

Government of Nepal Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens

National Child Rights Council Shreemahal. Pulchowk, Lalitpur

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A. Introduction to NCRC

The National Child Rights Council is formed by the federal government under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of the Ministry of Women, Children, and Senior Citizens. The council is mandated to carry out the work of protection and promotion of child rights as provided by Section 59 of the Children's Act, 2018. The council works to provide policy advice, capacity-building programs, and child protection systems (Child Helpline Services 1098 and Child Tracing Services 104) in coordination with all three tiers of the government. The council has the responsibility of coordinating and cooperating with the province and local governments as well as inter-ministerial coordination at the federal level for the protection and promotion of child rights.

B. Major Mandate

The major mandate of NCRC are as follows:

- 1. To protect and promote the rights and interests of children,
- 2. To make suggestions to the Government of Nepal, the provincial government, and the local level to arrange the necessary policies, laws, plans, programs, and institutional mechanisms for the respect, protection, promotion, and fulfillment of the rights of the children.
- 3. Facilitate and strengthen the national child protection system and monitor, evaluate and review child-related programs and make suggestions,
- 4. To develop and enhance the capacity of stakeholders for the protection and promotion of the rights of the child,
- 5. To search, rescue, protect and manage the children who have been found unaccompanied, missing, and at-risk by cooperating and facilitating the operation and management of Child Tracing Hotline No. 104 and Child Helpline Hotline No. 1098.
- 6. To conduct programs as per the need by mobilizing foreign grant assistance for child protection and

- promotion of child rights and to conduct targeted programs and campaigns on the basis of priority,
- 7. To disseminate and publish child-related awareness messages,
- 8. To develop, operate, manage and strengthen the national information system related to children and to publish the national status reports on the condition of children and child rights annually.

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

Child Protection Activities

The council operates National Center for Children at Risk (Hotline 104) in collaboration with Nepal police. The NCCR (104) received 400 (102 boys, 298 girls) missing children complaint across the country during the period of 13th February to 13th March 2021. Among the total complaint received NCCR found and reunited 144 (39 boys, 105 girls) children with their families. The search for 256 (63 boys, 193 girls) children is still ongoing. In addition to this, the 1525 (344 boys, 1181 girls) children in search since July 2020; 810 (184 boys, 623 girls) children have been found. The search for 715 (160 boys, 555 girls) children is still ongoing. NCCR supported another 34 (19 boys, 15 girls) found and unaccompanied children. Among them 15 (6 boys, 9 girls) children were reunited with their families and 19 (13 boys, 6 girls) children have been placed under temporary protection facilities. The details of the missing and found children in the provinces this month are presented in the graph below:



2. During this period, NCRC rescued 65 (58 boys, 7 girls) street children and placed them under protection. Among them, 13 (7 boys, 6 girls) children are reunited

with their families. And 57 (54 boys, 3 girls) children have been placed under temporary protection service center. During this fiscal year, till the period, 251 (222 boys, 29 girls) children have been rescued from the streets. Among them, 214 (195 boys, 19 girls) children have been placed under institutional protection. And 31 (21 boys, 10 girls) children have been reunited with their families.

3. NCRC operates Child Helpline Service (1098) in collaboration with non-government organizations at 11 locations in Nepal. The Council has been providing rescue, protection and rehabilitation assistance to the children at risk through these Child Helpline services. During this period, Child Helpline Service rescued a total of 61 (20 boys, 41 girls) children who were victims of violence and abuse. Among the total, 41 (16 boys, 25 girls) children have been reunited with their families. 12 (3 boys, 9 girls) children have been placed in temporary protection service center. And 6 (1 boy, 5 girls) children have been placed in institutional care. A total of 5854 (2294 boys, 3560 girls) children have been provided services till mid-March of the current Fiscal Year shown in the table below:

