



NATIONAL ANNUAL STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION ON CHILD PROTECTION – 2023 – A REPORT

Children in Conflict with Law

Prevention, Restorative Justice, Diversion and Alternatives to Detention

23rd-24th September 2023





Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee
Supreme Court of India

Eighth Round of National Consultation

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Table of Contents

<i>Abbreviations</i>	<i>vii</i>
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<i>Executive Summary</i>	<i>1</i>
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Detailed Annual Consultation Report

Background	5
Inaugural Session	7
Technical Session 1: Global Knowledge around Children in Conflict with Law	11
Special Session Experiences from Sri Lanka	13
Technical Session 2: Promising Practices from States	14
Stakeholders Consultations on Four Thematic Areas	18
Recap and Reflections	26
Closing Session	26
Annexure: Agenda	29



Abbreviations

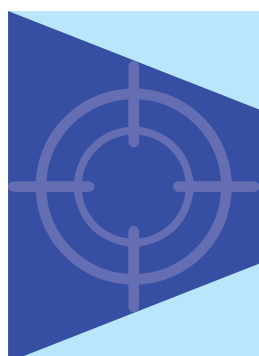
ACEs	Adverse Childhood Experiences
CCI	Child Care Institutions
CCL	Children in Conflict with Law
CNCP	Children in Need of Care and Protection
CPCR Act	Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CWC	Child Welfare Committee
CYPO	Children and Young Persons Ordinance
DCPU	District Child Protection Unit
DWCD	Department of Women and Child Development
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Scheme
JJA	Juvenile Justice Act
JJB	Juvenile Justice Board
JJC-HC	Juvenile Justice Committees of High Courts
MASI	Monitoring App for Seamless Inspection
MWCD	Ministry of Women and Child Development
NALSA	National Legal Services Authority
NCPCR	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
NIMHANS	National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences
PA	Preliminary Assessments
PBSCs	Police Based Support Centres
POCSO Act	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act
SCPCR	State Commission for the Protection of Child Rights
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SHE	Safety, Health and Environment
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPYM	Society for Promotion of Youth and Masses
WCD	Women and Child Development

Executive Summary

The Supreme Court Committee on Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare, supported by UNICEF India, organized a two-day National Annual Stakeholders Consultation on Child Protection on 23rd and 24th September 2023 at the Supreme Court in New Delhi. The consultation was organized in association with the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), relevant Government ministries and departments, respective High Courts from across states, National and State Commissions for the Protection of Child Rights, and Civil Society Organizations.

The theme for the eighth round of consultation was **Children in Conflict with Law: Prevention, Restorative Justice, Diversion and Alternatives to Detention**. The Consultation aimed to strengthen access to justice programmes for Children in Conflict with Law (CCL). Participating stakeholders emphasized their commitment to ensure that all children, including the most vulnerable can access the justice system in an effective way.

The key areas of focus covered during the state and national consultations include:



1. Prevention of Child Offending
2. Diversion, Alternatives to Detention and Non-Custodial Alternatives
3. Rehabilitation and Restorative Practices
4. Right to a Fair Trial and Child Friendly Procedures, including Legal and other Appropriate Assistance

Following the tradition of previous years, the stakeholders' consultation at the Hon'ble Supreme Court was a culmination of the State Consultations led by the Hon'ble High Courts in association with the key departments and committees/agencies which deliver child centric justice and UNICEF. The State Consultations were conducted by the Hon'ble High Courts as per the guidance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Committee on Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare.

Under the guidance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, a national data collection and reporting effort was undertaken to facilitate uniformity in data collection, management and reporting on key indicators pertaining to CCL. The objective was to support strengthened focus on data-driven diversionary and non-custodial justice measures, and to contribute to improved practices within child centric justice.

The Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act 2015 (Amended in 2021) which notwithstanding anything contained in any other law, administers all matters regarding CCL and Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP), with the principle of 'Best Interest of the Child'¹ as its core consideration. The Act is child-centric; strives to deliver just, equitable and timely remedy; and holds a strong focus on a preventive approach. It is in alignment with UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice or Beijing Rules and United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (The Riyadh Guidelines).

