

**Minutes of the First Meeting of the State Child Protection Society – Assam, held on
5th August, 2010 at Hotel Pragati Manor, Guwahati, Assam**

The First Meeting of the State Child Protection Society of Assam was presided by Sri. H.K. Sharma, Commissioner & Secretary, Social Welfare, Govt. of Assam, the Chairperson of the State Child Protection Society, Assam.

The following members of SCPSA – Governing Body were present in the meeting:

S.No	Members	Status in the Society
1.	Mr. H.K. Sharma, IAS., Commissioner & Secretary, Dept. of Social Welfare, Govt. of Assam	Chairperson
2	Ms. Rwitticka Kalita, IAS., Additional Secretary, Dept. of Home and Political, Govt. of Assam	Member
3	Mr. S.P. Nandy, IAS., Additional Secretary., Dept. of Finance, Govt. of Assam	Member
4	Ms. Vandhana Kandhari, Consultant – ICPS, MWCD, New Delhi	Member/ Representative, MWCD, Govt of India
5	Ms. Jeroo Master, Chief, Field Office, UNICEF Assam	Member
6	Dr. Bandana Bhuyan, Regional Director, NIPCCD	Member
7	Ms. Bijoylakshmi Bharali, Director, Childline, Guwahati	Member

The Chairperson of SCPSA welcomed the members and other officials present and highlighted the progress of implementation of the newly launched scheme – the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) in Assam. He also mentioned about the notification of the State Child Protection Society (SCPS), the State Project Support Unit (SPSU) and the District Child Protection Committees (DCPC).

The Chairperson also highlighted the purpose of the meeting which is review and concurrence to the MoA, ByeLaws of SCPSA; Opening of Bank Account; re-notification of DCPS; formation of various committees; sub committees; utilization of funds received from GoI in 2009 -10; nomination of NGO and experts to be part of the Society; the recruitment process and submission of proposal for 2010 -11.

The representative of MWCD, GoI in her presentation stressed on the steps taken by GoI on releasing of fund to the state of Assam and requested the Govt. of Assam to submit the proposal at the earliest related to construction of new homes, improvement of existing homes, salaries and other components as per guidelines.

Prof. Joydeep Mazumdar, Deputy Director, JPISC made an elaborate presentation on ICPS, focusing mainly on the functioning of the Structures at all levels and finalizing of the MoA and Bye Laws.

Smti. J. Neog, Dy. Director, Social Welfare presented the plan of expenditure to be made against the amount of Rs. 1,29,92,000/- released by GoI in 2009-10.

After a detailed, constructive discussion on the aforesaid matters and with the active participation of the Dept. of Finance, UNICEF, NIPCCD, Childline, certain resolutions have been adopted.

The resolutions adopted by the SCPSA:

1. Concurrence to the MoA and Bye Laws of the Society with the following changes that need to be adopted:
 - District Child Protection Committee to be substituted with District Child Protection Unit wherever essential
 - The Term "Nationalized Bank" to be removed from the section relating to Bank Account and retain the term 'Scheduled Commercial Bank'
 - To rephrase the nomenclature related to Chairperson – "Commissioner & Secretary/Principal Secretary, Department of Social Welfare, Government of Assam" to replaced with "Senior-most Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare, Government of Assam"
 - Inclusion of the section – 'Govt. of Assam will have the overriding powers to appoint a Chief Executive Officer or CEO as Member Secretary of the SCPSA'. Hence, in every section wherein "Director" is mentioned, will be replaced by "Director/CEO"
2. The District Child Protection Committee to be re-notified as the District Child Protection Unit based on the nomenclature of the Govt. of Assam and communicated to GoI
3. Bank Account of the Societies to be with the State Bank of India.
4. The Staff of the SPSU will be on deputation or contract.
5. A small committee will be formed in assisting the recruitment process
6. The Chairperson will be authorized person to notify the committees.
7. The Project Screening Committee will be notified in the next meeting as the Finance Secretary and the Home Secretary's presence is essential
8. The State Adoption Advisory Committee will be notified immediately

9. The disbursement of funds for implementation of the scheme will be routed through the State Societies to the District Child Protection Units.
10. Provide necessary arrangements to expedite the functioning of the Child Welfare Committees and the Juvenile Justice Boards in a rented premise, located near the Principal Magistrate's office, with proper infrastructure and manpower.
11. The office of the State Child Protection Society, Assam to be in a rented building, near Dispur, Beltola area.
12. To set up a working group to work on the Proposal and Implementation Plan for all the districts, comprising of DSW, NIPCCD, UNICEF, JPISC and two District Social Welfare Officers, keeping in mind the district specific needs while submitting the proposal.
13. JPISC to prepare 'Model Guidelines about setting of the Block Level and Village Level Child Protection Committees to be circulated in the districts.
14. To submit proposal for recognizing and supporting Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAA) in 12 districts
15. To organize two days workshop for the District ICPS functionaries – DSWO, DCPO on a priority basis before the structures are set up in the districts, with the support of NIPCCD and JPISC to orient them on how to take it forward.
16. SCPSA to organize a one day high level seminar on 'Effective Implementation of the JJ Act and the ICPS scheme for all the JJ Functionaries' at the State Level in collaboration with UNICEF.
17. The SCPCA will be registered after the Chairperson circulates the finalized Bye Laws with the respective departments, getting their concurrence, submit to the Chief Minister's Office for final approval.
18. To decide in the next meeting about the number of members needed for operating the Bank account and also about a sealing for signing of cheques by the Chairperson.
19. JPISC to assist in preparing a Project Proposal for setting up a Model Observation Home in the city with all the components for rehabilitation to be submitted as part of the 2010 – 11 budget to the GoI.
20. Indian Red Cross Society, Kamrup District has been recommended as the NGO representative working in the field of child protection to be part of SCPSA.

21. Dr. Dipesh Bhagawati, Psychiatrist, Gauhati Medical College and Hospital and Dr. Jeuti Barooah, Former Director, Law Research Institute, Gauhati High Court were recommended as experts to be nominated on the SCPSA.

22. The amount of Rs. 1,29,92,000/- is allowed to be spent immediately so that UC could be submitted to GoI to release the proposed budget for 2010-2011.

Vote of thanks:

The Chairperson proposed the vote of thanks by formally thanking all the members of the Society for their presence and contribution in reviewing and finalizing the resolutions of the SCPSA as the first successful step towards successful implementation of the Integrated Child Protection Scheme in the state of Assam.

Chairman,
State Child Protection Society

Memo No. DSW(g) SCPS/180/2010/

Dated Guwahati the, September'2010

Copy to:

1. Mr. H.K. Sarma, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Social Welfare Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6.
2. Ms. Rwitticka Kalita, IAS, Additional Secretary, Home and Political Department, Govt. of Assam.
3. Mr. S.P. Nandy, IAS, Additional Secretary, Finance Department, Govt. of Assam.
4. Ms. Vandhana Khandhari, Consultant, ICPS, MWCD, New Delhi.
5. Ms. Jeroo Master, Chief, Field Office, UNICEF Assam.
6. Dr. Bandana Bhuyan, Regional Director, NIPCCD.
7. Ms. Bijoylakshmi Bharali, Director, Childline, Guwahati.
8. DSW and Member Secretary.

Chairman,
State Child Protection Society