S.N.	Support Provided	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Health Treatment	103	164	268
2.	Psychosocial	622	820	1442
	Counselling			
3.	Family Counselling	500	814	1314
4.	Legal Counselling	79	299	378
5.	Care, safety, and	477	509	986
	protection			
6.	Educational Support	247	421	666
7.	Child Marriage	31	144	175
	Prevention			
8.	Income Generation	13	34	47
	Support			
9.	Other Support	224	355	579
	Total	2294	3560	5854

4. In this period, the NCRC team monitored 25 Child Care Homes in Lalitpur Metro city and Mahalaxmi Municipality. NCRC observed that 432 (172 boys, 260 girls) children are institutionalized in these child care homes. Of those 432 children institutionalized in 25 CCHs, 136 children have lost both the parents, 70 children have father only, 144 have mother only and 82 children have both parents alive. Out of the 25 Child Care Homes (CCHs), 15

CCHs have been receiving foreign aid while only 11 CCHs received approval from the Social Welfare Council for utilization of foreign aid. And 10 CCHs have been operated with the help of foreign donors. Upon monitoring, NCRC found out that 5 CCHs have stable economic sources. Among the monitored CCHs, 9 CCHs have followed all the criteria to operate. NCRC had given direction to 16 CCHs who have not fully followed the criteria but could be improved.

- 5. NCRC and NCCR (104) rescued 2 unaccompanied infants of approximately 2 and 5 months from streets of Kathmandu on 3rd March, 2021. The infants have been placed in Nepal Children's Organizations. The search is ongoing to take legal actions against those abandoning the children.
- 6. NCRC and NCCR (104) in the presence of officials and employees of Tarkeshwar Municipality, Tarkeshwar Municipality Ward No. 6 Office, Dharmasthali Police Office, and other agencies rescued 8 (7 boys, 1 girl) children from Light for Nation CCH on 3rd March, 2021. The CCH is operating without following legal provisions and criteria at Kathmandu district, Tarkeshwar Municipality Ward No. 6 Dharmasthali, Aastanarayan Chowk.



- 7. NCRC and NCCR (104) in coordination with Ministry of Social Development Karnali Province rescued 3 street children from Surkhet on 10th March, 2021. The children have been placed in temporary protections service center. The rescue is a part of the nation-wide campaign to make Nepal a street children free nation.
- 8. NCRC rescued 5 children from Chitwan on 13th March, 2021. The video titled "These children beg on the streets during the day and sleep in buffalo shed at night (दिउसो सडकमा मागेर खान्छन् अनि भैसिको गोठमा रात बिताउदै छन् यी बालकहरू)" broadcasted by DCNepal on 12th March,

2021 was referred to NCRC. In coordination with the Child Helpline 1098, Chitwan, the District Police Office, photographer and videographer (Vijay Bhusal) of the broadcasting, ward Police Office and the locals, the children are rescued and placed in the temporary protection service center operated by the Child Helpline in Chitwan.

9. During this period, NCRC financially supported 8 (5 boys, 3 girls) children who were in need of special protection. Among them, 1 child is diagnosed with kidney failure, 1 child is diagnosed with bone problem, 3 children are diagnosed with blood cancer, 1 child had problem in their hand and 2 children received educational support. 4 (1 boy, 3 girls) children are placed in alternative care facility.

D. <u>Coordination, orientation and capacity</u> building activities

- 1. A meeting between Executive Director of NCRC and Assistant Inspector General of Nepal Police is held on 15th February, 2021. During the meeting, discussions were held on the areas of coordination and cooperation between the Nepal Police and the NCRC. Construction of structure of Child Search Service 104 at the province level, inclusion of child rights issues in the training materials to be provided by Nepal Police Academy and child sensitivity enhancement in Nepal Police are some of the agreed upon discussions. Likewise building a common perception and organizing a high level coordination meeting with the Nepal Police and addressing the orientation on child search services are also discussed.
- 2. NCRC in coordination with Nepal Police and Nepal Police Training Academy organized "Discussion and interaction on the structure and implementation system of the overall child protection including the effectiveness of the service flow of the Child Tracing Coordination Center 104, the consolidation of the child tracing service and the prevention of crimes against children" on 16th February, 2021. The interaction program was attended by 22 police officers working under the crime investigation related to women and children from various districts.



