoS	Minister of State
MWCD	Ministry of Women and Child Development
NALSA	National Legal Services Authority
NCERT	National Council of Educational Research and Training
NCPCR	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
NCRB	National Crime Records Bureau
NCT	National Capital Territory
NER	North Eastern Region
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHM	National Health Mission
NVS	Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti
PHC	Primary Health Center
PIO	Public Information Officer
POCSO	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences(Act), 2009
POSH	Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace (Act), 2013
PTA	Parent–Teacher Association
QRC	Quick Response Cell
RBSK	Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram
RKSK	Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram
RTE	Right to Education (Act), 2009
RTI	Right to Information
SCERT	State Council of Educational Research and Training
SCPCR	State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights

SCPS	State Child Protection Society
SJPU	Special Juvenile Police Unit
SLP	Special Leave Petition
SMCs	School Management Committees
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SP	Superintendent of Police
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and & Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UTs	Union Territories

INTRODUCTION

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was established in March 2007 by the Government of India under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 with a mandate to ensure that all laws, policies, programmes, and administrative mechanisms are in consonance with the child rights perspective. The Commission functions in alignment with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), to which India is a signatory, thereby reinforcing the commitment to uphold the rights of children as articulated therein. Further, the establishment and functioning of NCPCR are anchored in the principles enshrined in the Constitution of India, particularly those relating to equality, protection, and development of children.

The Commission, therefore, serves as a statutory mechanism to safeguard, promote, and monitor child rights in a manner consistent with the constitutional mandates. The role of the Commission is to fulfill the Constitutional mandate of Article 39(f) that reads “That children are given opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and conditions of freedom and dignity and that childhood and youth are protected against exploitation and moral and material abandonment.”

The broad objective of the Commission, as provided under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, is to take cognizance and redress matters on violation of the rights of the child and to ensure that all laws, policies, programs and administrative mechanisms align with the child rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India as well as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Subsequently, the scope of the Commission has also expanded to perform a monitoring role for the implementation of some of the notable acts relating to children, like the Right to Education Act, 2009 (under Section 31), the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (under Section 44) and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (under Section 109).

This report covers the period from 1st April, 2024 to 31st March, 2025. The year under report functioned under the NCPCR former Chairperson, Shri. Priyank Kanoongo, who provided continuous administrative support to execute the decisions taken by the Commission and carry out the functions and statutory roles of the NCPCR.

Over time, the Commission has established an identity and redefined itself by adopting a 360-degree approach and optimizing its full potential. In complete alignment with the core national interests, the Commission has undertaken some strategic interventions that have altered the course of history in child protection.

CHAPTER 1

Pariksha Parv

CHAPTER 1

Pariksha Parv

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has been interacting with students since 2018 through *Pariksha Pe Charcha*, addressing a wide range of issues related to examinations, including nervousness, anxiety, concentration, peer pressure, parental expectations, and the role of teachers. Inspired by this initiative and to further disseminate his ideas on managing exam-related stress among children across diverse regions and circumstances, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) introduced **Pariksha Parv** — a platform for students to freely express their concerns and anxieties, and to interact with renowned counsellors, psychologists, educationists, and eminent experts.

This initiative seeks to remove the stigma associated with counselling and promote a positive perception around seeking support. Continuing its endeavour to change children's perspectives towards examinations and transform them into a joyful and enriching experience, NCPCR successfully conducted **Pariksha Parv 7.0**.

Academic stress among students can lead to several adverse consequences, including poor mental health, depression, and declining academic performance. In extreme cases, students may even be driven to suicide as a result of bullying, pressure, and negative influences. Mental health experts observe that young people often struggle to cope with failure in examinations or career pursuits, and that families and social institutions frequently fall short in providing adequate emotional support or guidance.

Exam-related stress affects students differently, but school children commonly experience heightened anxiety due to factors such as inadequate preparation, ineffective study habits, parental and peer pressure, and insufficient access to information. When stress is perceived negatively or becomes overwhelming, it can result in severe anxiety before and during examinations, ultimately impairing academic performance. Therefore, it is essential to manage stress effectively and adopt coping strategies that help prevent emotional exhaustion and burnout.

Considering the seriousness of incidents of suicides arising from examination-related anxiety, as observed by the Commission and frequently reported in the media, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), a statutory body under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, launched a special campaign during the examination period. The objective of this campaign was to positively reshape children's outlook towards examinations and to motivate and support them through expert guidance.

The campaign entailed the following activities:

District and State level orientation cum sensitization programmes

Total 18 District-level programmes were organized covering different States/UTs in Pariksha Parv 6.0

Audio–video messages from students on “Exam Warrior” in Pariksha Parv 7.0

To promote children's Right to Participation and encourage wider involvement in the programme, NCPCR invited 60-second audio-video messages from students of Classes 5 to 12, with full parental consent and due regard to both physical and online safety. Students submitted their entries through the NCPCR website. In their messages, children shared their personal experiences related to examinations, their preferred routines for relaxation, and their perspectives on the *Pariksha Pe Charcha* initiative—highlighting how it helps transform stress into success and enables *Exam Warriors* to face exams with confidence and positivity. The Commission received approximately 1,712 audio-video messages from students across the country.

Live sessions with Experts in Pariksha Parv 7.0

Six live streaming sessions were planned and organized on topics related to examination pressure, stress management, and other child-related issues. Renowned experts from diverse fields—including mental health professionals, motivational speakers, educationists, cyber law specialists, yoga gurus, and founders of start-ups—interacted with children, parents, and teachers during these sessions. The programmes were broadcasted live on NCPCR's social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, as well as on Doordarshan. The details of the sessions are given below:

S.No.	Name of the Expert	Area of Expertise	Date of the Session	Link of the Session
1.	Dr. Rachna Bhargava	Professor of Clinical Psychology, AIIMS	March 21, 2025	https://www.youtube.com/live/7lwrgmJcrEY?si=FiNyOpePxE8a9z_J
2.	Singer Maithili Thakur	Indian Folk Singer	March 24, 2025	https://www.youtube.com/live/gmcjDQNudy8?si=DTZHQx1h2ivIE-g6
3.	Mr. Risheek Kumar	Cyber security entrepreneur	March 24, 2025	https://www.youtube.com/live/W2hz8MuODXM?si=gscY-IQRQyM3bWau
4.	Sister BK Shivani	Motivational Speaker and Spiritual Mentor	March 25, 2025	https://www.youtube.com/live/LRXtdl9Elkg?si=baY3CP48XmbfxxbW
5.	Dr S.B Gita Narahari	Well Known Psychologist	March 26, 2025	https://www.youtube.com/live/bnweb49mINE?si=E087GvrGOOqFqBGs
6.	Shri. Dhananjay Shahi	Member of Sadho Band, dynamic folk-pop musical Group	March 28, 2025	https://www.youtube.com/live/xlNx3EH0rxc?si=5u3626NiwCq6QdDg

Conclusion

The celebration of Pariksha Parv reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to promoting the holistic well-being of children during examinations. Through interactive sessions, expert guidance, and active participation of students, parents, and teachers, the initiative successfully transformed the discourse around examinations from stress and anxiety to confidence, resilience, and positivity. Aligned with the spirit of *Pariksha Pe Charcha* and the vision of nurturing empowered *Exam Warriors*, Pariksha Parv strengthened awareness on mental health, child rights, and supportive learning environments, contributing meaningfully to the creation of a child-centric and stress-free examination culture.

CHAPTER 2

Camps/Benches in Districts with Aspirational Blocks

CHAPTER 2

Camps/Benches in Districts with Aspirational Blocks

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is committed to reach every child in the country through its various interventions under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005. In 2019–20, the Commission initiated a strategy to conduct benches/camps in aspirational districts identified by NITI Aayog. These districts lag behind in key child development indicators such as education, health and nutrition. The children in these districts are lagging behind in some of the key developmental parameters related to child development, such as education, health and nutrition. In this district-level exercise, various departments of District Administration like—school education, health, labour, women and child development, tribal affairs, social welfare, etc; non-governmental organizations (NGOs), voluntary organizations, youth clubs, teachers and Anganwadi workers were involved to spread the message of the NCPCR bench to all the habitations and children in schools. So that issues and cases on child rights violation are brought before NCPCR bench for their redressal, including giving on-spot solutions.

It is pertinent to note that, under Section 13(1)(j) of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, the Commission is mandated to inquire into complaints and take *suo motu* cognisance of matters relating to:

- deprivation and violation of child rights;
- non-implementation of laws for the protection and development of children;
- on-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships 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;

In pursuing inquiries into such matters, the Commission exercises powers of a civil court as provided under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. These include powers relating to:

- a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him under oath;
- b) discovery and production of any document; receiving evidence on affidavits;
- c) requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any court or office; and
- d) issuing summons for the examination of witnesses or documents.

In view of the identification of districts lagging behind in key child development parameters, the Commission decided to proactively reach out to these areas to address grievances related to violations of children's rights. Consequently, NCPCR Benches/Camps in Aspirational Districts and Blocks were conceptualised and operationalised to provide a direct platform for children and communities to submit representations and complaints. These forums enable on-the-spot solutions in coordination with district authorities and ensure proper directions and follow-up for effective redressal. The methodology adopted included the following:

- Sharing the Bench/Camp plan with the district administration and designating a Nodal Officer,
- Holding a preparatory video conference with district officials,
- Advance team visits to assess readiness,
- Consultations with non-governmental and civil society organisations,
- Review meetings with relevant departments,
- Field visits to schools and child-related institutions,
- Bench hearings facilitated by the Chairperson/Members along with the District Collector or the designated officer.
- From April 2024 to March 2025, 24 such Camps/Benches were organised to address complaints relating to violations and deprivation of child rights. Approximately 6,050 grievances were received during these interventions. Through the Commission's directions, several children received essential

entitlements such as birth certificates, caste certificates, disability certificates and Aadhaar cards. Children with disabilities were linked to disability pensions.

- A committee comprising the Panchayat Sarpanch, Panchayat Secretary, Anganwadi Workers and children was constituted to map vulnerable households. Vulnerable families, and children who had lost their parents during the Covid-19 pandemic, were linked with government schemes.

Key Outcomes of the Benches/Camps

1. **Mass Awareness on Children's Rights:** The Benches/Camps created mass awareness involving all duty-bearers, stakeholders, institutions and the community at large for a cause like children's rights. Stakeholders were sensitized toward awareness generation as an integral part of their responsibility towards the protection of children's rights.
2. **Inter-departmental Convergence:** The initiative brought all relevant departments together on a single platform and set a convergent platform breaking down operational silos. This convergence model has created a strategic mechanism enabling coordinated action on issues related to children. A collaborative culture has now been set in motion across aspirational districts, ensuring more effective responses to the needs of children.
3. **Redressal of Complaints:** A large number of grievances were addressed during the Benches/Camps. Additionally, communities were informed about appropriate channels for lodging complaints related to child rights violations. Improved awareness of the grievance redressal mechanism has empowered the children and families to seek timely assistance when their rights are at risk.
4. **Inspection and Improvement of Child-related Facilities:** The Bench and advance teams reviewed various child-related facilities including health centres, Anganwadi Centres, schools and Child Care Institutions (CCIs). These inspections resulted in corrective measures, creation of new facilities, enhanced service delivery and overall improvement in institutional functioning.

Details of the Camps/Benches held from April 2024 to March 2025 are as follows-

S.No.	State/UT	District	Bench held at District level or Block level	Aspirational Blocks	Date of the Bench/camp
1.	Assam	Dhemaji	Block Level	Murgkongselek	11-06-2024
2.		Tamulpur, Baksa	District Level	(i) Tamulpur (ii) Kamrup	25-06-2024
3.		Udalguri	Block Level	Bhergaon	27-06-2024
4.		Dima Hasao	District Level	(i) Diyang Valley (ii) Diyungbra (iii) Jatinga Valley (iv) New Sanghar	22-11-2024
5.		East Karbi Anglong	District Level	(i) Rongmongve (ii) Nilip (iii) Samelangso	10-07-2024
6.		West Karbi Anglong	District Level	(i) Socheng (ii) Chinthong (iii) Amri	12-07-2024
7.		Cacher	Block Level	Lakhipur	27-12-2024
8.		Hailakandi	Block Level	South Hailakandi	26-12-2024
9.		Singrauli	Block Level	Devsar	24-06-2024

S.No.	State/UT	District	Bench held at District level or Block level	Aspirational Blocks	Date of the Bench/camp
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Rewa	District Level	(i) Hanumana (ii) Jawa (iii) Sirmore	25-06-2024
11.		Satna	District Level	(i) Majhgawan (ii) Rampur (iii) Baghelan(	26-06-2024
12.		Guna		Bamori	27-06-2024
13.	Haryana	Rewari	Block Level	Nahar	11-07-2024
14.		Bhiwani	District Level	(i) Behal (ii) Loharu	12-07-2024
15.		Charkhi Dadri	Block Level	Badhra	12-08-2024
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	Baramulla	Block Level	Singhpura	01-07-2024
17.		Kupwara	Block Level	Keran	02-07-2024
18.		Bandipora	Block Level	Tulail	03-07-2024
19.		Pulwama	Block Level	Ichgoze	04-07-2024
20.	Punjab	Kapurthala	District Level	(i) Dhilwan (ii) Sultanpur Lodhi	22-07-2024
21.		Amritsar	District Level	(i) Ajnala (ii) Harshe Chhina	24-07-2024
22.		Moga	Block Level	Nihal Singh Wala	31-07-2024

23.	State/UT	District	Bench held at District level or Block level	Aspirational Blocks	Date of the Bench/camp
24.		Sangrur	Block Level	Dhuri	01-08-2024
25.		Gurdaspur	District Level	(i) Dera Baba Nanak (ii) Kalanaur	08-08-2024

CHAPTER 3

**Inter-Departmental Review
Meetings**

CHAPTER 3

Inter-Departmental Review Meetings

As mandated under Section 13(1) of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) conducts inter-departmental review and consultation meetings with concerned departments of State Governments and Union Territories (UTs) on key child rights issues. The primary objective of these meetings is to assess the implementation of child-related laws and to discuss challenges, good practices and the way forward for their effective enforcement.

To organize the meeting with the states/UTs; a detailed exercise pertaining to indicators based on various child-related legislations was carried out. These indicators formed the basis of the agenda shared with Chief Secretaries and Chief Administrators of States/UTs, seeking nomination of Nodal Officers and submission of data in prescribed formats by relevant departments. During the meetings, State/UT-specific issues were deliberated and tailored recommendations were formulated for follow-up action.

As aligned with its core mandate under the CPCR Act, 2005; NCPCR reviews the implementation of laws, policies and schemes related to children by:

- examining safeguards for protection of child rights,
- identifying gaps in execution mechanism, and
- addressing the challenges faced by beneficiaries (children) as well as duty-bearers (government authorities).

Accordingly, NCPCR has adopted inter-departmental review meetings as a strategic mechanism to evaluate progress, highlight concerns, and acknowledge innovative practices undertaken by States/UTs.

These exercises provide an opportunity for creating a convergent platform at the State/UT level for ensuring the protection and development of children. The Commission emphasises the significance of such coordination to avoid duplication of efforts, improve data accuracy, strengthen information sharing, identify service gaps and facilitate timely decision-making. Considering that children aged 0–18 years constitute nearly 39%

(Census 2011) of the country's population, a coordinated and unified approach to addressing their rights and welfare remains imperative.

