

Government of Nepal Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens National Child Rights Council

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# A. Introduction to NCRC

The Government of Nepal has formed the National Child Rights Council as per the Section 59 of Children's Act, 2018 by transforming Central Child Welfare Board formed under Children's Act, 1992. The Council is chaired by Women, Children and Senior Citizens Minister, and there are altogether 23 members consisting of 12 representatives of federal ministries and commission, secretaries of Social Development Ministries of 7 provinces and 4 members nominated by the Government of Nepal from civil society, and Executive Director of the Council as a Member-Secretary. National Child Rights Council is the government apex body for the overall protection and promotion of the rights of the child in Nepal.

## B. Major Mandate

As indicated in the Rules (3a) of Children's Regulations (Second Amendment) 2020, the major mandate of NCRC are as follows:

- 1. Approve the long-term policy, plan and annual program budget of the Council. In course of respecting, protecting, promoting and fulfilling the rights of children, provide recommendations to the federal, provincial and local government in order to adapt the required policy, legal, plan, program and institutional measures. Provide suggestions to the Government of Nepal based on monitoring, evaluation and reviewing programs implementation.
- 2. Facilitate to prepare periodic reports in line with International Conventions in which Nepal is a party.
- 3. Coordinate with and facilitate the Provincial and Local Child Rights Committee for the sake of monitoring, evaluation and reviewing the programs conducted by the provincial and local level.
- 4. Strengthen the capacity of concerned stakeholders in the course of protecting and promoting the rights of children.

- 5. Publicize an annual report of the state of children incorporating information received from the Provincial and Local Child Rights Committee.
- 6. Develop, operate, manage and strengthen child-related national information systems.
- 7. Manage human and financial resources for the Council, and mobilize them to develop the capacity of key stakeholders.
- 8. Implement required programs for the protection and rights of children by mobilizing assistance received from bi-lateral and multi-lateral donors with the consent of the Ministry of Finance.
- 9. Conduct specific national campaigns for protecting and promoting the rights of children by prioritizing the plan, annual policy and program approved by the Government of Nepal.

# C. <u>Key Performances of the Month:</u>

## **1. Child Protection Activities**

# 1.1 Center for Children at -Risk (104)

(1) NCRC facilitates operation of National Center for Children at -Risk (104) for immediate rescue, protection and management of lost, unaccompanied children. Out of 276 reported missing children (boy 45 and girl 183) across the country for the period of 16 November to 15 December, 2020 altogether 101 (19 boy and 82 girl) children including 143 (boy 28 and girl 115) children among 454 who were reported missing since previous month for this FY, have been reunited with their families and the search for others is going on. Similarly, out of 10 children (6 boy and 4 girl) found unaccompanied, 1 boy child has been reunited with his family and 9 (5 boy and 4 girl) children have been provided temporary protection services. One child from Kavre, who was managed under temporary protection after being found unaccompanied last month of this fiscal year, has been reunited with his family. The details of the missing and found children by provinces are presented in the graph below.



#### 1.2 Child Help Line 1098

NCRC facilitates operation of Child Helpline No. 1098 for management immediate rescue. protection and under rehabilitation of children living difficult circumstances through collaborating with different CSOs. A total of 3186 children (boy-1317 and girl-1869) including 281 children rescued have been provided with different services from the Child Helpline No. 1098 till the date for this FY. Among them 911 children (316 boys, 595 girls) are provide with different services for this period only. The helpline has rescued and managed the protection of total 65 (25 boy and 45 girl) children, 1 from Morang, 10 from Sunsari, 2 from Udayapur, 11 from Makwanpur, 3 from Kathmandu, 1 from Kaski, 3 from Banke, 18 from Surkhet, 5 from Dailekh, 8 from Kailali and 3 from Bajura who were at risk, and victim of violence and abuse. Of the rescued, 37 children (10 boy and 27 girl) have been reunited with their families and 20 (10 boy and 10 girl) children have been managed in temporary protection service centres and remaining 6 (5 boy and 1 girl) children are provided with institutional care. The details of support provided to the children as mentioned in the table below.

				Tota
SN	Support provided	Boy	Girl	1
1	Health treatment	49	86	135
2	Psychosocial counseling	404	502	906
	psychoanalysis			
3	Family counselling	228	365	593
4	Legal counselling	42	145	187
5	Care, safety and protection	419	396	815
6	Educational support	82	128	210
7	Child marriage prevention	23	106	129
8	Income generation support	13	21	34
9	Other support, family	57	120	177
	monitoring			
	Total	1317	1869	3186

## **Other Performances related to Child Protection**

- (2) In coordination with the National Child Rights Council, the NCCR (104) rescued a 13-year-old girl who was found in a state of disarray at Bhrikuti Mandap in Kathmandu on December 3, 2020 and immediately managed her under temporary protection service center. Sooner, NCRC facilitated to have health check up in Nepal Medical College, Jorpati and managed her under institutional care.
- (3) For the period of Nov 16 to Dec 15, altogether 34 street children (29 boy and 5 girl) have been rescued and 3 (boy 2 girl 1) children have been reunited with their families and remaining 31 (27 boy and 4 girl) children

have been managed in temporary protection service centers.

(4) The council has monitored in-person the condition of 258 children (128 boys and 130 girls) residing in 21 CCHs (4 CCHs in Kathmandu district and 17 in Lalitpur district) with the close coordination of concerned local levels. Out of the monitored CCHs, 5 CCHs are found operational without meeting minimum requirements and necessary action will be carried out immediately as the monitoring report recommend.

