

REPORT OF NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND DISTRICT CHILD PROTECTION PLAN OF SONITPUR DISTRICT IN ASSAM

1. Introduction:

Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) is a centrally sponsored scheme of Government -Civil Society Partnership to improve the well being of children in difficult circumstances and to reduce the vulnerability to situations and actions that lead to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children. The scheme aims to create a protective environment by improving regulatory frameworks, strengthening structures and professional capacities at national, state and district levels. Integrated Child Protection Service (ICPS) envisages setting up of a District Child Protection Society (DCPS), as the nodal organization at the district level in each district as a fundamental unit for the implementation of the scheme. Given the broad scope of the ICPS of promoting protective environment for children, it is imperative that a comprehensive plan, based on a thorough analysis of vulnerabilities and child protection concerns at the district level, be developed for each district along with strengthening the statutory bodies that will contribute towards ensuring that the scheme will have a far reaching impact, and will directly facilitate the implementation of the JJ Act and other interventions towards promoting protective environment for children at the community level.

1.2. Purpose of District Child Protection Plan:

The broad objective of the District Child Protection Plan (DCPP) is to ensure effective implementation of child protection activities with due cognizance of the district specific needs of children in need of care and protection. The District Child Protection Plan will serve the following purposes:

- i. Contribute to effective implementation of child protection legislations, schemes and achievement of child protection goals;
- ii. Map all child related service providers and services at district for creating a resource directory;
- iii. Identify the needs of children in need of care, protection, shelter, counseling, restoration, rehabilitation etc for wholesome reintegration in the society;
- iv. Prioritize the needs for taking action in regard to these needs;
- v. Identify gaps in and provide recommendations for strengthening the implementation of family based non-institutional services including sponsorship, foster care, adoption and after care;
- vi. Use the information for effective delivery of services under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 at district level;
- vii. Provide recommendations for effective rollout of district, block and village level child protection committees and provide context specific ToRs for these committees which will facilitate monitoring;

- viii. Identify gaps in and provide recommendations for effective Network and coordinate with all government departments and voluntary and civil society organizations working in the field of child rights and protection;
- ix. Provide a framework for maintaining a database of all children in institutional care and non-institutional care at the district level;
- x. Identify capacity gaps of personnel (Government and Non-government) working under child protection system and provide a plan for training and capacity building to ensure improved child protection services to children;
- xi. Provide a framework for effective monitoring and supervision of ICPS in the district to review the progress and achievement of child protection activities.

1.3. Scope:

The needs assessment has captured information on:

- i. Nature and magnitude of problems of children without family care, children engaged in various occupations, child victims of trafficking and early marriage, child abuse, children engaged in begging, children with special needs, children affected by HIV/AIDS, child victims of substance abuse, children prone to disaster, children of vulnerable groups like commercial sex workers, prisoners, child victims of migration to places within and outside the state;
- ii. Institutional care facilities for CNCP and JCL, care standards, status regarding restoration and rehabilitation of children, adequacy of manpower, capacity building of staff, funding pattern etc;
- iii. After Care and rehabilitation programme for children above 18 years;
- iv. Functioning of statutory bodies like CWC, JJB, SJPU, disposal of cases etc;
- v. Need for day care services for the street and working children, existing schemes to address the needs of child beggars; access to CHILDLINE services, if exists;
- vi. Status regarding non-institutional care options like adoption, foster care and sponsorship, etc. to children without family ties, functioning of SAAs, SARA;
- vii. Areas un-served/under served by child protection programmes;

1.4. Strategies:

Major strategies accomplished for District Need Assessment are as under:

- i. Identify, compile and complete desk review of all the relevant district specific reports, documents, available at state and district level from Government, NGOs, media and other sources. These could include reports from DWCD&SW/other concerned department, SSA and Education Dept, Labour Dept, NCLP, media, research organizations, educational institutions including Universities, NGOs and others;
- ii. Undertake field visits to select sites (communities, children's institutions, adoption agencies, drop-in shelters, and others, as necessary);
- iii. In-depth interviews with key informants, including the CWC, JJB, SJPU, SP and DC of District, community leaders, educators, NGOs, Panchyats and concerned others;

- iv. Draft a District CP Situation Analysis and a District Child Protection Plan (DCPP);
- v. Share findings of the District CP Situational analysis and the draft DCPP with the DCPS;
- vi. Finalize the Situational analysis and DCPP with inputs from the DCPS.

1.5. Methodology:

The DCPP has been prepared in the following manner:

- i. Examine the tool for Needs Assessment at the District level and the performa for District Level Child Protection Plan (DCPP) prepared by MWCD, GoI;
- ii. Finalize the tool and the format for DCPP and customize it, if necessary, to make it state specific;
- iii. Organise orientation programme for the team members who will facilitate collection of information for Needs Assessment at the district level;
- iv. Consulted the District Administration and DCPS about the need for developing the DCPP and for which the nature of information required from the concerned district;
- v. Team members collected information as mentioned in the tool from Govt. officials, NGOs, Panchayats, Police etc. to understand the child protection need of the district;
- vi. Team members organized some small group discussions with the NGOs and individual interaction with some key persons like GRP, Labour Commissioner, Tea Associations etc;
- vii. Team members collected the filled in tools from the District officials with their inputs;
- viii. The information received from secondary sources and from field survey and discussion with various stakeholders were collated and the major gaps in the child protection services were identified;
- ix. On the basis of the needs identified, a draft DCPP was prepared and shared with the DCPS and finally submitted to the SCPS through UNICEF, Assam.

1.6. Name of the District covered: Sonitpur

1.7. Time period: September, 2012

DISTRICT: SONITPUR



2. Demography:

Sonitpur is an administrative district in the state of Assam in India. The district headquarter is located at Tezpur. As per 2011 census it is the third most populous district of Assam (out of 27), after Nagaon and Dhubri. It is situated on the northern banks of Brahmaputra and the Himalayan foothills of Arunachal Pradesh. The district is plain with some hills dotting the borders and covers an area of 5324 km². According to the Census 2011, Sonitpur district has a population of 1,925, 975, roughly equal to the nation of Lesotho or the US state of West Virginia. This gives it a ranking of 245th in India.

The name Tezpur is derived from the Sanskrit words 'Teza' (meaning blood) and 'Pura' (meaning town or city). It is the **seventh largest city** of Assam after Guwahati, Silchar, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Nagaon and Tinsukia. The district was created in 1983 when it was split from Darrang. Besides its rich history there are many attractions in Tezpur such as its beautiful tea gardens, temples, parks, forts and monuments which have all made Tezpur an attractive and must visit destination in Assam.