Some of the key issues, common to many states/UTs that emerged during the review meetings are as follows -

- i. State Department of WCD/Social Welfare should ensure the maintenance of accurate and up-to-date records of all children in staying in Child Care Institutions.
- ii. To address the existing gaps in appointing Members to Child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Boards, a pool of eligible applicants should be created.
- iii. As per order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, regular services of Support Persons under POCSO Act, 2012 should be utilized in POCSO cases. Additionally, NCPCR has developed guidelines for the Support Persons which has already been shared with the States/UTs. Number of support personnel to ensure comprehensive care and assistance for children in need should be encouraged.
- iv. State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) should provide free legal aid to the children in street situations. A mechanism to be developed and order to be issued for issuance of character verification to a child on the time of acquittal. In this regard, convergence shall be established between SLSA with Home Department of the concerned State/Ut.
- v. Police Department to issue orders in all the Police stations for sharing one copy of FIR in POCSO cases immediately with Child Welfare Committee of the district.
- vi. Education Department to provide information under Rule 2(b) (2) of CAL(P&R)Act 1986 and its Rules, 2017, (in case if a student is absent from the school continuous by for 30 days, this information should be provided to the Nodal Officer of Labour Department by the Principal of the School). A circular needs to be issued by the Education Department to all the schools for compliance.
- vii. Children affected or infected with HIV/AIDS should be produced before the Child Welfare Committee, and their Social Investigation Report (SIR) and Individual Care Plan (ICP) must be prepared, as they are categorised as Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. These are entitled to support under sponsorship scheme. Mapping of such children should be undertaken through Anganwadi Workers.

- viii. With regard to absence of exclusive de-Addiction centers for children in States, Department of WCD/Social Welfare of the state shall arrange visit of Child Welfare Committee (CWC) for declaring any one facility as Fit Facility for children. Toilet and beds for children should be separated.
- ix. State Department of WCD/Social Welfare should conduct the mapping of those Observation Homes where Children in Conflict with Law (CCL) and children in need of Care and Protection (CNCP) are staying.
- x. Periodic training should be conducted for teachers, police officials and other stake holders on crucial topics such as the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and other relevant issues of Child Rights. For training of Police Personnel, training module to be taken from BPR&D and training schedule to be designed accordingly.
- xi. Safety audits of hostels should be conducted in accordance with the NCPCR checklist for standalone hostels, the Manual on Safety and Security of Children in Schools, and the Ministry of Education's Guidelines on School Safety.

Conclusion

The series of State-level Inter-Departmental Review Meetings conducted by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in 2024-25 mark a significant step toward strengthening the ecosystem of child protection and welfare across the country. By engaging directly with senior officials from key State and UT departments, the Commission ensured a comprehensive review of the implementation of child rights laws, schemes, and institutional mechanisms as mandated under the CPCR Act, 2005. The advance dissemination of a detailed questionnaire enabled States to present structured information, ensuring that discussions were evidence-based and focused on systemic gaps requiring immediate attention.

In 2024-25, across all five States reviewed—Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, and Meghalaya—several common structural and operational challenges were observed. These challenges primarily related to record maintenance in Child Care Institutions, timely appointment of statutory bodies under the Juvenile Justice framework, availability of Support Persons in POCSO cases, gaps in inter-departmental coordination,

and the need for enhanced monitoring and training of the Child Protection Functionaries. Issues concerning vulnerable categories of children—such as those affected by HIV/AIDS, children in street situations, and children requiring de-addiction services—also demanded strengthened interventions and clearer accountability mechanisms.

The recommendations given by NCPCR to the State Government reflect a holistic approach, focusing on improved governance, better inter-departmental convergence, training and capacity building, and institutional compliance. These include ensuring updated records of children in Child Care Institutions (CCIs), creating a pool of applicants for timely filling up of the vacant posts in Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs), strengthening legal and psychosocial support systems, enforcing mandatory reporting obligations of departments, conducting safety audits, and ensuring that children in need are properly identified, produced before CWCs, and provided appropriate care plans. The emphasis on mapping of facilities, separation of different categories of children, and alignment with Supreme Court directives underscores the Commission's commitment to both procedural fairness and child-centric service delivery.

Overall, these consultations served not only as a review mechanism but also as a platform for States to voice their concerns in the area of child rights. The actionable recommendations laid out by NCPCR aimed to enhance transparency, responsiveness, and the quality of child protection services across all levels of governance. Strengthening these systems is essential for ensuring that every child; especially the most vulnerable; is protected, supported, and given the opportunity to thrive. The Commission will continue to monitor compliance and extend necessary guidance to States and UTs to ensure that the rights and best interests of children remain a national priority.

CHAPTER 4

Awareness Programs

CHAPTER 4

Awareness Programs

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is mandated under Section 31 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 to:

- (i) examine and review the safeguards for the rights provided under the Act and recommend measures for their effective implementation;
- (ii) inquire into complaints relating to a child's right to free and compulsory education; and
- (iii) take necessary steps as provided under Section 15 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.

In furtherance to its mandate under the RTE Act, 2009 and the functions assigned under Sections 13 and 14 of the CPCR Act, 2005; the Commission undertakes a range of initiatives including grievance redressal, inquiries, policy interventions, programme implementation and research activities. Under Section 13 (h), the Commission shall spread child rights literacy among various sections of the society and promote awareness of the safeguards available for protection of these rights and make recommendations for their effective implementation in the best interest of children. During 2024–25, NCPCR organised National, Regional, State and District-level programmes to strengthen the implementation of the RTE Act, 2009 and address emerging concerns related to education policy in India.

District-level Workshops on Eliminating Corporal Punishment in Schools

Children are subjected to corporal punishment not only in schools but also in institutions meant for their care and protection, such as hostels, orphanages, ashramshalas and juvenile homes, as well as within family settings. As defined under Section 2(24) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, *corporal punishment* refers to the deliberate infliction of physical pain on a child by any person as a form of discipline, retribution or behavioral correction.

Section 17 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 explicitly prohibits both corporal punishment and mental harassment of children in schools. However, gaps in awareness and sensitisation continue to hinder the realisation of a zero-tolerance approach towards corporal punishment in educational settings and the effective implementation of the guidelines on eliminating such practices.

In line with its mandate under Section 13 of the CPCRA Act, 2005, the Commission organised 30 sensitisation workshops for key stakeholders including Principals, Headmasters of Government and Private Schools, District Education Officers (DEOs), and faculty of District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs). These workshops aimed to strengthen understanding of legal provisions, enforcement measures and child protection responsibilities within school systems. The details of the workshops organised during 2024–25 are provided below:

S.No	Activity Name	District	Date
1.	District level workshops on awareness of different Stakeholders regarding Section 17 of RTE Act 2009 and guidelines on eliminating corporal punishment in Schools	Ahmedabad	10.07.2024
2.		Gandhinagar	11.07.2024
3.		Chandigarh	12.07.2024
4.		Hisar	15.07.2024
5.		Gautam Budh Nagar	16.07.2024
6.		Faridabad	18.07.2024
7.		Ghaziabad	19.07.2024
8.		Bengaluru Urban	20.07.2024
9.		Chennai	24.07.2024
10.		West Tripura	25.07.2024
11.		Thiravallur	26.07.2024
12.		Nashik	26.07.2024
13.		Palghar	27.07.2024
14.		Hyderabad	27.07.2024
15.		Shimla	29.07.2024
16.		Bhopal	29.07.2024
17.		Jaipur	31.07.2024

S.No	Activity Name	District	Date
18.	District level workshops on awareness of different Stakeholders regarding Section 17 of RTE Act 2009 and guidelines on eliminating corporal punishment in Schools	Ratlam	31.07.2024
19.		Chamba	31.07.2024
20.		Jodhpur	01.08.2024
21.		Jaisalmer	03.08.2024
22.		Durg	03.08.2024
23.		Udaipur	05.08.2024
24.		Balod	05.08.2024
25.		Vishakhapatnam	05.08.2024
26.		Ramgarh	06.08.2024
27.		Haridwar	06.08.2024
28.		Kollam	06.08.2024
29.		Patna	16.08.2024
30.		Thiruvanthanampuram	17.08.2024

District-level Workshops on Sensitisation on the Comprehensive Manual for Safety and Security of Children in Schools, Including Cyber Safety

To strengthen and streamline efforts for ensuring the safety and security of children in schools; the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), under Section 13(1) (a) of the CPCR Act, 2005; examined and consolidated various guidelines into a comprehensive manual titled “*Manual on Safety and Security of Children in Schools*”. This manual outlines the essential components of school safety, including:

- Infrastructure and physical environment
- Health, hygiene and sanitation standards
- Psycho social support and wellbeing
- Roles and responsibilities of teachers and school personnel

Additionally, it specifies a monitoring framework detailing the responsibilities of School Management Committees (SMCs)/Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs), students, school authorities, Block and District Education Officers, and the District Collector/Magistrate.

In accordance with Section 13(1) (h) of the CPCR Act, 2005, the Commission organised 25 sensitisation workshops and orientation programmes for key stakeholders on the implementation of this manual. These workshops placed special emphasis on cyber safety, recognising the increasing risks associated with digital exposure among children.

The details of the workshops conducted during 2024–25 are presented below:



S. No.	Activity Name	District	Date
1.	District level workshops on sensitization on comprehensive manual for safety and security of children in schools including cyber safety	Bharuch	12.07.2024
2.		North Goa	12.07.2024
3.		Vadodara	13.07.2024
4.		Palwal	15.07.2024
5.		Bhiwani	15.07.2024
6.		Mathura	16.07.2024
7.		Patiala	18.07.2024
8.		Jalandhar	19.07.2024
9.		Nayagarh	20.07.2024
10.		Hoshiarpur	20.07.2024
11.		Puri	22.07.2024
12.		Ramanagara	22.07.2024
13.		Coorg	23.07.2024

14.		Prayagraj	24.07.2024
15.		Ahmednagar	24.07.2024
16.		Aurangabad	26.07.2024
17.		Gwalior	27.07.2024
18.	District level workshops on sensitization on comprehensive manual for safety and security of children in schools including cyber safety	Bundi	29.07.2024
19.		Morena	30.07.2024
20.		Bhilwara	31.07.2024
21.		Chamba	31.07.2024
22.		Chittoor	02.08.2024
23.		Dhamtari	03.08.2024
24.		Annamaya	03.08.2024
25.		Marigaon	05.08.2024

District-Level Orientation Workshops on NCPCR's Guidelines for Prevention of Bullying and Cyber bullying in Schools

After the COVID-19 pandemic, the use of technology has increased manifold as education is being delivered to children including through online modes. Children are spending significantly more time on the internet, and technology has become one of the most accessible sources of recreational opportunities for them. However, alongside these benefits, concerns regarding children's online safety have risen sharply. Various risks—such as misuse of children's personal data, exposure to inappropriate or sexual content, and bullying during online classes—have become more prevalent.



Considering the rapid expansion of technology usage and the increasing incidents of bullying and cyber bullying, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has developed comprehensive guidelines for the prevention of bullying and cyber bullying in schools. To facilitate effective implementation of these guidelines, the Commission has organized 25 (twenty-five) orientation workshops at the district level, as detailed below:

S. No.	Activity Name	District	Date
1.	District level orientation workshops on NCPCR's guidelines for prevention of bullying and cyber bullying in schools.	Surat	11.07.2024
2.		South Goa	15.07.2024
3.		Daman	16.07.2024
4.		Panchkula	16.07.2024
5.		Ambala	17.07.2024
6.		Amritsar	18.07.2024
7.		Khorda	18.07.2024
8.		Cuttack	19.07.2024
9.		Ludhiana	19.07.2024
10.		Leh	20.07.2024
11.		Mysuru	22.07.2024
12.		Varanasi	23.07.2024
13.		Mumbai city	23.07.2024
14.		Pune	25.07.2024
15.		Lucknow	25.07.2024
16.		Dehradun	26.07.2024
17.		Nanital	29.07.2024
18.		Ajmer	30.07.2024
19.		Ranchi	01.08.2024
20.		Tirupati	01.08.2024
21.		Kamrup Metro	02.08.2024

22.		Kangra	06.08.2024
23.		Solan	07.07.2024
24.		Raipur	07.07.2024
25.		Bokaro	10.08.2024

State-Level Workshops on Sensitization for Keeping Child Rights at the Core of the Implementation of the NEP 2020 Action Plan

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century, designed to meet the evolving developmental needs of the nation. It envisions comprehensive reforms in all aspects of the education system—including structure, regulation, and governance—to establish a framework aligned with the aspirations of 21st-century learning, while strongly upholding India’s rich traditions and value systems.

The policy emphasizes several fundamental principles, such as:

- Holistic development of every student across academic and non-academic domains
- Achievement of foundational literacy and numeracy for all students by Grade 3
- Promotion of multilingualism and the power of language
- Instilling ethical, human, and constitutional values
- Encouraging creativity, critical thinking, and conceptual understanding
- Effective integration of technology in education

Under Section 13 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is mandated to review existing policies and recommend measures for their effective implementation in the best interest of children. In line with this mandate, state-level sensitization workshops were organized to ensure that child rights remain central to the implementation of the NEP 2020 Action Plan.

The details of these workshops are given below:

S. No.	Topic	State	Date
1.	Workshops on sensitization for keeping child rights at the core of implementation of NEP 2020 Action Plan	Punjab	30.07.2024
2.		Uttar Pradesh	01.08.2024
3.		Tripura	06.08.2024
4.		Telangana	06.08.2024
5.		Rajasthan	10.08.2024

Regional-Level Review and Consultation on Preventing School Dropouts and Re-engaging Out-of-School Children

As per Census 2011 data, approximately 8.4 crore children (aged 5–17 years) were not attending school. With regard to Out-of-School Children (OoSC) and their re-engagement in the education system, the Commission firmly believes that strong emphasis must be placed on identifying, understanding, and strengthening preventive mechanisms. All government programmes, policies, and interventions must be aligned with the objective of preventing children from dropping out of school: this being the first and most crucial step towards addressing school dropouts, non-enrolment, and irregular attendance.

Recognizing the seriousness of the issue, the Commission has conducted State and Regional level reviews and consultations across various States/UTs in India, focusing on strategies for preventing dropouts and re-integrating out-of-school children into the formal education system.

The details of these reviews and consultations are provided below:

S. No.	Activity Name	State / Region	Date
1.	Regional level review and consultation for preventing drop outs from schools and re-engaging out of school children.	Punjab (regional)	31.07.2024
2.		Madhya Pradesh (regional)	03.08.2024
3.		Jharkhand (regional)	20.9.2024

4.		Puducherry (regional)	25.09.2024
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National Review-cum-Consultation on Grievance Redressal Mechanisms under Section 32 of the RTE Act, 2009

A National Review-cum-Consultation on grievance redressal mechanisms developed in States/UTs under Section 32 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 was organized on 5th August 2024 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

As per Section 31 of the RTE Act, 2009, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has mandate to monitor the implementation of the Act. Among its responsibilities is the examination and review of safeguards for children's rights under the Act and the recommendation of measures to ensure their effective enforcement. Further, Section 32 of the Act provides that any person having a grievance related to a child's right under the Act may submit a written complaint to the local authority concerned.

To review the existing grievance redressal systems in various States/UTs and to deliberate on ways to enhance their effectiveness, the Commission convened this National Level Review-cum-Consultation with representatives from relevant stakeholders.

Campaign to prevent & combat child trafficking

NCPCR conducted a campaign titled “बाल तस्करी से आज़ादी 2.0” across 100 bordering and adjoining districts of India, aimed at preventing and combating child trafficking. The campaign culminated on 30th July 2024, observed as the *World Day Against Human Trafficking*.

Issues Pertaining to Child Health

Child health, care, and welfare are the cornerstones of a positive and fulfilling childhood. In India, health and nutrition services have been among the most significant interventions, yielding notable improvements in child health and nutrition indicators nationwide. These

services have successfully reached communities across the country, including the most remote habitations.

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme is the largest service delivery program for children aged 0–6 years, ensuring access to essential early childhood care, nutrition, and health services.

