

Proceeding of Education & Child Protection Sector Meeting

Venue: Opposite to NGO Coordination Center

Date: January 5, 2005

Time: 6 PM

Ms. Anita Deshmukh of Sir Dorabjee Tata Trust has emphasized the importance of Education & Child Protection sector meeting for better coordination and meaningful collaboration with all key players. Name of Aftab was proposed to coordinate (interim) the sector meeting, which unanimously agreed by the group. For coordination purpose contact: NGO Coordination Center, Nagapattinam Collectorate Office (04365 – 252800/ 251992 and Aftab (09825324556)

The main points discussed in the meeting are:

- It is necessary to obtain the information (disaggregated data) about children like orphan children, single parent children, disabled children and injured children and what is the current condition of the children?
- Do children have access to basic entitlements: food, shelter, health, water & sanitation, education? Especially what is the condition of 0-1 years children who are most susceptible to disease?
- What are the new risks to child development and child protection: malnutrition, trafficking, child labour, sexual exploitation, separation voluntary separation or accidental or in some cases induced separation?
- What kind of support available to infants and small children left alone with fathers especially in the culture where child's care is responsibility of mother?
- Some organizations draw attention towards the need of psychosocial care. It is agreed that education and child protection sector should collaborate with the group working on psychosocial issues. In the group it was unanimous agreement there is need of child activity center in the villages. Child Activity Center may be useful in identifying the children who are disturbed and in need of special care, since severely affected children will keep aloof or, may show unusual behavior.
- It was agreed that each organization will come up with response plan including timeframe. It is felt more and more organizations should come in the sector meeting for better coordination and collaboration.

The meeting was concluded on the note to meet **on January 6, 2005 at opposite NGO coordination center at 6 PM** and all present members will pass the message of meeting to organizations working in **Education and Child Protection Sector**.