2.1 The Administrative System is divided into:

1. Village (Total no of Villages 1876)
2. Block (Total no of Blocks 14)
3. Zilla Parishad (Total no. of Zilla Parishad 1)
4. Sub-division: 3 (Tezpur, Biswanath and Gohpur)

5. Gram Panchayet: 158
6. Anchalik Panchayet: 14
7. Revenue Circle: 7
8. Police Stations: 11

2.2. Population Composition:

District	Total Population 1,925,975		% of urban population	SC population	ST population	Muslim population (%)
Sonitpur	Male	Female	8.89%	5.23%	11.60%	15.94%
	989,919	936,056				
No. of Villages	No. of Primary Schools	No. of Junior High Schools	No. of High Schools	No. of H.S. Schools	No. of PHC	No. of Sub- Centre
1876	1866	395	189	53	37	279
Rural poverty (BPL Card Holder)	Avg. HH Size	Sex Ratio	Literacy Rate (%)	Female Literacy Rate (%)	Work Part. Rate (%)	Agri. Labour (%)
79098	5	946	69.96%	62.53%	38%	12.92%

Source: Census, 2001 & 2011

3. Major Vulnerability of children in Sonitpur district:

India is a home of almost 19% of the world's children. More than one third of the country's population, around 440 million, is below 18 years. It is estimated that around 170 million or 40% of India's children are vulnerable to or experiencing difficult circumstances. The provisional population of Census 2011, Assam had population of 3.11 Crore, an increase from figure of 2.67 Crore in 2001 census. Total population of Assam as per 2011 census is 31,169,272 of which male and female are 15,954,927 and 15,214,345 respectively, which is 3.41% of total population of India. In 2001, total population is 26,655,528 of which males are 13,777,037 and females are 12,878,491.

In 2011, Sonitpur has population of 1,925,975 of which male and female are 989,919 and 936,056 respectively. The district recorded increase of 15.67% to its population compared to 2001.

District	Year	Child Population (0-6 years)		% of child population	Child Sex Ratio
		Boys	Girls		
Sonitpur	2001	137,005	133,424	16.24%	974
	2011	136,458	130,780	13.88%	958

There are total 267,238 children under 0-6 year age group in 2011 census of which male and female are 136,458 and 130,780 respectively. Child Sex Ratio as per census 2011 is 958. There is change of 13.88% in the children (0-6 years) population compared to 16.24% population as per 2001. There is net change of -2.36% in this compared to previous census of India.

3.1 Health:

The SRS 2010 data reveals that Crude Birth Rate (CBR) is significantly higher than the Crude Death Rate (CDR); 19.8 and 6.5 respectively. The CBR in urban is 17.4 and rural is 20.2 and the CDR in urban is 5.4 and rural is 6.7. The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in Sonitpur district is 68 of which male IMR is 67 and female IMR is 69. The Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) is 367 while the national profile registers Infant Mortality Rate as 58 and Maternal Mortality Rate as 301.¹ National Plan of Action for Children, 2005 clearly envisages that the IMR and MMR would be reduced below 30 per 1000 live births and 100 per 1, 00,000 live births respectively within 2010, however, both the statistics are far below the expected target. There is a 1 district hospital and two SDCH, 37 Primary Health Centres, 279 Sub-Centres, 8 Block Primary Health Centres and 10 State Dispensaries in the districts. According to the data form Health department, last one year there is no such case on HIV/AIDS reported in the district.

According to Mr. P. Saikia, DPO, NRHM most of the children suffer from the diseases like Diarrhea, fever and skin disease. During flood the children are mostly affected by the water borne diseases. Malaria is prevalent in the foothill areas in the district. According to him, there are sufficient health centres in the district. NRHM is covering 27 districts. He also stated that the MMR in the district is little high. The response of institutional delivery is quite good in the district because they also get the facility of Assam Bikash Yojna, Mamoni and Janani Suraksha Yojna. Apart from these mobile medical units are there in the district under NRHM. The coordination between the ICDS and Health department is good.

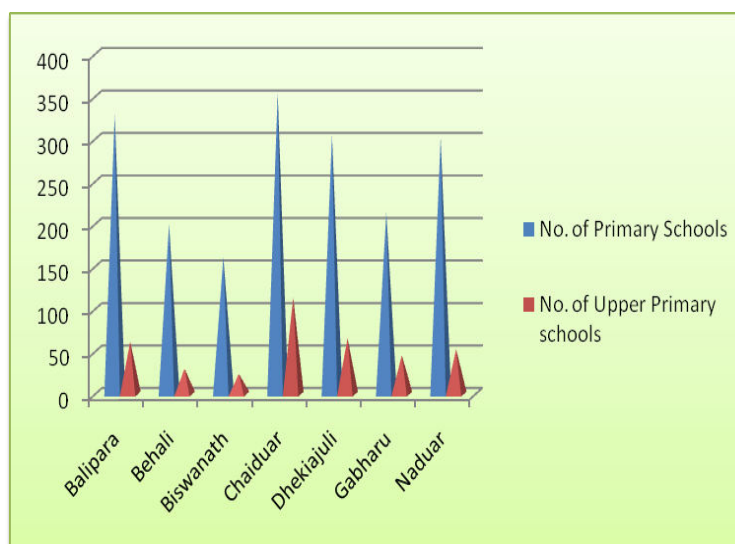
3.2. Education:

According to 2011 Census, the literacy rate in Assam is 73.18 (Male 78.81 and Female 67.27) and the corresponding figure in Sonitpur district in 2011 are 69.96% compared to

¹ Source: Annual Health Survey, 2010-11

59.07% of 2001. If things are looked out at gender wise, male and female literacy rate are 76.98% and 62.53% respectively in 2011. Total literate in Sonitpur District are 1,160,527 of which male and female are 656,995 and 503,532 respectively. According to the data of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, the district consists of 1866 primary schools, 395 junior high schools, 189 high schools and 53 high secondary schools. There are 6 junior colleges and 8 colleges.

Primary Education: The primary schools exist in the seven blocks in the district namely: Balipara, Behali, Biswanath, Chaiduar, Dhekiajuli, Gabharu and Naduar. The enrolment ratio of boy is 103.2% and girl is 102.5%. As per the data of SSA, the dropout rate is low at the primary level, for boys it is 10.9% and girls is 9.6%. The graphical representation shows the numbers of primary schools are much higher than the upper primary schools.



Secondary Education: There are 189 High Schools and 53 High Secondary schools in 14 blocks in the district. Total 33233 children enrolled in the High schools of which 15152 are boys and 18108 girls. The enrolment ratio of boys and girls in class V-VIII is 91.7% and 91.9% respectively and the dropout ratio of boys and girls are 16.3% and 15.8% respectively. As per the data of Education department, up to high school level the enrolment of girls is much higher than the boys but surprisingly, at the High Secondary and the college level the enrolment of girls is fall down due to lack of interest and poor economic condition of the family.

