



# Society for Children (SOCH)

Monthly newsletter Dec-2015

**Organization introduction** Society for Children (SOCH) is a non-profit organization registered under society registration act, 1860. SOCH has been running RAKSHYAK Project at major railway stations in Odisha for runaway, missing and abandoned children since 2012. Currently RAKSHYAK Project has been functioning at Bhubaneswar, Khurda and Berhampur railway stations. As per the figures till 31st December 2015, the project has rescued and resettled 1796 children from various difficult situations. Along with this subsequently SOCH has running an another project PANKH for the welfare of youths.

## Introduction of project RAKSHYAK

RAKSHYAK 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.

## Introduction of project PANKH

PANKH project primarily focuses on youth who are above 16 years of age and they have difficulties in choosing their career and staying in Child Care Institutions or belongs to poor family background. The project aims to provide counselling, mentoring, life skill building training and facilitating vocational training with job placement and follow up support.

## Rescue and resettlement details of children

### Bhubaneswar

No. of children rescued: 37  
Rescued by SOCH staffs: 29  
No. of children getting referrals: 08  
No. of children reunited with their families: 30  
No. of children Referred for institutional care: 07

### Khurda

No. of children rescued: 21  
Rescued by SOCH staffs: 19  
No. of children getting referrals: 02  
No. of children reunited with their families: 16  
No. of children Referred for institutional care: 05

### Berhampur

No. of children rescued: 34  
Rescued by SOCH staffs: 34  
No. of children getting referrals: 00  
No. of children reunited with their families: 33  
No. of children Referred for institutional Care: 01

## Out of 92 children

- ✓ A large majority i.e.55 children belongs to the age group of 11-14 yrs.
- ✓ 79 children were from Odisha and 6, from Bihar, 3 from WB, 2 from Jharkhand and other 2from Chhattisgarh and AP.
- ✓ 65 children were such who ran away from home for the first time only.
- ✓ A large majority of children ran away from home due to work purpose, city attraction. Education problem and scolding and punishment of children etc.
- ✓ In this month 83 children were boys while 9 were girls.

## Details of PANKH project

- Organized an orientation programme for youths and provided counselling to them and had gone exposure visit to ILFS.
- Collected 381 CCI's details from all over Odisha through RTI ( Right to information)
- Collected 199 youths details from different CCI's through RTI.
- Visited 5 training institutions: Gram Taranga, IL & FS (Infrastructure lease and financial statement), Kalinga Care academy, edu.jobs, Odisha computer academy.



### STORY OF GANESH

A 10 year old **Ganesh** (not real name), son of late Gopal Reddy and Mrs. Parbati Reddy, was studying in class 4<sup>th</sup> and hailing from Chintamaniswar, Dist: Khurda, Odisha .His mother is a house wife. He has 04 sisters and 02 brothers. On **10.12 .2015** the child was spotted by SOCH staff while patrolling during 3:30PM. He was wandering alone on the platform no 01 of Bhubaneswar Railway Station. At first contact the child was looking very confused. So the staff tried to make the child comfortable by talking to him in a friendly manner and explaining the work activities of SOCH. Then the child was brought to the shelter for further care and counseling in the knowledge of GRPS and RPF.

At shelter the child was first got freshen up and had some food. Then he spent some time in playing with the staffs. When the child was almost in a relaxed state of mind the counseling session began. During counseling the child shared that at home he was playing with a DJ sound box and by mistakenly it fell down from his hand and hurt the toes of his mother. The pain of toes raged the anger of his mother and she beat Ganesh and did not give him food. And due to anger and getting scolding's from his elder brother he ran away from his home. After knowing everything the staff tried to aware the child about the hazardous ill impacts of platform life on the abandoned children and the consequences. Also made him realize about the importance of parents and education in his life. This became very helpful in creating awareness in the child and he promised not to repeat such mistake in future. Then he shared his address and showed his willingness to go home.

Immediately the staff searched for the residence of the child and on the same day i.e. **10.12.2015** the staff left the child safely at his parents' responsibility with all the necessary formalities. His parents were very much worried and searching for their child restlessly. This gave him immense pleasure to see the child in a fine condition and they expressed their sincere gratitude towards the staffs of SOCH.

In the first follow up which was on **5<sup>th</sup> January 2015**, his brother informed that the child is now properly continuing his studies at home.

### OUR ACHIEVEMENT



Got an Award from Giving Back India for best Children NGO

### SOCH with Media

#### ଆହୁତ୍ତତ୍ୟା ଉଦ୍‌ଧାରା ବେଳେ ନାବାଳିକା ଉଦ୍‌ଧାର



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