3. NCRC in coordination with National Women Commission conducted a coordination meeting on 17th February, 2021. Executive Director of NCRC, with the Honorable Chairman, Honorable Members and Secretary of the National Women Commission attended the meeting. Rescue, protection and management of children in need of special protection, victims of violence and abuse and referral mechanism between National Center for Children at Risk 104, Child Helpline 1098 and Women Helpline 1145 including areas of cooperation between the Commission and the Council were discussed. An understanding has been reached to work in collaboration in the coming days by maintaining uniformity in legal, policy and programs for the protection and management of children at risk.



4. NCRC conducted a coordination meeting with National Inclusive Commission on 18th February, 2021. The meeting was attended by the Executive Director of NCRC and Honorable Acting Chairman and Honorable Members of the commission. During the meeting, the areas of cooperation between the Commission and the Council for the rescue, protection, management of child labor, protection of orphans and prevention and reduction of child marriage were discussed. A joint action plan formation and cooperation to work together in the coming days were also discussed.



5. NCRC conducted an interaction program on "Rescue and management of children involved in risky work" on 18th February, 2021. 15 participants including from the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security, Department of Labor, Employment and Occupational Security, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Transport Management, Metropolitan Police Range, Child Helpline 1098, National Center for Children at Risk 104 attended the program. Discussions were held on mapping, rescue and temporary protection arrangements and incident management, including the situation of children at risk. The rescue of such children at risk is currently ongoing.



NCRC conducted a " Bagmati Province Level Interaction Program for Ensuring Child Rights at Local Level" on 22nd February, 2021. Executive director of NCRC chaired the program. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bagmati Province attended the program as a chief guest. 51 participants from 13 districts including the chief, deputy chief and officer of the District Coordination Committee, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens, Deputy Secretary of the Province Ministry of Social Development, Chairperson of the Federation of Rural Municipalities, Executive Director of the Provincial Good Governance Center, Members of the National Child Rights Council, and representatives of Plan International Nepal attended the program. Pursuant to the Children's Act, 2018 mandatory implementation of district level interactions at local level on legal, policy and structural arrangements to be

organized by the District Coordinating Committee was committed. In addition, commitment was made to monitor, facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the same in all the municipalities within the district and to update the council about it. Further, including child rights issues in the training materials flowing from the provincial good governance center was also committed.



NCRC conducted an orientation program on "Existing legal provisions related to children and prevailing standards regarding operation of Child Care Homes" from 24th to 16th February, 2021. Mr. Sundar Lamichane, member of NCRC and coordinator of the Child Care Home monitoring sub-committee chaired the program. At the presence of the heads and representatives of the children's branches of the respective municipalities, 120 officials, managers and staffs from 102 CCHs operating in 3 municipalities of Kathmandu (Shankharapur, district Kageshwari Manohara and Gokarneshwar) and 3 municipalities of Lalitpur district (Lalitpur Metropolitan Mahalakshmi Municipality and Godavari Municipality) attended the program. Mr. Sundar Lamichhane, member of NCRC and Coordinator of the Child Care Home Monitoring Committee and the Executive Director of the Council addressed the suggestions and queries raised in the program such as issues of birth, citizenship, uniformity in monitoring of Child Care Home, operation permission and other issues.



8. On 1st March, 2021, NCRC hosted a meeting with the Hon'ble Minister of the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens and Chairperson of NCRC, Ms. Juli Kumari Mahato. NCRC briefed the

minister on the progress of the activities carried out by the council so far and also updated her on the forthcoming action plan of the council.