The JJ Act coupled with Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, other relevant child protection legislations and schemes including Mission Shakti and Mission Vatsalya, enable legislative and policy support to sustain all children in difficult circumstances including children interacting with the system as survivors, witnesses, accused of an offence and/or in need of care and protection. The mandated delivery mechanisms adapt India's international commitments to national and local contexts.

Key Recommendations

Access to justice for children requires specific interventions, tailored to the particular situation of children. Access to justice is both a fundamental human right and a means to enforce human rights. It is key to achieving all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – particularly SDG 16 on just, peaceful, and inclusive societies, and its targets 16.3 (access to justice for all), 16.2 (violence against children) and 16.9 (legal identity for all).

Stakeholders unanimously agreed during the consultation that significant milestones have been achieved in strengthening justice initiatives for children; while also emphasizing the need to strengthen prevention measures as a first critical step. The challenges enumerated during the discussions include a nascent understanding of the four thematic areas with practice/implementation seen primarily in urban centres. Replication and scaling of such practices would require intensified efforts; availability of viable, pragmatic and effective models/ proof of concepts; availability of standard procedures and guidelines which facilitate efficiency and effectiveness.

Participants agreed to intensify focus on embedding child friendly and gender-sensitive justice processes and procedures, and strengthen cooperation between justice, child protection and allied systems. The High Court Juvenile Justice Committees and the Nodal Departments have additionally identified respective State priorities under the four areas of focus on the basis of the engagements organized as a lead up to the national consultations.

¹ "Best interest of child" means the basis for any decision taken regarding the child, to ensure fulfilment of his basic rights and needs, identity, social well-being and physical, emotional and intellectual development

Key recommendations that emerged from the consultation across the Four key sub themes include:

1 Prevention of Child Offending

- Prioritize prevention and early intervention in child offending
- Increase support to children in street situations and youth experiencing homelessness
- Design interventions to be comprehensive, systematic/institutionalized and encompass the child protection system (law enforcement, judiciary, government lead and allied departments, CSOs) community engagement and have stronger linkages with allied systems including Education and Health.

2 Diversion, Alternatives to Detention and Non-Custodial Alternatives

- Scale up diversion practices, and integrate mental health and psychosocial support through juvenile justice systems
- Support legal reforms and implementation efforts which strive to end the detention of CCL, the strengthened provision of child protection services including regularised monitoring and review efforts, the use of non-custodial measures and therapeutic approaches, improved provisioning of standards of care in institutions as interim measures
- Identify best practices/set of practices of scalable diversion, alternatives to detention and non-custodial alternatives for adaption/replication
- Set up improved systems of case management for children diverted from formal judicial proceedings
- Strengthen service linkages including recreational, educational, de-addiction and vocational services.

3 Rehabilitation and Restorative Practices

- Explore sustained and sustainable multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach to create an ecosystem of targeted prevention programmes
- Explore and promote public private participation including funding opportunities from corporate social responsibility
- Strengthen post-release reintegration support
- Set up improved systems of case management with stronger focus on implementation of the Individual Care Plan, well capacitated and institutional social work/allied child protection workforce support
- Identify case precedents and practices of restorative justice, nationally and globally for adaption/replication

4 Right to a Fair Trial and Child Friendly Procedures, including Legal and other Appropriate Assistance

- Focus on systematic implementation of legal rights awareness programmes for children in justice and welfare systems, particularly children with vulnerabilities
- Strengthen free legal aid for children and national/regional cadres of specialized lawyers and paralegal services
- Support strategic litigation on justice for children, for broader policy impact
- Support the development of comprehensive legal frameworks to protect children from online or technology-facilitated sexual abuse and exploitation
- Expand and strengthen functioning of specialized children's courts and virtual and mobile courts, as appropriate



Detailed Annual Consultation Report



Background

The Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee of Supreme Court of India conducts the annual National Stakeholders Consultation on Child Protection, bringing together all the stakeholders viz. Juvenile Justice Committees of High Courts (JJC-HC), Judicial Academies and Judicial Training Institutions, Police and Police Training Institutions, Key/Nodal Ministries and Departments, especially MWCD, the National and State Commissions for the Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR and SCPCR), and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) with active support of UNICEF India. The objective of the National Consultation is to collectively build attention towards pertinent areas of child protection services, and to further strengthen oversight and review of identified priority areas.

