

SOCIETY FOR CHILDREN

Puri Railway Station

BASE LINE SURVEY AT PURI RAILWAY
STATION, OCTOBER-2016



Project Name:-“RAKSHYAK”



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Society for Children (SOCH) is grateful to Mr. Bhaskar Hati (Station Manager, Puri Railway station) for granting permission for platform intervention and rescue operation. It was like a confidence booster and motivation for the team to move forward with the Base Line Survey that ultimately reflects in our new Project **Rakshyak** at Puri.

SOCH is also thankful to all other Railway Authorities like GRP, RPF and CTI team for their support & cooperation during the Base Line Survey.

We express our gratitude to all the team members of CWC and Childline for their whole-hearted support and cooperation and invaluable suggestions.

Last but not the least we have to acknowledge and appreciate the pro-activeness, enthusiasm and participation of the Volunteers from BJB College. The success of the Survey is attributed heavily upon them.

And finally all cheers to the SOCH Team who fought all odds and stringent timelines and successfully accomplished the task with limited resources with mutual cooperation and understanding.

INTRODUCTION

Rakshyak Project carries out different activities on the identification, rescue and resettlement of the runaway, missing and abandoned children at Railway Stations. This Project focuses on the immediate rescue of children who are at high risk of trafficking and provides them with help. Rescued children are brought to a temporary shelter for necessary care (food, shelter, cloth and first-aid) and counseling. Family reunion being the top priority efforts are made to trace their family address first to reunite them with their families or else put them on institutional care with appropriate involvement of government's juvenile justice system.

PURI IN BRIEF

Puri is pronounced as one of the holiest and tourist attracting destination of India. It is situated on the coastal belt of Odisha. Puri, the holy land of Lord Jagannath, also proclaimed as Badadeula in local dialect. World famous Jagannath temple and its beautiful beach attracts tourist from all over the world. Being a pilgrimage place it attracts people from within the country and out of the country as well. Hence it becomes a popular choice for tourists and also for those children who for some puerile reasons leave their family and home and come looking for job and earn a living. Most of the unaccompanied children from all districts of Odisha come to Puri and in few cases children also coming from other states too.

PURI RAILWAY STATION AT-A-GLANCE

Puri railway station consists of eight platforms. The station is comparatively cleaner, having all the facilities. Being a junction station it is also a source and destination of all trains. Approximately 50 trains run per day along with 4-5

weekly trains connect to other famous holy places of India. There are two entrance and exit gates. There is an auto stand, bus stand and market near to the Railway station. Adjoining the station are the Railway colony, Bali Sahi and Ghoda Bazar (slum area). At Puri, only childline is working for the betterment of the children which is not very actively involved in outreach activities on regular basis. Passenger trains mostly use the platform no 5, 6, 7 & 8.

OBJECTIVE OF THE SURVEY

- ❖ To know the inflow of freshly landed runaway and missing children at Puri Railway station.
- ❖ To understand the issues associated with old children staying in and around at Puri Railway station.
- ❖ To rescue all the needy children who come in contact with us while doing the survey and resettle them with help of a local based NGOs, Puri childline and CWC.
- ❖ To create awareness and sensitization among the stakeholders as well as passengers regarding the child issues at platforms.
- ❖ To properly cover all the platforms as well as oversee each trains crossing through platform.

DURATION OF THE SURVEY

In order to know the situation of missing, runaway and old children at station, we conducted 3 days survey at Puri Railway station from 22nd October 2016 to 24th October 2016. The survey was carried out in two shifts for 7 hours each i.e.

