

SOCIETY FOR CHILDREN (SOCH)

Organizational profile

Society for Children (SOCH) is a non-profit organization registered under society registration act, 1860. SOCH has been running Child Rescue Project at major railway stations in Odisha for runaway, missing and abandoned children since 2012. Currently Child Rescue Project has been functioning at Bhubaneswar, Khurda and Berhampur railway stations. As per the figures till 31st March, 2015, the project has rescued and resettled **1079** children from various difficult situations.



Child Rescue and resettlement project details

Child Rescue Project identifies runaway, missing and abandoned children majorly focusing at railway stations. Project rescue the children are in need of help. Rescued children are brought to a temporary shelter for necessary counseling, food, shelter and cloth support. Due efforts is being taken to trace the family address of the children. Children are being reunited with their families and put on institutional care with appropriate involvement of government's juvenile justice system.

BHUBANESWAR:

No. of children rescued: 27
Rescued by SOCH staffs: 22
No. of children getting referrals: 05
No. of children reunited with their families: 20
No. of children Referred for institutional care-07

KHURDA:

No. of children rescued: 20
Rescued by SOCH staffs: 15
No. of children getting referrals: 05
No. of children reunited with their families: 18
No. of children Referred for institutional care-02

BERHAMPUR:

No. of children rescued: 34
Rescued by SOCH staffs: 27
No. of children getting referrals: 07
No. of children reunited with their families: 31
No. of children Referred for institutional care: 03



Details of 81 children

- ✓ A large majority i.e. **46** children belongs to the age group of **11-14** yrs.
- ✓ **66** Children were from Odisha, **6** from WB, **5** from Bihar and other **4** from Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh. AP and UP respectively.
- ✓ **69** children were such who ran away from home for the first time only.
- ✓ A large majority of children ran away from home due to city attraction, work purpose, Education problem and by the fear of getting punishment by their parents.
- ✓ In this month we rescued **73** children were boys while **8** were girls.

PHOTO GALLERY



Rohan(*name changed*) is a 9 years old boy, studying in class 4 and hailing from Gandhinagar-7, District: Ganjam, State: Odisha. He was wandering alone at the platform no 02 of Khurda Railway Station on **07.10.2015** around 1.30 p.m and one of the SOCH staff spotted him while patrolling at station premises. The child was looking very nervous. At first contact the child shared that his father Mr. .Manas Ranjan Sahoo is running a medicine store and his mother Mrs.Padma Samal is working as a housewife and he is having two younger brothers. He said he had gone to bring tea for his grandfather from a tea stall where some anti-social people gave him drugs and made his unconscious. After that they brought him to Khurda Railway station in a sack. However, this story could not convince the staff .So; he brought the child to the temporary shelter of SOCH with the knowledge of GRPS for further care and counseling process.

At shelter the child got freshens up and had some food. After that the counseling session was started. During counseling process the child shared the exact reasons of his run away. One day he had a serious fight with his two younger brothers. And to stop him his mother bit him in front of his younger brothers. This generated a feeling of insult in Rohan's mind and in a fit of anger he ran away from his home without the knowledge of his parents. After understanding the whole matter the staff tried to make him understand about the importance of parents and the value of education in life. Also told him the ill impacts of platform life and shared the sufferings of old children those who are staying in platforms. This created awareness in the child's mind and he promised not to repeat such mistake. He expressed his wish to go back to his home and shared the contact no of his mother.

The staff immediately informed the child's parents over telephone and also referred the child to the Bhairabi Club for further care and protection on the same day i.e. on **07.10.2015**. On **09.10.2015** his mother reached at the Bhairabi club with all the necessary documents. She said that his husband had lodged a missing F.I.R of his son and they were searching their son everywhere. Finally she met with her son and both of them were very happy to see each other. Before taking his son to home she expressed her sincere gratitude towards the staff of SOCH.

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