The Enrolment of children in High Schools, High secondary schools and Collage Level:

Sl. No.	Institution	Boys	Girls	Total
1	High School	15125	18108	33233
2	High Secondary School	10546	9401	19947
3	Junior Collage	1144	868	2012
4	Collage	3104	2690	5794

Enrolment and Dropout Status of the Children



According to the data of Education department total 2970 children never attending schools of which 1454 are boys and 1516 are girls.

Non-Residential Special Training Centre (NRSTC): The Non-Residential Special Training Centres run under Sarva Siksha Avijan. There are 515 centres in the district which is covered urban and rural areas.

Sl. No.	Block	Total no. of centres	Enrolment of Rural Centres			Total no. of centres	Enrolment of Urban Centres		
			Boys	Girls	Total		Boys	Girls	Total
1.	Gabharu	18	219	226	463	13	92	176	281
2.	Dhekiajuli	54	747	669	1470	6	42	54	102
3.	Balipara	68	710	758	1536	-	-	-	-
4.	Naduar	64	612	525	1201	-	-	-	-
5.	Biswanath	89	1017	872	1978	5	83	87	175
6.	Behali	99	969	954	2022	-	-	-	-
7.	Chaiduar	91	932	914	1937	8	94	89	191
Total		483	5206	4918	10607	32	311	406	749

Residential Special Training Centre (RSTC): The Residential Special Training Programme is functioning only in Naduar block. There are two RSTC covering 150 girls.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV): The Government of India has approved a new scheme called KGBV. As per the data of Education department, there are three KGBV schools in Sonitpur.

3.3. Children in ICDS:

Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) implemented in Sonitpur district through 15 projects. Total 99810 children are attending preschool education under ICDS scheme of which 49872 are boys and 49938 girls. Along with pre-school education, other components of ICDS are being catered to the children through 3796 centres and by 13 Child Development Project Officers, 84 supervisors and 3735 Anganwadi Workers.

The needs of the adolescent girls, however, remain largely unaddressed through ICDS. Some posts of supervisors and AWWs are lying vacant. The team visited the ICDS centres in the Tezpur rural and urban areas. In an interview with the Supervisor of Tezpur ICDS urban, Ward No.16, it revealed that there are 76 centres in the urban area. The AWW conduct the mothers meeting in every month on child education and health. Most of the children who come to the centre belong to the mixed community. According to the CDPO, Gohpur sub-division, there are 424 centres of which 6 centres are located in 6 tea gardens. Kishori Shakti Yojna (KSY) or any kind of vocational training for the girls of age group 12-18 years is not functional in this district. It is also informed by the member of Assam Chahao Majdur Sanstha (ACMS) of Biswanath subdivision that there are many ICDS centres in the tea garden areas and most of the tea garden children get the facilities from these ICDS centres.

3.4. Child Labour:

As per the census report of 2001, Assam has 3, 51,416 child laborers of 5-14 years age group. Incidentally, the number in the whole country counted to the tune of 1.26 crore as per that census. Recently child labours are not found by the labour office in Sonitpur district, among them mostly are from hotels, dhabas, tea stalls and garages. Apart from these, many children are engaged as a domestic child labour. According to the Assistant Labour Commissioner of Sonitpur, there are total 70 tea gardens in the district namely Narayanpur T.E., Noorbari T.E. in Tezpur subdivision; Mahalaxmi, Majuligarh, Sogra, Borgang teagardens in Biswanath subdivision; and Naya Gogra T.E., Nirmala T.E., Borai T.E. in Gohpur subdivision etc.

In 1997 a survey was done but no extensive survey has been conducted in the district in the recent past, though inspection is going on by the labour department in periodic manner. But in the tea gardens, it has been common for children to work alongside their parents to augment their income. Besides this, when the parents are not able to do the work in tea garden due to their age or any other reason that time, the child enlists his/her name as a labour otherwise that post may be occupied by the other. So, it is also a reason for children being engaged in tea gardens. Children with their nimble fingers

are preferred to pluck the tea leaves (being a delicate job) and also undertake weeding, hoeing and nursery activities during off-season. The mothers working in the gardens normally bring their children to the work-place as there is no one back home to look after the children and the crèche facility as stipulated under the Plantation Labour Act is mostly non-existent. As a result a child grows up observing his/her mother plucking the leaves and gradually assists her. The Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act of 1986 amended certain portions of the Plantation Labour Act of 1951 by raising minimum age for employment from 12 to 14 years of age. Yet these guidelines are summarily ignored in the tea gardens as indicated in Government report as well as ILO studies. A 1992 report on child labour in tea plantations in Northeast says: *"Most of the child workers are employed as casuals. Children are found to do such strenuous work as plucking under very severe climatic conditions; they are assigned to nursery work, fertilization, carrying of heavy loads and household work. They are also made to work in the factories, against established law."* (Vasanthi Raman, Child Labour in the Tea Plantations of North East India, UNICEF & Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Govt. of India, 1992).

In Sonitpur district there are 59 registered brick kilns in Tezpur subdivision and 44 in Biswanath subdivision. Some of the brick kilns are: Puja Bricks in Khelmati, Star Bricks in Dekiajuli, SIVA in Silghagori etc. in Tezpur subdivision; M/S MKB in Borgang, M/S YBI in Bijuli Jarani, and M/S PNB in Kulaguri etc. in Biswanath subdivision.

According to SDPO, Gohpur, the magnitude of child labour is low in the area. However, children are engaged in the domestic help. Mr. G.R. Chowdhury, Circle Officer of Biswanath sub-division also informed that child labour problem is not prevalent in the area in recent times but some children are engaged in the brick kilns and teagardens as seasonal labour. Mr. Pokrel, Labour Officer of both Biswanath and Gohpur sub-division mentioned that it would be difficult to say that the district do not have any child labour but the problem and numbers are decreasing. Regular inspection is going on by the department. In this year on 23rd August six child labours from Biswanath sub-division was rescued by the Labour Officer and produced before CWC with the support from DCPO. Among these six, four has sent back to their families and the rest two, found as orphan, are placed in the children's home run by SOFTSEED. It is also informed that there are 7 biscuit factories and 1 stone crashing factory in the subdivision. The labour officer is not very sure whether the children are engaged in these areas or not.

