



CAMP/BENCH REPORT

GAJAPATI, ODISHA
24th December, 2019

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS
NEW DELHI

Working Report

INTRODUCTION

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights conducted its National Bench/Camp in Gajapati District which is situated in Odisha. The programme was organised on 24th December, 2019 and was chaired by Dr. R. G. Anand, Honorable Member of National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR). The bench comprised of Honorable Chairperson Odisha State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (OSCPCR), and Honorable Members of OSCPCR along with Mr. Anupam Saha District Collector, Gajapati and Ms. Sarah Sharma, Superintendent of Police, Gajapati. Officials from all other departments such as education, labour, welfare, police etc of the district were also present in the bench for the proceedings. In total the bench/camp received 770 complaints- 251 complaints out of total were heard during the bench and orders were passed. Many positive innovative approaches were found to have been adopted by the district administration for welfare of children and general public such as child friendly police stations, food and cloth donation centers, quick task force/group by the police for prompt action in case of emergencies which intended to prevent any dire mishap from happening etc.



The key highlights of the Bench/Camp were:-

- i. The Bench/Camp received 770 complaints from the district and all 251 complaints were heard on the same day.

- ii. The majority of complaints received in the bench were related to Juvenile Justice in the district, although, problems related to child malnutrition was also found rampant in the areas.
- iii. Different types of problems were identified in schools and Hon'ble Member Dr. R. G. Anand directed visits in all such schools and report of the same to be submitted to the District Collector within 7-15 days.
- iv. All issues relating to boundary walls and toilets was decided to be taken up in particular by the Commission.
- v. Various child disability related cases were presented in front of the camp and Member Dr. Anand directed immediate relief to the children by making available Disability Certificate and Disability Pension money. It was further decided that the Commission will emphasize on financial assistance to every such child on priority basis who requires help for treatment.
- vi. Cases of child labour being reinforced as labourers after being rescued once was received during camp which were taken up as a matter of concern by Hon'ble Member, Dr. Anand where he directed for immediate enquiry and compliance report to NCPCR.
- vii. Complaints of various CCIs facing immense Infrastructural deficits were also redressed by Hon'ble Member (RGA) and direction for immediate inspections and report to the Hon'ble District Collector to be submitted within 7 days was given.
- viii. All cases related to POCSO were heard by Hon'ble Member, Dr. Anand on a priority basis and SP, Gajapati, Ms. Sarah Sharma was asked to provide update regarding the same immediately.
- ix. The local organizations of the district were found to be extremely attentive on the field and helpful throughout the bench. The Child Line of the area was also positively involved in welfare of children in the district. The active participation and support received during the camp from local NGO's and Childline contributed largely in the successful conduction of camp and creation of awareness regarding child rights in the district. The support was much appreciated.

➤ **BEFORE THE SITTING OF THE BENCH/CAMP**

MEETINGS BEFORE BENCH

• **Preparatory Meetings with Non-Governmental Organizations.**

The National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights conducted an NGO Consultation meet on 22nd December 2019. The meeting was organized at District Collectorate Office in Gajapati. The NCPCR team along with the District Child Protection Officer of Gajapati District chaired the consultation meet. During the meeting, the NCPCR team informed the NGO's about the objective and purpose of constituting a national bench related to child rights violations in the district. The team also informed the respective NGO's about the roles and responsibilities of the commission and work done by the commission all over the years in protecting and preserving the rights of children. Out of 22 NGO's registered under NITI Darpan portal around 20 NGO's have participated in this meeting. The Commission informed the NGO's about the objective of national bench and asked them to attend the meeting before the sitting of the bench and asked them to bring complaint grid or complainants highlighting the child right violation from there district on the day of the sitting of National Bench. The Meeting was conducted in to two parts, first one being the induction and general agenda setting, second meeting was conducted on 23rd included the training for smooth conduction of the Bench.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NGO-MEETING

- Around 20 NGO's have participated in the meeting.
- All the NGOs present have agreed to volunteer in running the National Bench smoothly and efficiently.
- A representation of the NGOs was very satisfactory.
- NGOs were very aware of community issues and actively participated in the meeting providing their insights on the issues relating to child rights violation, exclusive to their district.
- NGO's didn't provide any constructive information related to child protection issues and were not aware with ground realities.



