



CAMP/BENCH REPORT

NAMSAI, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

21st June, 2019

**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROTECTION OF CHILD RIGHTS
NEW DELHI**

Working Report

INTRODUCTION

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights conducted its bench on 21st June, 2019. The Bench was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Namsai welcoming the Honorable Members of the Commission viz. Shri Yashwant Jain and Smt. Rosy Taba. The officials of the District administration including Superintendent of Police, of Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh & officers of 10 other districts viz. (Lohit, Anjaw, Tirap, Changlang, Dibang Valley, Lower Dibang Valley, East Siang, Upper Siang, Longding, & Siang) officials participated in the Bench to take directions for to take appropriate action in redressing the grievances.



PRE BENCH PREPATORY MEETING

Namsai Bench was amongst the 1st Benches of the Commission in Aspirational Districts of the country along with a Bench in Madurai, Tamil Nadu held on the same day i.e. 21st June 2019.

As part of pre-Bench preparations the District video conferencing was done by the NCPCR team with the District Administration of Namsai under leadership of Dr. Tapsya Raghav, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Namsai. The purpose of the Bench was explained to them and the team was requested to spread the awareness amongst the general public in the district. Also, looking at the geography of Arunachal Pradesh and necessity felt for generating awareness related to Child Rights issues in the adjacent districts of Namsai, it was decided by the Commission to include, *Anjaw, Tirap, Lohit, Changlang, Dibang Valley, Lower Dibang Valley, East Siang, Upper Siang and Longding* for the said Bench. The Deputy Commissioner, Namsai was requested to send

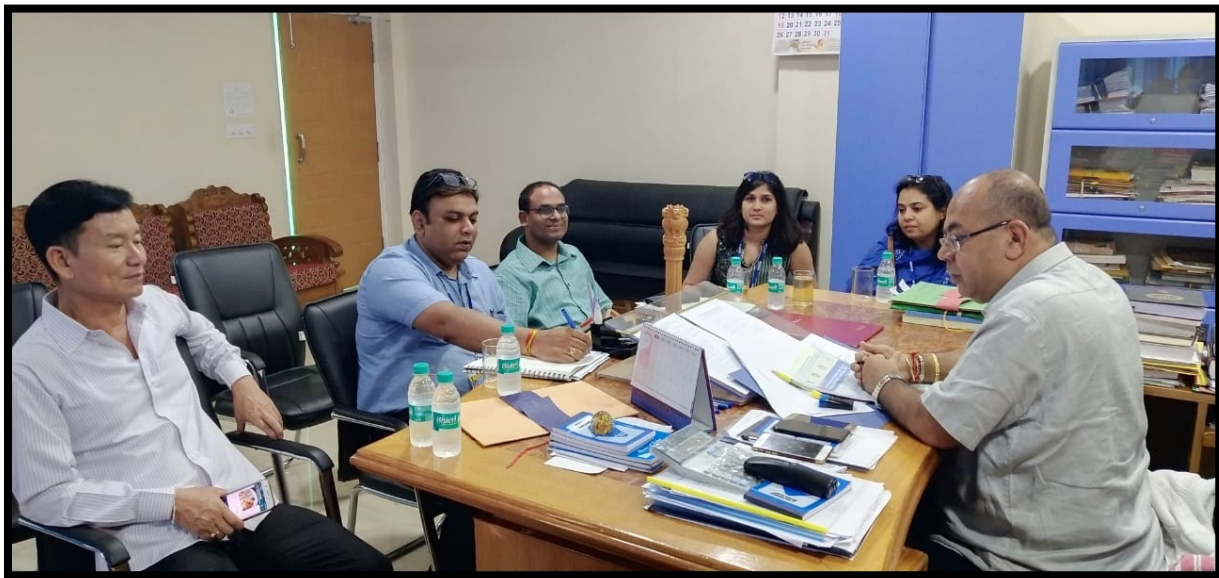
notification and share the details of Benches in these Districts as well.

Pamphlets were designed in both English and Hindi language for mass distribution in the above mentioned districts. DC, Namsai was requested to coordinate the said awareness generation in Namsai and across other districts in consultations with DCs of the said Districts.

The Advance team lead by STE North East Cell from NCPCR comprising of 3 more Consultants viz. STE-Health, Consultant Child Labour, Consultant, Laws Relating to Children reached Namsai via Tinsukia, Assam on the 18th June 2019 at 10.30 am.