In 2005, the Committee on Welfare of Women and Children of the Assam Legislative Assembly had observed that engagement of child labour is still going on in the State and recommended that the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 should be enforced strictly. The State Sarba Shiksha Abhijan Mission too has recognized the magnitude of the problem and has given special focus to mainstream the children through special Residential Bridge Course Centers. Nagaon, Kokrajhar and Lakhimpur are presently covered under NCLP. Yet as per a query filed by Bachpan Bachao

Andolan, Union Labour Ministry had informed that 1,261 inspections were carried out in Assam between 2006-08, of which only 46 violations were detected and 1 prosecution registered. (16th October, 2008, IANS). This calls for the need to further probe the extent of practice of child labour in Assam.

3.5. Child Trafficking:

From the discussions with the district officials and NGO representatives, it revealed that children of poor families living in remote areas are vulnerable to trafficking. Due to poverty these children are pushed by their parents to take up any kind of economic activity at a tender age. Most of them are being trafficked to other states to meet the demand for cheap labour.

Routes of Traffickers:

District	Key Source Areas	Transit Areas	Important Destination Areas	Comments
Sonitpur	Bhimajuli, Rangapara, Dhekiajuli, Naduar & Thekiajuri, tea gardens (Dipagali lines)	Tezpur, Guwahati, Rangapara & Rangiya	Guwahati, northern and western states of India	To work as CDW or sex worker, tea tribe girls are most affected
			Arunachal Pradesh	To work as CDW

From Gohpur to Dhekiajuli, Sonitpur district, Assam shares a 142 km border with Arunachal Pradesh which is inhabited by Bodo community. This community due to their lack of livelihood, poor education and ill awareness about trafficking constitute one of the most vulnerable groups. As far as Arunachal Pradesh is concerned, many traffickers use Bandardah (a place in Assam-Arunachal Border) as the main transit point. However according to many sources, there are many such transit areas dotting the dense jungle of Assam-Arunachal border. The major transit points are:

- Guwahati
- Kokrajhar
- New Bongaigaon

Some other transit points are:

- Tinsukia (for girls coming from Arunachal Pradesh)
- Rangiya
- Barpeta
- Fakirgram
- Dhubri (onwards to Cooch Behar)

Major transit points for Assamese girls outside the state of Assam are:

- Siliguri (West Bengal)
- Dimapur (Nagaland)

Crossing the west Assam border, Siliguri is a major transit area not only for girls of Assam but also for the entire north east. Many girls from Guwahati who are brought in Siliguri are later sold to brothels in various parts of India. They exploit the vulnerability of the girls' parents with promises of false jobs or fake marriage and later sold off to work as domestic help (who are routinely subjected to physical/sexual assault), bar girls, or directly pushed into prostitution. It has been reported that the traffickers specifically identify the vulnerable families like those whose homes have been ravaged by flood, employees of sick tea gardens or impoverished families living in the remote sand heads ('chars') of Brahmaputra. According to a representative of Nedan Foundation, the recruiting agents and pimps involved are the local people who have intricate details of the area where they operate and usually befriend the close relatives of the family or win the confidence of the parents by flaunting their wealth or painting rosy pictures of prosperous future lives of the children.²

According to the district administration trafficking is not prevalent in the district; however it is happening in the rural areas than urban. It is informed by Assam Mahila Samata Society (AMSS) which is working on the issues of child protection since 2007 in Sonitpur district, covering 25 Gram Panchayats comprising of 256 villages, that trafficking taken place mainly in the rural areas. In the last two years AMSS rescued 15 children from Naduar and 17 children from Balipara. The trafficked victims are mostly belonging to tribal communities.

As per the statement of the G.P. President of Uttar Muradal, many girls are trafficked from this place. AMSS has formed Village Level Child Protection Committee to arrest the trafficking issue. It is a preventive method of the NGO for prompting child protection. One member of VLCPC reported that 21 girls are trafficked from 2 no. Morisuti Village, Balijuri, Christan basti, Boddikorai of Naduar block, among them 18 girls and 1 boy are rescued with the help of AMSS and police but the rest are still missing. These children are trafficked to Chennai, Delhi, Bangalore, Panjab as child labour, child sex worker and for other means of exploitation. In many a cases the parents are also involved with the traffickers, especially in tea garden areas. The teagarden people are mostly alcoholic and demand money from their wife. Due to this reason the parents sold their children.

According to the Additional Superintendent of Police presently trafficking is not a major problem in the district.

² Source: A study on Trafficking of children & women in Assam done by JPISC, Kolkata; Supported by: UNICEF, Assam, 2010.

3.6. Child Migration:

Migration in search of livelihoods has been a major problem in the district. Due to poor economic condition the people move from one place to another. They are mostly migrated from Nagaon, Goalpara, Bopeta, Dubri and other places of Assam and are mostly staying in rural belt and tea gardens areas. Apart from this, many people are migrated from Bihar, Orrisa, and Jharkhand and stayed in the slums like panch mile and teen mile and rural areas of the district. In recent time due to some religious issue families are migrated from other districts to Sonitpur in search of job. As said by Addl SP, Sonitpur 2500 people are recently migrated from other districts of Assam to Tezpur. There is also considerable irregular migration from Bangladesh to Assam, mostly illegal, and undertaken with the help of middlemen in collusion with law enforcement agencies on both sides. Thus, Bangladeshi people have been able to build up powerful base in the border districts of Assam.

3.7. Child Marriage:

In Assam, the median age at first marriage for boys is 26.9 and for girls the corresponding figure is 20.8 (DLHS, 2007). Girls getting married at 14-15 years were a common practice and as per Muslim Personal Law, the permitted age of marriage is 15 years. The 2001 Census of India showed that 19.22% of them were married off between the ages of 10 to 19 years in Assam. Child Marriage is not a prominent issue in the district but it is common in tribal communities of the district.

3.8. Street Children:

In the urban centers in Assam like Guwahati, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Silchar, a significant number of children are often seen in wandering in the streets. They are robbed of childhood and adult protection, and are exposed to various forms of misery, abuse and exploitation. In addition to the children who run away from home and take to the streets on account of poverty, neglect, parents with alcohol problems, death of family members or desertion, studies indicate that a section are also children of migrant laborers working in the loosely organized low wage sector of the economy.

According to the Street Children Study in Assam, it is found that, there are 91 street children of which 71 are male and 20 females in Sonitpur district. Most of the children belonged to Hindu families and their educational status is very poor. It is like a pyramid because most of the children are never been to school and those children got the basic education, they are not continued their secondary level. Based on the study findings, it may be said that most of the children are migrated from other districts in Assam to look for a job. Apart from this, approximately 50% of children in Sonitpur are physically abused by his/her parents and choose to run away from their home and took a shelter on the streets. Though many children are also engaged in the hotels, dhabas, tea stalls as child labour. They worked as a daily wage labour but they got minimum wage for their uphill struggle. The health status of the children in Sonitpur is average in comparison to other districts in Assam. There they get the facilities of government

hospital for treatment. Addiction is a big problem in Assam. The children are taking substances mostly for fun and peer pressure like, Gutka and Tobacco. The street children are mostly observed in the marketplaces of the district.

