



**Preliminary Report in the matter of Death of 77 infants in
a month at JK Lon Hospital, Govt. Hospital,
Kota, Rajasthan**

Visit on 29.12.2019

**National Commission For Protection of Child Rights
(NCPCR)**

**5th Floor, Chanderlok Building, 36 Janpath, New Delhi -
110001**

Subject: Preliminary Report in the matter of Death of 77 infants in a month at JK Lon Hospital, Govt. Hospital, Kota

Background

1 An incident of death of 77 infants in JK Lon Hospital Kota, Rajasthan during the month of December, 2019 including death of 10 infants/children within 48 hours in the same hospital came into the notice of this Commission, wherein the Commission has taken the cognizance

2. Considering the sensitivity of the issue and its grave impact, a fact-finding team headed by **Shri. Priyank Kanoongo** Chairperson, National Commission For Protection of Child Rights assisted by Shri. Raman Kumar Gaur Senior Consultant, Legal Department, NCPCR visited J K Lon Hospital Kota on 29.12.2019 to take stock of the situation and to convene meeting with the concerned District administration/hospital authorities.

3. The meeting was presided by Chairperson NCPCR and was attended by the concerned authorities of JK Lon Hospital

- Dr. Vijay Sardana. Principal ,Government New Medical College
- Dr.Naveen Saxena, Hospital Superintendent, Maharao Bhimsingh, Hospital
- Dr.Suresh Dulara, Medical Superintendent, J.K.Lon Hospital, Kota
- Dr.Amrit Lal Bairwaa, Head of the Department,
- Dr.Mamta Sharma, Gynecologist
- Smt.Kaneez Fatima, Chairperson ChildWelfare Committee,
- Shri Vimal Chand, Member ChildWelfare Committee
- Shri Baal Krishna Tiwari, Deputy Secretary City Development
- Smt.Savita, Deputy Director Department of Child Empowerment
- Shri Dinesh Sharma , Protection Officer
- Shri S.P.Singh, former Member, Rajasthan State Commission.
- Shri Harish, Former Chairperson Child Welfare Committee

OBSERVATION

➤ Dr.Dulara Medical Superintendent informed the Commission that he was holding additional charge and responsibilities in the two Departments of the Hospital and was also supervising the day to day administration of the hospital. Further he informed to the Commission that he was appointed as a Medical Superintendent of JK Lon hospital on 27.12.2018 and has taken charge on 28.12.2019. As such, he was unable to give any suitable response to the queries raised to him during the meeting and inspection.The work and conduct was found to be negligent as per the status of the doctor.

➤ The Chief Medical Officer, Kota was found highly negligent towards his duties and was not present in the meeting despite calling him several times he remained unavailable in the meeting.

- As informed to the Commission only 09 ventilators were functional out of 15 at the time of the incident which is a matter of concern .
- Also the status about the operation and functions of life saving equipment was not available with the concerned hospital authorities and higher medical staff during the visit
- Following up on the matter,it emerged that out of the 10 infants and children who have died within 48 hrs due to severe infection,Hypoxia,Sceptacamia etc , 02 were delivered at JK Lon Hospital Kota and 03 were referred from other hospitals like Bara Hospital
- 01 new born baby whose parents are found to be bonafide resident of Madhya Pradesh was brought to the JK Lon Hospital, Kota in serious condition died during the treatment in the Hospsital. However, the hospital did not have any information or knowledge where this newborn baby was delivered.
- The hospital does not have faculty as per the norms of Medical Council of India
- It was informed to the Commission that one of the reasons of death of the infants was due to they being under-weight and born to anemic mothers.

During inspection of the hospital premises the followings shortcomings were observed :

- The infrastructure of the hospital was found to be in a pathetic condition. Window panes/gates were found to be broken and as a result the children admitted were suffering from extreme weather condition.
- General upkeep and maintenance of the hospital were in the worst condition.
- Pigs were found roaming inside the campus
- No record of AMC of the hospital equipment was produced to the Commission during the visit
- The hospital has an acute deficiency of the staff including stationed HOD Pediatric Department
- Sanitation of the hospital was in a pathetic state and the Medical Superintendent Dr.S.C.Dulara was unaware and negligent towards the issue of sanitation and hygiene.

In view of above circumstances, a summon under Section 14 of the CPCRA Act,2005 has been served to Dr.B.S.Tanwar, Chief Medical Officer, Kota on 30.12.2019 with direction to appear in person before the Commission on 03.01.2020 along with relevant records/documents with regard to the negligence on the part of hospital authorities in the matter as listed below :

- Data on the number of anemic Pregnant Women
- Data on underweight Children
- Action initiated against the negligent authority and preventive measures undertaken to avoid such incidents in the future.

Simultaneously, a Show Cause Notice, has also been issued to Shri. Vaibhav Galariya, Secretary, Medical Education Department, Govt.of Rajasthan to furnish action taken report on the following observations noticed during the inspection, to the Commission within three days :

- It was evident that there was no glass in windows panes, gates were broken and as a result, the admitted children were suffering with the extreme weather condition
- General upkeep and maintenance of the hospital are in the worst condition.
- Pigs were found roaming inside the campus of the hospital
- No record of AMC of the hospital equipment was produced to the Commission during the visit.
- The information regarding the number of equipment which were not in working condition when 10 children died within 48 hours
- It was observed that Hospital is having the acute deficiency of staff including not-stationed HoD of Pediatric Department

The Commission is of the view that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India may consider to conduct a parallel fact finding inquiry in the matter and the outcome of the fact-finding inquiry so conducted by the Ministry may be shared with the Commission in the best interest of children.