NCPCRs ADVANCE TEAM MEETING DISTRICT OFFICIALS OF NAMSAI

A meeting was organized with the Nodal officer Shri Talukdar, Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Namsai, DSWO, Circle officer. The meeting was basically a stock taking meeting on preparation so far for holding the Bench. In this meeting the finalization of venue, sitting arrangement, audiovisual requirements, name plates placements, food and snacks , travel plan of officials from other districts, arrangement of stay if required for officials and complainants, NGOs information, awareness about the camp, support staff needed for the Bench, the computers/Printers and other logistics, Counters in front of the Hall, the case proceedings details were discussed and procedures finalised between the NCPCR and District Team.



It was informed by the ADC that he has to attend a meeting in Itanagar and explained that DSO is going to be the nodal officer and all necessary arrangements so far have been made. He would be assisted by the Circle Officer to ensure the due diligence. The literature /pamphlets brought by the team were also shared with the district officials.

MEETING WITH NGOS

A meeting was organized at the Conference Hall of Deputy Commissioner's Office, wherein, local NGOs who were actively working in the district were invited by the District Administration. However, it was surprised to know that there is no NGO in the district having focus on child rights active in the district. The meeting was chaired by the Deputy Commissioner, Namsai. In her remarks she mentioned that there is no Child Rights NGO working in the district and there are no cases of child rights violation currently reported in the district.

PRE-BENCH MEETINGS & VISITS TO VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS:

An advance team of the Commission started for Namsai on 16.06.19 by rail via Tinsukia, Assam. The team reached Tinsukia on 18.06.19 and started for Namsai by road in the afternoon. The team met the ADC and the coordinator of the bench and discussed the plans for the Bench.

MEETING WITH ADC (NODAL POINT OF CONTACT) AND HIS TEAM AT NAMSAI:

Following key points were discussed with the ADC and his team regarding how to proceed viz:

Venue structure and how it should look like on 21.06.19: Every minute details were discussed from seating arrangement of the members to registration of case and various technical situations.

- Managing commutation of petitioners travelling from far off districts on the day of the Bench was discussed with the ADC. It was informed that they have given every district time to come as some districts are far and there are certain problems with relation to accommodation being Namsai small district. Situation where complainant/s might get late was also discussed.
- The protocols of Members of were discussed.
- Pamphlets prepared by the Commission in English and Hindi were also distributed in the meeting for circulation amongst wider public.

INSPECTION VISITS

After the conclusion of meeting, to understand the on ground situation of child rights violations the NCPCR Team undertook Suo-Moto visits to various schools, CCIs, Aanganwadi Centres, Hospitals and Hostels for Education of Children and took suo-moto cognizance of violations of child rights as per Section 13 (1) (j) of CPC Act, 2005.

The NCPCR team divided itself into two groups and made the visits to the aforementioned institutions. Group

(1) comprised of Shri Paresh Shah, STE North East Cell and Shri Dushyant Meher, Consultant, Child Labour and Children in Distress. Group (2) comprised of Ms, Shaista K Shah, Consultant, Child Health and Child

Psychology and Ms. Sugandha Jain, Consultant, Laws Relating to Children (LRC). The details of NCPCR's teams visits to various institutions are as follows;

A. SCHOOLS

1. Government Secondary School, Namsai, DISE Code:121810105201:

The NCPCR Team visited the school on the 18 June 2019. Interactions were held with the Head Master, Teachers and Students of the School. Following observations were made by the team viz;

- i. Two buildings inside the school premises were damaged and dysfunctional posed a threat for the safety of children.
- ii. Due to lack of functional classrooms, the school was running in 2 shifts
- iii. Toilets were dysfunctional. Toilets for boys and girls were in extremely unhygienic condition.
- iv. Lack of sufficient drinking water. Water tank was built but not yet functional.
- v. There was no school Development Plan.
- vi. No awareness regarding POCSO, safety and security of children was provided in the school. CBSE circular regarding NCPCR guidelines was not complied.
- vii. The school buildings was in need repair and maintenance.

2. Govt. Higher Secondary School, Namsai:

The team interacted with the Principal of the school and other teachers and students.

- i. It was observed to be a well maintained school with all necessary infrastructure required to be maintained in the school. The Commission's team observed CC TVs placed in the school at various corners, however there was neither CCTV at the main gate nor any security guard present at the gate. During the time of the visit, the team noted that out 6 CC Cameras, 2 were not working.
- ii. There were no counsellors in the school for children. Need for Counsellor for counselling of students especially the adolescents was required as there was previously a case of suicide by student of the said school was reported.
- iii. The Principal of the School requested for an Insulator for disposal of sanitary napkins. The team asked the principal to put the proposal to DC Namsai and a copy of the same could be shared with the Commission for follow up, if required.

