

An Analysis of Child Protection Scheme on Social and Educational Development of Neglected Child

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Abstract: Children are gifts from God. So they need to be nurtured, protected, respect and most of all they need affection and attention. High-quality child care keeps children safe and healthy. In addition, it helps the children to develop their skills; they will need for success in school and in their lives outside the school: social, emotional, ethical and communication skills. In this paper an attempt to analyze the child protection scheme on social & educational development of neglected child of Kalahandi district of Odisha has been made. The main objective of the study is assessment of social, health, educational and moral development of children staying in Child Care Institutions. The study reveals that 60.0 per cent children had been sociable, healthy, educationally sound and morale. The study specified that the Child Protection Scheme is impacting positively on the neglected child.

Keywords: Child Protection, Sustainable Development, Vulnerable Children, Child Care Institution, Social Development, Educational Development.

1. Introduction

Child Protection is the safeguarding of children from violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect. Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child provides for the protection of children in and out of the home. One of the ways to ensure this is by giving them quality education, the fourth of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, in addition to other child protection systems. Child protection systems are set of usually government-run services designed to protect children and young people who are underage and to encourage family stability. UNICEF defines a 'child protection system' as: the set of laws, policies, regulations and services needed across all social sectors-especially social welfare, education, health, security and justice-to support prevention and response to protection-related risks. These systems are part of social protection, and extend beyond it. At the level of prevention, their aim includes supporting and strengthening families to reduce social exclusion and to lower the risk of separation, violence and exploitation. Responsibilities are often spread across government agencies, with services delivered by local authorities, non-state providers and community groups, making

coordination between sectors and levels, including routine referral systems etc., a necessary component of effective child protection systems-United Nations, Economic and Social Council (2008), UNICEF Child Protection Strategy, E/ICEF/2008/Rev.1, par.12-13. Child Protection is about protecting children from or against any perceived or real danger or risk to their life, their personhood and childhood. It is about reducing their vulnerability to any kind of harm and protecting them in harmful situations. It is about ensuring that no child falls out of the social security and safety net and those who do, receive necessary care, protection and support so as to bring them back into the safety net. While protection is a right of every child, some children are more vulnerable than others and need special attention. In addition to providing a safe environment for these children, it is imperative to ensure that all other children also remain protected. Child protection is integrally linked to every other right of the child. Failure to ensure children's right to protection adversely affects all other rights of the child. The Constitution of India guarantees children equal rights as citizens and equality before law. It also mandates the States to make laws that specifically promote the rights and welfare of children. The State Governments are responsible for framing child protection policy to ensure safe and secure environment for all children especially for vulnerable children, opportunity for development, prevention and protection from all forms of violence. Further, it is the duty of the State Governments to provide all the children within the state the right to survive, be protected from abuse, neglect and exploitation, enjoy fully the development rights and participate in decision that affect them according to their age and level of development. The essence and the principles of a State child protection policy should reflect in the working environment of all the stake holders, State and District offices dealing with children including child care institutions. It is the duty of every State/UT to train its staff dealing with children and sensitize the community on child protection issues. Therefore, keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility. Organizations and professionals who work with children are required to ensure

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Table 1
Distribution of the Number of Child Care Institutions Selected in Bhawanipatna Block of Kalahandi District

| SI No. | Name of the Block | Name of the Child Care Institution (CCI) | No of the Sample Respondents |
|--------|-------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 1 | Bhawanipatna | Nehru Seva Sangha (NSS) | 20 |
| 2 | Bhawanipatna | Bal Gopal Seva Niketan (BGSN) | 20 |
| 3 | Bhawanipatna | Banabasi Seva Samiti (BSS) | 20 |
| Total | | | 60 |

Table 2
Distribution of Sample Respondents as per Age, Sex, Caste & Educational Status

| Name of CCI | Age | | | Sex | | Caste | | | Educational Status | | | |
|-------------|------|-------|-------|-----|----|-------|----|----|--------------------|----|--------|----------------------|
| | 6-10 | 11-14 | 15-18 | M | F | SC | ST | OC | Primary | ME | Metric | ITI/Higher Secondary |
| NSS | - | 11 | 9 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 5 | 3 | - | 9 | 10 | 1 |
| BGSN | 5 | 10 | 5 | 20 | - | 9 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 5 |
| BSS | 9 | 9 | 2 | 20 | - | 3 | 12 | 5 | 10 | 5 | 5 | - |
| | 14 | 30 | 16 | 48 | 12 | 24 | 25 | 11 | 14 | 21 | 19 | 6 |

that their policies and practices reflect their responsibility towards children. A child protection policy which drives its source from State policy provides guidelines for organizations and their staff to create safe environments for children. It is a tool that protects both children and staff by clearly defining what action is required in order to keep children safe, and ensuring a consistency of behavior so that all staff follow the same process. A child protection policy also demonstrates the commitment of organizations and professionals to children and ensures public confidence in its safe practices.