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), as mandated under Section 13 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, plays a crucial role in safeguarding children's access to these services. The Commission ensures accountability and strengthens service delivery through:

- Complaint redressal mechanisms
- Spot inquiries into violations of child health rights
- Suo-motu cognizance of reported concerns
- Awareness and outreach initiatives
- Events and programs promoting child health services

Rashtriya Poshan Maah, 2024

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) celebrated the 7th *Rashtriya Poshan Maah* in September 2024. The campaign emphasized key areas such as anaemia prevention, growth monitoring, improved service delivery through good governance and technology, the “Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi” initiative, and the provision of supplementary nutrition. To support this nationwide movement, NCPCR issued a letter dated 28.08.2024 to all State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs), encouraging them to actively celebrate *Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2024*. They were requested to organize social media awareness campaigns and conduct sensitization programmes on nutrition across their respective States/UTs.

National Review-cum-Consultation on the Implementation of the Joint Action Plan on Prevention of Drugs and Substance Abuse among Children and Illicit Trafficking

A National Level Review-cum-Consultation on the implementation of the *Joint Action Plan on Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse among Children and Combating Illicit Trafficking* was held on 30th June 2024. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), in collaboration with the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), organized this important event in observance of the *International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking*.

Shri Nityanand Rai, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He appreciated the collaborative efforts undertaken by the Commission and NCB to raise nationwide awareness on drug abuse prevention and the control of illicit drug trafficking. He also shared key insights and encouraged stakeholders to strengthen collective action to safeguard children from the dangers of substance abuse.

Consultative Meeting on Ensuring Medical Emergency Transport Facilities and Ambulances Equipped with Advanced Life Support Systems for Infants in India

To address the issue of reducing neonatal and infant mortality and to strengthen emergency medical transport services for newborns, NCPCR organized a consultative meeting on 26th April 2024 at 15:00 hrs at the Commission's office. Representatives from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, and Head of the Department of Neonatology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Jodhpur, participated in the discussions. Additionally, representatives from the Society for Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) and leading ambulance manufacturing companies were also present to deliberate on the required improvements in ambulance design and availability for neonatal emergency care.

Regional Convention on “Prevention of Children Infected and Affected with HIV/AIDS” in the North Eastern Region (NER)

A Regional Convention on “*Prevention of Children Infected and Affected with HIV/AIDS in the North Eastern Region*” was held on 06.08.2024. The meeting was chaired by the

Chairperson, NCPCR and co-chaired by Additional Secretary & Director General, National AIDS Control Organization (NACO).

The Convention witnessed participation from Chairpersons of State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) from the North Eastern States, along with senior officials from the Departments of Health, Women & Child Development/Social Welfare, and Education. Officials from key central ministries, including Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER), were also present.

Additionally, representatives from international organizations such as World Health Organization (WHO) and Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) joined the deliberations, contributing valuable technical insights on strengthening supportive mechanisms for children affected by HIV/AIDS in the region.

Prevention and Management of Sickle Cell Disease in Children

A consultative meeting on the prevention and management of sickle cell disease in children was held on 6th March 2025. The said meeting was chaired by the Member (Child Health), NCPCR, and attended by officials from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

The primary objective of the meeting was to discuss the prevalence of sickle cell disease and strategies for its effective prevention and management. The discussions emphasized:

- Early detection and screening
- Continuous monitoring and follow-up care
- Strengthening healthcare access, particularly in tribal and high-prevalence regions
- Policy-driven interventions
- Advancement of research and community awareness initiatives

Child-Friendly Mahakumbh - 2025

A meeting was organized by NCPCR on 25.07.2024 to strategize and discuss the implementation of child-friendly measures for the Mahakumbh Mela 2025 at Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, involving concerned ministries, State departments, and other key stakeholders. During the meeting, NCPCR's guidelines for creating a "*Child-Friendly Mela*" and ensuring zero tolerance towards any form of violation of child rights were shared and deliberated upon.

The district administration and the Mela Authority, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, presented the preparedness plan for Mahakumbh Mela 2025. Key discussions focused on:

- Strengthening child safety protocols
- Establishment of child-friendly zones, lost-and-found centers, and dedicated child help desks
- Installation of CCTV surveillance systems
- Leveraging advanced technology-such as Artificial Intelligence and facial recognition- to identify and prevent the entry of previously convicted child traffickers
- Ensuring availability of *Fit Facilities* as per Section 51 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
- Mandatory sittings of the Child Welfare Committees during the Mela period
- Additionally, it was recommended that affidavits be obtained from shopkeepers declaring "*No Child Labour*" at the time of allotment of stalls in the Mela premises.

Respiratory Issues in Children Due to Poor Air Quality in NCT of Delhi

NCPCR, exercising its powers under Section 13(1)(j) of the CPCRA Act, 2005, took *suo motu* cognizance of media reports highlighting a rise in respiratory issues among children due to deteriorating air quality in the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi. To deliberate on this emerging health emergency, a meeting was convened by the Member (Child Health), NCPCR on 13.11.2024.

Participants included representatives from the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), Directorate of Health Services, pediatricians, pulmonologists, and child-focused Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)/ Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs). The key focus areas were:

- To review the current situation, analyze data on respiratory cases of children,
- To discuss immediate and long-term strategies to mitigate health risks due to poor air quality in NCT of Delhi
- Formulate actionable recommendations, involving policy interventions and collaborative efforts, to protect children from the adverse effects of pollution and to improve overall air quality in Delhi.

Medical experts reported a notable rise in cases of asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, and viral infections among children—especially those under five years—who are more vulnerable due to their developing respiratory systems and higher exposure rates. Seasonal stubble burning in neighboring states was cited as a major contributing factor to this pollution spike.

Recognizing the importance of timely psychological intervention and emotional support for children, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) launched **SAMVEDNA** – *Sensitizing Action on Mental Health Vulnerability through Emotional Development and Necessary Acceptance* – a tele counseling Service on 19th September 2020. This toll-free tele-counselling service was introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic to assist children facing stress, anxiety, fear, and emotional challenges. The services are provided by a team of qualified experts, counsellors, and psychologists.

Initially aimed at supporting children affected by the pandemic, SAMVEDNA services were later extended to assist children experiencing exam-related anxiety, stress, and other overwhelming feelings. The helpline offers a safe and confidential environment for children to express their concerns and receive professional guidance.

- SAMVEDNA Toll-Free Helpline: 1800-121-2830
- Operational Hours: Monday to Saturday | 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM & 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Supportive Action with Holistic Approach to Build Resilience among the Children of Armed Martyrs (SAHARA)

SAHARA – *Supportive Action with Holistic Approach to Build Resilience among the children of Armed Forces Personnel* – is a tele-counselling initiative designed to provide emotional support, psychosocial first aid, and counselling services to the children of BSF and other Armed Forces personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty.

The initiative was launched on 19th February 2021 at the BSF Headquarters, jointly by the Director General, BSF and the Chairperson, NCPCR. SAHARA aims to strengthen access to psychological and socio-emotional assistance for children of martyrs from the Military, Paramilitary and Special Forces across India.

Objectives

- To assess the existing situation of children of martyrs and establish a dedicated desk at NCPCR for facilitating counselling and addressing issues related to education, health, and other constitutional rights and entitlements.
- To conduct motivational sessions, group counselling, and support the formation of peer support groups, ensuring accessibility to psychosocial assistance.
- To provide additional support concerning child rights issues under the CPC Act, 2005.

Two-Day Continuing Medical Education (CME) Programme on Child and Adolescent Mental Health – AIIMS New Delhi

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) participated in a two-day Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme on “Child and Adolescent Mental Health”, held from 8th–9th February 2025. The event was organized by the Indian Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health (IACAM) in collaboration with All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

This year’s theme, “Innovations in Interventions: Healing Minds and Nurturing Souls”, highlighted the latest advancements in psychological and pharmacological treatments designed to support children and adolescents dealing with mental health concerns. The programme provided a platform for experts, practitioners, and stakeholders to discuss

emerging strategies, evidence-based care approaches, and collaborative efforts toward strengthening child mental health systems in the country.

Meeting with Central Armed Police Forces on SAHARA Tele-Counselling Portal

A meeting was convened on 29th May 2024 at Conference Room, NCPCR. The officers from the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) were invited to discuss the expansion of SAHARA- NCPCR's tele-counselling initiative—ensuring accessible psychological support for children, along with redressal of issues related to education, health and overall welfare.



The meeting was attended by representatives from:

- Border Security Force (BSF)
- Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
- Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)
- Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)
- Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
- Assam Rifles (AR)

The key objective was to explore strategies for extending SAHARA's tele-counselling services to children across all CAPFs and to enhance access to emotional support and grievance redressal through the SAHARA Web Link.

CHAPTER 5

Elimination of Child Labour

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Child labour in any form is detrimental to the physical, mental, and cognitive growth and development of children. The Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 addresses this pressing social concern by prohibiting the employment of children below 14 years of age in all occupations, and by restricting the employment of adolescents (14–18 years) in hazardous occupations and processes. It also regulates working conditions where employment of adolescents is permitted.

Further legal safeguards include:

- Sections 22, 23, and 27 of the Factories Act, 1948, which prohibit the employment of children in specific factory operations,
- The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, which strictly prohibits child labour in the beedi and cigar industry,
- Section 25 of the Plantation Labour Act, 1951, which regulates the working conditions of children employed in plantation sector, and

As mandated under Sections 13 and 14 of the CPCR Act, 2005, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) actively addresses cases and complaints pertaining to child labour and children in distress. The Commission continues to undertake multiple initiatives, adopting both preventive and corrective approaches, to eliminate child labour and secure the rights and welfare of every child.

State-wise Online Trainings of District Task Forces under Section 17(c) of the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986

The Commission has identified significant gaps in the functioning of District Task Forces (DTFs) constituted under the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Rules, 2017. As mandated, every district must have a DTF, chaired by the District Magistrate, responsible for the rescue, rehabilitation, and compensation of children and

adolescents engaged in labour. The Online Pan-India Training Programs were conducted for DTFs.

The Commission observed the following key challenges during the Pan India training programmes:

- Several States/UTs had not constituted DTFs as required under the Rules.
- In many cases, the functioning of DTF needed improvement.
- These gaps resulted in delays in rescue operations, slowed rehabilitation efforts, and lapses in the timely disbursement of compensation to the rescued children.

In response, the Commission organized State and District-wise training programs for District Task Forces from May 3 to May 21, 2024. The details of the meetings are given below:

S.No	States	Date
1.	Punjab	03.05.2024
2.	Chandigarh	
3.	Haryana	
4.	Delhi	03.05.2024
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	06.05.2024
6.	Himachal Pradesh	
7.	Uttarakhand	
8.	Uttar Pradesh	07.05.2024
9.	Bihar	09.05.2024
10.	Jharkhand	
11.	Odisha	
12.	Chhattisgarh	09.05.2024
13.	West Bengal	10.05.2024

14.	Goa	10.05.2024
15.	Maharashtra	
16.	Manipur	14.05.2024
17.	Meghalaya	
18.	Sikkim	
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	
20.	Mizoram	14.05.2024
21.	Nagaland	
22.	Tripura	
23.	Assam	
24.	Andhra Pradesh	16.05.2024
25.	Karnataka	
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	
27.	Lakshadweep	
28.	Rajasthan	16.05.2024
29.	Madhya Pradesh	
30.	Daman & Diu	
31.	Gujarat	
32.	Kerala	21.05.2024
33.	Tamil Nadu	
34.	Telangana	21.05.2024
35.	Puducherry	

Review Meetings of District Task Forces under Section 17(c) of the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986

As mentioned earlier, the Commission has identified several critical gaps in the functioning of District Task Forces (DTFs). The effective functioning of DTFs is essential for achieving the objectives of rescuing and rehabilitating children, as well as ensuring the provision of compensation to children and adolescents engaged in labour.

To assess and strengthen the performance of DTFs, the Commission conducted Online Pan-India Review Meetings with District Task Forces:

First Round: September 2024

S.No.	States	No. of Districts	Date
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26	02.09.2024
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	26	02.09.2024
3.	Assam	35	03.09.2024
4.	Bihar	38	03.09.2024
5.	Chhattisgarh	33	04.09.2024
6.	Gujarat	33	04.09.2024
7.	Haryana	22	05.09.2024
8.	Jharkhand	24	05.09.2024
9.	Goa	2	06.09.2024
10.	Kerala	14	06.09.2024
11.	Madhya Pradesh	45	09.09.2024
12.	Uttar Pradesh	75	10.09.2024
13.	Himachal Pradesh	12	11.09.2024
14.	Maharashtra	36	11.09.2024
15.	Sikkim	6	11.09.2024
16.	Karnataka	31	12.09.2024
17.	Manipur	16	12.09.2024
18.	Tripura	8	12.09.2024
19.	Meghalaya	12	13.09.2024
20.	Mizoram	11	13.09.2024
21.	Odisha	30	13.09.2024
22.	Rajasthan	50	17.09.2024
23.	Tamil Nadu	38	18.09.2024
24.	Telangana	33	19.09.2024

25.	Nagaland	16	20.09.2024
26.	Punjab	23	20.09.2024
27.	Uttarakhand	13	20.09.2024
28.	West Bengal	23	20.09.2024
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	3	23.09.2024
30.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	3	23.09.2024
31.	Delhi	11	23.09.2024
32.	Ladakh	2	23.09.2024
33.	Lakshadweep	1	23.09.2024
34.	Puducherry	4	23.09.2024
35.	Jammu and Kashmir	20	24.09.2024
36.	Chandigarh	1	24.09.2024

Second Round: February – April 2025

S.No.	State	District	Date
1	Andhra Pradesh	26	17.02.2025
2	Arunachal Pradesh	26	18.02.2025
3	Assam	35	19.02.2025
4	Bihar	38	20.02.2025
5	Chhattisgarh	33	21.02.2025
6	Gujarat	33	24.02.2025
7	Haryana	22	25.02.2025
8	Jharkhand	24	27.02.2025
9	Goa	02	28.02.2025
10	Sikkim	06	28.02.2025
11	Tripura	08	28.02.2025
12	Kerala	14	03.03.2025

13	Madhya Pradesh	45	04.03.2025
14	Uttar Pradesh	75	05.03.2025
15	Himachal Pradesh	12	06.03.2025
16	Maharashtra	36	07.03.2025
17	Karnataka	31	10.03.2025
18	Manipur	16	11.03.2025
19	Meghalaya	12	12.03.2025
20	Mizoram	11	13.03.2024
21	Odisha	30	17.03.2025
22	Rajasthan	50	18.03.2025
23	Tamil Nadu	38	19.03.2025
24	Telangana	33	20.03.2025
25	Nagaland	16	21.03.2025
26	Punjab	23	24.03.2025
27	Uttarakhand	13	25.03.2025
28	West Bengal	23	26.03.2025

S.No.	State	District	Date
1	Andaman and Nicobar Island	3	27.03.2025
2	Chandigarh	1	28.03.2025
3	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	3	01.04.2025
4	Delhi	11	02.04.2025
5	Ladakh	2	03.04.2025
6	Lakshadweep	1	04.04.2025
7	Jammu and Kashmir	20	07.04.2025
8	Puducherry	4	08.04.2025

These review meetings aimed to evaluate progress in enforcement, address bottlenecks in rescue and rehabilitation mechanisms, and ensure effective compliance with the provisions of the Act.

Pan-India Rescue Operations

The Commission conducted a Pan-India Rescue Campaign from January to December 2024, during which 324 FIRs were registered, covering 5,778 cases related to child and adolescent labour. Further, during the first quarter of 2025 (January–March 2025), 629 children and adolescents were rescued and 57 FIRs were filed. In total, 11,046 cases of rescued children and adolescents have been recorded to date, reflecting the Commission's continued efforts toward the elimination of child labour and the protection of children's rights.