The National Consultations are organized through a decentralized approach with states and regions conferring on key issues through preceding State-level Consultations. The State Consultations subsequently feed into the National Consultation.

The theme for this year's National Consultation was Children in Conflict with Law: Prevention, Restorative Justice, Diversion and Alternatives to Detention.

The JJ Act 2015 which notwithstanding anything contained in any other law, administers all matters regarding CCL and CNCP, with the principle of 'Best Interest of the Child'² as the core consideration. The Act is child-centric; strives to deliver just, equitable and timely remedy; and holds a strong focus on a preventive approach. It is in alignment with UNCRC, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice or Beijing Rules and United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (The Riyadh Guidelines).

The JJ Act, coupled with the CPC Act, Mission Shakti, Mission Vatsalya, and relevant child protection legislations enable legislative and policy support to sustain all children in difficult circumstances including children who interact with the system as survivors, witnesses, accused of an offence and/or in need of care and protection. The mandated delivery mechanisms align India's international commitments to national and local contexts. Mission Vatsalya translates government's commitment through the umbrella scheme for strengthening child protection services in the country; with a specific focus on prevention, rehabilitation and restoration.

Children may come in conflict with the law for various reasons. Global evidence shows that a large majority of these children come from deprived backgrounds and are also CNCP. This, together with the special protection that international and national legal framework grant to children, urge a focus on prevention, rehabilitation, and restorative practices, and ensure linkages between justice and protection provisions of the JJ Act.

² "Best interest of child" means the basis for any decision taken regarding the child, to ensure fulfilment of his basic rights and needs, identity, social well-being and physical, emotional and intellectual development

While the overall objective of justice for children in the context of CCL is to contribute positively to children's development by encouraging the child to take responsibility for the harm caused, global evidence continues to show the damaging effects on children's mental and physical well-being of entering in contact with formal proceedings of the justice system.

This is particularly the case if/when a child is detained or deprived of liberty. There is a need to balance public interest and children's interest and apply rigorously relevant national legislations including the JJ Act principles and provisions, which recommends having systems in place without resorting to judicial proceedings when possible, and use of deprivation of liberty only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time (Section 3(xv) of the JJ Act, 2015); and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (article 37 and 40 of CRC).

Globally, the primary international instrument guiding the development of juvenile justice is the UNCRC, the General Comments of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC Committee), in particular General Comment No. 10, 20 and 24. The other instruments are the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules), the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of Their Liberty (the Havana Rules), the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines), the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules), the Guidelines for Action on Children in the Criminal Justice System (the Vienna Guidelines).

There has been significant progress, and as the next steps, it is imperative to collectively strengthen understanding and implementation of prevention, diversion, rehabilitation, and restorative practices, and to ensure linkages between justice and protection provisions of the JJ Act and associated child protection legislations and schemes. The 8th National Consultation on Child Protection sought to achieve this on the four sub-themes identified:



The detailed agenda is available at Annexure 1.



Inaugural Session

The inaugural session was graced by Mrs. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development, Government of India; Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Chairperson of the Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India; Hon'ble Mrs. Justice B. V. Nagarathna, Member, Juvenile Justice & Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India, and Ms. Cynthia McCaffery, Representative, UNICEF India among other eminent dignitaries.





Hon'ble Mrs. Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Member, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India opened the two-day consultation. At the onset, she urged stakeholders to always remember that “a child who is in conflict with law is also a child who is in need of care and protection”. She highlighted implementation challenges, systemic deficiencies, areas for future improvements, new and upcoming challenges for child protection system and an overall approach for the judicial system to move forward, laying emphasis on:

- (i) Understanding linkage between economic deprivation and juvenile delinquency to plan for preventive measures
- (ii) Strengthening family and community structures
- (iii) Strengthening the role of police as the first responder backed with adequate case work services
- (iv) Improving on-ground implementation of JJ Act by integration, convergence, standard setting and rehabilitative measures
- (v) Improving data management for evidence based programming.

