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D. O. No. MSCP(CR) 46/Misc/2016/2775

Date 5th September 2019

Whom it may concern.

The National Policy for Children 1974, Government of India, declares that the children are the supreme asset of the nation. The empowerment of children for prevention of child sexual abuse is the need of the hour. It can be the single most impactful step that can be taken to challenge and face the issue.

I sincerely appreciate the efforts of NGO, Social Axiom Foundation and various associated academicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, pediatricians, school counselors, special educators, judges, lawyers, amongst others who helped shape up Project CACA (Children Against Child Abuse) through democratic chain of events like Focus Group Discussions, Consensus Building, Pilot Programme, etc. Schools are uniquely placed to break the patterns of violence by giving children, their parents, and communities the knowledge and skills to communicate, negotiate, and resolve issues in more constructive ways.

Project CACA is a rights-based safety programme for schools with a focus on prevention of child sexual abuse. It aims at bringing institutional driven behavior change in the society on child rights, gender equality and abuse prevention.

I hope the sincere efforts of Project CACA will encourage more and more schools to play an active and progressive role by implementing the project as their safety policy for children. I truly believe in the adage 'Prevention is better than cure' and will be glad to be a part of the collaborative effort of Project CACA to create a safer, happier and healthier living environment for our children in schools of the state of

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Meghalaya. "A good book is a good friend indeed", the CACA Safety Workbooks (Kindergarten to Class 9), the core instrument of Project CACA based on life skills and value education covering Child Rights, Gender Equality and Abuse Prevention are the need of the hour.

I also congratulate Project CACA for successfully collaborating with various Govt. Organizations, NGOs and private institutions like IIT Kanpur, Fortis Healthcare, SCPCRs, SLSAs, CWCs, amongst others, and for bringing them together on a common platform to successfully empower more than two and a half lakh children, teachers, support staff, and parents by implementing the project in schools across 24 states.

I wish team members of Project CACA all the best wishes and look forward to seeing their upcoming Assessment Report.


Smt. Meena Kharkongor,
Chairperson,
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