Rescue and Rehabilitation of Children in Street Situations (CiSS)

In 2021, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, in *SMWP (C) No. 6/2021 — In Re: Children in Street Situations*, took *suo motu* cognizance of the plight of Children in Street Situations (CiSS). The Apex Court directed all States and Union Territories to identify, rescue, and rehabilitate such children and to upload their details on the Baal Swaraj Portal–CiSS for necessary follow-up and support.

To ensure strict compliance with these directions, the Commission has been actively engaged in facilitating rescue operations for CiSS children across the country in coordination with concerned State authorities. These efforts aim to secure their rights to care, protection, education, and rehabilitation, in alignment with the mandates of child welfare laws and the orders of the Hon'ble Court.

Initiative of NCPDR for Elimination of Rag Picking by Children and Ensuring Their Rehabilitation

Children engaged in rag picking constitute a significant portion of child and adolescent labour, exposing them to hazardous environments and depriving them of education,

safety, and dignity. Recognizing the urgency to protect their rights, the Commission has taken proactive steps to eliminate rag picking by children and initiate sustainable rehabilitation measures. The Commission emphasized the need for a secure and promising future for children and families dependent on rag picking. To ensure fair income and reduce exploitation by intermediaries, the Commission recommended the establishment of rag pickers' cooperatives, enabling them to receive just and market-aligned payments for recyclable materials.

In pursuit of this objective, the Commission held consultations with multiple stakeholders, including:

- Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)
- State and District Authorities
- NGOs and Civil Society Organizations
- Experts in Cooperatives and Recycling from Delhi, Mumbai, and Thane

As a result of these collaborative efforts:

- The Bhopal Rag Pickers Cooperative Society was established in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, in February 2024
- The Thane Rag Pickers Child Bahuddeshiya Vaitar Sahakari Sanstha Maryadit was formed in Thane, Maharashtra, in October 2024

These initiatives mark a crucial step toward eliminating child rag picking and ensuring structured rehabilitation for affected children, including access to education, health, and social protection.

Rescue and Rehabilitation of Child Labour (RRCL Portal)

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is also overseeing the Pan India Rescue and Rehabilitation of Child Labour (RRCL) Portal, which serves as a centralized database for documenting the rescue and rehabilitation of children and adolescents affected by child labour during the Pan-India campaign.

The RRCL Portal has been specifically developed to track, monitor, and manage every rescued child or adolescent until their full rehabilitation. It enables relevant authorities—including labour departments and district task forces—to upload and update comprehensive case details, such as personal information, rescue circumstances, rehabilitation status, and follow-up actions.

By ensuring real-time data availability and coordination among stakeholders, the RRCL Portal plays a crucial role in strengthening accountability and ensuring long-term protection for rescued children.



From September 2020 to August 2024, the Commission received 19,572 complaints related to the compensation and rehabilitation of child and adolescent labour victims. Out of these, 1,500 children have already received ₹20,000 each as immediate compensation, including back wages and penalties imposed on employers as per the law. For the remaining cases, NCPCR has issued directives to the respective District Authorities, and the process is currently underway to ensure that all eligible children receive their entitled compensation in a timely manner.

CHAPTER 6

North East Cell

CHAPTER 6

NORTH EAST CELL

North East India is one of the most significant regions of the country, comprising eight States - Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, and Sikkim. The region is characterized by diverse topography, presenting unique challenges across each of the eight States. Strategically positioned as the gateway to South East Asia, North East India has been recognized as a key growth engine for the nation.

The region shares porous international borders with countries such as China, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, and Tibet, making it critical from a national security and geopolitical perspective. The population in the North Eastern States is predominantly tribal, and has a legacy of rich cultural heritage and natural resources.

In recent years, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Union Government has undertaken concerted efforts to bridge the developmental gap between the North Eastern Region (NER) and the rest of the country, fostering an environment of inclusion, growth, and progress on all fronts. The region has been accorded top national priority within the Prime Minister's transformative reform agenda.

Child rights face unique set of challenges in North Eastern region. To build a strong, productive, and future-ready generation of children and youth, a comprehensive and multi-sectoral approach has been adopted by NCPCR. The Commission strengthened the protective ecosystem for children in the North Eastern Region (NER) with focused interventions across key domains such as child health, education, psychological and social well-being, juvenile justice, prevention of child labour, and effective implementation of child-related laws and policies.

In alignment with the norms of the Government of India, the Commission has been earmarking 10% of its total budget annually for undertaking activities in the North Eastern Region (NER).

Since the establishment of the Commission, the importance of focusing on NER has been well acknowledged. Over a time, particularly from 2016–17 onwards addressing issues concerning children in the NER has emerged as a priority agenda for the Commission, leading to more structured, impactful, and scalable initiatives in the region.

The Commission has evolved from occasional involvement in the region to implementing strategic and result-oriented initiatives in the North Eastern Region. Activities across various thematic areas have expanded significantly, reflecting a multi-fold increase in outreach and impact. There has been an exponential rise in structured efforts, backed by strengthened financial commitments. The approved Grant-in-Aid has increased from ₹51.4 lakh to ₹2.5 crore in FY 2023–24, which is a fivefold increase.

The Commission has consistently undertaken initiatives at the grassroots level in collaboration with local organizations across the North Eastern Region. These efforts include periodic sensitization workshops, seminars, conventions, review meetings, and research initiatives focusing on various thematic areas of child rights and child protection. Through its District and State-level engagements, the Commission has reached out to a wide spectrum of stakeholders, including children living in remote and border areas, displaced and hard-to-access tribal communities, disaster-prone regions, and minority populations across the NER.

In the financial Year 2024-25 following activities have been undertaken by the North East Cell of the Commission:

1. State-Level Sensitization Programme for Prevention of Child Marriages

Child marriage remains a widespread challenge in India and is rooted in diverse and complex socio-economic and cultural factors. It is a grave social menace and a gross violation of child rights and human rights, as guaranteed under the Constitution of India. This harmful practice not only jeopardizes children's health, education, and sexual and reproductive rights but also becomes a major barrier to their overall growth and development. A multi-dimensional and rights-based approach is, therefore, essential to

create a safe and enabling environment for adolescent girls to make informed decisions about their future.

While legislative measures such as the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA), 2006 criminalize the practice and establish mechanisms for prevention and prosecution, enforcement challenges persist.

The North Eastern Region (NER) has also reported a significant number of child marriage cases. In response, the North East Cell of the Commission has organized multiple State-Level Sensitization Workshops on the Prevention of Child Marriages across NER. These initiatives aim to build awareness, promote preventive strategies, and reinforce the role of key stakeholders in tackling this social evil. Adopting a multi-stakeholder convergent approach, the Commission has brought together government departments, child protection authorities, civil society organizations, and community representatives to foster a coordinated and impactful response.



Through these efforts, the Commission strives to protect children's rights and contribute towards a future where every child can grow, learn, and thrive with dignity and freedom.

Following State level workshops on child marriages were conducted by NE Cell in FY' 2024-25 viz.:

S. No.	State	District	Activity Date
1.	Assam	Guwahati	03-10-24
2.	Meghalaya	Shillong	07-10-24
3.	Nagaland	Kohima	09-10-24
4.	Tripura	Agartala	07-10-24

2. State-Level Sensitization Workshop on the Provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, including Amendments of 2016 and Rules of 2017

A one-day State-level Sensitization Workshop on the provisions of the *Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986*, along with its subsequent amendments in 2016 and the *Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2017*, was organized by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in collaboration with the respective State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR).

Child labour in the North-Eastern Region (NER) of India, similar to other parts of the country, remains a pressing concern driven by multiple socio-economic factors. The socio economic conditions in NER leads to child labour. These vulnerabilities often lead to children being engaged in various forms of labour, particularly in sectors such as agriculture, domestic work, small-scale industries, brick kilns, and informal commercial establishments.



In view of these challenges and in line with the Commission's mandate under Section 13(1)(h) of the *Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005*; it was considered essential to enhance awareness and build the capacity of key stakeholders regarding the *Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986*, along with its Amendment Act of 2016 and the Amendment Rules of 2017. Accordingly, the North East Cell of the Commission organized State-level sensitization workshops in the NER as follows:

S.No.	State	District	Activity Date
1.	Assam	Guwahati	01-10-2024
2.	Manipur	Imphal	03-10-2024
3.	Meghalaya	Shillong	04-10-2024
4.	Mizoram	Aizawl	08-10-2024
5.	Nagaland	Kohima	09-10-2024
6.	Sikkim	Gangtok	08-10-2024
7.	Tripura	Agartala	03-10-2024

3. One Day State Level Consultation on the Prevention of Children Being Affected and Infected with HIV & AIDS

Children affected or infected by HIV are often at risk of abuse, neglect, stigmatization, and isolation from essential services such as education, healthcare, and social protection. Ensuring their well-being requires immediate, sustained interventions that focus on equal access to opportunities and protection of their rights as endorsed by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Considering the gravity of the issue, the Commission organized a State-level Sensitization Workshop on the

Prevention of Children Being Affected and Infected with HIV & AIDS on 8th October, 2024.

4. State-level Sensitization Workshops on the salient provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 along with the Model Amendment Rules, 2022

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Model Amendment Rules, 2022 reinforce a child-friendly, rehabilitative, and rights-based juvenile justice system, ensuring the care, protection, rehabilitation, and social reintegration of every child. Recognizing the need for awareness and capacity building among frontline stakeholders in the NE Region, the Commission organized State-level Sensitization Workshops on the salient provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 along with the Model Amendment Rules, 2022 in the following States:

No.	State	District	Date
1.	Assam	Guwahati	03-10-2024
2.	Meghalaya	Shillong	07-10-2024
3.	Mizoram	Aizawl	10-10-2024
4.	Sikkim	Gangtok	04-10-2024
5.	Tripura	Agartala	03-10-2024

5. State Level Consultation on Available Schemes for Malnourished & Stunted Children Situation of the Health Scenario in North East India

According to the *India Health Report: Nutrition, 2015*—jointly prepared by the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and released by the then Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Shri J.P. Nadda—the overall nutrition indicators in the North Eastern Region (NER) reflect challenges. In the areas of stunting and wasting, some of the North Eastern States have below national average figure.

To review and strengthen the existing schemes and services for malnourished and stunted children in high-prevalence districts of the North East, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) organized a One-Day Consultation-cum-Review Meeting with concerned departments and stakeholders.

Key objectives of the consultation included:

- Identifying major gaps in the implementation of nutrition-related schemes
- Enhancing inter-departmental convergence for improved service delivery
- Strengthening monitoring mechanisms for child health indicators
- Ensuring targeted outreach in vulnerable districts

Many of these identified districts also fall under Aspirational Districts recognized by NITI Aayog, further emphasizing the need for focused policy attention and accelerated development efforts.

The Key Objectives of holding such consultation were the following:

- To know about the existing scheme policies and program in the Districts to tackle the issue of malnutrition
- To understand the status of nutrition in the Districts
- To ensure nutritious and hygienic food for children through the available mechanism
- To identify the gaps in the implementation of policies and program in the state to tackle the issue of malnutrition programs
- To address the social, economic and environmental factors leading to malnutrition



Following stakeholders at the State level attended the said workshop:

- Department of Women and Child Development
- Department of Health and Family Welfare
- Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation
- Civil Society Organizations
- Non-Government Organization
- International Organization; UNICEF, WHO
- State Food Commission
- Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights
- Assam Coalition for Food and Nutrition Security
- Panchayat Representatives
- Anganwadi Workers, ANM and ASHA
- District Medical Officer
- District Education Officer

Following have been noted during consultations:

- Establish a District Advisory Body on Nutrition to coordinate and monitor nutrition-related interventions.
- Significant positive improvements have been recorded in the Aspirational Districts of Darrang, Dhubri, and Goalpara in Assam.
- Enhance the nutritional quality of state-sponsored meal schemes, such as the Mid-Day Meal and Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs), particularly in regions with a high prevalence of severe malnutrition.
- Strengthen and expand Village Health and Nutrition Day (VHND) initiatives, along with community-based awareness campaigns to promote better nutrition practices.
- Improve existing policies and programmes through capacity building, training, and awareness initiatives for frontline workers and stakeholders.

- Encourage multi-sector partnerships to adopt and support specific high-burden districts to combat malnutrition more effectively.
- Develop a robust institutional mechanism to address malnutrition and contributing socio-economic and health-related factors.
- Promote sustainable agricultural practices, including kitchen gardens and dry-land farming, to ensure access to nutritious food at the household level.
- Ensure ration card access for migrant populations to reduce vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition.

The said State level workshop was organised at following locations:

S. NO	STATE	DISTRICT	DATE
1.	Arunachal pradesh	Itanagar	04-10-24
2.	Assam	Guwahati	27-09-24
3.	Meghalaya	Shillong	03-10-24
4.	Mizoram	Aizwal	08-10-24
5.	Sikkim	Gangtok	01-10-24
6.	Tripura	Agartala	07-10-24

6. State Level Consultation-cum-Review Meeting on “Rehabilitation and Counselling Approaches for Children in Child Care Institutions — Children in Need of Care & Protection (CNCP) and Observation Homes — Children in Conflict with Law (CCL)”

Children, as citizens of the country, are entitled to specific fundamental rights and protections. Their distinct developmental needs and inherent vulnerabilities require focused and age-appropriate interventions throughout their journey to adulthood. Every child who enters the juvenile justice system is a child in difficult circumstances—one who has slipped through the protective safety net due to adverse social, economic, or

environmental factors. These children are often deprived of a safe, nurturing, and supportive environment essential for their overall growth and well-being.

Children in Conflict with Law (CCL), in particular, must be viewed primarily as victims of circumstance rather than perpetrators of wrongdoing. The juvenile justice system must therefore adopt a child-centric and rehabilitative approach. Its primary goal should be to identify and address the underlying vulnerabilities, ensure effective rehabilitation, and reintegrate these children into society as responsible and empowered individuals.

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 emphasizes institutional care as a measure of last resort. Where institutionalization becomes necessary, it must be ensured that such care is always in the best interest of the child, with a focus on education, rehabilitation, and eventual reintegration into society. All children—regardless of the nature of the alleged or committed offence—must be treated with respect, dignity, and compassion, with attention placed on their strengths, potential, and developmental needs.

Studies highlight that the most effective way to prevent the recurrence of offending behavior among children is through active involvement of children in their own rehabilitation process, rather than treating them as troublemakers or subjects of punitive action. Acknowledging and upholding their rights as children and as human beings is the foundational principle guiding such interventions. Even when placed in institutional care and deprived of liberty, children continue to be entitled to all rights guaranteed under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015. Ensuring standard-based care and rehabilitation is, therefore, a collective responsibility of the government authorities, Child Care Institutions (CCIs), and all professionals engaged in child care and protection.

The human resource personnel working in CCIs are required to possess a broad set of skills to take care for and support children coming from adverse and challenging circumstances. Empathy, compassion, and trauma-informed care are essential to understand and respond to the emotional and psychological needs of children who may

have experienced abuse, neglect, or exploitation. Effective communication, behavioral management and conflict resolution abilities are crucial to maintaining a safe and nurturing environment.

Personnel must also be equipped with basic counselling skills, enabling them to provide immediate emotional support and refer children to mental health professionals where required. They must uphold child protection norms, respect cultural diversity, and ensure inclusive practices within the institution. In addition, teamwork, accurate documentation, and adaptability are vital for functioning efficiently within multidisciplinary settings and addressing the evolving needs of children in CCIs.