“Our ambition is a nation where all children are free from crime and violence; and where the contact of children with the justice system is rare, fair and beneficial. This vision is rooted in the need for a juvenile justice system that supports the development of children and youth who come into contact with it. I would like to reiterate that the JJ Act also stipulates general principles of the international child rights instruments on alternatives to detention tailored to the needs and circumstances of children in conflict with law.”

- Mrs. Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Hon'ble Member, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India



Ms. Cynthia McCaffery, Country Representative, UNICEF India Office spoke on the high priority accorded by India for the protection of child rights through comprehensive legislation, policies and schemes. She emphasized on UNICEF's continuing partnerships at the state and national level to further the joint commitment to children's protection and empowerment.

“I want to recall the role India has always played – as a civilization and a member state of the UN – as a champion of the rights of children. Not only was India one of the early adopters of the Child Rights Convention in 1992, it has worked to translate the CRC into the right to education, the right to food, to water and sanitation, to social protection, and to empower girls against all forms of violence. India's comprehensive and ever improving child protection architecture, in particular, has stood for decades as a beacon for the most vulnerable children – both as a common minimum standard of dignity and as a catalyst for children, especially girls, to thrive and grow to their fullest aspirations.”

- Ms. Cynthia McCaffery, Country Representative, UNICEF India Office



Mrs. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs, Government of India (GoI) gave her special remarks on the child protection paradigm in India and asserted that national consultations are a medium for the government to “*ensure that we (government) provide new solutions with alacrity*”. She cited the continual increase in budget allocations for protection of children as evidence of political and administrative commitment and acknowledged the need for inter-ministerial and inter-departmental convergence and coordination to

meet the scale of task. She highlighted the initiatives undertaken by the government to ensure the well-being of children through strengthened legal support, improved healthcare & nutrition; and quality education.



The Juvenile Justice Act, as amended in 2021, came into effect in 2022 along with the amended rules. Much has been done to ensure that as a policy, non-institutional care of children in family surroundings is prioritized over institutional care. Much of the care that we seek to give has to be financially and infrastructurally provided for. I can proudly say that the budget allocated by the Government for child welfare has increased from 60 crore rupees in 2009-10 to 1,472 crores just as of last year. From 2014-2023, we in the Government of India, through child care institutions, have managed to provide assistance to over seven lakh children. We are also mindful of the fact that not just one department but the government as a whole needs to look at children in need of protection and in need of welfare.



- Ms. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development



Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Chairperson, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India delivered the keynote address and set the tone with his opening remarks – “the underpinning belief of justice for children, is that children can and should be reformed and therefore, reformation must be the primary driver of all decisions taken for them”. Thus restorative practices, diversions, alternatives to detention and child friendly legal procedures are of utmost importance as India goes forward in refining its child protection systems.



The underpinning belief of justice for children initiatives is that children can and should be reformed and therefore reformation must be the primary driver of all decisions taken for them. This is the core belief that pivots the practices of Restorative Practices, Diversions, Alternatives to Detention, and Child Friendly Legal Procedures including fair trials, child friendly procedures, and legal and other appropriate assistance. A child who has come into conflict with the law, is a child who has been in or/and continues to be in difficult circumstances. It is therefore imperative for us to prioritize a prevention approach. In transitioning from being stakeholders to shareholders in the care and protection of all children especially the most vulnerable, prevention of child offending must receive utmost attention.



- Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Chairperson, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India

Technical Session 1:

Global Knowledge around Children in Conflict with Law

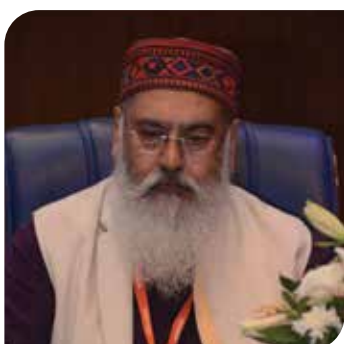
The first session brought focus on critical global knowledge and data driven insights on perspectives guiding the reforms for access to justice for CCL. This session was chaired by Hon'ble Mrs. Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Member, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India.