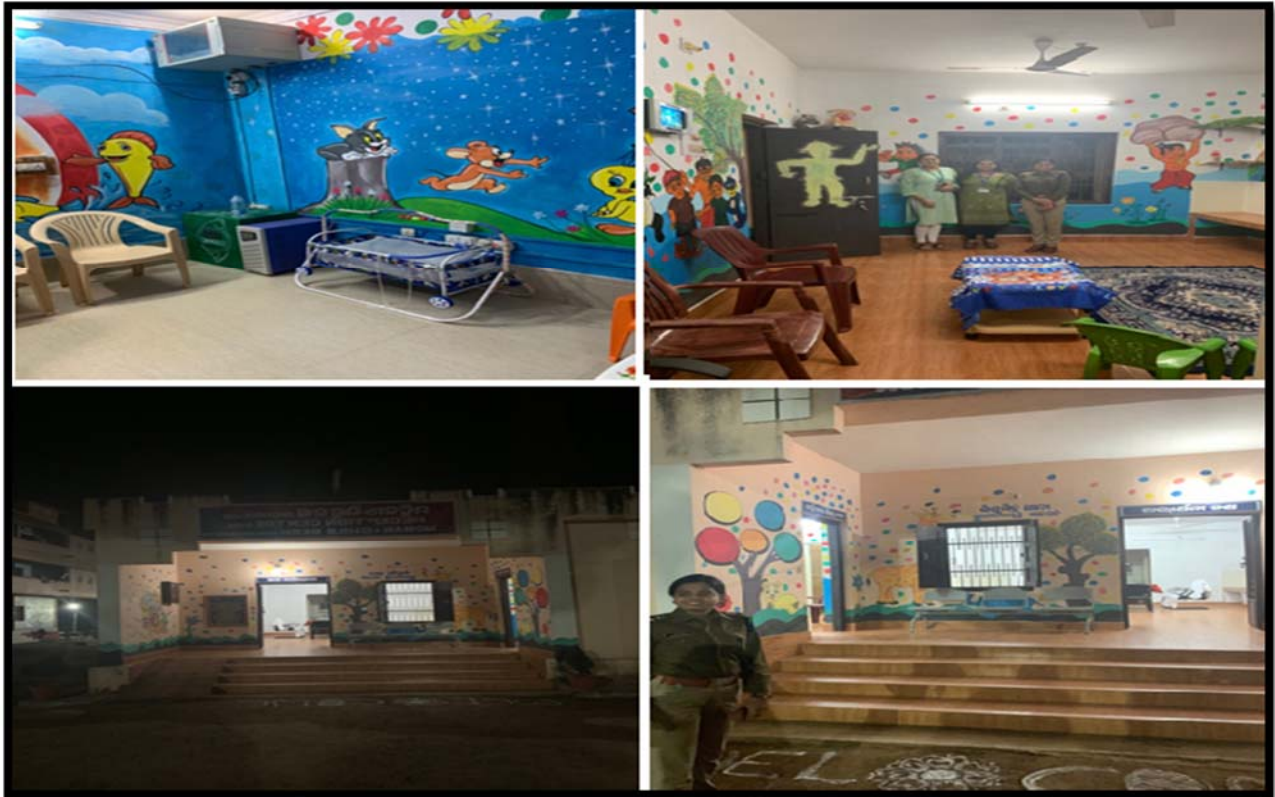
- **Meeting with the District Officials.**

The team conducted a meeting with District Collector, Gajapati; District Magistrate, Gajapati; and Nodal Officer, SDM. Departmental Officers such as WCD, Labour, PRO, DCPO, etc. attended the meeting and NCPCR's team took feedback on the preparation done till date. The Collector informed that a meeting with SCPCR and officers had already been conducted before the arrival of NCPCR team and all the officers have been directed to attend the bench being held on 24.12.2019. NCPCR team explained the procedure of Camp and sample note sheet to be filled during the bench was also shown to the officers present to make the proceedings of the bench smooth. The collector also helped in the explanation of the process during bench and what role departments had to play during the sitting of bench. How a complaint was to be dealt was also explained during the bench.