3.9. Children Affected by Natural Disaster:

Disasters are either natural, such as floods, droughts, cyclones and earthquakes, or human-made such as riots, conflicts and others like fire, epidemic, industrial accidents and environmental fallouts. Globally, natural disasters account for nearly 80% of all disaster affected people. According to the insurance company estimates, natural disasters represent 85% of insured catastrophe losses. If one adds the losses in countries like India, where most of the property of the people, especially in the rural areas remains uninsured, the losses are astronomical.

The major flood is happened on 26th June, 2012 in Sonitpur district. Seven revenue circles are affected in the flood. Most devastation took place in Naduar Revenue Circle. According to the report of District Disaster Management, total no. of affected villages in the flood:

Revenue Circle	No. of Villages
Naduar	75
Biswanath	27
Gohpur	43
Tezpur	44
Dhekiajuli	18
Halem	30
Chariduar	14
Total	251

Some of the flood affected areas under Biswanath sub-division are Kumulia, Goruimari, Salmari, Sotia, Jamuguri, Panpur, Silamari, Kathanibari and Garmothan. Almost 3, 74, 341 population were affected by flood, who kept in 146 relief camps. So far six deaths were confirmed by the disaster cell of the district during the flood. They are:

- 1) Pankaj Mandal, (18 yrs.) - Naduar Rev. Circle
- 2) Nur Alam, (35 yrs.) - Naduar Rev. Circle
- 3) Haridul Islam (3.5 yrs.) - Dhekiajuli Rev. Circle
- 4) Inamul Haque (18 yrs.) - Tezpur Rev. Circle
- 5) Tapan Chetry (17 yrs.) - Naduar Rev. Circle
- 6) Mirajul Haque (65 yrs.) - Biswanath Rev. Circle

Apart from these 41,837 houses, 91 roads, 20 hospitals, 19 primary schools, 167 elementary schools were damaged in flood. District disaster cell took active action by providing them foods, cloths and necessary support to the affected people.

3.10. Children and Law Violating Activities:

The incidents of juvenile offences have increased in all over the India; it is especially, true for serious offences viz: rape, murder, dacoity and robbery. In Sonitpur average 14-17 years of children committed offences like: Dacoity, unlawful activities, kidnapping, rape, murder, NDPS and theft. However, it is somewhat true that existing gaps in child protection mechanism leads to survival and corroboration of such detrimental factors that can lead a child towards exhibition of law-violating behaviour. The increase in incidence of juvenile offences was observed under some other serious offences like: rape, murder, dacoity and robbery. However, the majority of the children apprehended are accused of minor offences like petty thefts, burglary etc. The failure of primary socializing institutions like family, schools and neighborhoods in providing opportunities for healthy growth of children leads of growing incidences of law violated behavior amongst children and young persons. Finally, poverty, community disorganization, availability of drugs and peer influence are also linked to increased risk for later violence. The problem of law violating behavior among children reflects child's socio-economic mal adjustments.

3.11. Child Abuse:

In the district of Sonitpur, 191 cases of Kidnapping and Abduction (u/s 363-369, 371-373 IPC) and 80 cases of rape (u/s 376IPC) were reported in NCRB, 2010. The following table shows the total crimes committed in the district:

Sl. No	Crime Heads		2010
1	Murder (Sec. 302)		81
2	Attempt to commit Murder (Sec. 307)		10
3	CH not amounting to Murder (Sec. 304, 308)		00
4	Rape (Sec. 376)		80
5	Kidnapping & Abduction (Sec. 363 - 369, 371 - 373)	Of Women & Girls	169
		Of Others	22
6	Dacoity (Sec. 395 - 398)		07
7	Preparation & Assembly for Dacoity (Sec. 399 - 402)		00
8	Robbery (392 - 394, 397, 398)		22
9	Burglary (sec. 449 - 452, 454, 455, 457 - 460)		175
10	Theft (sec. 379 - 382)	Auto Theft	63
		Other Theft	275
11	Riots (Sec. 143 - 145, 147 - 151, 153, 153A, 153B, 157, 158, 160)		34
12	Criminal Breach of Trust (Sec. 406 - 409)		44
13	Cheating (Sec. 419, 420)		81

Sl. No	Crime Heads	2010
14	Counterfeiting (Sec. 231 - 254, 489A, 489D)	00
15	Arson (Sec. 435, 436, 438)	21
16	Hurt (Sec. 323 - 333, 335 - 338)	210
17	Dowry Deaths (Sec. 304B)	13
18	Molestation (Sec. 354)	30
19	Sexual Harassment (Sec. 509)	00
20	Cruelty by Husband & Relatives (Sec. 498A)	294
21	Importation of Girls (Sec. 366B)	00
22	Causing Death by Negligence (Sec. 304 A)	353
23	Other IPC Crimes	1145
	Total	3129

Mr. D.D. Deka, Child Welfare Officer of Dhekiajuli Police Station highlighted the crime situation in the Dhekiajuli circle.

Cases Registered under Crimes against Children, Dhekiajuli, Sonitpur, 2011 and 2012

Crime Heads	Cases Registered	
	2011	2012
Infanticide (Sec. 315 IPC)	NIL	NIL
Murder (Sec. 302 IPC)	02	01
Rape (Sec. 376 IPC)	10	04
Kidnapping & Abduction (Sec. 363 - 369, 371 - 373 IPC)	NIL	02
Foeticide (Sec. 315, 316 IPC)	NIL	NIL
Abetment to Suicide (Sec. 305 IPC)	NIL	NIL
Exposure & Abandonment (Sec. 317 IPC)	NIL	NIL
Procurator of Minor Girls (Sec. 366A IPC)	19	17
Buying of Girls for Prostitution (Sec. 373 IPC)	NIL	NIL
Selling of Girls for Prostitution (Sec. 372 IPC)	NIL	NIL
Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929/ Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006	NIL	NIL
ITPA, 1956	NIL	NIL
Other Crimes	NIL	NIL
Total	31	24

Source: Dhekiajuli Police Station

3.12. Child Domestic Work:

Child Domestic Work can be treated as a form of child labour that catches little public attention being confined in the safe precincts of a home. Child Domestic Work is widespread in the urban pockets of Assam especially in Guwahati and adjacent pockets. The 1991 census data reports that 6.8 lakhs boys and 4.1 lakhs girls are engaged

in domestic help in the state of Assam. According to NGO sources, the law for prohibition of child domestic worker is rampantly violated in the district especially in the urban and semi-urban centers and there is complete lack of awareness about it amongst the employers.