The technical presentation by **Mr. Cornelius Williams, Ex Global Director, Child Protection, UNICEF** defined the “extent of problem” through notes from the Global Study on Children Deprived of Liberty³, 2019 conducted by the United Nations along six situations of children deprived of liberty: (a) Detention of children in the administration of justice; (b) Children living in prisons with their primary caregivers; (c) Migration-related detention; (d) Deprivation of liberty in institutions; (e) Detention in the context of armed conflict; and (f) National security grounds.

Key recommendations from his address:

- Target the causes of unnecessary family separation and pursue a universal commitment to ensure every child grows up in a family environment
- Ensure free legal aid to all children
- Prohibit and end all forms of migration-related detention of children and their families
- Stop detention and prosecution of children who have been associated with armed forces or armed groups solely for their membership and facilitate recovery and reintegration of any child recruited by non-state armed groups
- Exclude children from counter-terrorism / security legislation and ensure that children suspected of security offences are treated within child justice systems.



Dr. Shekhar Seshadri, Advisor, SAMVAD, NIMHANS brought forth a transdisciplinary perspective that integrated the critical issues of legal, mental health and psychosocial care to highlight that “context matters and individual vulnerability of each child matters”. He spoke of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and how mapping ACEs can be a significant predictor of crime by children and youth and hence can serve as a vulnerability monitoring tool for prevention measure. He also showcased evidence, that CCLs are often from disempowered families and

³ <https://omnibook.com/global-study-2019/liberty/page-001.html>

are three times more likely to have mental health concerns, which in turn aggravates propensity to commit an offence. He highlighted the role of peer influence on decision making amongst adolescents since co-offending is common in this age-group.

He concluded with the need for the following:

- Shaping prevention measures based on understanding of ACEs.
- Adopting a multi-layered approach in dispensation of justice which examines the injustices to which a child might have been subjected to, and acknowledge the role of adversity and normative adolescent (neuro) development in their decisions and behaviour.
- Emphasizing the need for rehabilitation based on child's age and developmental level.



Ms. Indra Mallo (IAS), Joint Secretary, MWCD, GoI shared the efforts ongoing nationally as well as in identified regions to strengthen the child protection landscape. She highlighted that as a result of these targeted efforts in this direction, India has been removed from the list of countries having 'children in armed conflict' by United Nations Secretary-General, for the first time since 2010. Highlighting the ongoing efforts at the MWCD, she touched upon the following points:

- Vulnerable witness deposition committee's guidelines are developed and is aiding the setting up of permanent vulnerable witness deposition centres in courts.
- Mission Vatsalya is helping promote non institutional care through a focused approach to increase the uptake of sponsorship, foster care, and after care schemes.
- Childline services have been extended to 30 states with integration to national portal. The National Emergency Helpline-112 has also been linked. MWCD further envisions to extend the network till district level for faster exchange of data and follow up on victims as per the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) within 24 hours, within 48 hours, within one week, within 15 days.
- An online course module on child rights is now developed with Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie.
- The need for more data driven planning for programmatic interventions especially for areas such as after care; along with the need for closer cooperation and convergence between different stakeholders.

Special Session

Experiences from Sri Lanka



Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Thurairaja, PC, Judge, Supreme Court of Sri Lanka spoke about the child protection system in Sri Lanka. Promising practices elaborated by him include:

- Awareness programmes for the police to help give impetus to prevention and first response efforts.
- Cases registered for child cruelty in school are being taken up by the apex court (Sri Lanka) as a human rights and child rights issue. Corresponding judgments are duly circulated to school principals to raise awareness and create an early warning system.
- Diversion measures created via the Children and Young Persons Ordinance (CYPO).
- A National Policy for Alternative Care has been developed and mooted.
- The minimum age for detention has been increased from 8 to 12 years in the penal system with discretion granted to the Magistrate for preliminary assessment of children between 12-14 years with help from an expert team consisting of medical officer, paediatric expert and psychologist.



Technical Session 2: Promising Practices from States

The Presentations from States on Promising Practices - I was chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Sharma, Judge, High Court of Himachal Pradesh.

Good Practices from Himachal Pradesh



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Sharma, Judge, High Court of Himachal Pradesh elaborated on the need to pay attention to psychosocial factors which could indicate the possible causes of offences committed by children. This would subsequently help plan prevention measures. Quoting NCRB data, Justice Sandeep Sharma explained the ways in which value-based education, mental health awareness and counselling for parents and children, can play an important role in prevention and community strengthening. He suggested that police and prosecutors should be empowered to dispose off cases without formal hearings or sending them to Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) especially in case of petty offences.