- **Women and Child Desk at the Paralakhemundi Police Station, Gajapati**

A model Child friendly Police Station was created by the Superintendent of Police, Gajapati Ms. Sarah Sharma, the Police station was one of its kind, and extremely well functioning. There were several rooms for counselling of women and children and a friendly and secure environment created for children and women who attend the Police Station. The Child-Friendly PS included a Pram, and a safe space for breast-feeding mothers.



INSPECTION OF CHILD CARE CENTRES

NCPCR officials conducted inspections in one Anganwadi centers, one Children’s Home for girls, two primary schools and one Nutritional Rehabilitation Centre of Gajapati district. The objective of conducting the inspection was to review the performance and standards of the facilities provided to the children in these institutions/facilities and simultaneously take Suo-moto cognizance on the matters pertaining to child rights violations in these institutes.

Gajapati, Odisha (22.12.2019 – 24.12.2019):

CHILD CARE INSTITUTION FOR BOYS

Sri Jagannath Niketan, Paralakhemundi (CCI for CNCP boys)

Sri Jagannath Niketan, Paralakhemundi is a home for 'children in need of care and protection' boys. Most boys have been staying there for few years and regularly going to school nearby. The home premises were clean and hygienic, the toilets and kitchen were well kept. But the key issue was that the institute has an open shower facility, which may bring issue during rainy weather, and might be deemed unsafe to shower



in the open. Also, the institution did not have concrete boundary rather a iron wiring surrounding the place. During the conversation with the boys, boys reported that the food is cooked well and they are taken care well. However, by inspecting team a issue of child suffering from TB was noticed, questioned were when a child was seen as visibly weak and ill.

Admission of a child suffering from Tuberculosis: While visiting a children's home Sri Jagannath Niketan, Paralakhemundi in Gajapati Odisha on 23.12.2019, the NCPCR team took cognizance of a minor boy suffering from Tuberculosis from more than 6 months, the boy reported no regular medical treatment, he was then shown to the Chief Medical Officer, Gajapati and is currently under medical care.





GOVERNMENT SCHOOL VISITS

Upper Primary School, Ranodevi Centre, Gajapati

The Commission's team visited Upper Primary School, Ranodevi Centre, Gajapati, which is established in a remote and rural area to examine the facilities provided to the children in school. Several issues were highlighted in this school. The school infrastructure was clearly not up-to the mark:

1. There was no facility of playground for children.
2. No water facility available for children for drinking and toilet. For toilet, the children had to go to the nearby farmlands to relieve themselves.
3. The Mid-day-meal facility was not proper in the school. The mid-day meal designated cook fetches water from a faraway place to cook for children.
4. There were snake burrows/houses in the classrooms, and snakes have been found to be entering classroom, and children have likewise fought the snake to save themselves. Children themselves voiced their concerns regarding their safety of life.

All of these complaints were reported to the Education Officer and District Magistrate likewise during the Bench.



Upper Primary School, Kotolkoita, Gajapati

The Commission's team visited Upper Primary School, Kotolkoita, Gajapati, which is established in a city area to examine the facilities provided to the children in school. Several issues were highlighted in this school.

1. The school playground was of very small size.
2. There was no security person to look after the front gate, while we reached the school, a child came to open the door lock.
3. The school was visibly unhygienic and not properly clean
4. The toilets were not cleaned properly and seemed not looked after.
5. The cooking area/kitchen was not well kept, there was certainly a scope of food contamination with the sight of dirt that was present in the kitchen area.

All of these complaints were reported to the Education Officer and District Magistrate likewise during the Bench.



ANGANWADI CENTRE

Anganwadi Ranadevi, Panchayat – Baghosala, Gajapati

Anganwadi had appropriate space for 10 children where only 3 children were present at the time of impromptu and uninformed visit. The Anganwadi constituted of one room, where children were sitting for a proper activity room was designated for children to organize non-formal preschool activities. The room had various items for children like- props, learning cards, wooden blocks, story flash cards and pre-reading materials.