An earlier UNICEF sponsored study on the CDW of Guwahati revealed the place of origin of the respondents:

Place of origin	Response (n)	Percentage
Baksa/Udalguri/Chirang/Kokrajhar	30	6.30
Dhubri/Bongaigaon/Goalpara	73	15.33
Nagaon/Morigaon/Sonitpur/Darrang	51	10.7
Nalbari/Barpeta/Kamrup	154	32.35
N.C.Hills/Barak Valley	11	2.31
Lakhimpur/Demaji/Sibasagar/Tinsukia	58	12.18

(Source: UNICEF)

In Sonitpur district most of the children migrated to Arunachal Pradesh for better job and engaged them as domestic labour. They also go to Arunachal Pradesh for better wages.

4. Gaps in the Existing Child Protection Mechanisms:

The following gaps were identified in the needs assessment:

4.1. Institutional Care:

In Sonitpur, a NGO run Children's Home newly recognized by the Department of Social Welfare under Juvenile Justice Act, 2000, namely SOFTSEED. This home is meant for both boys and girls. The capacity of the institution is 25. Presently, six children, 4 boys and 2 girls, are living under the care of SOFTSEED and aged below 10 years. The institution provides non-formal education, music and dance to the children. They send their report to the State Child Protection Society, Guwahati, Assam. However, they have not yet received any fund to run their home.

4.2. Child Welfare Committee:

The CWC of Sonitpur district has been functioning since 2008 and sits in the premises of DCPO office on Thursday and Friday. The Chairperson reported that CWC, since inception, has been playing a positive role to ensure child rights and makes effort to generate awareness on the role of the CWC to deal with the Child in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) and children at risk.

The contact details of the members of CWC:

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Contact No.
1	Mr. Kanakeswar Sharma	Chairperson	9864167848
2	Mr. Prabin Gogoi	Member	9854450600
3	Mrs. Bokul Borah	Member	9435185347
4	Ms. Trishnamoni Laskar	Member	9707775071
5	Vacant	Member	-

According to the chairperson, the children mostly produced before the Committee belongs to poor economic conditions. The children are mostly produced by the police or the Social worker. The average age group of children produced before CWC is 14 years. Probation officer plays good role to trace the families. As per the data of Child Welfare Committee, during June 2011 to August 2012 the Committee dealt with 140 children of whom 107 are boys and 33 girls. 109 cases are already disposed and 30 cases are pending till date of which 26 cases are pending more than a year.

Records of the Child Welfare Committee: (June 2011 - August 2012)

Categories of children who are produced before CWC	No. of children	Name of the places where the children from
Abused child	06	Lakimpur, Dhubri, Nalbari, Udalguri, Nagaon, Nepal, Burdawan and Cooch Behar of West Bengal, Bihar.
Child Labour	85	
Destitute Child	34	
Street Child	10	
Victim	01	
Surrender Child	02	
Trafficking Child	02	

Status of Cases in Child Welfare Committee, Sonitpur, Month of August, 2012

Total no. of cases			Types of cases dealt with			Source of Referral		
Pending Cases	New Cases	Disposed Cases	Child Labour	Child Abuse	Street Child	NGO	Public by CWC	Police
30	30	29	24	3	3	3	25	2

CWC expresses their resentment about the poor budgetary allocation and inadequate manpower. The functional liaison between Labour Department, SJPU and CWC found good and encouraging.

The chairperson of CWC said that programmes on child protection issues need to be done by the district administration for effective implementation of JJ Act on protection of children living in slum, industrial areas and tea garden.

4.3. Juvenile Justice Board:

The JJB in Sonitpur is functioning since 2007. The Board sits two days in a week, Wednesday and Saturday at DCPO office. The juvenile, who are being produced by the Police, mostly comes under 376 IPC and most of the children are in the age group of 17 & 18 years. The contact details of the members of JJB:

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Contact No.
1	Mr. R. Lal	Principal Magistrate	9678807483
2	Ms. Gita Upadhyay	Social Worker	9435083298
3	Vacant	Social Worker	-

As per data given by JJB, almost 124 cases are pending. In an interview with the Principal Magistrate it was informed that the major cause of pending cases are lack of manpower and material resources and non-execution by the police administration. During last 12 months JJB dealt with approximately 150 cases. 90% of cases granted bail in last one year. According to the DCPO most of the children produced before JJB by Police. When the JJB is not sitting the JCLs are directly produced before the Principal Magistrate without any delay. Mr. Upadhyay, member of JJB stated that the Principal Magistrate disposed the petty offence immediately after apprehension and recommend for the community services.

Types of Cases dealt by JJB (As per the report of August, 2012)

Murder	Rape	Drug Peddling	Arms Carrying	Insurgency	Petty	Any other
15	44	-	2	1	-	67

According to the member of JJB, most of the children who are committing offences belong to the poor economic background. The major factors responsible for crime related activities committed by children are:

- Lack of education
- Lower income of the family
- Social environment
- Background of the family
- Earn Easy money
- Elder also instigated the child

Status of Sitting and Cases

Total no. of sitting	No. of Juveniles Produced Before JJB		Status of Cases		Status of pending Cases				No. of SIR Pending
6	Boys	Girls	Total no. of cases (Pending cases of previous month)	126	Up to 4 months	4-6 months	6-1 year	Above 1 year	124
			New Cases	5					
			Cases Disposed	7					
	147	2	Pending Cases	124	54	6	8	56	

The Principal Magistrate JJB, Sonitpur pointed out some constraints like:

- Delay submission of SIR due to shortage of manpower and material Support,
- Distance of the home,
- Cooperation and coordination with the community level need to be strengthened.

“Education and Health care needs of every child either juvenile or child in Need of care and protection must be taken up as first priority. No child care plan can succeed without providing basic education and minimal health care to children. Community should be involved. Health department and Education department should be made part of the Juvenile Justice Administration.” - stated the Principal Magistrate, JJB, Sonitpur.

4.4. Special Juvenile Police Unit:

Assam had taken a lead from many other states in forming the Special Juvenile Police Units in all the Police stations. However the units have mostly remained dormant as there had been no proper capacity building of the police personnel on child rights or juvenile justice mechanism. Although the SJPUs have been formed in Sonitpur district. There are 11 police stations in the district and all the police stations have the child Welfare officers. But this is yet to be functionally active and there is lack of role clarity amongst the police personnel apart from lacking basic knowledge of functioning.

According to Additional Superintendent of Police as well as the nodal officer of Special Juvenile Police Unit more training is needed for all the police officer, personnel of the police stations or out posts of the district regarding apprehension, production, investigation, interrogation of the cases registered under Juvenile Justice Act, 2000. He also informed that networking among the JJB, CWC, Police and NGOs are very good. He also informed about the ASWAS project. This year almost 25 children are benefited by the project. He also highlighted that JJ Act is well implemented in the district.