Key Objectives of the Consultation

The consultation aimed to strengthen rehabilitation and counselling systems for children housed in Child Care Institutions (CCIs), including children in need of care and protection (CNCP) and children in conflict with law (CCL). The specific objectives were to:

- **Assess the availability and capacity of counsellors** and review the current counselling and rehabilitation services provided by counsellors and rehabilitation-cum-placement officers across juvenile and children's homes.
- **Enhance understanding and orientation** of counsellors and relevant CCI personnel on the statutory provisions related to rehabilitation, counselling, and re-integration under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Model Rules, 2016.
- **Promote stakeholder collaboration** to strengthen referral mechanisms and foster the exchange of best practices for interventions across all Child Care Institutions (CCIs).

S. No	State	Date
1.	MANIPUR	01-10-24
2.	NAGALAND	04-10-24
3.	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	04-10-24
4.	TRIPURA	04-10-24
5.	MIZORAM	09-10-24
6.	SIKKIM	27-09-24

Stakeholders:

Officers of State Department of WCD/Social Welfare, Superintendents, Wardens, Case Workers, Counsellors of various Child Care Institutions, District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Civil Society Organizations actively working on Child Rights.

Outcomes / Recommendations

The consultation led to the following key recommendations aimed at improving counselling, rehabilitation, and reintegration services for children residing in Child Care Institutions (CCIs):

- (1) **Comprehensive documentation and review** of counselling services in all CCIs, including an assessment of the availability, qualifications, and practices of counsellors, in alignment with the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.
- (2) **Capacity building for counsellors and superintendents** through enhanced orientation and training on the rehabilitation and counselling provisions under the JJ Act, 2015 and Model Rules. Emphasis shall be placed on effective use of Individual Care Plans (ICPs) to ensure customized and need-based interventions for each child.

- (3) **Establishment of a networked referral system** to support holistic rehabilitation of both Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) and Children in Conflict with Law (CCL). This includes linking CCIs with district-level medical facilities, mental health services, educational institutions, and vocational training centers.
- (4) **Strengthening accountability and monitoring mechanisms** to ensure counsellors deliver consistent, trauma-informed, and child-centric support to children identified as being at risk in CCIs.

7. State Level Sensitization Workshop on Support Persons for victims of sexual offences.

In compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in "*We the Women of India vs. Union of India & Ors., W.P. (C) No. 1156/2021* and *Bachpan Bachao Andolan vs. Union of India, W.P. No. 427/2022*", the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has drafted the "**Model Guidelines with respect to Support Persons under Section 39 of the POCSO Act, 2012.**"

Section 39 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 highlights the essential role of Support Persons in ensuring emotional, psychological, and procedural support to child victims throughout legal proceedings. These professionals create a protective environment for children, many of whom have experienced severe trauma, helping them navigate complex justice mechanisms with dignity and sensitivity.

The primary objective of appointing Support Persons under the POCSO Act, 2012 is to ensure that child victims receive continuous emotional,



psychological, and procedural support throughout the investigation and trial process. These professionals play a vital role in helping child victims understand and cope with the legal system, thereby empowering them to provide accurate testimony against the accused without added trauma.

By prioritizing the child's comfort, dignity, and best interest, Support Persons serve as a critical link in ensuring justice, recovery, and long-term rehabilitation. Ensuring proper rehabilitation is not only a statutory obligation but also an essential step toward securing the holistic protection and well-being of every child affected by sexual offences.

Recognizing the critical nature of this support, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has clarified that:

- The availability of a Support Person must be communicated to the child's parents/guardians in all cases.
- The State is obligated to provide a Support Person for every POCSO victim.
- Appointment of a Support Person cannot be optional unless the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) records valid reasons.
- Familiarity and trust between the child and the support person remain paramount.

These guidelines have been carefully designed to incorporate all essential components and establish a clear mechanism for appointing and engaging Support Persons as mandated under Section 39 of the POCSO Act, 2012. They seek to address existing ambiguities regarding roles, responsibilities, and procedural steps while ensuring uniformity in implementation across the country.



Additionally, the guidelines define:

- Standard educational qualifications and competencies for Support Persons
- Duration and continuity of engagement with the child
- Appropriate remuneration structures and accountability measures

In order to sensitize the concerned stakeholders at the State level, NCPCR organised a one-day “State Level Workshops on NCPCR’s Guidelines for Support Persons as per Section 39 of the POCSO Act, 2012” in the following States:

S. No	State	Date
1.	Meghalaya	01-10-2024
2.	Sikkim	04-10-2024
3.	Assam	08-10-2024
4.	Mizoram	10-10-2024

CHAPTER 7

Ghar Portal

CHAPTER 7

Ghar Portal

The Commission is mandated to monitor the proper and effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and its corresponding Rules. The JJ Act, 2015 is a comprehensive legislation that lays down essential principles, procedures, and child protection structures designed to safeguard children who are vulnerable, victims of crime, affected by conflict, missing, or runaway. Since, the enforcement of the JJ Act, 2015 and its Rules, 2016, several operational challenges and gaps have been identified, particularly in the rehabilitation and reintegration of children. To address these concerns- especially those obstructing the repatriation process and the timely restoration of children to their families or relatives- the Commission has developed the Protocol for Restoration and Repatriation of Children and introduced the GHAR (Go Home and Reunite) Portal.

These initiatives aim to streamline repatriation procedures, enhance inter-agency coordination, and ensure that the maximum number of children are safely restored to a family-based environment, in alignment with the best interests of the child. The first step for achieving above is to repatriate children to CCI's to their native district or nearby.

It is further stated that the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Model Amendment Rules, 2022 of [Rule 81(5A), 81(5B), and 81(5C)], mandate the Commission to develop protocols for repatriation of children—specifying the procedures through which children belonging to different states or districts are to be restored to their native places and reunite with their families, relatives, or guardians.

In compliance with these provisions, the Commission has formulated a comprehensive Protocol for Restoration and Repatriation of Children under the Juvenile Justice system. To ensure digital monitoring, transparency, and timely intervention in the repatriation process, the GHAR (Go Home and Reunite) Portal has been developed to track each child's progress until successful family-based restoration.

On the occasion of Child Rights Day, celebrated on 20th November 2022, the Commission launched 03 significant initiatives: the Training Modules for Child Welfare Committees, the Protocol for Restoration and Repatriation of Children, and the GHAR – (Go Home and Reunite Portal). During the launch event, detailed discussions were held, and District Child Protection Officers (DCPOs) and Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) were sensitized on the provisions of the Protocol as well as the operational framework and functioning of the GHAR Portal.

The main features of the portal are as follows:

- Digital tracking and monitoring of children within the Juvenile Justice system who are required to be repatriated to another State or District.
- Digital transfer of case files to the concerned JJB/CWC or State Child Protection Society (SCPS), ensuring faster and more efficient repatriation.
- Provision for requesting a translator, interpreter, or subject matter expert from the relevant State when required for the child's case.
- Continuous monitoring by CWCs to ensure proper restoration and rehabilitation through digital progress tracking.
- Checklist formats to help identify children who are unable to return home due to various constraints, or those who are not receiving entitled compensation and other benefits.
- Access to a comprehensive list of government schemes, enabling CWCs to link children and their families to welfare support during restoration, thereby strengthening the family and reducing the risk of re-separation.

The Commission, in compliance with its responsibilities under the GHAR Portal Protocol, is required to submit quarterly reports to the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. In this regard, 04 (four) Internal Committee meetings were held on 27th May 2024, 21st August 2024, 21st November 2024, and

20th February 2025 to review and assess the progress made since the inception of the GHAR – “Go Home and Reunite” portal of NCPCR. Accordingly, four quarterly reports have been submitted to the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Also, letters were issued to the District Collectors of all States/UTs on 03rd April 2024 and 21st October 2024, requesting their support in directing stakeholders to upload the required data of children on the GHAR Portal.

Details of CNCP Children uploaded by States Governments in the GHAR (Go Home And Reunite) PORTAL

S. No.	States	Number of Children Repatriated by the States from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	00
3.	Assam	139
4.	Bihar	63
5.	Chhattisgarh	533
6.	Goa	00
7.	Gujarat	12
8.	Haryana	16
9.	Himachal Pradesh	02
10.	Jharkhand	03
11.	Karnataka	256
12.	Kerala	16

S. No.	States	Number of Children Repatriated by the States from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.
13.	Madhya Pradesh	121
14.	Maharashtra	353
15.	Manipur	00
16.	Meghalaya	02
17.	Mizoram	01
18.	Nagaland	00
19.	Odisha	05
20.	Punjab	06
21.	Rajasthan	20
22.	Sikkim	00
23.	Tamil Nadu	181
24.	Telangana	127
25.	Tripura	00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	74
27.	Uttarakhand	01
28.	West Bengal	371
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	01
30.	Chandigarh	22

S. No.	States	Number of Children Repatriated by the States from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	01
32.	Delhi	141
33.	Jammu & Kashmir	03
34.	Ladakh	02
35.	Lakshwadeep	00
36.	Puducherry	00
	Total	2509

CHAPTER 8
Laws Relating to Children
(Child Marriage, POCSO Act)

CHAPTER 8

Laws Relating to Children (Child Marriage, POCSO Act)

The Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) program, initiated by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), aims to proactively identify and eliminate online sexual content involving children, thereby safeguarding their rights in the digital space. As part of this initiative, NCPCR has issued notices to major social media platforms, including YouTube, Instagram, and Facebook, expressing concerns over the presence and circulation of such illegal content on their platforms.

In response, representatives of these platforms have held discussions with the Chairperson of NCPCR to develop effective mechanisms for the detection and reporting of CSAM, in compliance with Section 19 of the POCSO Act, 2012. The coordination between NCPCR and digital platforms is process of a proactive and collective approach for the Commission to addressing online sexual abuse, ensuring stricter adherence to legal provisions and enhanced protection of children's rights in cyberspace.

Prevention of Child Marriages

The Commission undertook a proactive initiative to prevent the occurrence of child marriages, particularly during significant occasions such as *Akshaya Tritiya*. Accordingly, a formal communication dated 11.03.2024 was issued to the Principal Secretaries of all States/UTs, requesting them to direct the District Magistrates/Collectors and Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (CMPOs) in every district to implement specific preventive measures. They were also instructed to submit district-wise action taken reports from CMPOs to the Commission for monitoring and evaluation.

1. Virtual Review Meeting

The Commission, as the apex body for child rights and in pursuance of its functions outlined under Section 13(1) (a) of the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, conducted virtual review meetings with District officials and Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (CMPOs). As CMPOs play a crucial role in preventing child marriages under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, the Commission aimed to ensure their active engagement and timely intervention.

To ensure maximum coverage and participation across the country, these meetings were organized online. The Commission conducted 30 virtual meetings with officials from 784 districts across 36 States/UTs between 1st April and 23rd April 2024, to review the preventive actions undertaken by district authorities to curb child marriage through various activities such as identification of vulnerable children, awareness programmes etc.

The Commission received data of above mentioned activities from 596 districts across 28 States and 8 Union Territories through the Child Marriage Portal of the Commission (ncpcr.gov.in/childmarriage). Furthermore, among the 28 States and 8 Union Territories, Goa and Ladakh have not submitted information.

2. Dissemination of Awareness Videos on the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 on 24.06.2024.

In alignment with its mandate under Section 13 of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) undertook a national initiative to disseminate awareness videos on the key provisions of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006. Developed by the Commission to promote legal awareness and public sensitization, these videos were circulated across all States and Union Territories, reaching District, Block, Panchayat, School, and Child Care Institution (CCI) levels.

The primary objective of this initiative was to strengthen community understanding of the legal safeguards against child marriage and to mobilize collective action for its prevention.

Standard Operating Procedure for Prevention of Child Marriages (06.12.2024)

In view of the persistent challenges in preventing child marriages across the country, the Commission developed a detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for stakeholders involved in the prevention and response to child marriage cases in India. This SoP was formulated based on the insights gathered from 30 virtual review meetings held in April 2024 with officials from 784 districts across 36 States and Union Territories.

The SoP clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder and provides a structured framework for timely reporting, preventive intervention, registration of FIRs, rescue and care of victims, and rehabilitation measures. It further emphasizes coordination between departments and continuous monitoring to ensure effective implementation.

The document has been disseminated to all States and Union Territories for implementation at the grassroots level—District, Block, Panchayat, School, and institutional systems—with the aim of establishing a unified and robust mechanism to eliminate child marriages and ensure the protection and welfare of children.

Initiatives taken to strengthen implementation POCSO Act, 2012

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 is a comprehensive, gender-neutral statutory framework in India designed to safeguard minors (anyone under 18) from sexual abuse, assault, and pornography while mandating child-friendly legal procedures and time-bound trials. However, its implementation is heavily bottlenecked by a massive judicial backlog, leading to low conviction rates and high trial pendency that far exceed the Act's statutory timelines. On the ground, the system faces severe infrastructural gaps, such as an inadequate

number of exclusive Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs), forensic labs, and trained female police officers, compounded by deep-rooted societal stigma, a lack of standardized support persons, and the frequent hostile retraction of testimonies under familial or social duress.

1. Dissemination of Awareness Videos on POCSO Act, 2012 on 08.07.2024

In alignment with its mandate under Section 13(h) of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005; the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) developed a series of awareness videos focusing on critical provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. These videos aim to strengthen public understanding of the law and enhance child protection literacy among stakeholders and communities.

On 08.07.2024, the videos were officially shared with the Principal Secretaries of the Women and Child Development Departments of all States and Union Territories, with directions for their extensive dissemination across districts, blocks, panchayats, schools, and childcare institutions. States and UTs were also requested to furnish a detailed action taken report within fifteen days of issuance. This initiative underscores the Commission's continuous efforts to promote awareness, empower frontline stakeholders, and reinforce preventive mechanisms against child sexual abuse at the grassroots level.

2. Meeting with Social Media Platforms on Child Rights

On 13th August 2024, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) convened a meeting with key representatives from major social media platforms including Meta, Google, YouTube, Snapchat, ShareChat, X (formerly Twitter), Reddit, and Bumble. The objective of this meeting was to deliberate on emerging concerns related to online child safety, harmful content, and safeguarding child rights in the digital environment.

The discussion emphasized the shared responsibilities of digital service providers in preventing the circulation of content that violates child rights, enhancing reporting mechanisms, ensuring timely removal of prohibited material, and strengthening compliance with legal provisions such as the POCSO Act, 2012 and Information Technology Act 2000 , (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. This engagement marks a proactive step towards establishing stronger accountability, cross-platform coordination, and a safer digital ecosystem for children across the country.

3. Meeting with regard to Baal Swaraj – POCSO Tracking Portal

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), in collaboration with the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), developed the POCSO Tracking Portal under the *Baal Swaraj* platform in 2022 to digitally monitor the progress of cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. Despite its launch, various operational challenges and gaps have been identified in ensuring optimal utilization by field functionaries. To address these issues and strengthen the system, a hybrid review meeting was organized on 18th February 2025 with participation from approximately 279 stakeholders, including members of Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) and District Child Protection Units (DCPUs) from across the country.

The meeting focused on:

- Enhancing the real-time tracking and monitoring of POCSO cases from reporting to final disposal.
- Streamlining coordination among District Authorities for timely victim compensation and access to rehabilitation services.
- Strengthening accountability and documentation through digital records.

This initiative reinforces the Commission's mandate to ensure effective implementation of the POCSO Act, while supporting victims through a transparent and responsive monitoring framework.

4. Follow-up Meeting with CWCs of Delhi–NCR Region on Baal Swaraj – POCSO Tracking Portal

In continuation of its monitoring responsibilities, the Commission convened a follow-up meeting on 3rd April 2025 at the NCPCR Office, New Delhi with Child Welfare Committees (CWCs) from the Delhi–NCR region. The meeting aimed to assess their performance and review the operational status of the Baal Swaraj – POCSO Tracking Portal.