Issues raised:

1. The Anganwadi had no separate kitchen and no separate storeroom at the site.
2. The hygiene standards have not been found to be satisfactory within and outside the Anganwadi premises; also, the toilet was present in the building but was found to be non-functional.
3. There was no direct supply of water for toilet and for drinking purposes, the handpump was non-functional.
4. There was not structure of toilet was present at the centre.



NUTRITIONAL REHABILITATION CENTRE

Nutritional Rehabilitation Centre, District Headquarters Hospital, Paralakhemundi, Gajapati

Management of the severely malnourished children requires that each child be treated with proper care & affection, and that each phase of treatment be carried out properly by approximately trained and dedicated health personnel's. When this was done, the risk of death can be substantially reduced and the opportunity for full recovery greatly improved. For that purpose Nutritional Rehabilitation Centres (NRC) are a key point in every district.

The Team of NCPCR visited the NRC at the District Headquarters Hospital on 23rd, 12'2020. The Centre was extremely well kept, clean and hygienic and all the relevant health equipments were very well



maintained. At the time of visit, there were 2 children admitted at the NRC and while asking they replied with satisfaction with the treatment they are receiving currently.



➤ ON THE DAY OF THE SITTING OF THE BENCH/CAMP

The Commission conducted its National Bench/Camp in Gajapati District which is situated in Odisha. The programme was organised on 24th December, 2019 and was chaired by Dr. R. G. Anand, Honorable Member of National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR). The bench comprised of Honorable Chairperson OSCPCR, and Honorable Members of OSCPCR along with Mr. Anupam Saha District Collector, Gajapati and Ms. Sarah Sharma, Superintendent of Police, Gajapati. Officials from all other departments such as education, labour, welfare, police etc of the district were also present in the bench for the proceedings. In total the bench/camp received 770 complaints- 251 complaints out of total were heard during the bench and orders were passed.





Below is the information on the total number of cases received during the sitting of the bench.

S.NO	TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES	TOTAL NUMBER
1	Cases heard by the Bench	251
2	Cases registered but not heard	519
	TOTAL	770

Area Wise (Under CPCR Act, 2005)

Complaints are segregated based on the 6 areas that come under section 3 of CPCR Act, 2005.

S.NO.	DEPARTMENTS	TOTAL COMPLAINTS
1	Juvenile Justice	274
2	Education	271
3	Laws relating to Children (POCSO)	02
4	Health	218
6	Child Psychology or Sociology	0
7	Child Labor	05
	TOTAL	770

DISCLAIMER: The data presented above is the initial data as per the day of the Camp/ Bench.



✚ Subject wise analysis of complaint

1) **Education:** 271 complaints pertaining to the issues related to education of children in the district were registered on the day of the sitting of the bench. Infrastructural problems in educational institutions of the district were found to be the largest registered issues during bench in this category.

Section	Nature of complaints	Total complaints
1	Cases related to Scholarship/ Financial Assistance	04
2	Cases related to Infrastructural Issues	223
	Absence of School in the Neighborhood	15
3	Cases related to Safety and Security	01
4	Cases related to admission	17
5	Cases related to issuing of certificates or any other problems w.r.t certificate	01
6	Cases related to lack of teacher	06
7	Miscellaneous	04
	Total	271

2) Juvenile Justice: Among total of 274 cases pertaining to the issues related to Juvenile Justice were registered during the bench.

Section	Nature of complaints	Total complaints
1	Cases related to compensation & sponsorship for children	76
2	Cases related to issuance of Caste and birth certificate	04
3	Other	194
	Total	274

3) Child Health: Among the total cases related to child health received during Gajapati Bench, largest number of cases was found to be related to issues in Anganwadi centers of the district. This pattern regarding infrastructural and other issues in Anganwadi centers has observed to be similar in most aspirational districts throughout the country.