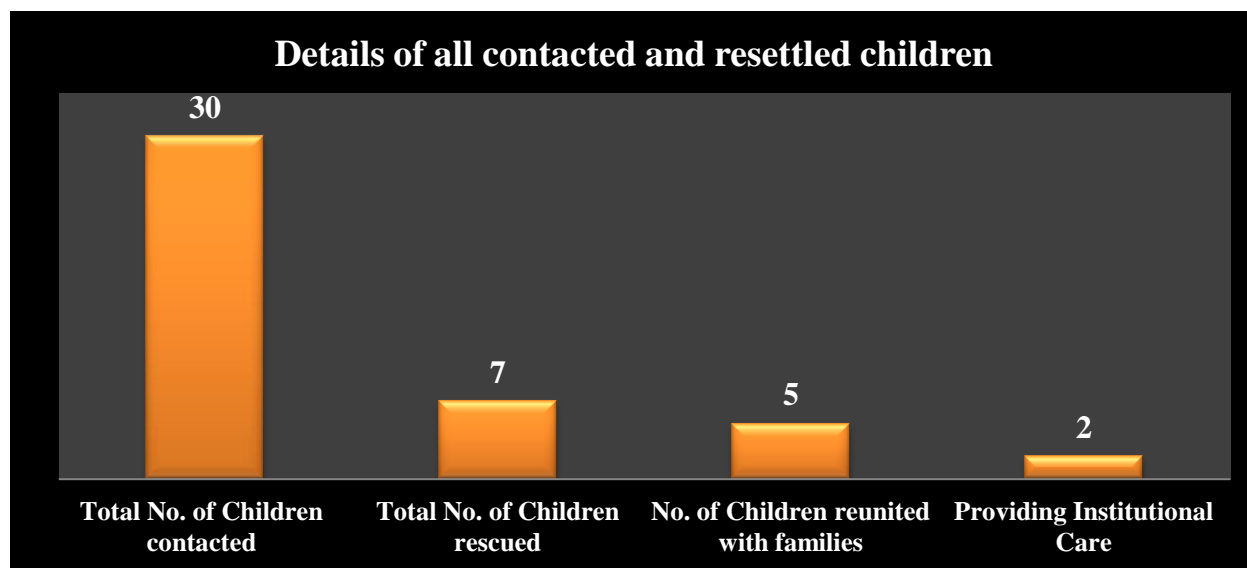
- A. First shift (7AM -2PM)
- B. Second shift (2PM -9PM)

PREPLAN FOR THE SURVEY

- ❖ Through this survey we initiated our Project “**Rakshyak**” at Puri, for which we ensured Approval from Mr. Bhaskar Hati, Station Manager of Puri Railway Station along with the concern of the other railway authorities i.e. GRP, RPF & CTI.
- ❖ CWC and Childline of Puri were simultaneously intimated regarding our work and initiation of Project Rakshyak in Puri seeking their cooperation and support.
- ❖ An orientation meeting was held on 21st October 2016 among SOCH team as well as college volunteers for understanding the survey objectives.
- ❖ Two teams were formed with 7 members each lead by 1 Team Leader respectively under the overall supervision of 1 Coordinator.
- ❖ Field Office was finalized near to the Puri Railway Station.

DETAILS OF ALL CONTACTED & RESETTLED CHILDREN

Total No. of Children contacted	30
Total No. of Children rescued	07
No. of Children reunited with families	05
Providing Institutional Care	02



DETAILS OF ALL RESCUED CHILDREN DURING SURVEY

Sl no	Name	Age	Gender	Reason for leaving home	Out of home duration	Place	State	Type of Resettlement
01	Rakesh ku. Panda	13	M	Punishment of Parents	1 day	Puri	Odisha	Reunited with family
02	Apanti kandi	14	M	City attraction	2 days	Puri	Odisha	Institutional Care
03	Tapan Das	16	M	Peer group influence	1 day	Khurda	Odisha	Reunited with family
04	Bapin Behera	16	M	City attraction	1 day	Khurda	Odisha	Reunited with family
05	Narayan Badatia	15	M	Peer group influence	1 day	Khurda	Odisha	Reunited with family
06	Bighnesh Rout	16	M	Peer group influence	1 day	Khurda	Odisha	Reunited with family
07	Kartik Singh	12	M	Family Problem	2 days	Cuttack	Odisha	Institutional Care

DETAILS OF ALL CONTACTED CHILDREN

Reason for runaway of the children:

Sl. No.	Reasons	No of children
1	Work related	01
2	City attraction/visiting purpose	17
3	Begging purpose	01
4	Missing child	00
5	Family problem	01
6	Peer group influence	03
7	Punishment of parents	01
8	Other silly reasons	06
Total		30

Age wise category:

