

**Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> PAB Meeting under ICPS held on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2011 - Consultation with Punjab.**

At the outset, Secretary, Women and Child Development, (Chairman PAB) welcomed all the officers present and invited Director, WCD, Punjab to present the perspective of the State with regard to Child Protection and their financial proposal under ICPS. A List of participants is annexed A copy of the presentation is at Annex – B..

2. The State informed that there are many children in difficult circumstances including children affected by drug abuse and orphan children. There is a large migrant population in Amritsar, Jalandhar, and Ludhiana industrial area and the children of these migrant workers are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. These children are also engaged as domestic help and in shops or found abandoned as in Abohar and Ludhiana districts.

The State is a major destination for child trafficking from the States of Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal which happens on pretext of providing employment or marriage. Chairman suggested that District/Block/Village administrations should be involved in countering trafficking and to do so Panchayats should maintain registers on migration. The State was asked to conduct a survey for profiling and identification of children who are in need of care and protection.

**3. Institutional Care:**

PAB noted that the utilization of Govt. run Children's Homes in Punjab is low. State Government informed that the capacity of these homes is much lower as per Model Rules, than sanctioned for. The State was asked to assess capacity of Homes as per JJ norms. Some of the Observation homes were running as Observation cum Shelter Homes. PAB advised the State Government to ensure that separate homes are maintained in keeping with the provisions of Juvenile Justice Act and Juvenile Justice Rules.

Of the 5 more Homes being run by NGOs, 2 were street children projects (run by Guru Nanak Charitable Trust, Ludhiana and Gramin Vikas Kalyan Society, Abohar,) earlier provided financial assistance under 'An Integrated Programme for Street Children' and thus could not be provided support under Institutional care, PAB desired that profiling of the children be done to ascertain the type of services that would be required for them. Also, a 3<sup>rd</sup> project, Nari Niketan Trust, Nakodar Road, Jalandhar, a Recognized Indian Placement Agency (RIPA) was already covered under SAA component.

The State was asked to notify Nirog Bal Ashram Charitable Society, Mukatsar Road, Kotkatura, (a home of children of leprosy patients) as a Children's Home and open admission to all kinds of children, as under Juvenile Justice Act 2000, such children cannot be housed separately. For evening

schools being run by Child Welfare Council, Punjab for children living in slums, the State Government was asked to link with the residential school component under SSA.

#### **4. Non - Institutional Care:**

There are 5 NGO run Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) at Patiala, Jalandhar (2 NGOs) and Ludhiana (2 NGOs) being run by Yadwindra Puran Bal Niketan, Children Welfare Society, Nari Niketan Trust, Nishkam Sewa Ashram and Swami Ganga Nand Bhuri Wale International Dham respectively under the JJ Act. Chairman suggested that the existing homes for disabled in the State (Pingalwada's) could be linked to SAAs to give an opportunity to the children in these homes to get adopted.

#### **5. Status of Statutory bodies & Structures**

- a) The State has informed that 5 CWCs are functional in the State and remaining 15 CWCs will be constituted by July, 2011. 20 JJBs are functioning in the State.
- b) Special Juvenile Police Units (SJPUs) have been set up in all Districts.
- c) SPSU, SCPS, DCPS, SARA have not been set up in the State yet, however, the State has informed that these will be set up by July, 2011.

#### **6. Decisions taken by the Board:**

6.1 **SPSU, SCPS, SARA, DCPS:** These will be set up by July, 2011. It was decided by PAB that the recurring grants would be given for nine months in the current financial year. Full non-recurring grant was also approved by the Board.

6.2 **ACA:** PAB decided that grant would not be given to ACA as SARA has been given grant from July, 2011.

6.3 **Institutional Care:** The PAB approved up-gradation grant for the 15 homes as well as maintenance grant as per the old norms for 3 months and as per ICPS norms for 9 months. PAB also approved construction grant for new building for existing Observation Home at Faridkot and Children's Home at Patiala. It was also informed that a new building is required for Children's Home at Ropar and proposal for construction of Children's Home will be sent shortly. PAB gave in principle approval for construction grant for this as well.

6.4 **SAA:** PAB approved grant for the five (5) NGO run SAAs from July, 2011 to March, 2012.

6.5 **CWC and JJB:** PAB decided that grants would be given for 5 existing CWCs and 20 JJBs for the complete year. However, for the remaining 15 CWCs recurring grant has been approved for 9 months of the current financial year (from July, 2011 to March, 2012).

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

**List of Participants:**

1. Sh. D.K. Sikri, Secretary, (Woman and Child Development) – Chairperson
2. Sh. Sudhir Kumar, Additional Secretary (WCD)
3. Mrs. Preeti Madan. Jt. Secretary, (WCD)
4. Shri Gurkirat Kripal Singh, Director, WCD, Govt. of Punjab
5. Mrs. Kalyani Chadha, Director, (CW-II) (WCD)
6. Ms. Anu J. Singh, Secretary, CARA
7. Dr. Dinesh Paul, Director, NIPCCD
8. Sh. G.Devnani, Deputy Secretary, Finance, (WCD)
9. Ms. Jyoti Pahwa Under Secretary, MHRD D/O SE&L