3. Pvt. Green View School Namsai, DISE Code: 12110205207 :

The school was a private unaided school with residential facility. Commission's team found the following issues in the said school viz:

- i. Screening Test was being conducted for the admission of the students.
- ii. No admission of children belonging to EWS Category was done as per provision provided under Section 12 (1) (c) of the RTE Act, 2009.
- iii. No Police verification of staff.
- iv. No information was given on Safety and Security Manual and Guidelines for Hostel of Educational Institution by NCPCR.
- v. Fees were not regulated by FRC/FRA.

4. Tiny Todd School, Namsai, LKG to Class V:

Commission's team found the following issues in the said school viz:

- i. Denial of Admission to children who fail in screening test.
- ii. Fees were not regulated as per FRA.
- iii. Children were taught books published by private publishers but not NCERT
- iv. NCPCRs manual on safety and security and Hostel Guidelines of NCPCR was not available.

5. Govt. Middle School Samuguri, Namsai

Commission's team found the following issues in the said school viz:

- i. There was no electricity in classrooms.
- ii. No Separate toilets were available for staff.
- iii. There was helper for cleaning in the school
- iv. School was not receiving annual grants.
- v. There was no sensitization training for teachers
- vi. Slow learners and CWSN category was present in the school but no special educators.

6. Government Secondary School, JAIPUR, Namsai

Commission's team found the following issues in the said school viz:

- i. There was no drinking water

- ii. There was no Boundary wall
- iii. There was no functional Toilets

7. Zenith Child School, Chongkham, Namsai

The Commission's team found the said school to be a private unaided residential higher secondary school, established in 2005. The records of the said schools were checked by the team. The care taker was requested to show the team around school and hostel campus as, the school was closed since the class time was over and when the NCPCR team reached there. However the team inspected the residential hostel facility for boys and girls. The male members of the NCPCR team inspected the boys section and the female members entered the girls dormitories and had a detailed interaction with the girls. The NCPCR team also participated in the prayer meeting of children which was going when the team had reached.

The hostel was found to be in order as per the provisions laid down in NCPCRs Regulatory Guidelines for Hostels of Educational Institutions for Children.

- i) It was noted by the team that the drinking water facility was not up-to the mark, Children filled water from the hand-pump and there was a need for functional RO/Filter for drinking water.
- ii) Cupboards facility was not provided to all children.
- iii) Children were not aware of the Commission's Bench on 21st June 2019.
- iv) Children were explained regarding their basic rights and various provisions were explained to them by the team. The POCSO brochures were also distributed to the children in the Hostel by the team.
- v) The girls section was also found to be in order and the Commissions' team Members gave an orientation cum sensitization discussion regarding the safety and security and child abuse/POCSO and other child rights issues.
- vi) The warden was asked to attend the NCPCR's Bench on 21st June 2019 along with children and bring issues of violations/requirements as necessary.

8. Saint Valley School

The NCPCR Team visited the school on the 19 June 2019. Saint Valley School is a Co-education English Medium School. As per the safety checklist the team members inspected the whole premises and had an extensive conversation with administrative staff, teachers and students. Following observations were made by the team viz;

- i) Section 12(1)(c) of RTE 2009 is not followed
- ii) Up to 3rd Std. books published by private publisher are taught, NCERT books are introduced after that.

- iii) After interaction with students it was found that students are subjected to corporeal punishment sometimes but as whole students were found to be satisfied.

B. AANGANWADI CENTRES:

The NCPCR team comprising of Ms. Shaista and Ms. Sugandha visited two Aanganwadi Centres in Namsai. It was noted that in one of the Aanganwadi Centres the approach road was unsafe and kutchha. The said Aanganwadi centre did not have fencing or boundary wall. Children had to go for toilets in open air in unsafe area having snakes and other insects. The second Aanganwadi Centre named, Deaobel Aanganwadi in Tirap District was visited. Following issues were noted:

- i) There was no proper infrastructure (School Building)
- ii) School was running in Anganwadi
- iii) No toilet facilities was available for children
- iv) No Running Water was available

It was noted that there was only one toilet in the centre which was in a very bad condition. Other basic facilities were found to be available in the said AWC for the children. Some of the parents were spoken to by the NCPCR team and were encouraged to come to the Bench hearing at the Collectorate.

