

MINUTES OF CSt. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Date : 06 /07 /07

Venue : CSt Office

1. VALIDATING THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES.

a) Kristuraja School:-

Mr. Ashok shared about the present status of this case. There was not enough effort taken on this issue. So the CSt suggested that this issue can be taken to the State level CPC by the CSt. Then Mrs. Dhanam suggested that Mr. Osi Fernandez will be able to guide in this regard. Then Mr. Ashok took the responsibility to discuss this matter with their Chennai office and make arrangements to carry forward this issue for further intervention.

b) Focus on the Vulnerable Children:

According to the suggestions given already, the CSt will focus its attention on the Vulnerable children such as tsunami Orphan / semi orphan, Orphan / semi orphan, differently able children especially in its initial stage. The CSt will try to find various possibility of helping these children to come up in their lives.

c) Carrier guidance counseling program;-

An evaluation was conducted regarding the career guidance counseling program conducted in June. On the whole the program went on well but a suggestion came that it could have been a one day work shop separately for the 10th and 12th students with lunch. The religious festivals in Nagore also affected the number of participants. More over many of the children already joined in some courses. Hence this type of classes can be held little earlier. This programme was very useful in identifying some genuine cases for further support.

The vulnerable children in 10th & 12th can be given special coaching on how to study and prepare for their exams well. This program can be organized in July / August at block level.

2. Atthipulioor School Incident.

In Atthipulioor Panchayat Union Middle School, a compound wall has fallen down and it has taken away the life of a little girl, Suvetha (11 yrs) on 22 nd June. The school was visited by Mr. Jerald, CSt. Secretary on 25th of June. After which a letter was given to Avvai NGO, with the consultation of the executive board, to take some immediate steps to help the family and the children who were affected, at the same time serious action should be taken on the engineer / people who is responsible for such bad construction.

But during the meeting Secretary of Avvai, said that it was not their responsibility, since they were not involved in the construction of the wall. He was pointing out it was the PTA who were fully involved in the construction. But the panjayat President and PTA said they have given Rs. 8000/- as their contribution as the funding agency required their participation in it. The construction was completely done by Avvai. Then he was willing to do something for the affected family not in the name of Avvai, but through Cst. He would send an official letter after the meeting with his board members. Since we did not get the letter from Avvai, it was decided to send him a reminder.

3. Block level Network meeting NGOs

Mr. Ashok shared about the previous meeting with the director of CMS on LFA. One of the needs is to build awareness on CSt. at block level in Nagapattinam. So there was a discussion on all possible questions that may arise from NGOs. It was suggested that at least two CSt executive in each block can deliver a presentation on CSt and clear any doubts of the participants.

4. New members for the CSt.

There are two NGOs who already applied for membership in CSt. It was suggested that the NGOs can apply for membership to CSt. One or two members will visit and validate the NGO on the norms set by CSt. Once the Executive Body is satisfied with the report, a prescribed format will be sent to the members and after receiving the format, proper certificate will be given to the NGOs. It will take one month. The interested NGOs can attend the CSt. block level meetings which will give more information.

Ms. Danam was given the responsibility to enquire about 2 NGOs – JEED Trust from Mayiladuthirai and WORLD from Killukudi. Based on her recommendation, the executive body will decide upon their membership.

5. State Level Consultative meeting of NGOs

The State level consultative workshop on children without parental care is going to be held in Chennai on 19th July at hotel breeze. All the executive body members are asked to attend the workshop without fail.

6. Educational assistance for children.

Mr. Jerald told that the following 34 children were selected for the financial support for this year.

School going children	: 13
College going children	: 2
Students for Professional courses	: 6
Students for TTC	: 12

One child who was identified to be with night blindness studying in 7th will be given a scholarship up to his 12th std.

7. Visit to the Residential Homes in the District

There is an urgent need to visit all the residential homes in the district, so to present the reality of today on 19th meeting. For this Nagapattinam block and velankanni were selected. Sr. Mercy and Mr. Ashok took the responsibility to visit the homes at Nagapattinam and Ms. Dannam takes the responsibility to visit the homes at Velankanni. It was suggested to get an authorization letter from the Collector, so that the visit will be more effective. A detailed format was also prepared for the visit.

8. Vellapallam Children Issue:

In this village 18 children are not able to attend the school due to a murder in that village. 5 families are asked to leave the village, hence the children from these families are very much affected and they are not able to go to school. At present these children are staying in different places and their education is

affected. Hence it was decided to meet these families to find out a proper solution that will enhance their education.

9. Meeting with the St. Committee.

The executive committee felt that the meeting with the steering committee should be held as early as possible.

10. Children in Trichy Jail

Due to the incident at Tharangambadi 5 children were arrested and kept in Trichy jail along with others. This is the clear violation of Child Rights, and it is against the law. Another three children who were not allowed to get the admission in the neighboring schools got the admission with the intervention from CEO. Sneha took the initiative in this issue.

11. Meeting with CMC Hospital Vellore:

The CMC hospital Vellore is come forward to extend their project to the whole district of Nagapattinam. Already they have supported few children for medical treatment. CSt wants to carry some of its activities with the collaboration of CMC hospital. Regarding this CSt would like to have a planning meeting with the staff members of CMC, who are working at Sirkali.

12. Financial support for the children:

It was identified by the NCRC, VIC staff that in Kollidam, around 40 children studying in a school are not able to buy their note books. CSt has come forward to help them to buy the note books

11. Other issues

The meeting of CSt will be conducted on 2nd and 4th Saturday of every month at 3.p.m. in the new office at No. 29, Salapalli Street, Nagai. Special meetings will be there based on the visit of Mr. Raghu from CMS.

With this the meeting came to an end.

Participants

1. Sr. Mercy, the president
2. Mr. Jerald, the secretary
3. Mr. Ashok, the joint- secretary
4. Ms. Danam, the treasurer.

It was decided to conduct FGD in two villages to study on the issues of disabled children.

There will be a workshop arranged for all NGOs to discuss about the schemes available for the disabled and Child Protection Policies.