

## WE AT SOCH

Established in July 2012, Society for Children (SOCH) is a non-profit organization registered under society registration act, 1860. Currently operational in Bhubaneswar, Khurda and Berhampur cities of Odisha, SOCH has been running Project "Rakshyak" rescue and resettlement of runaway, missing and abandoned children. As per the figures till 31st March 2016, the project has rescued and resettled 2062 children from various difficult situations. SOCH also runs Project "Punarjivan"; one month behavioral modification camp for hard behaviour children and Project "Pankh"; to mainstream the youths from CCIs and from different underprivileged section of the Society.

**For Donors Outside India:** [http://www.orissa.org.uk/standing\\_order.html](http://www.orissa.org.uk/standing_order.html)



## SOCIETY FOR CHILDREN (SOCH) MONTHLY NEWS LETTER AUGUST-2016

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### RAKSHYAK

It identifies runaway, missing and abandoned children majorly focusing at railway stations. Project rescues the children who are in need of help. Rescued children are brought to a temporary shelter for necessary counseling, food, shelter and cloth support. Due efforts are made to trace the family address of the children. Then children are either reunited with their families or put on institutional care with appropriate involvement of government's juvenile justice system.

**To Donate:** <https://milaap.org/campaigns/Rakshyak>

### PUNARJIVAN

Project "Punarjivan" is a one month behavioural modification camp that focuses on the hard behavior old children, who have been detached from their loving parents for a longer period of time. These children under the supervision and guidance of professional teachers follow a structured and planned daily schedule that brings about a change in their behavior and attitude. The addresses of the children are traced during their stay at camp and they are reunited with their families at the Camp Ending Ceremony.

**To Donate:** <https://milaap.org/campaigns/Punarjivan>

### PANKH

It primarily focuses on youth who are above 16 years of age staying in Child Care Institutions, belong to poor family background or are orphans who generally face difficulties in choosing their career. The 5 major components through which project "Pankh" operates are counseling, mentoring, life skill building training support, facilitating vocational training with job placement and follow up support.

**To Donate:** <https://milaap.org/campaigns/PANKH>

### ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH

- ❖ Rescued **96** children in our three clusters.
- ❖ SOCH has received **17** referral cases from the stakeholders.
- ❖ SOCH objective was majorly accomplished when **68** children were reunited with their families.
- ❖ Organized training on Counseling, Leadership and Management and Project Proposal writing.
- ❖ Enrolled **1** youth for vocational training under the project PANKH.

## One Sensitive Child of Smart Generation

<b>Name:</b> Upesh (Name Changed)	<b>Rescue Date/Time:</b> 23rd July 2016 at around 3.30PM
<b>Age/Gender:</b> 14 years old Boy	<b>Siblings:</b> 2 elder brothers and 1 elder sister
<b>School/Education:</b> Standard 5 <sup>th</sup> at Saraswati Vidhya Mandir	<b>Address:</b> Vill.-Rajgangpur, PS-Rajgangpur, Dist.-Sundergarh, State-Odisha
<b>Parental Status:</b> Father (Mr. Ganga Prasad Poddar); a Rice Mill worker and Mother (Mrs. Meera Devi); a Home Maker	

How often do we talk about every child being unique and is possessed with some distinctive character. But when it comes to practical implication we act like the same old conventional parent and the consequences are here somewhat in form of Upesh.

Upesh was spotted by SOCH outreach worker while wandering alone in platform no-01 of Bhubaneswar railway station. At the first contact he was very calm and composed with his behavior but unwilling to share his problem and proclaimed to be on a visit. Somehow unconvinced with the reasoning the outreach worker brought Upesh to SOCH temporary shelter with the knowledge of GRPS and RPF.

Following the general norms Upesh was allowed time and space with some food, games and entertainment to feel at home and open up during the counseling session and which he did. He narrated his real story. As he had no interest for studies rather in games and sports; the pressure of severity and compulsion by his father lead to this extreme step. He steals Rs 10000/- and leaves home to land up in Bhubaneswar where he buys a mobile which was confirmed through his belongings; one bag, one mobile phone and cash of Rs 5035/-.

As a mentor and guide it was the responsibility of the Counsellor to educate Upesh about the hazardous consequences of platform life, value of education and importance of parents in his life. Realizing his mistakes he shared his parents contact number and his parents were informed about his safety immediately. His father immediately responded and arrived at SOCH to receive his son. He was also relieved to see his son in good shape and confirmed the story narrated by Upesh. He was also counselled about such hazardous impact of his severity. The family was reunited on 24th July 2016 with a promise from both Father and Son that they will act responsibly from here on and not to repeat their mistakes.

There are many factors that affected Upesh here; Pressure and Severity, negative Peer Influence and lack of proper guidance. The children of current generation need to be groomed in a friendly environment as they all are born smart and are sensitive at such tender age. Along-side it's the responsibility of the child to understand the importance of education and parents in building a career.

**Follow-up Status:** Upesh was followed-up on 22nd August 2016. He is an obedient son now and showing interest in studies.