**Report on the Regional Level Training for Police Officers and District Informatics Officers (NIC)**

**on**

 **“Track the Missing Child Portal”**

**In Cachar, Bongaigaon, Kamrup(M), Sivasagar and Sonitpur on 21st April, 28th April, 2nd May, 7th May and 8th May respectively**

The Regional Level Training on “Track the Missing Child” (URL [www.trackthemissingchild.gov.in](http://www.trackthemissingchild.gov.in)) was organised by the Assam State Child Protection Society in collaboration with Crime Investigation Department(CID), Assam, National Informatics Centre (NIC), Assam State **Unit** and UNICEF, Office for Assam. The Objective of the Programme was to train the concerned personal of District Crime Records Bureau (DCRD) where the CCTNS programme is being implemented.

Another objective of the programme was to orient District Informatics Officer (under NIC) on Track Child and build their capacities as Trainers on Track Child, so that they can address technical queries raised by district stake holders responsible to use the portal in districts.

 Five (5) regions of the State like Cachar, Bongaigaon, Kamrup(M), Sivsagar and Sonitpur was selected to conduct the Training covering the entire State of Assam. In Cachar, Sivsagar and Sonitpur, the programme was organised in the Conference hall of D.C, whereas in Bongaigaon we were provided the V.C room of NIC, Bongaigaon and in Kamrup (M) the programme was organised in the Guwahati Circuit House.

The program witnessed participation from 110 persons from District Child Protection Units (DCPU)**,** Districts NICs and DCRBs.

In Bongaigaon, Addl. S.P., Mr. Imtiaz Ali was present for some time in the programme and realizing the need of such portal in a country like India where more than 44000 children go missing every year, he requested participants from his Department to enter missing children data in the Track Child Portal immediately.

In Kamrup (M), Ms. Violet Baruah, S.P.**,** CID, **Assam** graced the occasion and spoke about the worrying figure of missing children in India. She spoke about the Bachpan Bachao Andolan’s **i**nitiative on the campaign of Missing children. She also refers about some other state’s initiative to track missing children like “Operation Smile” and “Operation Milaw”. She requested participants from her Department to upload data in the portal in time so that recovery of missing children becomes faster. She suggested to include “GRP” and few other Police Districts like Hemran and new police Districts in future trainings.

**Briefing Objectives of the Programme by Ms. Hiramoni Goswami, Technical Director, NIC, Assam (Bongaigaon, Kamrup (M),Sonitpur and Sivsagar) and Neelakshi Sarma (Cachar) :**

Before starting the programme, the **o**bjective of the training programme was explained to the gathering. Also, an orientation about the “Data Entry Week” was given which aims to clear all backlog missing entries by Police in the Portal. It was also described about the need to build up coordination and linkages among the concerned Department to strengthen the implementation of the Track Child Portal in an effective manner.

 **Presentation on ”Track Child by D.Savio Lakra (Cachar) and Neelakshi Sarma ( Bongaigaon,Kamrup(M), Sonitpur and Sivasagar ) :**

Before starting the presentation, the resource person mentioned about the serial murder case of children who went missing from Nithari village of U.P, which demonstrated the worst form of sexual abuse and exploitation of more than 30 children. Initiatives of Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) on “Missing Children” in Delhi revealed the fact about the apathy of police to register missing case and investigate it despite being provided with some clues by parents of missing children, due to which poor parents had to move from pillar to post which didn’t help **in** finding their missing children.

The **r**esource person has emphasised on the significance of timely recovery of missing children and also requested all to empathise with feelings of a missing child or that of a mother whose child has gone missing and she is unable to locate her child.

The **r**esource person mentioned that the portal will set up a Web-enabled Child Protection Management Information System (MIS). It was stated that it will serve as a “Child Protection Data Base**”** for all children covered under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2000 and Integrated Child Protection Scheme. The portal also has the facility to facilitate matching of missing children and found children placed in Child Care Institutions.

At the district level, the **resource person** mentioned the district stakeholders who are responsible to fill **up** **the** data in the Online Portal.

The **resource person** mentioned about various kinds of services that are available to Police through the online portal, like e-file for every child, track every child residing in Child Care Institution, facilitate the matching of missing and found children, to report missing and found cases online, to receive e-alerts from citizen and other stakeholder, online MIS etc. which will strengthen the concept of “SMART police” in the State.

Mr. Prana**b** Chakrav**a**rty, Sr. System**s** Analyst of NIC, Assam State Branch facilitated the online demo session on the portal. In the demo, he has shown all the features of the portal available for different stakeholders entrusted to use it. He has very nicely shown the Form “M” and Form “R” to be used by Police. He specially mention**ed** about the importance of uploading genuine pictures of missing children in the portal. He also mentioned about the “photo matching” option, which will be incorporated in the portal in near future which will be very helpful for tracking a missing child. During his session, he addressed many of the participant’s queries and problems with regards to the portal.

**Issues /questions raised :**

1. Is there any need of uploading data of a child kidnapped/run away in

the portal ?

2. In Cachar, there are 10 P.Ss but the Track Child has record of only 8

P.S s.

1. Baihata P.S is under Kamrup(R) which is not shown in the list of P.S

of Kamrup(R).

1. In some places, Police Out Post is mentioned as P.S.
2. Regarding entry of missing data from DCRB instead of PS.
3. Matching of missing and recovered children.
4. Availability of downloadable version of Form M and Form R in the

portal.

1. Removal of a child profile from the portal.
2. Udalguri was not able to update a few Missing Children data. We doubted that those new Police Stations were not available then . Now, they need to try again

10.     The portal should be accessible from CCTNS network.

11.    Kharupetia which is upgraded to Police Station from Outpost is not available.

**Challenges and Problems faced:**

1. We had to face difficulty in organizing training in Guwahati, as on the previous night (1st May), heavy rain accompanied by thunder storm affected the west Guwahati and some parts of Lower Assam. Though all expected participants reached the Venue on time, there was delay in starting the program as there was no electricity in the beginning. Communication was also affected as many roads were blocked due to uprooted trees.
2. During Sivsagar Training, a sudden “**Assam** Bandh” called by AGP on 7th May against the land swap deal caused problem in communication for the participants who had to travel from other districts to attend the Regional Training in Sivasagar.
3. Due to heavy rainfall during Cachar training, participants from other districts had to suffer to reach Cahar and some of them reached late due to which programme was running behind schedule.