4.5. Alternative Non-Institutional Care:

Alternative care stresses primarily in strengthening vulnerable families with a view to keeping the child with his or her family. It should take full account of the desirability, in principle, of maintaining the child as close as possible to his/her habitual place of residence, in order to facilitate contact and potential reintegration with his/her family and to minimize disruption of his/her educational, cultural and social life.

“Morigaon Mahila Mahefil” is the Specialised Adoption Agency (SAA) working for three districts in Assam and covering Morigaon, Nogaon and Sonitpur. It has got recognition in last December. Their infrastructure and staff recruitment has completed and will start functioning soon.

4.6. District Child Protection Committee (DCPC) in Sonitpur, Assam:

DCPC has been formed in the district in July 2010 vide an order of the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Social Welfare Department, but it is yet to be functional to ensure protective network for the children in district. The 1st Meetings held on 13th September, 2011. The members of the committee are as followed:

Sl. No.	Name / Designation	Status / Position
1	Deputy Commissioner, Sonitpur	Chairperson
2	Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development)	Vice-Chairperson
3	District Child Protection Officer/District Social Welfare Officer	Member Convenor
4	Superintendent of Police	Member
5	Joint Director of Health Services	Member
6	Project Director, DRDA	Member
7	Inspector of Schools	Member
8	District Elementary Education Officer (DEEO)	Member
9	District Mission Coordinator of Sarva Shiksha Abhijan	Member
10	Chairperson, CWC	Member
11	Principal Magistrate, JJB or his/her nominee who is a member of JJB	Member
12	Chief Executive Officer, Zella Parishad, Sonitpur	Member
13	Mrs. Dipika Nandi, Mahabhairab, Tezpur expert in the field of child protection	Member
14	Vacant	Member

4.7. NGO in Sonitpur:

Sl. No	Name of the organization	Contact Person	Contact Details	Area of Activities
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1	Assam Mahila Samata Society	Mrs. Gitika Sharma (District Programme Coordinator)	09854032271 E-mail- amss_sonitpur@ya hoo.com.in	1.Educational Activities- Mahila Sikshan Kendra(Special training centre) & Kishori Mancha 2.Trafficking related activities
2	Eight Brother's Social Welfare Society	Mr. Bakul Borah	09435185347	1.Creche facilities 2. Awareness Generation programme on Trafficking and Child Labour 3.Services for HIV/ AIDS affected children 4.Services for children with Special Need 5.Training & Vocational unit
3	Society of Total Social, Educational & Economical Development (SOFTSEED)	Mr. S.K Borthakur (President) Mrs. Aklima Begum(Superintendent)	03712-225905 09435731656 09859043196	1. Institutional Care (Children home & SWADHAR home for boys & Girls) 2.Educational Activities (Composite Center for Working children) 3.Child Labour related activities 4. Family Counseling Centre.
4	SANJIWANI	Prabin Gogoi (Chairman, President & Chief functionary)	09854450600	1. Institutional Care (Residential Service Centre for Special Need Children) 2. Educational Activities (Day Care Centre) 3. Service for Children with Special Need (Spl. Education, Physiotherapy, art & Music training etc.)
5	NABA-PRABHAT	Trishnamoni Laskar	09707775071	1. Health Care Facilities 2.Institutional Care 3.Educational facilities (Formal & non-formal) 4.Vocational training facilities (Art, Music & Dance)

6	Global Health Immunization & Population Control Organization (GHIPCO)	Mr. Parag Das Ms. Afnuja Khonam	08011599254 09854946163	1.Health Care facilities 2.Institutional Care Facilities (Parential Counselling/ Advocacy) 3.Educational facilities(Non-formal, Vocational training) 4.Disaster Mitigation Programme (Awareness camp) 5.Trafficking related activities (Short Stay Home) 6.Child labour related activities 7.Services for HIV/ AIDS Affected children (Awareness camp) 8.Services for Children with Special Need (Care and protection, provide Nutrition) 9.Others (Mobile Medicare Unit, Type Short hand, Composite centre for working children, Creche programme, Day care centre for aged, Drug De-toxicification center)
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4.8. Major Gaps:

- No Observation Home and Special Home for JCL and CNCP respectively under JJ Act;
- The SJPU is formed but need to be strengthened;
- Posts are lying vacant in JJB and CWC;
- SAA is recognized but not yet functional;
- No CHILDLINE services in the district;
- Non/delayed submission of SIR leads to delay in disposal of cases;
- Children are employed in the tea gardens by their parents to support their family income;
- Overall lack of awareness of the community, NGOs and other stakeholders about the role and responsibilities of the Juvenile Justice System and ICPS;
- No intervention programme for the street children, migrant children;
- No NCLP schools in the district;
- District Child protection Committee under ICPS is yet to be functional;

- No social workers are there in JJB and CWC;
- No representation of the Labour Department in the DCPC.
- There is lack of protection programme for the street children, child labour, trafficked children, migrant children, CDWs etc;
- There is Drug Detoxification centre in the district but not yet functional;

5. Plan of Action for Child Protection under ICPS:

In order to address the above mentioned gaps, the following activities through District Child Protection Plan under ICPS may be considered for taking action:

1. Creating Protective environment for children under ICPS:			
	Major Activity	Key Actions	Who is responsible
1.1	Completion of recruitment of staff	Negotiate with SCPS	SCPS
1.2	Organize capacity building of newly recruited staffs of DCPC;		SCPS
1.3	Organise DCPC meeting in every quarter;	DC to monitor the activities of DCPC	DCPC
1.4	Orientation of Police on child protection issues as part of DCPC.	Negotiate with the State & District Police Department	DCPC
1.5	Children affected by HIV/AIDS to initiated with immediate effect	Negotiate with the Health Department to covers the children under ICTC Programme.	SCPS, DCPC, Assam SACS, NGOs
1.6	Organize programmes for the victim of trafficking, migrant child labor / children of migrant laborers;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate with the labour department to rescue children engaged in hazardous occupations and the migrant children to cover them under NCLP Programme. • Initiate AWWs, SSKs in vulnerable pockets like the Tea Gardens, Brick Kilns, Border Areas to provide education and health care services to the children 	DCPC, Labour Dept., ICDS
1.7	Establishment of Open Shelter programme for street and working	Open Shelter through NGOs may be initiated under ICPS in Sonitpur.	SCPS, DCPC

	children through NGOs.		
1.8.	Establishing web enabled tracking system for missing children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact with NIC to initiate a missing Children Portal to track all Missing Children and pour information with the DCPC & Police. • Training of functionaries on the process of uploading information 	SCPS, DCPC, NIC
1.9.	Strengthening the functioning of Statutory Bodies under JJ System.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organize awareness activities in schools, colleges, hospitals and other public places on child protection and the role of JJS to give visibility to these bodies. ▪ Organize training programme for the members of CWC / JJB at the district level. ▪ Giving information to all BDOs of the district about the role and function of the justicing bodies under the Act to ensure greater visibility of these bodies. ▪ District officials to take responsibility to network with other service providers like Support NGOs, ICDS, Drug Counseling Centers, Police, ICDS, GRP, RPF, District Information office, facilities for the challenged children, Health Department and other related offices/organizations for effective functioning of CWC and JJB. ▪ POs should be allowed to concentrate more on JJS instead of engaging themselves in administrative activities pursued by the DSWOs. 	SCPS, DCPC, NIPCCD, JPISC, UNICEF
1.10	Stronger mechanism for	Apart from the routine monitoring	SCPS, DCPC