C. HOSPITAL

I. Visit to District Hospital, Namsai

During visit of NCPCR team on 19th June, 2019 to District Hospital, Namsai, suo-moto cognizance was taken by the team of NCPCR and following points were observed during the visit-

1. No neo natal Care Unit for new borns with all the equipment was established.
2. Toilets were very dirty.
3. There was no electricity in the hospital
4. There was no drinking water. Taps were there but no water connection.
5. Hygiene was not maintained as beds were very dirty and general was not cleaned at all.
6. There was no Blood bank facilities only board.
7. Disposal of general waste segregation was not done appropriately.
8. There was absence of Psychiatric OPD in the District Hospital.
9. Important contact numbers such as Blood Bank, Fire Department, Police, Ambulance were not displayed.

10. Stretchers/wheel chairs were very old and dirty.
11. Staff was not aware of POCSO guidelines for hospital.

II. Visit to Primary Health Care Centre, Lathao

During visit of NCPCR team on 20th June, 2019 to Primary Health Care Centre, Lathao, Suo- motu cognizance was taken by the team of NCPCR and following lapses were observed during the visit-

1. Total 21 staff was appointed but all the staff was not presented in the PHC.
2. Beds of the ward were very dirty and unhygienic.
3. Toilets for patients were very dirty and garbage was found near to the toilets.
4. No gynaecologist in the PHC
5. No electricity in the hospital
6. All the diagnostic appliances were not there in the PHC
7. Hygiene was not maintained as beds were very dirty and general ward was not cleaned at all.
8. Staff was not aware of POCSO guidelines for hospital.

D. TEA GARDEN AREA

The Commission's team member Shri Dushyant Meher and Ms. Sugandha Jain, visited to the adjoining tea garden area to inquire instance of child labour situation and other violations of child rights, if any. Apparently, no children were found in the tea garden, neither was any child found to be engaged in labour situation in the said tea garden during the visit NCPCR team. On the way back three boys were spotted on the entrance road to the tea garden. The team had a general discussion with the children to understand the issues faced by them. The children mentioned that their parents work at the tea garden. They go to a nearby government school at Lataho. During the discussions they mentioned that their school lacked basic infrastructure facility and had deplorable class rooms and several other issues in the said school. The NCPCR team encouraged them to come to the Bench and express their issues and concerns related to their school.

E. MARKET PLACE AREA:

Shri Paresh Shah visited the local weekly Haat, market place in Lataho which was adjacent to the Tea Garden Area to observe violation of child rights. The said market was adjacent to the main road and tea garden at Lataho. Children were found to be lifting heavy weight in sacks in the market place. There was a person who was found to be paying money to small children for carrying heavy bags from market to tempos. One child was found to be cutting fish and selling in the haat.

MEETINGS WITH NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS & DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

A meeting with NGOs present was held with NCPCR team in presence of the Deputy Commissioner, Namsai at 11.00 am in the conference hall to discuss the planning of 21.06.19 and the challenges they face. STE, North East Cell, NCPCR explained and tried to resolve as many query as possible. A mock drill of the Bench day/trial run was undertaken.

- Soon thereafter, team talked to some officials at an individual level viz. STE, Ms. Shaista had a discussion with the DMO and enquired the present health status of Namsai district. Shri Paresh Shah and Shri Dushyant Meher had a discussion with the DEO. Ms Sugandha was assigned to look after the media and basic seating arrangements, videographer what to and how to cover the proceeding. The Pre-Press note was prepared by the NCPCR Team and given to the PRO.
- During the said meeting, the NGOS, Officials & volunteers were explained the entire process of how the complainant's will be processed and presented before the NCPCR Bench comprising of Shri Yashwant Jain and Ms. Rosy Taba, Members of the Commission. The NGOs and volunteers had to be explained their part of the job in detail to ensure smooth execution of the main event on the 21st June 2019.
- The officials, individuals, volunteer were divided into groups, based on their main job, i.e. registration counter and help desk, taking the complaint to the respective authority for their submission, presentation of the complaint before bench, and finally keeping the copies of the complaints and processing the final letters. For each team one official of the NCPCR team was designated for overseeing the smooth execution. Ms. Sugandha Jain took care of the Registration counter and Ms. Shaista took care of the help desk. Shri Paresh was overall in-charge and making submissions in-front of the Bench. Shri Dushyant Meher was responsible for observing the Bench process, interacting with NGOs and preparing the Bench Report.
- Sitting Arrangements for the complainants.
- Provisioning of Computers/desktops with printers for issuance of letters by the Bench to concerned officers of District Administrations was sought.
- A separate section for photocopying and scanning was also identified.
- A mock drill was also conducted with the volunteers to physically explain them how the complainant will move from one counter to another.
- The notices template were once again provided and asked the administration to put at as many prominent public places as possible.

