



Juvenile Justice Division

Press Note

Hyderabad
February 2, 2021

Smt. Pragna Parande, Hon'ble Member of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights on her State Visit to Telanagana informed that NCPCR is developing an app titled "Monitoring App for Seamless Inspections - MASI" which aims to ensure efficient conduct of inspections by Juvenile Justice system stakeholders every 3 months regularly updating reports in the database. The app shall assist the district officials in better monitoring and compliance of child care institutions. The app is unique as it shall include features for uploading of Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with children and photos and videos of child care institutions. The app shall be GIS enabled and will allow the official to conduct the inspection only on arriving at the child care institution. The app shall ensure that random inspections are conducted by randomly selecting CCIs for inspections for Child Welfare Committee member, District Inspection Committee and State Commission for Protection of Child Rights member. The app shall be available to all the stakeholders of child protection system in India. The app shall be beneficial in ensuring compliance of CCIs with the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Juvenile Justice Rules 2016. The app shall ensure timely inspections and features have been added to restrict the misuse of the app. She expressed her concern for the children being exploited in CCIs in the state and directed the administration to initiate strict action including closure of the CCIs and restoration children to their respective families.

Smt. Pragna Parande informed that the cases of child labour and trafficking in the state are concerning. She directed attention to the issue of child trafficking for prostitution and child labour witnessed in areas near highways in the state. She suggested that the state administration should proactively undertake measures to protect the vulnerable children and conduct vulnerability mapping of such children and their families similar to the initiative undertaken by NCPCR in key districts across the country. She informed that NCPCR following extensive consultation on child trafficking, NCPCR published a report on Preventing child trafficking post lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic. Following the report, NCPCR has launched vulnerability mapping of children & their families to child trafficking in various districts. On the issue of children labours engaged in bangle industry, she suggested that the children and their families be connected with state schemes under different departments and also be provided with sponsorship.

Smt. Pragna Parande highlighted the increase of child marriages in the state during lockdown and suggested that the state and district administration engage religious and community leaders in combatting child marriage. Awareness trainings be conducted for local religious and community leaders. She encouraged religious and community leaders to engage actively within the JJ System and support the efforts of stakeholders by participating in discussions and counselling of families within the community. Further, they should support the alternatives to institutional services by promoting Sponsorship schemes and Foster Care for vulnerable children. Additionally, she mentioned the issue of child begging especially near and in religious sites in the State. She directed the State administration to identify the vulnerable children and connect them with key schemes of the State government.

Smt. Pragna Parande praised the State administration and State Commission for Protection of Child Rights for conducting benches in the State based on the benches conducted by NCPCR in the aspirational districts as identified by NITI Aayog. She proposed to the State administration to identify 5 best districts which converge the work of various departments such as Education, Health, Youth with a focus on children as Model Districts. She recommended that the district JJ system officials be provided with training on identification of mental health issues in children and mental health sensitization training.

Smt. Pragna Parande informed that her team of officers would be conducting inspections in CCIs during the tour through the app to check the efficiency of the app in use. She praised initiatives of the Women and Child State administration which is headed by female officials. She commented that the true spirit of women empowerment could be witnessed by the presence of strong women officers in the press meet. She concluded by cautioning against impunity provided to perpetrators of child right violations. She expressed her commitment to protecting rights of children and ensuring strict action is initiated against perpetrators of child right violations.

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