

## **Brief Report on Regional Convention by State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Haryana**

A “**Northern Regional Convention**” was organised by State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Panchkula, Haryana on 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2014 at Haryana Niwas, Sector-3, Chandigarh in collaboration with National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, New Delhi on challenges and issues faced by Child Welfare Committees.

The Convention was attended by dignitaries from all other State Commissions i.e. Delhi, Chandigarh, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan. Chief Guest, Mrs. Kushal Singh, Chairperson, NCPCR, New Delhi made her presence from her busy schedule to address the functioning, role and importance of CWC’s and gave an overview on Child Rights.

Mrs. Savitri Dhaka, Chairperson welcomed esteemed Chief Guest, Smt. Kushal Singh, Chairperson, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights and the participants from all the various states. She further stressed on to bring out the best points that we need that we need to take forward for the CWCs. CWC is an important committee and the problems they are facing shall be resolved to bring the change and make their functioning better. She also emphasized that each one of us shall realise the responsibilities that we have been given, what is our function and how we can coordinate with other department and State Commissions. She also suggested CWCs to share not only the quarterly reports but monthly reporting will also make the functioning of CWCs effective.

### **Recommendations / Suggestions from all the States :-**

1. All the CWCs shall implement the promotion of child rights and protection at grass root level as this body is the backbone of the State Commissions working for the protection of child rights.
2. A strong common voice shall be raised from National to District level for promotion of child rights.
3. It was also emphasized by the senior dignitaries that State Commission and Child Welfare Committees are independent bodies and no one can interfere its functioning but shall work in close coordination within each other to commonly work for the betterment and welfare of the children.
4. Have to focus on health and education primarily of our nation children by investing in them and also promote Joint Activities with CWCs.
5. The common issues faced by the CWCs are regarding lack of infrastructure, basic facilities and administrative staff is not provided which shall be taken by into consideration so that CWCs in all the districts /States can work more efficiently.
6. Suo-moto-cognizance shall be taken by the CWCs which can enhance its importance, functioning and also important for all the people working for the welfare of the children.

7. CWCs should have proper knowledge of all the important Acts likewise JJ Act, POCSO, Labour Laws and RTE. In this regard it was suggested that these acts can be framed in Hindi language or any other language comprehensible to the CWCs for themselves.

8. A combined office shall be created in every State by the name of Child Welfare Bhawan for the sitting of CWCs, JJB and DCPU at district headquarter through ICPS funding. So this can help these bodies to work in close coordination.

9. It was also recommended in the convention by Chairperson, Uttrakhand Commission that there should be one children home in every district with 100% funding by the Central Government and requested that this recommendation shall be send by the National Commission.

10. There was a recommendation from Chairperson, Himachal Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights that as there are many long routes/distances in H.P. so there shall be transit homes in every district of HP where a child (who is need of care & protection) shall be kept for further orders.

11. Regular capacity building programmes shall be initiated for all the CWCs time-to time to upgrade their knowledge which includes legal trainings as well. They also suggested that NCERT shall also be written for the CWCs to include them also in their workshops for more clarity of rules followed in the education system.

12. Mandate of CWCs shall also be increased so that more generation of work is shown. Work distribution is an important concept.

13. It was also recommended that a Secretarial Staff be appointed for every CWC for administrative functioning of CWCs.

14. There is a need of resource directory for CWCs as the cases/complaints come from all different states and concerned departments and with the help of this resource directory, CWCs will be able to coordinate well and take appropriate decisions at right time.

15. Chandigarh CWC, Chairperson had suggested that as CWC has a major role in the adoption process so the trainings in this context shall be requested by NCPCR, New Delhi to CARA for such trainings for more clarity on the intricate details/documentation required to be maintained by CWCs for declaring a child free for adoption especially for children surrendered and abandoned from out of states. Also, adequate training of support persons shall be conducted and the financial guidelines for the same shall be clearly mentioned to be given to the support persons.

The Convention was ended up with the panel discussion where queries from all the participants were resolved. The panel discussion was opened by Mrs. Mamta Sahai (Chairperson, Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights) where CWCs from all the states referred their questions and an open discussion was made on all the queries to make this convention a great learning experience to make more clarity on the role of CWCs for the promotion of the child rights.