



## **Visit to Pakistani Hindu Refugee Resettlement Colony**

**At**  
***Majnu ka Tilla, New Delhi***  
***14<sup>th</sup> February 2020***

**By**  
**The Chairperson**  
**National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)**

## VISIT REPORT

### OVERVIEW

The Government of India recently addressed the longstanding issue of persecuted minority refugees living in India by providing a fast-track path to Indian citizenship for minority groups from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan before December 2014. The Government of India has specifically identified six minority groups- Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, Buddhists, Christians and Parsis. It is significant to highlight that children also accompanied their parents during this migration and they equally faced this persecution at each stage - before migration, during migration and post migration. NCPCR being the foremost governing body for the protection of child rights in India has taken the cognizance for protecting and ensuring the rights of these children.



Sh. Priyank Kanoongo, Chairperson, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) made a follow up visit to resettlement colony of Pakistani Hindu refugees; New Delhi to examine and address the multifarious issues and challenges affecting these children living in refugee camps. During the visit Chairperson interacted with the local people who expressed deep concern about safety and development of children. The Commission requested the Government officials from the concerned departments- Sub- Divisional

Magistrate (SDM), Child Welfare Committee, ICDS & ICPS Nodal Officers, Juvenile Justice Board, Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), and Deputy Director of Education (DDE), Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Tehsildar and Officer from Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) to be present during the visit and ensure speedy redressal of issues encountered by the children.



#### MAJOR ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED DURING THE VISIT

- The Colony is un-electrified. However the residents are dependent on solar power installed by an NGO. The children and elderly people find it extremely difficult to cope with the hot and sultry weather of Delhi. Even TATA Power DDL has shared the list of Un-electrified areas in Delhi in its website which puts Aruna Nagar area under un-electrified zone.<sup>1</sup>
- Problem of poor sanitation in the camp- portable toilets installed by the Government were blocked, lack of running water and were in deplorable condition. Solid waste is thrown in empty plots of land within the camp. The Colony do not have proper waste disposal management system and people using Yamuna River for bathing and washing of clothes posing health risks among children. There are no internal pavements, making it muddy and difficult to walk whenever it rains.

<sup>1</sup>[https://www.tatapower-ddl.com/Editor\\_UploadedDocuments/Content/Unelectrified%20Areas%202019%20final%20list.pdf](https://www.tatapower-ddl.com/Editor_UploadedDocuments/Content/Unelectrified%20Areas%202019%20final%20list.pdf)

- Around 30 Children between the ages of 6-14 years were not enrolled or have dropped out of school and 31 children between the ages of 15-18 years were not receiving any form of education.
- Banks have refused to open bank accounts because they do not have documents like-aadhar card which is preventing some children from enrolling in school.
- Unavailability of proper health care and education facilities for children with special needs.
- There is no proper infrastructure for the Anganwadi within the camp and is running in a temporary room. Anganwadi workers were not receiving enough facilities for take home ration, insufficient study materials and proper electricity etc. from the Government to run their programmes. During the visit four cases of malnutrition were registered by the Commission.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- NCPCR recommended to the District Education Officer to conduct a household survey and ensure that children between the ages of 6-14 years are enrolled in government schools as per the provision of Right to Education Act, 2009 and children from 15-18 years to be enrolled in open school.
- NCPCR recommended to the Nodal official from Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) to open Special Training Centre as per the provision of Sec 4, RTE Act, 2009 in their school and provide special training/remedial classes to children living in the refugee colony who have dropped out of school.
- NCPCR recommended to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) to institutionalize a proper waste disposal management system in the colony and requested the MCD worker to collect the garbage from their doorstep.
- NCPCR recommend to the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) to improve the conditions of portable toilets already constructed in the refugee colony
- NCPCR recommended to the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) to install 20 more toilets& bathroom for women and children.
- NCPCR recommended to the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) to conduct awareness camp on 'Swachhta Abhiyan'
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- To recommend to the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas to examine the possibilities to extend benefits of subsidized LPG Gas connection to the refugee camp.
- To recommend the Bank Manager of the leading Bank in the area to open bank accounts of women & children.
- To recommend to the Station Head Officer to nominate a Female Police Officer from Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) to sensitize the community about the POCSO Act, 2012.
- To recommend Childline to conduct awareness camp in the colony and sensitize the children about **Good Touch Bad Touch**.
- NCPCR recommended to the District Magistrate to ensure wellbeing of the families of signature bridge refugee camp and submit a report, ensuring entitlements of children under UNCR.
- NCPCR to recommend Ministry of Power and State Government to mark districts as not fully electrified and take necessary actions.