	Supervision, Monitoring and Evaluation	by DCPC, a Monitoring Committee at the district level under the chairmanship of DC & with other professionals may be formed to strengthen the Monitoring Activities.	
1.11	Conduct a child labour survey in the district.	Negotiation with labour department	DCPC
2	Dealing with Migrant Children		
2.1	Mapping the gamut, nature & problems of migrant Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District authorities should survey families who have migrated in search of work or for any other reasons; • District authorities should immediately issue cards / documents that entitles migrant/potential migrant families to civil supplies. • Migrant families should be given priority to provide employment under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS; • Migrant families should be given BPL cards to facilitate their access to poverty reduction schemes; • Arrange Education through SSK / MSK for the migrant Children. • Organize Sponsorship support to vulnerable families to arrest migration of children. • Organize Crèche, AWW, SSK, programmes under NRHM in vulnerable pockets to arrest migration of children. 	DCPC, Recognized Research Institution.
3	Prevent children being separated from families		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District authorities should initiate a birth registration drive, and ensure that children have a form of legal identity. • CWC should be assigned to 	DCPC, Labour Dept., NGOs, Management of Tea Gardens, Police Dept.

		<p>cover areas where children affected by natural disaster;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWCs and district authorities must pay particular attention to children who are separated from their families. • Government personnel must ensure that separated or unaccompanied children have access to the same emergency care and services as other children. • District Authorities must pay special attention to the health, nutrition, education and psycho-social needs of children out of family care. 	
4	Anti-trafficking Activities:		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Initiate Bridge Course Centres, Remedial Coaching (RC) centres and Vocational Training units in source areas in partnership with PRI and other community based organizations. Formation of Anti Trafficking Committee (ATC) with PRI initiatives; ▪ Motivate youth organization for ensuring child protection rights; ▪ Life skills training for adolescent girls; ▪ Bridge Course Centres through SSA may be formed at GP level to bridge the gap for drop outs and make arrangements for their mainstreaming; ▪ Provision for Vocational Training for adolescents based on the interest and considering the viability of each trade in collaboration with District Industries Centre, RVTI, and Professional Vocational Training institute. 	Police, SSM, ICDS, NGOs, Panchayats Dept.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dissemination of information about child marriage, child labour, child trafficking and other harmful practices through leaflets & brochures, banners, Hoardings, Cinema/Cable TV slides in different forums / platforms on the issue. ▪ Organise Street corners and exhibition stalls in various fairs at the village level; ▪ Formation of Child Protection Committee at the block, village/ward level; ▪ Organize Self Help Groups with the village women to initiate economic enterprises. ▪ Sensitization of Mondal Level Officials, Village headman, teachers, youth clubs, district officials on the vices of trafficking of children for labour including domestic labour, sexual exploitation etc. ▪ Inclusion of child protection issues in training for teacher, Panchayat Education Committee, Anganwadi Worker, ANM & ASHA worker should be mandatory ▪ The Anganwadi centres should act like Child Protection Units to spread awareness on trafficking related issues to parents, adolescent girls and other vulnerable groups ▪ School Sensitisations programmes need to be organised to address evils of trafficking and also to form children's group for their increased participation in anti-trafficking campaign 	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sensitization and training programmes for judicial officials, law enforcement personnel (police, immigration, border control, customs officials, medical professionals / personnel and labour inspectors) and other concerned government officials on the issues like child protection, trafficking, child labour, child marriage etc. These training and sensitization programmes could be organized in conjunction with the Dept. of Home Affairs, Social Welfare, Labour etc. 	
5	Training, Capacity Building, Networking and Advocacy:		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building program with PRI members • Capacity building of SAA on Alternative Care. • Orientation of Block level stakeholders – police, panchyat, judiciary welfare, Education, civil society on ICPS. • Advocacy campaign to include campaign on family planning. Large family size is one of the key reasons for loose familial linkage and being engulfed in the vicious cycle of poverty. • Special campaign on child marriage to be undertaken in minority belts and areas dominated by the tea tribes. • People's knowledge about various Government schemes/programmes like self-employment, wage employment, housing etc. is quite poor. IEC materials and leaflets on various Government 	DCPC, SCPS, NGOs, Education Dept., Panchayats Dept.

		<p>schemes should be prepared and distributed through the SHGs / Youth Groups / CBOs / CPUs etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive use of IEC materials focusing on child rights, legal aspects of trafficking, profile of the agents, provisions of law especially concerning child domestic workers (to be targeted in urban areas) and most importantly the gender factors associated with trafficking. • Periodic training of all functionaries under JJ System, e.g. CWC, JJB, SCPS, SJPU members needs to be organized to develop their functional knowledge about child rights and legal procedures. 	
6	Managing Disaster Affected Children:		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District authorities must ensure emergency service provisions during natural disaster, mainly flood, to cover health, food and nutrition and education in areas • Facilitate people to develop their own disaster preparedness plans and adopt them to develop policies and practices. • During flood school children are the most affected and fall pray to child labour and child trafficking so the authorities be more sensitive on the issues related to children in Flood situation; • Standard sanitation, hygiene and clean drinking water for children, lactating and 	<p>DCPC, Disaster Management Dept., ICDS, Village Panchayat, Health Dept., Village Headman, NGOs</p>

		<p>pregnant women need to be ensured by the local authorities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An information outlet must be set-up to cater community's information need, it will help them to assess government's schemes they are eligible for in a hassle free and un-braised way. • Preventive strategies need to be implemented to contain or avoid child trafficking and migration during the emergency situation. • Bring about ownership of community in relief process; community can be involved in the actual conduct and planning of distribution and need assessments. • Coordination among the government and NGOs are sometimes found wanting, hence, coordination with local NGOs / CBOs is to be developed for distribution work to prevent duplication of relief work and uneven distribution. 	
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