Press Release

The Meghalaya State Commission for Protection of Child Rights expresses its deep sorrow and concern over the tragic incidents involving the disappearance and subsequent deaths of a 7-year-old child from Nongrah, East Khasi Hills District, and a 13-year-old child from Khyndewso, Ri Bhoi District. The Commission extends its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and stands in solidarity with them during this time of profound grief and loss.

The Commission is alarmed by the recent surge in cases of missing children across the state and takes this disturbing trend with the utmost seriousness. In response, the *Model Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)* for *Tracing Missing or Kidnapped Children* have already been submitted to the Government for urgent implementation, to ensure timely and effective intervention in such cases.

At this critical juncture, the Commission has entrusted the matter to the police authorities and urges a thorough and time-bound investigation. It is imperative that those responsible are identified and brought to justice without delay.

The Commission remains committed to safeguarding the rights and wellbeing of all children in Meghalaya and will continue to work closely with law enforcement agencies, government departments, and other stakeholders to prevent such tragedies in the future.

Smti. Agatha K. Sangma

SCPCR