# **EDITORIAL NOTE**

#### FROM THE LAPTOP OF THE MEMBER OF THE JJ COMMITTEE

FRIENDS,

While penning to write this second e-letter for the month of February 2018, as my memory goes down the lane, it was one afternoon that I received a call from Nadira Patherya, J., who in her usual eloquence, commanded me to be part of Juvenile Justice Committee. Initially, I was perplexed for the reason whether I would be able to come up to her expectation and the trust reposed upon me, but second thought overshadowed mv scepticism for betterment of the un-privileged children of the society.

The

Chairperson took lot of pain to uphold the purpose and object for which the Juvenile Justice Committee was constituted. During my interaction with the administration, stakeholders and various other government and nongovernment

organizations, my heart bled and I pledged to myself to see to it that children such are brought to the mainstream and are able to avail all the benefits at par with the privileged children. As the time passed, and on demitting office by one of the Members, Prasenjit J. Mandal. the Committee was reconstituted by introducing Soumen Sen, J. The concern for the children and the zeal to do something for them got impetus with the addition of Soumen Sen, J. and the Committee under the Chairperson decided to visit various districts of the State, more particularly the Homes, to find out the shortcomings, facilities and amenities provided to their child-inmates, and to uplift their standard of living.

Apart from the same, the Committee also took up the task of recommending various programmes be organized with the help of administration and the schemes floated by the State Government extended to them. Over period, the Committee could only visit nine districts and have an agenda to visit several others.

One of the major challenges, which, I think, is the trafficking child within of and outside the State and sometimes from the neighbouring countries. Because of the geographical location, the State shares common boundaries with Bhutan and Bangladesh, which largely differs on socioeconomic aspect. The human trafficking is brooding and the children are the most favoured victims. trafficked children have no choice of their own and loose the aspiration become a most privileged member of the society.

Recently,
Justice and Care, a nongovernment organization,
conducted a survey and
published a report with
the co-partner Border
Security Force. The
object of conducting such
survey was to check the
trafficking from the
neighbouring country at
the borderline. It was
highlighted therein that if

the trafficking is intercepted at the borderline it may achieve the twin objects, namely, prevention of child-exploitation and child-trafficking.

There is another startling fact, which the Committee noticed over the period of time, the rampant child trafficking from various districts of State the to the neighbouring State. The Purulia district has close proximity with the State of Jharkhand and is connected by road to two industrial hubs, namely, Dhanbad Jamshedpur. The Purulia district is home to a high tribal population, which justifiably seeks to continue their age-old ties and cultural bonds with their brethren in the adjacent districts Jharkhand. The children of such tribes can be easily trafficked because the similarity in culture with the tribes of the neighbouring State. Such children often fall prey to a child-trafficker, being lured for better employment and quality life and lands into a child-labour, which is forbidden under the law. They are not nor can be destined for such future as they have a right to live with dignity. The Committee visited various Homes and gave suggestions for their upliftment and better including the living formal education as well as vocational training so that they would be able to be good citizens of the country. Various initiatives are taken for children of the neighbouring country for



their repatriation. There have been several success stories in this regard. I end with the enlightening words of Rabindra Nath Tagore "Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged of man."

**Harish Tandon** 

Member of the Juvenile Justice Committee .

Calcutta High Court.

### **Activities at Home**

School at Home Campus



Health Check Up at Home

Kitchen garden at Home



Children attending School



**Vocational Training** 

Tailoring



Yoga Training at Home



Block Printing

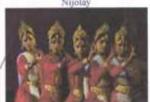


Bakery



Cultural & Recreational Activities at Home

Milelay



Kishalaya



Child Care Home



Child Friendly Police Station, Belghoria PS







#### Home Orientation Camp at Kishlaya



3 Home Orientation Camps had been organised in Kishlaya Home by SATHI NGO, in 2013, 2016 and in 2017.

By this camp 50 children are reunited with their families.







# Aadhaar enrolment in camp mode in CCI in North 24 Parganas and trace out of family address of children.

• Aadhar enrolment camps are organised in CCI in North 24 Parganas. 16 camps have been organised and 90 % children have been enrolled through these.



## **SUCCESS STORY: CASE OF KISH KUMAR**

6 boys five of whom are CWSN (Child with Special Need) in hearing impaired category and one boy who could not give proper address during several counselling session through these Aadhaar camp, family address of these children were found as they had already been enrolled in Aadhaar from their native place.

Home verification of these children is being going on and one child (Kish Kumar) had been restored to his family on 15.02.2018.

Special AADHAAR Camps in the Home in regular intervals





# **ACHIEVEMENTS**

- I. Formal schooling at home through Second Campus of Primary school, 100% children's enrolment to school, Midday Meal, and Vocational engagement to Kishalaya and Dhrubashram Boys and Sukanya girls.
- 3 Zero or near zero enrolment schools are providing formal education support to Kishalaya, Sukanya and Dhubarashram on and from 7<sup>th</sup> September as a second campus in the home premises.
- All home boys/girls are enrolled to formal education through this second campus from pre primary (shishu class)to class IV.
- Class rooms are decorated with child friendly paintings and new teaching learning tools.
- Mid day meals are given to the children enrolled in school.more over quality nutritious food is given like boiled egg, milk and fruit in evening refreshment as surplus cost Rs. 4.16 per day per child.
- Vocational training courses like computer training, electrical, plumbing, handicrafts, tailoring are going on.



- II. Orientation Camp for improvement of moral teaching /behavioural changes (reform)
  Tracing out Home Address of Children in home.
  - Restoration of missing children who cannot recall their family address is a big challenge. SATHI, an NGO organised month long camps for tracing out family address through motivational class, motivational videos, magical show, art & craft to encourage the children to open up before the teacher in a complete isolated manner from other children in home.
  - Last camp was organised on and from 15<sup>th</sup> November to 26 December and out of 23 children 15's address have been traced out and 13 already handed over to their parents/family members. Presently in Sukanya Home this camp is going on from 1<sup>st</sup> February 18 and 25 participants are in the camp.