Key focus areas of discussion included:

- Timely registration and uploading of POCSO cases on the portal.
- Technical and usability challenges faced by CWCs in operating the system.
- Need for capacity-building and hands-on training for CWC members and support staff.
- Strengthening coordination between CWCs, DCPUs, Police, and District Authorities to ensure swift action and effective child protection measures.
- Enhancing monitoring of victim compensation, rehabilitation, and follow-up services through digital tools.

The meeting emphasized the importance of improving data accuracy and system efficiency to ensure effective real-time tracking of cases and reinforcement of accountability within the juvenile justice framework.

CHAPTER 9

Juvenile Justice

CHAPTER 9

Juvenile Justice

Introduction

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, stands as a cornerstone of India's commitment to a rights-based, child-centric legal framework, aligning domestic legislation directly with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The Act aims to ensure the care, protection, development, and rehabilitation of both children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. The Act adopts a child-centric approach and emphasizes restoration and social reintegration over retribution. To safeguard the best interests of children, the Act provides robust institutional mechanisms, including Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs), Child Care Institution and provisions for sponsorship and adoption. As the statutory monitoring body, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) remains dedicated to monitor the effective implementation of this Act.

Meetings on Stray Dog Attacks

The Commission observed numerous media reports highlighting a disturbing rise in incidents where toddlers and minors were mauled by stray dog packs. In response to this alarming trend, a joint meeting was convened on 21.03.2024 to discuss possible interventions. During deliberations, it was acknowledged that the issue requires a comprehensive and balanced approach, as it involves both child safety and animal welfare considerations.

To further strengthen coordination and develop practical solutions, a follow-up meeting was held on 10.05.2025, reiterating the need for active participation and collaborative efforts from all relevant stakeholders. The Commission emphasized that an effective strategy must prioritize the protection of children while ensuring humane management of stray dogs.

The discussions underscored a notable concentration of dog bite incidents at construction sites and in labour settlements. These areas pose an elevated risk to the children of labourers, who frequently reside and spend considerable time playing in such environments. The high presence of stray dogs in these locations heightens the vulnerability of young children to potential aggression and attacks, necessitating targeted preventive measures and improved safety protocols.

The Chairperson, NCPCR concluded the meeting by emphasizing the need for immediate, short-term interventions to address the issue of stray dog attacks on children. It was suggested that small yet effective improvements be made within existing schemes, along with strengthened infrastructure such as hospitals and colleges. The Chairperson proposed the establishment of more than 75 veterinary hospitals across India and highlighted the urgent need to resolve challenges related to insufficient vehicles, manpower, and underfunding. Dedicated financial allocations for relevant schemes were recommended to ensure timely implementation.

Further, the Chairperson stressed that media outlets must avoid disseminating misleading information on such a sensitive matter. The availability and affordability of anti-rabies vaccines were identified as crucial priorities. These vaccines should be accessible at every healthcare center and provided free of cost to individuals unable to afford expensive treatment. Additionally, efforts should be made to develop affordable alternative medicines that can be produced at scale without compromising efficacy.

Recommendations Based on the Deliberations

To address the rising incidents of dog attacks on children and to ensure child safety while balancing animal welfare concerns, the following recommendations were proposed:

1. **Crèche Facilities at Construction Sites** : Crèche and daycare facilities must be mandatorily established at all construction sites so that children of labourers are not left unattended in unsafe environments such as open sites and roads.

2. **Rescue and Sterilization Measures:** Municipal bodies across the country should ensure systematic rescue and mandatory sterilization of stray/community dogs, particularly in child-centric areas such as Anganwadis, schools, playgrounds, and urban settlements, in alignment with the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Programme.
3. **Strengthening the ABC Programme:** Nationwide promotion and robust implementation of the Animal Birth Control Programme must be ensured with adequate financial and operational support.
4. **Regulation of Dog Feeding Zones:** Feeding of dogs should be prohibited within 100 meters of schools, Anganwadis, residential societies, and playgrounds to reduce risks to children and prevent aggressive dog behavior in such sensitive areas.
5. **Compliance with ABC Rules, 2023:** Advisories must be issued to all local bodies to strictly adhere to the protocols under the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023, especially while responding to dog-bite incidents. Community awareness initiatives should be undertaken on prevention, first response, and responsible interaction with animals.
6. **Pet Ownership Regulations:** Mandatory registration, sterilization, and up-to-date vaccination records should be enforced for all pet dogs. Stronger accountability mechanisms for pet owners should be instituted to prevent stray dog population growth and public safety risks.
7. **Expansion of Veterinary Infrastructure:** Establishment of medical colleges and veterinary hospitals across India should be prioritized to strengthen animal healthcare systems and support large-scale ABC implementation.
8. **Animal Bite Surveillance & Data Management System:** All district and zonal health facilities must maintain detailed digital records of animal bite cases—indicating provoked/unprovoked incidents and involvement of pet or stray dogs. They must ensure uninterrupted availability of Anti-Rabies Vaccine (ARV) and Anti-Rabies Serum (ARS), and promptly report shortages. Regular data sharing will aid targeted interventions, better public health planning, and improved child safety.

9. **Regulation of Breeding and Pet Trade:** Mandatory registration and regular monitoring of all dog breeding institutions must be enforced as per the Dog Breeding and Marketing Rules, 2017. Pet shops should be regulated under the Pet Shop Rules, 2018, with State Boards submitting periodic Action Taken Reports on closure of illegal/unregistered establishments.
10. **Animal Welfare Education in Schools:** Animal Welfare Education should be integrated into the School Quality Assessment and Assurance Framework (SQAAP) to inculcate empathy, responsible behaviour, and safe interactions with animals. “Compassion for Animals” should be recognized as a core value within school curriculums. Standard Operating Procedures must be developed to support educators in teaching essential safety measures and ethical animal treatment.
11. **Awareness Programs and Curriculum Modules:** An advisory should be issued for Zila Parishad High Schools nationwide to conduct regular awareness and safety sessions on animal welfare in collaboration with recognized animal welfare organizations. A “Compassion Module” should be incorporated into State Board curricula, with expert content provided by accredited organizations to reinforce safe coexistence between children and animals.

Meeting on Registration of Residential Facilities for Physically Disabled Children under the JJ Act

A meeting was convened at the NCPCR office on 20th May 2024 to deliberate upon matters related to the **registration of residential facilities for physically disabled children under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015**. The discussion focused on strengthening compliance and ensuring that all such facilities operate within the statutory framework mandated under the Act. Representatives from the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), MWCD, Ministry of Law and Justice, and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment participated in the discussion.

Meeting on Minors Committing Offences Due to Pornographic Content

The Commission has come across various news reports indicating an alarming trend of increasing crime committed by children after watching pornographic content. In light of this concern, the Commission convened a joint meeting on 05.08.2024 to explore potential solutions to address this issue. The meeting was attended by various stakeholders, including representatives from the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Center (I4C), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Ministry of Law & Justice (MoL&J/I.D), Department of Telecommunication (DOT), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY), Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD). The said meeting was held to address the alarming increase among minor children committing crime after watching pornographic content. During the meeting it was unanimously agreed that a collaborative effort among all the concerned ministries/ departments is crucial to tackle the issue.

The stakeholders reached a consensus on several points, and based on these consensus, the Commission under its mandate under section 13 of CPCRA Act, 2005 made the following recommendations:

- The Ministry of Telecommunications was recommended to examine the feasibility of issuing SIM cards in the name of a child.
- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology was recommended to devise and implement appropriate mechanisms for the effective enforcement of Section 9 of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023. Additionally, it shall ensure that social media platforms obtain verifiable consent from parents in accordance with the Act. Furthermore, the Ministry shall identify and establish methods that enable parents to effectively supervise and monitor their children's online activities on devices including mobile.
- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, was recommended to undertake initiatives to raise

awareness among parents and children regarding online safety and their respective responsibilities.

- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting was requested to ensure that Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms display disclaimers in English, Hindi, and local/regional languages before showing any adult content. These disclaimers must cite Section 11 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and Section 75 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 warning subscribers that they may be held liable if their child views adult content under the aforementioned legal provisions.

Dissemination of Awareness Videos

Pursuant to its mandate under Section 13(h) of the CPCR Act, 2005, which empowers the Commission to promote child rights literacy and awareness, the Commission has developed a series of awareness videos elucidating key provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

These videos have been shared with all States and Union Territories, with directions to facilitate their dissemination at the district, block, panchayat, school, and institutional levels. The initiative aims to enhance understanding and awareness of child protection laws among children, caregivers, stakeholders, and the general public.

CHAPTER 10

Grievance Redressal

CHAPTER 10

GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

Redressal of grievances related to the violation of child rights is one of the core functions under the CPCRA Act, 2005. As per Section 13(1) of the Act, the Commission is mandated to inquire into complaints and take *suo motu* cognizance of matters concerning the deprivation and violation of child rights; the non-implementation of laws enacted for the protection and development of children; and the non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines, or instructions aimed at mitigating hardship and ensuring the welfare of children. Furthermore, to provide relief to affected children, the NCPCR is required to take up such matters with the appropriate authorities. In view of these mandates on grievance redressal, the Commission strives to reach the last mile to ensure that every child's rights are protected.

Children, as the future citizens of the country, are the true builders of the nation. It is therefore the responsibility of the State to provide them with a safe and conducive environment for their holistic development. However, media reports and NCRB data indicate rise in cases of crimes against children and violations of child rights, which is alarming and poses a serious threat to the nation's future. The Commission receives complaints through multiple channels—post, in-person submissions, email, E-BaalNidan, and the POCSO e-Box. Complaints are also forwarded by various Ministries/Departments or registered through the Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS). To ensure timely and effective action, the Commission has established a dedicated mechanism for the redressal of such grievances.

During the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, the Commission took cognizance of 43,152 complaints. However, during this period, reports have been received from the State/District Authorities in 47,629 complaints, including for the pending complaints from the previous years.

State-wise Data of Grievances, 2024-25

(receipt and redressal of complaints)

NCPCR –State wise grievances redressal position						
April 2024- March 2025						
Position of Complaints as on 01-04-2025						
S. No.	States	Pending as on 01-04-2024	Fresh received during April 2024 - March 2025	Total	Closed during April 2024- March 2025	Pending as on 01-04-2025
		1	2	3 (1+2)	4	5 (3-4)
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9	13	22	12	10
2	Andhra Pradesh	624	1607	2231	277	1954
3	Arunachal Pradesh	23	2	25	12	13
4	Assam	2159	2266	4425	1484	2941
5	Bihar	777	2213	2990	396	2594
6	Chandigarh	57	98	155	26	129
7	Chhattisgarh	5313	919	6232	5773	459
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	2	2	0
9	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0
10	Delhi	1844	4201	6045	812	5233
11	Goa	64	6	70	43	27
12	Gujarat	1620	550	2170	542	1628
13	Haryana	765	1281	2046	918	1128
14	Himachal Pradesh	44	27	71	38	33
15	Jammu & Kashmir	38	328	366	168	198

S. No.	States	Pending as on 01-04-2024	Fresh received during April 2024 - March 2025	Total	Closed during April 2024- March 2025	Pending as on 01-04-2025
		1	2	3 (1+2)	4	5 (3-4)
16	Jharkhand	833	448	1281	301	980
17	Karnataka	1511	1139	2650	895	1755
18	Kerala	701	206	907	168	739
19	Ladakh	64	148	212	82	130
20	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
21	Madhya Pradesh	14650	7395	22045	13871	8174
22	Maharashtra	786	1854	2640	1036	1604
23	Manipur	189	2	191	98	93
24	Meghalaya	57	3	60	23	37
25	Mizoram	25	1	26	13	13
26	Nagaland	73	1	74	20	54
27	Orissa	1422	354	1776	1023	753
28	Puducherry	22	9	31	17	14
29	Punjab	338	2581	2919	1192	1727
30	Rajasthan	8467	3755	12222	7328	4894
31	Sikkim	23	0	23	2	21
32	Tamil Nadu	3834	1073	4907	3598	1309
33	Telengana	776	3599	4375	230	4145
34	Tripura	670	177	847	731	116
35	Uttar Pradesh	6688	5649	12337	4725	7612
36	Uttarakhand	333	320	653	110	543
37	West Bengal	1729	909	2638	1634	1004
	Others	51	17	68	29	39
Total		56580	43152	99732	47629	52103

NCPCR -Subject wise summary

Subject wise - Grievances NCPCR during 2024-25										
Position of complaints as on 01-04-2025										
Heads		Pending as on 01-04-2024	Fresh received during 2024-25			Total Pending	Closed during 2024-2025			Pending as on 01-04-2025
			Benches/ Camps	Grievance	Total fresh received		Benches / Camps	Grievance	Total Closed	
		1	2	3	(2+3) 4	(1+4) 5	6	7	(6+7) 8	(5-8) 9
1	Education	5412	1127	2680	3807	9219	2771	2197	4968	4251
2	Child Health, care, Welfare or Child Development	14498	4083	115	4198	18696	12023	351	12374	6322
3(i)	JJ or care of neglected or marginalized children or children with disabilities	25534	12845	1817	14662	40196	24142	2189	26331	13865
3(ii)	Social Audit/ Legal Cell	3311	0	40	40	3351	0	746	746	2605
4	Elimination of Child labour or children in distress	2296	57	17689	17746	20042	56	414	470	19572
5	Child psychology or sociology	149	21	117	138	287	51	21	72	215
6	POCSO and laws related to children	5235	387	2071	2458	7693	308	2288	2596	5097
7	NE States (Other than POCSO matters)	60	0	0	0	60	36	13	49	11
8	Member (LRC)	85	0	0	0	85	0	0	0	85
9	Anti Child Trafficking Cell (ACTC)	0	0	80	80	80	0	0	0	80
10	J&k Cell	0	0	203	203	203	0	126	126	77
	Total	56580	18520	24812	43332	99912	39387	8345	47732	52180

Mechanisms for Redressal of Grievances

Some distinctive mechanisms introduced by NCPCR for redressal of grievances are given below.

1. E-BaalNidan

E-BaalNidan is the online Complaint Management System of the NCPCR. Accessible at www.ebaalnidan.nic.in, the portal allows any individual to register a complaint and receive a unique complaint registration number. This number enables the complainant to track the progress of the redressal process. The registration form is designed to capture all essential details of a complaint, including the date and place of the incident, particulars of the victims, concerned authorities, nature and category of the complaint, and any action initiated. A link to the E-BaalNidan portal is available on the NCPCR homepage, where users can create a login ID and password to submit complaints. This facility is used extensively by NGOs and concerned citizens who actively pursue matters with the Commission. Once a complaint is registered, it is electronically forwarded to the concerned consultant for examination. Thereafter, it is processed and handled like any other complaint. The portal is regularly updated, enabling complainants to view the action taken reports and monitor the progress of their cases in real time basis.

2. CPGRAMS

Public Grievance Redressal is one of the flagship initiatives aimed at improving governance and ensuring timely resolution of issues faced by the general public. The Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) is a web-based platform that enables Ministries, Departments, and other government organizations to receive, forward, and monitor grievances effectively.

Grievances are received through various nodal organizations such as the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), the Directorate of Public Grievances (Cabinet Secretariat), the President's Secretariat, the Prime Minister's Office, and the Department of Pension, among others. Under this mechanism, any

citizen of India can submit concerns, complaints, or requests for intervention to the Central or State Government Ministries and Departments.

The NCPCR is one of the statutory bodies listed on CPGRAMS and receives grievances either directly through the portal or as forwarded by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) or the Office of the Prime Minister.

3. The **POCSO e-Box** is an accessible and direct medium for reporting cases of sexual assault under the POCSO Act, 2012. Launched by the Commission in August 2016, it serves as an additional platform enabling children to lodge complaints directly with the NCPCR, particularly involving instances of sexual abuse.