DURING THE DAY OF BENCH

The bench was inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner Namsai welcoming the Members of the Commission viz. Shri Yashwant Jain and Smt. Rosy Taba. The officials of the District administration including Superintendent of Police, of Namsai, Arunachal Pradesh & officers of 10 other districts viz. (Lohit, Anjaw, Tirap, Changlang,

Name of the District	Education	Juvenile Justice	Child Health	Child Labour	POCSO	Other/ Suggestions	Total
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Dibang Valley, Lower Dibang Valley, East Siang, Upper Siang, Longding, & Siang) officials participated in the Bench to take directions for to take appropriate action in redressing the grievances. The NCPCR Bench started at 9:30am and went upto 5:00 pm since complainants were coming in phases as they were coming from far off

1. Namsai	19 (12 suo motu)	1 (suo motu)	5 (4 suo motu)	3 (notu)	1	5	34
2. Lohit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Anjaw	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Tirap	2	0	3	0	1	0	6
5. Changlang	35	0	0	10	0	1	46
6. Dibang Valley	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
7. Lower Dibang Valley	2	3	0	3	0	2	10
8. East Siang	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
9. Upper Siang	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10. Longding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. Siang	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	59	4	8	16	2	12	101

DISCLAIMER: The data presented above is the initial data as per the day of the Camp/ Bench.

NITI AAYOG INDICATOR WISE ANALYSIS OF COMPLAINTS

1. Education:

Total 59 complaints out of 101

Sl. No.	Nature of Complaints	No of Complaints	%age
1.	Cases related to Infrastructural Issues	49	83.05%
2.	Miscellaneous	9	15.25%

2. Child Health

Total 8 complaints were related to Child Health out of 101

Sl. No.	Nature of Complaints	No of Complaints	%age
1.	Aanganwadi Related Aanganwadi Infrastructure, drinking water, toilet etc.	03	37.5%

2	Medical Facility Related professionally trained staff in Hospital, Poor Hygiene in PHC etc.	03	37.5%
3	Non Availability of Medical Equipments.	01	12.5%

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BENCH

- a) **Cases of complaints, Suo-moto cognizance & Representations:** The Bench heard 101 submissions including the cases of complaints, suo-moto cognizance by the NCPCR team, representations from the citizens and officials.
- b) **Child Rights Violations, their reporting & Role of NCPCR:** The bench addressed to the NGOs, Government officials and citizens present in the hearing and sensitized about the child rights issues and the importance of reporting of the cases to NCPCR through different modes including the reporting of sexual violence on POCSO E-box. The Bench explained about the roles of NCPCR. However, it was observed that child rights had not been an issue of priority and NGOs and civil society have no focus on child rights. In addition, the absence of the SCPCR also indicates that child rights has not yet been a focus within the government.
- c) **1098 Childline Services:** Commission highlighted the importance of child line and advocated for to start the 1098 service in Namsai. Later of the day, we have got the response from the Childline India Foundation and the Deputy Commissioner, Namsai that a decision is being taken to start the Childline service at Namsai.
- d) **Suo-moto Cognizance:** As an advance team of consultants reached Namsai for organizing the event with assistance of District Administration, the team also visited schools, Hostels, Government Hospitals, Health Centres, Anganwadis and raised issues to take suo-moto cognizance.
- e) **Successful reunion of the child with family through Bench:** A couple appeared before the Bench with their case of their child being separated from them. The child was taken to Itanagar by a person



10 years back and now not in contact. As per Bench order FIR was lodged and the child was traced and reunited with their parents within 36 hours.

- f) **On the spot letters in all cases** to all the concerned Authorities were handed over to the District Administration after completion of the Bench on the same day.

MAJOR FINDINGS

- a) The legal clinic of DALSA has recently started in Namsai.
- b) Special prosecutors under POCSO Act 2012 are required to be provisioned.
- c) POCSO victim compensation fund is to be provisioned and it is required to be disburse to the victims on case to case basis without delay.