2. Objectives of the Study

1. To evaluate this scheme planning process at the grass root level
2. Assessment of social and educational development of children staying in Child Care Institutions.
3. To suggest appropriate policy intervention for effective implementation of the scheme.

3. Methodology

i) Sampling Design:

A three stage sampling design is adopted with first stage as the Block, the second stage as the Child Care Institution and the third stage as the sample respondents selected. Bhawanipatna block have been selected out of 13 blocks of Kalahandi district adopting simple random sampling method. We select 3 CCIs (i.e. 60 respondents) in Bhawanipatna block. The lists of CCIs are given below in Table 1.

1) Sources of data & Methodology for collection of data:

As it is a comprehensive evaluation, two types of data are collected (i.e. Primary and Secondary) at three levels viz, District, Block and CCI. The Primary data are collected from the field by one schedule for one respondent (i.e. the inmates of CCI). Altogether 60 respondents are interviewed through these structural schedules. While secondary data regarding achievements, source of finance etc are collected from official records of the CCI/DCPU office, other important data like operational problems are collected by help of intensive discussion with officers and staff.

2) Tabulation, Analysis & Interpretation of Statistical data:

After the data collection the researcher has manually

tabulated the data with the add of a master chart and relevant tables were drawn out of it. The findings of the study were analyzed by way of descriptive analysis of the table using percentage (%) method.

3) Socio-Economic Profile of the Respondents

Before we go into the analysis of the development through the assisted. Child Protection Scheme and deal with few important operational modalities relating to the scheme in particulars it would be useful to have a broad picture of respondents. Some important socio-economic characteristics, viz age, sex, caste, educational status etc. of the respondents are narrated below in Table 2.

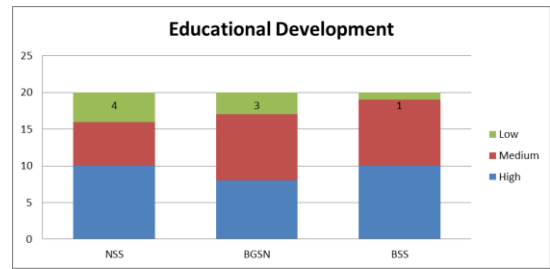
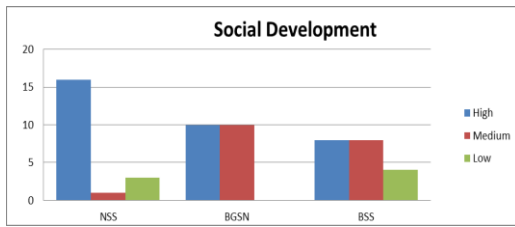
4. Results and Discussion

1) Social Development

Social development refers to the process by which a child learns to interact with others around them. As they develop and perceive their own individuality within their community like Child Care Institutions, they also gain skills to communicate with other people and process their actions. Table 3 presents the distribution of respondents in the CCIs with regard to social development of children. They have been grouped into 3 categories depending on the reported respondent children, i.e. High, Medium & Low level of development. Out of 60 Nos. of children of 3 CCIs of Bhawanipatna block of Kalahandi District under Child Protection Scheme, 56.7 per cent children's were found highly sociable whereas 31.7 per cent medium and 11.6 per cent low level change in social development. The highest i.e. 80.0 per cent & 50.0 per cent children were socially developed in Nehru Seva Sangha and Bal Gopal Seva Niketan respectively & 40 per cent in Banabasi Seva Samiti shown in Table 3.

Table 3
Distribution of Sample Respondents as per Social Development

| Name of CCI | High | Medium | Low | Total |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------|
| NSS | 16 (80.0) | 1(5.0) | 3(15.0) | 20 |
| BGSN | 10 (50.0) | 10(50.0) | - | 20 |
| BSS | 8 (40.0) | 8(40.0) | 4(20.0) | 20 |
| Total | 34 (56.7) | 19 (31.7) | 7 (11.6) | 60 |



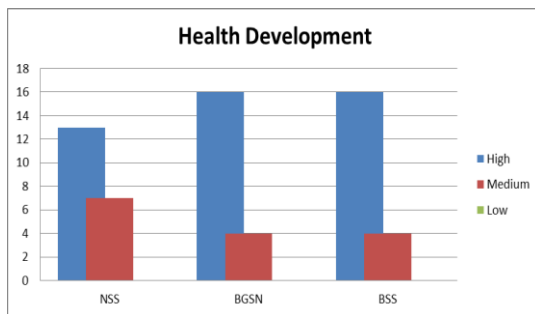
2) *Health Development*

The early years of child’s life are very important for his or her health and development. Healthy development means that children of all abilities, including those with special health care needs, are able to grow up where their social, emotional and educational needs are met. Out of total number of respondents 75.0 percent were reported healthy & fit and 25.0 per cent were seen in average health condition. The highest i.e. 80.0 per cent children were healthy in Bal Gopal Seva Niketan & Banabasi Seva Samiti and 65.0 per cent in Nehru Seva Sangha shown in Table 4.