The e-Box is prominently displayed on the NCPCR website homepage. To register a complaint, the user simply needs to click on the POCSO e-Box button, which redirects to a child-friendly page featuring picture-based options. The user selects at least one picture, fills out a simple form, and clicks Submit to complete the process. An acknowledgment is then generated, confirming the registration of the complaint along with a unique complaint number.

Between April 2024 and March 2025, the POCSO e-Box received a total of 29,705 hits, including those received via calls, the e-button, and email. Of these, 120 complaints were formally registered through the POCSO e-Box. All complaints received were attended to promptly, and reports were sought from the concerned authorities of the respective States/UTs.

The month-wise status is presented below:

Total no. of complaints received through POCSO E-box during 01-04-2024 to 31-03-2025						
Total no. of hits received on POCSO E-box						29705
Total no. of complaints covered under POCSO Act 2012						120
Sr. No.	Months	Total no of Hits received through E-box				Total no of complaint covered under POCSO Act 2012, received through POCSO E- Box
		Calls	E-Button	Email	Total	
1	Apr 2024	0	1215	0	1215	3
2	May 2024	0	1076	0	1076	1
3	June 2024	5	1190	0	1195	7
4	July 2024	0	14524	0	14524	6
5	Aug 2024	0	1562	2	1564	8
6	Sep 2024	2	1623	0	1625	16
7	Oct 2024	0	2137	0	2137	14
8	Nov 2024	0	1192	1	1193	18
9	Dec 2024	0	1277	0	1277	17
10	Jan 2025	0	1425	0	1425	10
11	Feb 2025	0	1169	0	1169	16
12	Mar 2025	0	1305	0	1305	4
	Total	7	29695	3	29705	120

CHAPTER 11

**Important Administrative
Initiatives**

CHAPTER 11

Important Administrative Initiatives

The role of administration is to ensure the efficient and optimal performance of all divisions and departments at various levels of an organization, and to coordinate among them to facilitate activities in the best possible manner. In the context of NCPCR, the administration oversees procedures related to the Transaction of Business by the Commission, taking responsibility for its affairs and day-to-day management. Accordingly, the administrative wing of the NCPCR has provided support for all activities directed towards achieving the Commission's mandate.

Following important initiatives have been taken during the financial year 2024-25:

1. Use of Official Language (*Rajbhasha*)

Hindi Diwas is celebrated on 14th September in India because, on this day in 1949, the Constituent Assembly adopted Hindi written in the Devanagari script as the official language of India. The Assistant Director of the Commission participated in the Hindi Diwas programme (14th–15th September, 2024) organised by the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, in Pune. NCPCR also observed Hindi Diwas on 16th September, 2024. On this occasion, the messages of the Hon'ble Home Minister and the Hon'ble Minister of Women & Child Development were shared with the staff.

Hindi Pakhwara (fortnight) was celebrated at NCPCR from 16th to 30th September, 2024, during which various activities to promote the Hindi language were organised. Competitions such as Hindi note writing, Hindi essay writing, and Hindi dictation (for MTS employees) were conducted, and staff members participated with great enthusiasm. The winners were awarded cash prizes and certificates. Following is the list of proud winners:

Essay Competition 02-09-2024		
S.No	Name	Prize
1	Kalpender Parmar	Ist Prize
2	Smt Charu Jha	IIInd Prize
3	Ms. Garima Sardana	IIIrd Prize
4	Sri Kapil Sharma	Consolation Prize
5	Smt Shaistha K. Shah	Consolation Prize
Noting Drafting Competition 05-09-2024		
S.No	Name	Prize
1	Smt Shaistha K. Shah	Ist Prize
2	Smt. Sunita	IIInd Prize
3	Miss. Komal	IIIrd Prize
4	Shri Rajesh	Consolation Prize
5	Smt Shivani	Consolation Prize
Debate Competition 10-09-2024		
S.No	Name	Prize
1	Miss. Garima Sardana	Ist Prize
2	Miss Pooja Sharma	IIInd Prize
3	Smt Charu Jha	IIIrd Prize
4	Shri Chaya	Consolation Prize
5	Smt Rajani	Consolation Prize
Listening Competition (Senior Consultant) 12-09-2024		
S.No	Name	Prize
1	Shri Paresh Shah	Ist Prize
2	Smt. Nidhi Sharma	IIInd Prize

3	Smt Shaistha K. Shah	IIIrd Prize
4	Shri Dharmendra Bhandari	Consolation Prize
5	Smt Madulika Sharma	Consolation Prize
Listening Competition (DEO) 13-09-2024		
S.No	Name	Prize
1	Miss. Komal	Ist Prize
2	Shri Amit Kumar	IIInd Prize
3	Smt Bharti	IIIrd Prize
S.No	Name	Prize
4	Smt. Sunita	Consolation Prize
5	Smt Sapna Yadav	Consolation Prize
Debate Competition 18-09-2024		
1	Smt Shaistha K. Shah	Ist Prize
2	Smt Payal Sharma	IIInd Prize
3	Smt Madhulika Sharma	IIIrd Prize
4	Shri Paresh Shah	Consolation Prize
5	Shri Dharmendra Bhandari	Consolation Prize
Reels Making Competition		
S.No	Name	Prize
1	Shri Dharmendra Bhandari	Ist Prize
2	Smt Payal Sharma	IIInd Prize
3	Shri Rajeev	IIIrd Prize
4	Shri Susheel Kumar	Consolation Prize
5	Shri Kapil Sharma	Consolation Prize

Hindi Workshop- Quarterly workshops were organized to orient the officers and staff of the Commission to work in Hindi instead of depending upon translation. During the Workshop, officials and staff were given practical training to prepare drafts of Letters in Hindi. The participants of the workshop were also given information about official Language Policy of the Government of India.

Meeting of the Official Implementation Committee- Quarterly meetings of the official Language Implementation Committee of NCPCR were held to implement various Constitutional and legal provisions of Official Language Act, 1963 and Rules framed there under.

2. Information under Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005

The NCPCR has a Central Public Information Officer (CPIO) and First Appellate Authority (FAA) under the RTI Act, 2005. In the year 2024-25, NCPCR had received a total number of 448 applications under the RTI Act, through online and offline mode plus transfer cases.

Status of RTI Applications of 2024-25

Applications under RTI Act Received in 2024-25	Applications rejected in 2024-25	RTI applications disposed of in 2024-25	RTI Reply Given in next financial year (after 31st March, 2025)
448	36	399	13

Status of RTI Appeals of 2024-25

RTI Appeals received in 2024-25	Appeals disposed of in 2024-25	Appeals which were disposed of in next financial year (after 31st March, 2025)
43	39	04

3. Statutory Meetings

Under Section 10 of the CPCPCR Act, 2005 and Rule 18 (1) of the NCPCR Rules, 2006, the Commission is mandated to meet regularly at its office at such time as the Chairperson thinks fit. These Meetings are called Statutory Meetings where all

important decisions of the Commission take place. During the year under report, the Commission conducted 5 Statutory Meetings on 20th May 2024 (59th Statutory Meeting), 29th July 2024 (60th Statutory Meeting) 23rd September 2024 (61st Statutory Meeting) and 24th February, 2024 (63rd Statutory Meeting) under the Chairpersonship of Chairperson, NCPCR. The Minutes of these meetings were prepared and circulated to all concerned. Several important decisions were taken during the aforementioned meetings. These Minutes are also available at <https://www.ncpcr.gov.in/search?q=Statutory>

4. Sexual Harassment Committee

In pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's guidelines and norms to provide a complaint mechanism for prevention of sexual harassment of women at workplace, NCPCR vide its Order No. C-32011/01/2012-Coord/96941 had constituted a Complaint Committee consisting of five members to hear the complaints of women employees posted in NCPCR and take appropriate action on such complaints. The Committee was reconstituted vide Orders of even number dated 16.03.2022, 28.04.2023 and 27.07.2023. One case has been reported to the Committee in the year which has now been closed.

5. Court Cases

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been actively pursuing and intervening in various court cases before the Hon'ble Supreme Court, High Courts, and other judicial forums to safeguard and promote the rights and welfare of children. These cases primarily relate to issues concerning child labour, child trafficking, protection of children from abuse and exploitation, implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, juvenile justice, child safety in educational institutions, and rehabilitation of vulnerable children. Through legal interventions, filing of affidavits, and monitoring of judicial directions, the Commission seeks to ensure effective enforcement of child protection laws and policies, strengthen institutional mechanisms, and uphold the best interests of children in accordance with the constitutional and statutory framework of the country. The salient

details of important representations undertaken by the Commission in Courts during 2024-25 are mentioned below:

S.No.	Case Details
1.	W.P. (C) No. 737 of 2020 The Child Rights Trust & Anr. v. UOI & Ors. before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India
2.	SLP (Crl) No. 010036 of 2022 NCPCR v. Gulam Deen and Anr. before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India
3.	SLP (Crl.) No. 2207 of 2023 NCPCR v. Javed & Ors. before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India
4.	W.P. (C) 427 of 2022 Bachpan Bachao Andolan v. Union of India & Ors. before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India at New Delhi.
5.	SLP (Crl.) 16122 of 2023 titled Ajay Lall v. The State of Madhya Pradesh before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India
6.	SLP (Crl.) 830/2024 titled Rajkamal David Lall v. State of Madhya Pradesh before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India
7.	SLP (Crl.) 61-62/2024 titled Sheela Lall v. The State of Madhya Pradesh before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India
8.	Centre for Equity Studies v Govt of NCT of Delhi through SHO, EOW & Anr.” W.P.(CRL) 401/2022
9.	W. P. (C) No. 99 of 2016 Suo-Motu v. State of Rajasthan & Ors. before the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jaipur.
10.	WP(C) No. 3216 of 2022 Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay Vs. Union of India & Ors. before the Hon'ble Delhi High Court
11.	Writ Petition (Civil) No. 28449/2023 titled Shaleen Sharma v. Union of India & Ors. Before the Hon'ble High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Principal seat at Jabalpur.

12.	W.P. (C) No. 884 of 2019 Ms. XXXX and Ors. v. UOI before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India
13.	W.P. (C) No. 568 of 2021 Arun Mukherjee & Ors. v. Chief Secretary, State of West Bengal & Ors. before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
14.	W.P. (C) No. 4236 of 2021 Khushi Rainbow Home for the Girls through CO Center v. NCPCR, and W.P. (C) No. 4288 of 2021 Umeed Aman Home for Boys through CO Center v. NCPCR before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi
15.	W.P. (Crl) No. 1429 of 2020 Mohammad Zubair v. State of GNCT & Ors. before the High Court of Delhi.
16.	S.B. W.P. (C) No. 5071 of 2021 Bhartiya Jan Sewa Pratisthan through its Secretary v. State of Rajasthan & Ors. before the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jaipur.
17.	W.P. (C) No. 2558 of 2021 Yatharatha Foundation v. The Union of India & Ors. before Hon'ble Delhi High Court
18.	W.P. (C) No. 5874 of 2021 Avanindra nath Bartaria v. CBI & Ors. before the Hon'ble High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Jabalpur.
19.	W.P. (C) No. 4663 of 2021 Piyush Chhabra v. State & Ors. Before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi
20.	W.P. (C) No. 5927 of 2021 Yasmin Kataria Minor Through Natural Guardian namely Shalu Kataria & Anr. v. State of NCT of Delhi & Ors. before the Hon'ble Delhi High Court
21.	W.P. (C) No. 20655 of 2019 Council for the Indian School of Certificate Examinations v. Union of India & Ors. before the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa.
22.	W.P. (C) No. 14272 of 2019 Minor Kanika Issac v. NCPCR before the Hon'ble Madras High Court.
23.	W.P. (C) No. 10434 of 2024 Delhi Public School, Dwarka v. NCPCR & Ors. before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

24.	SLP (Crl.) No. 3665 of 2024 Just Rights for Children Alliance and Anr. v. S. Harish And Ors. before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
25.	W.P. (C) No. 15191 of 2023Y V (Minor) v. Kendriya Vidyalaya & Ors. before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.
26.	WP. No. 558/2019 Bachpan Bachao Andolan V. Union of India & Ors. Before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
27.	SLP(C) No. 8541 of 2024 Anjum Kadari and Anr. Vs. Union of India and Ors. Before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

CHAPTER 12

Finance and Accounts

CHAPTER 12

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. It was established in March 2007 under the Commission for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, an Act of Parliament. The Commission's mandate is to ensure that all laws, policies, programmes, and administrative mechanisms are in consonance with a child rights perspective, as enshrined in the Constitution of India and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, covering children in the age group of 0 to 18 years.

2. Chairperson is the Head of Department of NCPCR. Chairperson and Members of NCPCR are appointed by MWCD. The detail of the officers who assumed the charge of chairperson and Members and Member Secretary of NCPCR during Financial Year 2024-25 (01.04.2024 to 31.03.2025) is as under:
 - Mr. Priyank Kanoongo, Chairperson, NCPCR up to 16th October, 2024. (01.04.2024 to 16.10.2024)
 - Ms. Tripti Gurha, Chairperson, NCPCR & Additional Secretary, MWCD assumed the charge from 17th October, 2024 (17.10.2024 to 31.03.2025)
 - Ms. Preeti Bhardwaj Dalal, Member, NCPCR (07.03.2023 to 6.03.2026)
 - Dr. Divya Gupta, Member, NCPCR (07.03.2023 to 27.05.2025)
 - Ms. Rupali Banerjee Singh, Member Secretary, NCPCR up to 28th February, 2025 (01.04.2024 to 28.02.2025)
3. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), being an Statutory Body, is following the Accrual Basis of Accounting System. NCPCR prepares the Receipt and Payment Account, after verifying each account in the ledger and bank accounts. The non-bank adjustments or journal entries are not considered in Receipt and Payment Account. The NCPCR maintains separate

accounts for the Grants received from M/o WCD, Grants received from M/o Education as well as Consolidated accounts prepared by merging the figures of Grants received from both sources. The Consolidated Balance Sheet, Income & expenditure & Receipt and Payments Accounts for 2024-25 along with the Separate Audit Report (SAR) of CAG is follows on next pages of the report.

4. During the Financial. Year 2024-25, NCPCR received total Grants-in-aids of Rs.2833.35 Lakhs from the Ministry of Women and Child Development and Rs.783.27 lakh from Ministry of Education. In addition an unspent balance of Rs.56.71 lakh of previous year was available. Further, NCPCR had miscellaneous internal receipt of Rs.47.96 lakh i.e. Receipts received on account of RTI applications, sale of newspapers and auction deposits etc. Out of total funds available of Rs.3721.29 Lakh, NCPCR utilized 3646.44 lakh leaving a utilized balance of Rs.74.85 lakh as on 31.03.2025.
5. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has been maintaining a Treasury Single Account (TSA) with the Reserve Bank of India for the purpose of parking Grants-in-Aid received from the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The balance lying in the said account as on 31.03.2025 was recalled by the RBI in accordance with applicable guidelines. Subsequently, NCPCR transferred an amount of ₹14,00,477 to its other bank accounts to meet the expenditure towards salary dues of the regular establishment for the month of March 2025, which was disbursed in April 2025. Accordingly, the said unutilized amount has been treated as Grants-in-Aid received in advance for the financial year 2025-26.
6. As on 31.03.2025, provisions amounting to ₹15,19,250 were created to meet various expenses, including electricity, telephone charges, staff salaries, audit fees, legal and professional charges. Further, outstanding statutory dues on account of aggregating to ₹19,41,809.06 were duly booked at the close of the financial year 2024-25.