Generic problems pertaining to child rights in the area:

- a) **Drop-out Children Not getting re-admission:** During the NCPCR teams discussion with teachers of various schools and Education officials, it was observed that Children who are dropping out at class 5th and 8th level are unable to get admission especially admission in class 9th.
- b) **Teachers Absenteeism:** There are issues of teacher's absentisms in the area as informed by the parents.
- c) **Schools are at Distant Locations:** The schools have been rationalised because of less number of students in the school. As a result the schools in many places are at distant locations.
- d) **Substance Use:** There are plenty of drugs locally easily available for people and children. However, there are no drugs de-addiction centres in the area. It was informed that a considerable percentage of children are addicted to drugs.
- e) **Mid-Day Meals** are not served in current month in Namsai area: The schools reported that there is no mid-day meal distributed in the schools in the current year. This issue also came to the notice by NCPCR team while visiting the schools.
- f) **No implementation of 12 (1) (c):** The private schools are not implementing 12 (1) (c). There is no admission of children belonging to economically weaker sections of society. The State has not taken any initiatives regarding this.
- g) **No Fee Regulatory Authority:** There is no fee regulatory authority for regulation of fee in private schools.

h) **No Toilets & drinking water facilities** in numerous schools in Changlang district, it was reported that schools are not having proper facility of drinking water and toilets.

CONCLUSION

One of the 1st Benches of Commission in Namsai was successfully concluded with 101 complaints received from 8 Districts including Namsai. The Commission was able to make its presence felt and generate awareness on child rights and child protection issues in the following 11 districts viz. Namsai, Tirap, Changlang, Dibang Valley, Lower Dibang Valley East Siang and Siang, Anjaw, Lohit, Upper Siang and Longding.

All the cases received during the bench were addressed on the spot and orders of the Commission with letters to authorities were issued on the same day itself. The Namsai Bench of NCPCR was one of its kind of programme for grievance redressal on child rights violation in Arunachal Pradesh. Through the Bench following was noted:

- i) There are incidences of child rights violations in Namsai and other nearby districts covered in the
- ii) Bench, however, the people are not aware that these are violations.
- iii) The Government machinery of the State has no focus on the issues of child protection and child rights violations.
- iv) The Child Protection System in the Namsai District literary doesn't exist. This is because of No Child Welfare Committee (CWC), No District Child Protection Unit, No Child Welfare Officers, No Juvenile Justice Board are not set up.
- v) There is no NGOs working on the issue of child rights in Namsai district
- vi) The civil society and people in general accept the facts that things like this happen and everything is acceptable

Annexure-A

S.No.	District	Name of NGO	Name of Participants	Contact
1	Namsai	No NGO participation		
2	Lohit			
3	Anjaw			
4	Tirap	Noksa, Old TUPI, Khonsa, Tirap	Mrs Tonyan Lowang	8131850673
		HOPE Foundation , Tirap	Mrs. Komna Moidam	8131926873
		AWW, Deomali, Tirap	Smt. Meera Teria	8131926873
		C.H.C, Deomali , Tirap	Dr.T.Matey	9612565184
		Deomali, Tirap	Mrs.Yamjum Shin	6009015607
5	Changlang	ACDSU, Changlang	Sanshum Changmai	9612563131
		Activist. Diyun, Changlang	Bipin Roshan Chakma	88337017303
		Activist. Mio, Changlang	Odi tamat Singhi	9365289792
6	Dibang Valley	Anini, Dibang Valley	Mrs.Akunge Miuli	9402641307
7	Lower Dibang Valley	No NGO participation		
8	East Siang			
9	Upper Siang			
10	Longding			
11	Siang	ABK, WW, Siang	Ms.Shyama Panor	9402471613

ANNEXURE-B

SUO MOTO VISITS BY COMMISSION'S TEAM FROM 18TH to 20 June 2019 at Namsai



ANNEXURE-C

MEDIA GALLERY

NCPCC sitting at Namsai on June 21

June 16, 2019

TEZU, June 15: A bench of two members of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) assisted by four officials will hold a sitting at Namsai on June 21 next for taking up grievances, complaints and representations relating to violation of child rights.

The NCPCR, set up in 2007 under CPCRA Act, 2005, is a statutory body to ensure protection of child rights as enshrined in Constitution of India and UN Convention on the rights of the child.

The NCPCR will hold such sitting at division level to reach out to more and more children across India and Namsai sitting is among one of the 115 Aspirational districts identified by NITI Aayog to begin with.

Lohit district administration with ICDS office has taken up wide publicity and disseminating information about the sitting through public announcement system. The GBs have been directed to report any cases of child rights violation. (*DIPRO*)

State News