Section	Nature of complaints	Total complaints
1	Cases related to Anganwadi functioning	109
2	Cases related to issuing of disability certificate or disability pension	19
3	Cases related to issuing of disability certificate or pension with treatment	06
4	Cases related to health treatment	66
5	Cases related to financial assistance for treatment	01
6	Road, water, sanitation issues in CWC	17
	Total	218

4) POCSO

Section	Nature of complaints	Total complaints
1	Cases related to sexual abuse/ harassment	01
2	Child marriage & Pregnancy	01
	Total	02

5) Child Labour

Section	Nature of complaints	Total complaints
1	Cases related to compensation not given to child labour	03
2	Cases related to children involve in child labour	02
	Total	05



➤ Complaint Analysis According to NITI AAYOG INDICATORS

The National bench of NCPCR is being conducted in those districts which are declared 'aspirational' by NITI Aayog. The NITI Aayog analysed these districts based on 49

indicators segregated in five sectors- Health, Education, Agriculture & Water Resources, Financial Inclusion and Basic Infrastructure. Since NCPCR has a mandate to take complaints in the matters related to child rights violations. Therefore, the commission has placed its focus on three key sectors- Education & Nutrition Focusing on the Facilities provided to children.

Subject	Indicator	Complaints received
Health	Proportion of Anganwadis with own buildings	A sum total of 109 complaints related to lack of infrastructure facilities and other issues in the functioning of Anganwadis were registered during the Bench.
Education	Transition rate from primary to upper primary school level&Transition rate from upper primary to secondary school level	223 school infrastructure related complaints were registered during the bench.
	-Toilet access: percentage schools with functional girls' toilets -Percentage of schools with functional drinking water facility -Percentage of schools with functional electricity facility at secondary level	

CONCLUSION

The National Bench was organized in district Gajapati, Odisha on 24th December, 2019 under the chairmanship of Dr. R. G. Anand, Hon'ble Member NCPCR wherein total of 770 complaints were received. The issues registered during bench were found to be a mixed compilation of problems in areas of child education, child health, conflicts of juvenile justice, child labour and child sexual offences in the district. The support received from the local NGO's and Child line in creation of awareness regarding child rights and National Camp; collection of complaints related

to child rights and conduction of bench was overwhelming. The active working of local organizations on ground level in the field of child rights in the district was commendable. Although, Gajapati being one of the aspirational districts of the state bear serious issues of lack of infrastructural facilities in child related institutions; child labour, malnutrition etc, but the active support of district administration provides assurance of a better future for children of the district with help of the Commission. One of the ace approaches of the Commission for district Gajapati was to expedite the solution of child Disability related issues especially certificate, pension and treatment which was taken up actively during bench proceedings with installation of stalls.

The volunteers apart from the district administration helped in running the proceedings of the bench/camp smoothly. Childline and teachers helped the complainant from registering the complaint to helping them write the complaint and translating the language from Odiya to English/Hindi for the bench/camp. Nevertheless, significant directions were issued in monitoring and implementation of various child rights related laws and policies.



NCPCR GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL CAMP HELD IN G'PATI



Paralakhemundi: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in association with the Odisha State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (OSCPCR) organised a grievance redressal camp on matters of child rights violation here on Thursday. NCPCR Member Dr RG Anand, OSCPCR Chairperson Sandhyabati Pradhan, Members Harihar Nayak, Gitanhali Bastia, Gajapati Collector Anupam Saha, SP Sarah Sharma and MLA K Narayan Rao attended as guests. A total of 928 cases were heard in the camp and 778 cases were disposed of. Children were given 10 bus concessions passes, 11 wheelchairs, eight tricycles, 10 Banishree Scholarships and 197 were given disability certificate.

ANNEXURES

S.No.	Name of NGO	Contact details
1.	Programme for Rural Awareness and Very Action (PRAVA)	9437192514 prava.org@gmail.com
2.	Centre for community development	8763414368/9438037003/9437062516 ccdedraju@gmail.com / ccdevraju@gmail.com
3.	SOPUTRA	9938421852/9439115701 soputra@rediffmail.com
4.	DMMS	9438812192 sabulanlimma2019@gmail.com
5.	RKSS	9438854384 rkssociety93@gmail.com
6.	SACAL	8763414359 sacalodisha@gmail.com
7.	Chidline	9437750312 childlinegajapatiu1@gmail.com