Sl. No.	Age	No of children
1	Less than 6 year	00
2	7yr to 10 yr.	04
3	11yr to 14yr.	13
4	15yr to 18yr.	13
Total		30

Educational details of the children:

Sl. No.	Standard	No of children
1	1 st to 3 rd	01
2	4 th to 7 th	05
3	8 th to 10 th	19
4	Nil	04
5	Intermediate	01
Total		30

No of time runaway:

Sl. No.	No. of time	No of children
1	1 st time	14
2	2 nd and 3 rd time	12
3	Above 4th	04
Total		30

Out of home duration:

Sl. No.	Out of home duration	No of children
1	1days to 2days	30
2	3days to 6days	00
3	1week to 1 month	00
4	More than 1 month	00
Total		30

Parental status of the children:

Sl. No.	Parental status	No of children
1	Both alive	24
2	Single	04
3	Orphan	02
Total		30

District wise category of the children:

Sl. No.	District	No of children
1	Khurda	10
2	Puri	15
3	Dhenkanal	02
4	Kendrapara	01
5	Rayagada	01
6	Cuttack	01
Total		30

Mostly children contacted from the platforms:

Sl. No.	Platform No	No of children
1	1-2	05
2	3-4	06
3	5-6	11
4	7-8	08
Total		30

Rescue time of the children:

Sl. No.	Timing	No of children
1	7am-9am	04
2	9am-12pm	10
3	12pm-3pm	07
4	3pm-6pm	08
5	6pm-9pm	01
Total		30

Observations

1. Most of the children were identified mainly between 9am-2pm and between 3pm-6pm.
2. Majority of the children coming in contact were from platform no 5, 6, 7 and 8.
3. Many children contacted from local areas which were acting smart and trying to create confusing among the outreaching staffs with some very silly explanations like bringing water, playing with kites, browsing free internet (Wi-Fi) etc.
4. During the survey due to cancelation of a train, chaotic situation occurred, which to some extent affected the survey.
5. Full support and cooperation was extended both from railway authorities and CWC members during child rescue and resettlement process that helped us achieve our objective.

Major findings

- ❖ Total **30** children were contacted during 3days of survey.
- ❖ Out of the total 30 children rescued 15 children belonged to Puri district, 10 children were from Khurda district, 2 children were Dhenkanal district and 3 children belonged to Kendrapada , Rayagada & Cuttack respectively.
- ❖ Out of **30** contacted children **7** children were rescued.
- ❖ Out of 7 rescued children **2** children were referred to Childline for further care and protection and **5** children were reunited with their families with the knowledge of CWC.
- ❖ Basing on the total rescue of **7** children in 3 days the average flow estimates to 2 children per day.
- ❖ The average age group of the rescued children was between 11years -14years and 15 years -18 years.
- ❖ Most of the contacted children had a complete family background with both parents.
- ❖ Most of the children came to station for visiting purpose.
- ❖ 14 children were first time run away cases whereas 12 children had runaway for 2nd & 3rd time.
- ❖ All the contacted children had been run away from home since 1-2 days.

About old children

Old children, who are staying at the station premises, are addicted to various kinds of injurious substances like Gutka, Solution etc. They are also involved in various kinds of odd jobs like sweeping the trains, begging, pick-pocketing, rag picking etc. They are used to travelling from station to station and cities to cities. Hence, as per our observation the flow of Old children to Puri Railway station is comparatively less than at Cuttack and Bhubaneswar Railway station. During the 3 days survey we only came across 4 Old children.



Conclusion

We got the whole hearted support and cooperation from the Station Manager, Police Inspector of GRP and RPF, Chief Ticket Inspector, Vendors, Coolies and from other Stakeholders.

Along with this we also got support from the CWC & Childline members who supported us in resettlement of the rescued children thereby helping us to reach the objectives of this baseline survey.

The above mentioned details indicate that there are many children who come to the station for visiting purpose due to the holy Jagannath temple and beautiful beach attraction.

We found less Old-aged children at the station. During this survey we also contacted 4 beggar children.

Another thing was observed by us that the flow of new and fresh children is very less. Hence, we can conclude that the flow of children per day is approximately 2.