# 2. <u>Meetings and Regulatory Functions</u>

(1) The first full board meeting of the National Child Rights Council has been held under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens and Chairman of the National Child Rights Council, Shree Lilanath



Shrestha. The meeting has made important decisions regarding the forthcoming action plan of the council, strategic roadmap and child safeguarding and protection policy. The meeting of the council reviewed the work progress and discussed the mandate of the Council including the organizational structure, O & M survey, the formation of sub-committees and experts team under the council, and the creation of a fund by consolidating the old bank accounts in the name of the former Central Child Welfare Board.

(2) In the solidarity with 16 days campaign against violence against women, NCRC in the collaboration with National Coalition for Girl Child Rights



organized an Interaction Program dated 6 Dec 2020 on 'Misuse of children in music videos and entertainment content and gender inequality" with the meaningful participation from Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Press Council Nepal, Department of Women and Children, National Commission for Women, National Human Rights Commission, Central Cyber Bureau, NCRC, Nepal Film Development Board, ACORAB, BAN, NACG Nepal, Consortium, CZOP, NCPA, National CFLG Forum, Civil Society Network for Social Protection. The program concluded with focusing on monitoring, mobilization, and controlling, exclusionary practices to correct the negative uses of children in media. Further, the program demanded for close coordination between Press Council, MoCIT and NCRC, revision of child friendly media guidelines.

(3) In the solidarity with 16 days campaign against violence against women, NCRC in the collaboration with Blue Diamond Society organized an interaction program dated 3 Dec 2020 on the major issues of sexually minorities' children with the meaningful presence from the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens, NCRC including civil society networks. The program discussed about the major issues of sexual minorities children and the role of stakeholders for its prompt responses. The program has also expressed commitment



to implement the work that can be done by the Ministry and the Council to address the major issues of gender and sexual minority children.

## 3. Coordination and Collaboration Activities

(1) A team led by the Executive Director of the NCRC, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens, Head of the National Center for Children at Risk and other staff of the Council visited Gandaki Province from 29 Nov to Dec 3 and the following discussion, interaction, monitoring, inspection and orientation have been completed:

A) A courtesy coordination meeting has been held with the Hon'ble Vice-Chairperson of the Policy and Planning Commission of Gandaki Province regarding



strategic roadmap of the NCRC, modality of coordination and cooperation among federal, provincial government and local levels for child focused program. During the discussion, the council has submitted a request letter to the province government for the protection and promotion of the rights of the child.

- B) NCRC discussed with the Ministry of Social Development, Gandaki Province for strengthening the Child Helpline (1098) and National Center for Children-at-Risk (104) at the province level. The meeting has agreed to coordinate and cooperate on the following issues:
  - The Provincial Planning Commission, the Provincial Ministry of Social Development and the Council have to organize joint event to form a local child rights committee and to make a



strategic plan accordingly.

• Program for food basket management is required to reduce the problem of malnutrition caused by poverty and to reduce the problem of child labor.

- NCRC need to prepare a sample frame to collect, manage and communicate disintegrated information related to children and send it to the Ministry of Social Development.
- The Council need to coordinate with the provincial government in course of conducting child-related programs.
- C) A coordination meeting has been held with the Chief of Provincial Police Office, Gandaki and District Police Office, Kaski about the rescue and management of street children with proper action plan in Pokhara.
- D) The Child Helpline (1098) Nepal operated in Kaski district has been monitored to get information about the condition of the children under temporary protection and to provide the necessary support.
- E) By monitoring the *Baal Kalyan Sanstha* in Kaski district, information has been obtained about the condition of 30 children (13 boy and 17 girl), the infrastructure of CCH, implementation of minimum standards and provided with feedback for further advancement.
- F) A one-day orientation program has been completed for the owner and representatives of the CCHs operating in Gandaki Provinces on legal provisions regarding alternative care arrangements, minimum



standards required for the operation of residential CCHs and determining the best interests of the children. The orientation program was attended by 34 people from CCHs of Kaski, Lamjung, Syangja and other districts. The Executive Director of the Council, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens and the President of the Federation of Child Care Home, Kaski addressed the program.

G) Monitored the physical infrastructure, situation of protected children and provided with appropriate feedback to Child Welfare Scheme Nepal and Children Nepal to whom NCRC is collaborating for the rescue and protection management of street children in Kaski.

# 4. Information Management and Reporting

 The Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens and the NCRC jointly celebrated the International Child Rights Day (November 20, 2020) through a special event, where the national report on



The State of Children in Nepal, 2020, has been made public through virtual media.

(2) The children's e-portal run by the Council has been updated and analyzed 41 children's news/incidents made public in various media (Ekantipur, Setopati, online news, News of Nepal, Naya Patrika, Prasasan, Annapurna Post, Thaha Khabar and Ratopati). According to the news, 62 children have been affected for this period alone. Details regarding the incidents and affected children are given in the graph below.



#### **Covid-19 and Children**

1.Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, 22,565 children (adolescents) up to the age of 20 and 6,093 children (3,593 boys and 2,500 girls) up to the age of 10 have been affected. The statistics of the affected children are presented in the graph below.



If you need any information related to NCRC activities and performance, please contact the NCRC during office hours at following: Ram Bahadur Chand Information Officer National Child Rights Council 01-5550121(Office), 9841386871 (Mobile)

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