7. Bank reconciliation statements for all bank accounts maintained by NCPCR as on 31.03.2025 have been completed and duly verified by the Chartered Accountants as well as the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.
8. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 19(2) of the CAG (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971, read with Section 29(2) of the CPCRA Act, 2005, conducted the Separate Audit Report (SAR) audit of the financial statements of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) for the financial year 2024-25. The audit examined the accounting treatment, classification of transactions, adherence to accounting standards, best accounting practices, and the adequacy of disclosures in the financial statements. Upon completion of the audit, the CAG expressed its audit opinion on the financial statements of NCPCR for the year 2024-25.
9. The CAG observed that the Financial Accounts present a true and fair view of the financial position of NCPCR as on 31.03.2025, as well as its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended, in conformity with the prescribed Uniform Format of Accounts. The CAG further stated that sufficient and appropriate audit evidence had been obtained to provide a sound basis for the audit opinion. No matter was reported under the “Emphasis of Matter” paragraph in the SAR, by CAG resulting in a Nil observation.

CHAPTER 13

Recommendations

CHAPTER 13

Recommendations

- **Recommendation regarding funds for the State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR)s for carrying out their functions.**

The State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR)s, constituted under Section 17 of the CPCR Act, 2005 have the same functions as of NCPCR as per Section 24. Further, as per Section-32 of the RTE Act, 2009, the SCPCR shall decide the appeals preferred by any person aggrieved by the decision of the local authority. As per Section 31 of the Act, the SCPCR)s, in addition to the functions assigned to them under the Act, shall also perform certain other function given under the Section. For carrying out the monitoring activities, the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India shall be allotting Rs. 50 per school to the State Commissions as part of the annual budget to the State Education Departments. However, in the recent meeting with SCPCR)s, it has been brought to the Commission's notice that not all SCPCR)s are receiving this amount from the State Departments. Therefore, NCPCR vide letter dated 16.04.2024 recommended to all the State Commissions that they may demand the funds from their respective State Education Departments for fulfilling their functions as mandated under the RTE Act, 2009. In case, the State Education Department is unable to provide the budget, it may be informed to the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India.

- **Recommendation to prevent illegal transportation of children**

National and State Commissions have been intervening to rescue numerous children who were being unlawfully transported across state borders. In one such incident on April 26, 2024, 95 children were rescued while allegedly being illegally transported from Bihar to Uttar Pradesh. The Uttar Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child

Rights (UP SCPCR) rescued the children in Ayodhya and presented them before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). Following counseling sessions, orders were issued to relocate these children to the Government Children's Home for Boys in Lucknow. Such incidents once again underscore the reality that many children in India continue to remain out of school and are susceptible to violence.

In accordance with the mandate outlined in section 13 (1) of the CPCR Act, 2005, the Commission vide letter dated 03.05.2024 to the Chief Secretaries/Administrators of All States/UTs recommended the following steps-

- (i) Ensure that all children in the age of 6-14 years are enrolled in neighborhood schools and receive formal education;
- (ii) Ensure that in all such cases where it is found that money is being raised in the name of children and the children are illegally taken from one place to another, the concerned investigating officer may consider taking action in the light of Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Section 370 of the Indian Penal Code;
- (iii) Issue necessary directions to the District Collectors/Magistrates of all Districts in concerned State/UT to enhance vigilance in their respective districts, thereby preventing the illegal transportation of children between locations. Additionally, the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU), and Special Juvenile Police Units (SJPU) should be instructed to conduct routine inspections and monitoring to deter such occurrences.

The letter was copied to Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education; Chairman, Airport Authority of India to issue necessary directions to all concerned officers to be vigilant for any signs of child trafficking; Chairman, Railway Board & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to issue necessary directions to all concerned officers including RPF and GRP to be vigilant for any signs of child trafficking; and Director General of Police of all States/UTs.

- **Recommendation on implementation of Section 29 of the RTE Act, 2009**

The NCPCR, in exercise of its powers under Section 13(1)(a) of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, reiterated its recommendations for the effective implementation of Section 29 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 dated 9.4.2024, with a view to ensuring uniformity, equity and quality in elementary education. The Commission recommended that all schools covered under the RTE Act, including Government, Government-aided, unaided private and Central Board-affiliated schools, strictly adopt the curriculum, syllabus, textbooks and evaluation procedures prescribed by the academic authority notified by the appropriate Government, namely NCERT or the respective SCERT. Expressing concern over the continued prescription of privately published textbooks by schools, the Commission observed that such practices are inconsistent with the provisions of the RTE Act and impose an unnecessary financial burden on parents.

- **Implementation of Safety Measures for Preventing Stray Dog Attacks on Children**

The Commission, under Section 13(1) (j) of the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005, took cognizance of the increasing incidents of stray dog and monkey attacks on children. In view of this concern, NCPCR convened joint meetings on 10.05.2024 and 21.05.2024 with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH&FW), Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, the Animal Welfare Board of India, and other relevant stakeholders to address the issue. Following the discussions, NCPCR issued recommendations outlining preventive 39 measures and necessary actions to safeguard children, and communicated the same to the concerned Ministries vide its letter dated 16.07.2024.

CHAPTER 14

Audit Report and Consolidated Account Statement

कागजीलम नदरनिर्देशक लेखापरीक्षा
(कै-सीए एनपीसी)
अडिटर भवन, इन्दिराप्रस्थ एस्टेट,
नई दिल्ली-110002



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL,
OF AUDIT (CENTRAL EXPENDITURE),
ACCT BILAWAN, INDIRAPRANATHA ESTATE,
NEW DELHI-110002

संख्या/No. AMG-V/T-26/SAN/NCPCR/2025-26/979

Date: 24.11.2025

सेवा में

सचिव, भारत सरकार,
महिला एवं बाल मंत्रालय,
कानूनी भवन,
नई दिल्ली-110001

विषय: वर्ष 2024-25 के राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार कार्यक्रम अधिनियम, नई दिल्ली के लेखाओं पर
गुपक लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन

सूचिका / सूचिका

मैं, राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार कार्यक्रम अधिनियम, नई दिल्ली के वर्ष 2024-25 के प्रस्तावित वार्षिक लेखों की प्रति उनके प्रतिवेदन तथा लेखापरीक्षा प्रमाणपत्र की प्रति संसद के पक्ष पर रखने के दिने सेवा कर रही हूँ।

संसद की प्रस्तुत कर दस्तावेज की दो प्रतियाँ एक दिनि की दस्तावेज रूप जब वे संसद को प्रस्तुत किए गए थे, इस कार्यक्रम की सेवा भारत के विदेश मंत्रालय के कार्यालय को भेजी जाए। गुपक एवं सुनिश्चित करने कि गुपक लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन को संसद के दोनों सदन के सचिव प्रस्तुत करने से पहले वार्षिक लेखाओं को जारी किया जाता। अलग अनुमोदित करा दिनांक।

लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन का हिन्दी अनुवाद एवं इसे जारी करने के संबंधित सभी कार्यों को अलग दिनांक द्वारा किया जाना ही अपेक्षित है। गुपक लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन का हिन्दी अनुवाद जारी करने समय निम्नलिखित अस्वीकरण (Disclaimer) अतिरिक्त करें:

"प्रस्तुत प्रतिवेदन बिल रूप में अंग्रेजी में लिखित गुपक लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन का हिन्दी अनुवाद है। यदि इनमें कोई विरोधाभास होता है तो अंग्रेजी में लिखित प्रतिवेदन मान्य होगा।"

भवदीया

अनुमानित / समीक्षा

हस्ता

अ.निर्देशक (व.व.सी.ए)

संख्या/मो. ANM-5/7-26/SAH/NCPCR/2025-26/94a

Date: 24.11.2025

प्रतिनिधि : श्री संजीव कुमार शर्मा, सदस्य सचिव, राष्ट्रीय मान अधिकार संरक्षण समिति, 5वीं तल, पंडरीक बिल्डिंग, 38- कलकत्ता, नई दिल्ली-110001 को लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन तथा लेखापरीक्षा प्रमाणपत्र की प्रति आचार्यका कार्यालयी हेतु प्रेषित की जाती है। यह अनुरोध किया जाता है कि संसद की पसतुत दस्तावेजी की हो प्रतिमा उक्त विधि को दृष्टीगत हुए जब वे संसद की पसतुत किए गए थे इस कार्यालय की तथा भारत के निर्देशक एवं महासचिवीयता के कार्यालय को भेजी जाए।

कृपया यह सुनिश्चित की कि पूरा लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन को संसद के दोनों सदनों के समक्ष प्रस्तुत करने से पहले वार्षिक लेखापरीक्षा की सभी विवरण द्वारा प्रत्यक्ष अभिलेखित करा किया जाए। यह भी अनुरोध किया जाता है कि पूरा लेखापरीक्षा प्रतिवेदन के द्वितीय अनुवाद की एक प्रति सीधे इस कार्यालय को भेजी जाए।

अनुसूचक : प्रधानी



प्रतिनिधि (ए.एम.सी.-५)

Opinion of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on the Accounts of National Commission for Protection of Child rights for the year ended 31 March 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Commission for Protection of Child rights (NCPCR), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2025 and the Income & Expenditure Account and Receipts & Payment Account for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies under Section 19(2) of the Comptroller & Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 read with Section 29 (2) of the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act 2005.

This Audit Report contains the comments of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG) on the accounting treatment only with regard to classification, conformity with the best accounting practices, accounting standards, disclosure norms, etc. Audit observations on financial transactions regarding compliance with the Law, Rules and Regulations (Propriety & Regularity) and efficiency and performance aspects, etc., if any, are reported through inspection reports/CAG's audit reports separately.

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements of NCPCR, read together with the accounting policies and Notes thereon and other matters mentioned in the Separate Audit Report, which follows, give a true and fair view of the financial position of the autonomous body as at March 31, 2025, and (i) its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with unified format of accounts.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the CAG's auditing regulations/ standards/ manuals/ guidelines/ guidance-notes/ orders/ circulars etc. Our responsibilities are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the autonomous body in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

Nil

Responsibilities of Management for the financial statements

The Governing Body of NCPCR is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with unified format of accounts applicable to the accounting standards generally accepted in India, and for internal control or management determines it necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion in accordance with CAG's auditing regulations /standards/ manuals/ guidelines/ guidance-notes/ orders/ circulars etc.

For and on behalf of the CAG of India

Place: New Delhi
Date: 24.11.2025


Director General of Audit (Central Expenditure)
New Delhi

Separate Audit Report on the Accounts of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) for the year ended March 31, 2025

A. General

A.1 (a) Current Assets, Loans & Advances given to parties (Schedule-11) includes an amount of Rs. 18.13 lakh pertaining to the period 2007-08 to 2022-23 which has no movement in the current financial year and pending for adjustment as on 31.03.2025.

(b) NCPCR had paid arrears of salary amounting to Rs. 1.87 lakh which became liable due to 6th pay commission to its deputed officer during the year 2023-24. This amount was recoverable from the parent department of employee. The amount has not been recovered yet and is still reflected in the books in the current financial year.

The long pending advances lying unadjusted need to be reviewed and settled. Doubtful amounts if any should be stated and provision should be shown as a reduction therefrom.

B. Management Letter

Deficiencies, which have not been included in the Audit Report, have been brought to the notice of the NCPCR through a management letter issued separately for remedial/corrective action.

C. Assessment of Internal Controls

(i) Adequacy of Internal Control System:

Internal control system is not adequate in NCPCR.

a) The Fixed assets do not have tagging and there are assets amounting to Rs. 4.72 lakh which were missing/not traceable since 2013. However, no action was taken either for recovery or for writing off assets in 2024-25.

b) Advances have been pending for many years, and no remedial action is taken for recovery.

This comment was issued during the previous year. However, no action has been taken by NCPCR.

(ii) Adequacy of Internal Audit System:

Internal audit of NCPCR, New Delhi was conducted by internal audit wing of the Ministry of WCD for the period of April 2022 to March 2024, however, the internal

audit report has not been issued till date.

(iii) System of Physical verification of fixed assets

The physical verification of Fixed Assets was conducted up to the FY 2024-25. The physical verification system of NCPCR is not sufficient and adequate. The physical verification system does not include tagging of assets, location of assets, to whom the laptops were issued etc. Assets amounting to Rs 4.72 lakh have not been traceable since 2013. No steps or action was taken despite being pointed out in the last reports to FY 2023-24.

(iv) System of Physical verification of inventory

Physical Verification of Inventory, stationary and consumables was conducted up to FY 2024-25, and no major discrepancy was found in stationary & consumables.

(v) Regularity in payment of statutory dues

As per accounts, no payments in respect of statutory dues were outstanding for more than six months as on 31.03.2025.

B. Grants-in-Aid

During the year 2024-25, NCPCR received Rs. 34.16 crore as Grants-in-Aid from the Min. Women and Child Development and Min. Education (Rs. 28.33 crore and Rs. 7.83 crore respectively) and the unspent balance of the previous year amounting to Rs. 0.57 crore was also available. NCPCR had an internal receipt amounting to Rs. 0.48 crore. Out of total fund available of Rs. 37.21 crore, NCPCR utilized Rs. 34.46 crore leaving an unutilized balance of Rs. 0.75 crore as on 31.03.2025.

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT
National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
 5th Floor, Chanderlok Building 36, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2025

(Amount in Rs.)

<u>CORPUS/CAPITAL FUND AND LIABILITIES</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Current Year</u>	<u>Previous Year</u>
CORPUS/CAPITAL FUND	1	1,60,15,304.70	(28,93,029.41)
RESERVES AND SURPLUS	2	-	-
earmarked/Endowment Funds	3	31,33,611.06	(55,24,805.08)
Secured Loans and Borrowings	4	-	-
Unsecured Loans and Borrowings	5	-	-
Deferred Credit Liabilities	6	-	-
CURRENT LIABILITIES AND PROVISIONS	7	1,12,59,221.21	3,96,99,194.21
TOTAL		3,04,38,136.97	3,12,81,359.72
<u>ASSETS</u>			
PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	8	1,17,89,678.00	1,20,56,372.61
INVESTMENTS - FROM EARMARKED FUNDS	9	-	-
INVESTMENTS - OTHERS	10	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS, ADVANCES ETC.	11	1,86,48,458.97	1,92,14,987.11
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE (to the extent not written off or adjusted)		-	-
TOTAL		3,04,38,136.97	3,12,81,359.72
SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES ON ACCOUNTS	24 25		

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT
National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2025

		[Amount in Rs.]	
INCOME	Schedule	Current Year	Previous Year
Income from Sales / Services	12	-	-
Grants / Subsidies	13	35,82,72,092.00	11,13,49,826.00
Fees/ Subscriptions	14	-	-
Income from Investments (Income on Invest from earmarked Funds transferred to Funds)	15	-	-
Income from Royalty, Publication etc.	16	-	-
Interest Earned	17	-	-
Other Income	18	1,49,418.00	1,56,259.00
Increase/(decrease) in stock of finished goods and works-in-progress	19	-	-
TOTAL (A)		35,84,21,510.00	11,20,06,085.00
EXPENDITURE			
Establishment Expenses	20	2,71,23,320.00	3,03,74,871.00
Office & Other Administrative Expenses, etc.	21	29,81,26,893.14	38,15,68,982.76
Expenditure on Grants, Subsidies etc.	22	-	-
Interest	23	-	-
Depreciation (Net Total at the year-end) (Corresponding to Schedule 8)		32,63,740.61	32,04,356.17
Payment/Adjustment related to earlier years		-	-
TOTAL (B)		32,85,13,959.75	41,51,48,219.93
Balance being excess of Income/(Expenditure) over Expenditure/Income (A-B)		2,99,07,550.25	(31,42,134.33)
Transfer to Special Reserve (Specify each)		-	-
Transfer to / from General Reserve		-	-
BALANCE BEING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) CARRIED TO CORPUS / CAPITAL FUND		2,99,07,550.25	(31,42,134.33)
SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES ON ACCOUNTS	24		
	25		

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