Table 4

Distribution of Sample Respondents as per Health Development

| Name of CCI | High | Medium | Low | Total |
|-------------|----------|----------|-----|-------|
| NSS | 13(65.0) | 7(35.0) | - | 20 |
| BGSN | 16(80.0) | 4(20.0) | - | 20 |
| BSS | 16(80.0) | 4(20.0) | - | 20 |
| Total | 45(75.0) | 15(25.0) | - | 60 |



3) *Educational Development*

Helping children to learn and grow is a big part of it, but this field also provides lots of opportunities to grow yourself- not just in your knowledge but overallly in your socio-emotional growth as well. It can help children to develop leadership skills and to become a reflective practitioner. Out of total number of respondents 46.7 per cent were reported to high whereas 40.0 per cent medium & 13.3 per cent were low in educational development. It is observed from Table 5 that 50.0 per cent of the respondents of Nehru Seva Sangha & Banabasi Seva Samiti and 40.0 per cent in Bal Gopal Seva Niketan were developing high changes in education..

Table 5

Distribution of Sample Respondents as per Educational Development

| Name of CCI | High | Medium | Low | Total |
|-------------|----------|----------|---------|-------|
| NSS | 10(50.0) | 6(30.0) | 4(20.0) | 20 |
| BGSN | 8(40.0) | 9(45.0) | 3(15.0) | 20 |
| BSS | 10(50.0) | 9(45.0) | 1(5.0) | 20 |
| Total | 28(46.7) | 24(40.0) | 8(13.3) | 60 |

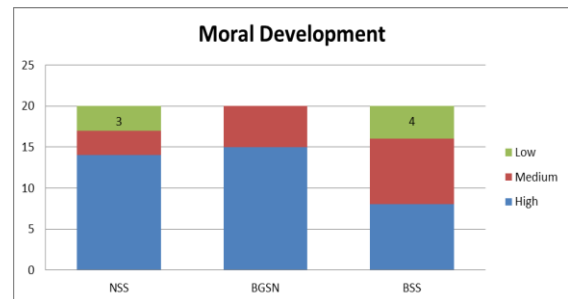
4) *Moral Development*

Moral development is the process through which children develop proper attitudes and behavior towards other people in society, based on social and cultural norms, rules and laws. Out of total number of respondents 61.7 per cent were reported to be high whereas 26.7 per cent medium & 11.6 per cent were low in moral development. It is observed from Table 6 that 75.0 per cent of the respondents of Bal Gopal Seva Niketan, 70.0 per cent in Nehru Seva Sangha and 40.0 per cent in Banabasi Seva Samiti had high changes in moral development.

Table 6

Distribution of Sample Respondents as per Moral Development.

| Name of CCI | High | Medium | Low | Total |
|-------------|----------|----------|---------|-------|
| NSS | 14(70.0) | 3(15.0) | 3(15.0) | 20 |
| BGSN | 15(75.0) | 5(15.0) | - | 20 |
| BSS | 8(40.0) | 8(40.0) | 4(20.0) | 20 |
| Total | 37(61.7) | 16(26.7) | 7(11.6) | 60 |



5. Findings

The major observations and findings of the study are as follows

- 88.4 per cent children have high & medium and 11.6 per cent low level of changes in social development, it is concluded that the social development of the children of CCIs is very good.
- 100.0 per cent children have high & medium level of changes in health development, it is concluded that the health development of the children of CCIs is excellent.
- 86.7 per cent children have high & medium and 13.3 per cent low level of changes in educational development, it is concluded that the educational development of the children of CCIs is very good.
- 88.4 per cent children have high & medium and 11.6 per cent low level of changes in moral development, it is concluded that the moral development of the children of CCIs is very good.

6. Conclusion

The following conclusions are made on the basis of the findings of the study

1. There is need for organizing awareness program about Child Protection Scheme through the involvement of PRI Members, PRI Officials, AWW, ANM, ASHA, SHGs and NGOs at Block, District and State level.
2. Preparing child protection plans at district and state levels, the plan would be gradually extended to block and community level
3. Strengthening service delivery mechanisms and programs including preventive, statutory, care and rehabilitation services.
4. Training has to be provided periodically to all functionaries, those are involved in child protection scheme.
5. Building partnerships and alliances for child protection at all levels, particularly at the grass root

community and district levels.

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