On 3rd and 4th March, 2021, Hon'ble Minister of the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens and Chairperson of NCRC, Ms. Juli Kumari Mahato monitored the CCHs of Gandaki Province. Executive director of NCRC and the head of Child Protection and Development Branch of the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens accompanied the minister. Children Nepal, Child Welfare Scheme Nepal (CWSN), Child Correctional Home and Child Helpline (1098) Nepal, listed in the NCRC, operating in Kaski, cooperating in the rescue, protection, and management of street children were monitored. During the monitoring, the situation of the children in the Juvenile Correctional Institution, the Temporary Protection Center for Street Children, and the children in the Child Helpline (1098) is ascertained. And the effectiveness and capacity of the existing child protection structures are enhanced. The minister has directed to protect and manage the children as per the incident management process in close coordination with the NCRC. She has also given instructions to protect and manage the children.



10. NCRC monitored a Child Care Home in Surkhet on 9th March, 2021. Under the leadership of the Executive Director of NCRC, the NCRC team monitored the situation of children at the Bhairav Youth

Empowerment Center, which is listed for the management of street children. NCRC provided support for the family reunification of the children. Further discussions were held on the coordination and cooperation with the council. On the same day, Awaz organization licensed to operate the child helpline service (1098) in Surkhet district was also monitored. NCRC provided further support in managing data, coordination, and reporting system.



11. NCRC organized an interaction program on "Critical issues of child rights and expectations from NCRC" in Karnali province on 9th March, 2021. In the presence of the Executive Director of the NCRC, 22 participants including heads and representatives of development partners, NGOs, and civil society working in Karnali and its adjoining districts were present. During the discussion, program partners also expressed their commitment to ensuring child rights in Karnali from development partners, NGOs, and civic organizations.



12. NCRC in coordination with Birendranagar Municipality conducted a meeting on 10th March, 2021. The meeting was chaired by the Mayor of the municipality Mr. Dev Kumar Subedi. The Executive Director of NCRC attended the meeting as the chief guest. The meeting issued a three-point agreement and commitment for the protection of child rights in the Birendranagar Municipality. In the meeting, the status of implementation of the Children's Act, 2018, information about the "Together for Protection" project, child rights, and sample procedures related to child

protection were discussed. 30 participants including the people's representatives, chief administrative officer, representatives of women and children's branch of the municipality, and non-governmental organizations working in the field of children attended the meeting.



NCRC conducted province level orientation program related to the operation of child search no. 104 and promotion of child rights in Karnali province on 10th March, 2021. Mr. Sundar Lamichhane, Member of the Council chaired the program. Mr. Basanta Kumar Panta, Chief of Karnali Province Police attended the program as the chief guest. Executive Director of the Council, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law of Karnali Province and the Head of the Social Development Division of the Ministry of Social Development also attended the program as the chief guest. Police personnel working in Women, Children, and Senior Citizens Service Centers in all 10 districts of Karnali were present as well. Police Headquarters and the Council made presentations and facilitated the program. The information on the role of the police for child protection was also disseminated in the discussion on child sensitivity enhancement and effective operation of



14. NCRC conducted the coordination meeting with the Ministry of Social Development of Karnali Province on 10th March, 2021. Mr. Loknath Poudyal, Secretary of the Ministry of Social Development and Member of the Council chaired the meeting. Honorable

Minister of the Ministry of Social Development, Mr. Dal Rawal attended the meeting as the chief guest. The meeting was attended by the Executive Director including the members of the Council and heads of branches of the Ministry of Social Development, staff of the Council and National Center for Children at Risk, representatives from Ecpat Luxembourg, CeLLaRD and Shakti Samuha. In the meeting, discussions and understanding have been reached between the Council and the Ministry of Social Development on common areas of coordination and cooperation for the protection and promotion of child rights.



15. NCRC monitored the child helpline operation of the child helpline service from the licensed Social Service Center (SOSEC) in Dailekh on 11th March, 2021. Executive director of NCRC led the monitoring visit along with the members of the council. The effective operation of the Child Helpline and Child Tracing Service was discussed during the visit. NCRC provided necessary support for data management, coordination and reporting system.



16. Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen and NCRC in coordination with Ministry of Social Development of Karnali province conducted an interaction program in 12th March, 2021. The interaction program on province-level symposium on the implementation of legal provisions to reduce child marriage and ensure child rights at the local level was

held in Surkhet. The program was chaired by Secretary of the Ministry of Social Development. Honorable Minister of the Ministry of Social Development attended the program as the chief guest. 48 participants including the Chief, Deputy Chief and District Coordinating Officers of District Coordinating Committees of all districts of Karnali Province, Chiefs of all local levels of Surkhet District, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens and National Council for the Rights of Children, UN body, representatives of development partners, journalists attended the program. The program has also issued a three-point commitment to end child marriage in Karnali and ensure child rights at the local level.



17. NCRC in coordination with Child Helpline 1098 Ilam, Morang, Sunsari, Udaypur, Sankhuwasabha and Dhanusa conducted a training on 13th March, 2021. The 3-day Case management training for child helpline was attended by the representatives of 5 helpline operating organizations. A total of 18 participants including the Chief of Child Search unit 104 Ilam attended the training. The motive of the training is to enhance the capacity of the child helpline operators.



18. NCRC facilitated a district level discussion program for ensuring child rights during this phase. The program was conducted by District Coordination Committees of Sunsari, Morang, Jhapa, Panchthar,

Taplejung, Rautahat, Siraha, Bara and Parsa from Province 1 and 2. 481 participants from 9 districts including the chiefs, deputy chiefs and officers of District Coordinating Committees, Chairpersons, Deputy Chiefs / Vice-Chairmen of all Municipalities, Chief Administrative Officers and other service providers working in the field of child rights attended the program. From the program, all the local levels expressed their commitment on the implementation of the Children's Act, 2018. Working procedures related to child rights, structure related to child rights, provision of child welfare officer and establishment of child fund was also committed.

After the training conducted by the council, procedures have been formulated and implemented for the implementation of child rights at seven local levels in Province No. 1 and a child rights committee has been formed at one local level.

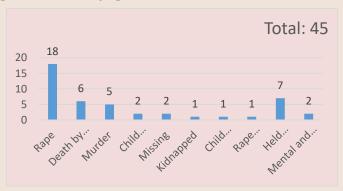
District Level Program Table

Date	District	Total	Discussed
		Participants	Topic
14 th	Panchthar	A total of 481	101 local
February,	Morang	people from 9	levels of 9
2021		districts	districts have
15 th	Taplejung	including DDC	made written
February,		Chief, Deputy	commitment
2021		Chief, Chief of	on child
17 th	Jhapa	Administration,	rights
February,		Local Level	directive,
2021		Chief,	child rights
21 st	Morang	Chairman,	structure,
February,		Deputy Chief,	arrangement
2021		Vice-Chairman,	of child
28 th	Rautahat	Administrative	welfare
February		Chief and	officer and
and 1st		representatives	establishment
March,		from various	of child fund.
2021		stakeholder	
2 nd and	Siraha	institutions	
3 rd		participated.	
March,			
2021			
4 th	Bara		
March,			
2021			
5 th	Parsa		
March,			
2021			



Information Management and Supporting

1. The children's portal run by the council has updated news related to 45 children published in various media and newspapers. During this period, based on the reports on the violation of child right and risk in various media, the council in coordination with the concerned agencies has facilitated the incident management by coordinating with the concerned bodies including localities, police administration, child helpline 1098, National Center for Children at Risk (104) and labor office. Details in this regard are presented in the graph below.



Covid-19 and Children

1. Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, till 13th March, 2021, 24,258 children (adolescents) up to 20 years and 6,452 children (3,810 boys, 2,642 girls) up to 10 years of age have been affected.

If you need any information related to NCRC activities and performance, please contact the NCRC during office hours at following:

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