Promising practices and schemes shared by him include the *Mukhya Mantri Surakshit Bachpan Abhiyan* launched in 2023-24 for effective implementation of the recommendations from 7th Round of National Consultation; the *Mukhya Mantri Sukh Ashraya Yojana* launched in February 2023 for comprehensive care to orphans and other vulnerable children with the objective to provide higher education and professional skills with psychosocial support to children who are the responsibility of the state. The Police Department has supported in the implementation of PRADHAV to address drug abuse amongst youth through programme awareness.

He urged the need for stepping up of prevention measures to reduce the economic cost of incarceration and rehabilitation and reintegration as a rights-based issue.

Good Practices from Uttar Pradesh



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Bhanot, Judge, Allahabad High Court advocated for a trans-disciplinary approach and cross-domain working, where laws can interface with various domains of intellectual capacities to address complex child protection issues. He also highlighted that the complex problem of child protection requires for society to see itself as a stakeholder and contribute to early identification of concern areas to be able to implement a prevention approach. He also emphasized the importance of strengthening systemic capacities and governance through regular reviews, workforce development, planning and focused programming to ensure justice for children. He reiterated the importance of strong oversight mechanisms.

Good Practices from West Bengal



Hon'ble Mr. Justice I.P. Mukerji, Judge, Calcutta High Court shared the models for diversion and alternatives to detention in West Bengal at all three levels of governance – state, district and village; and advocated for strong prevention measures. He emphasized that even if prosecution is the last resort, the process environment has to be congenial and assist reformation without hampering the child's overall development.

Good Practices from Andaman and Nicobar Islands



Hon'ble Ms. Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya, Judge, Calcutta High Court shared the graded approach to Diversion adopted in Andaman and Nicobar Islands to reach the hardest to be reached. She listed good practices including the Special Juvenile Police making General Diary entries (instead of FIRs) for children committing petty offences and informing the JJBs. Additionally, the Principal Magistrate is encouraged to use discretion to recommend for Diversion on a case to case basis. Additionally, pre and post counselling sessions are provided to children and family to establish and understand possible reasons for the alleged offence committed. There are currently 77 family counselling centres in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The Presentations from States on Promising Practices - II was chaired by Ms. Justice Revati Mohite Dere, Hon'ble Judge, Bombay High Court.

Good Practices from Maharashtra



Hon'ble Ms. Justice Revati Mohite Dere, Judge, Bombay High Court shared promising practices including collaboration of government and non-governmental stakeholders on After-Care to safeguard children from recidivism. She highlighted the importance of sports and exercise in anger management, building ties and building resilience. Efforts are ongoing in the state to build emotional resilience through regular psychosocial support services and counselling while service linkages prioritize educational opportunities and vocational training. Mentorship from within the community of rehabilitated children acted as an effective role model. Justice Revati said that "when they participate in such events (marathons), it helps bridge the gap between the outside world and child's world and gives them a sense of belonging".

Good Practices from Chhattisgarh



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rakesh Mohan Pandey, Judge, High Court of Chhattisgarh shared promising practices in rehabilitation and restorative measures. He outlined that the High Court of Chhattisgarh has appointed Members of Higher Judicial Service as visitors of observation homes. They are required to conduct monthly visits and forward the report by the 10th of every month. In terms of policy measures for rehabilitation, the Government of Chhattisgarh has notified 'Rehabilitation Policy for Children in Street Situations – 2022', also known as 'Baal Saksham' for rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of children who are living on the

street or in street-like situations. To provide supportive, protective and caring environment to those children who are moving out of *Child Care Institutions* (CCIs), the State Government has designed 'After-Care Scheme' named 'Mukhyamantri Baal Uday Yojana'. The scheme provides financial support of Rs. 7000/- per month to eligible children. The State has established the Juvenile Justice Fund 'Chhattisgarh Baal Kosh' under section 105 of the Juvenile Justice Amendment Act, 2021 and Rule 83 of the Amendment Rules, 2022. The State Government deposits Rs. 50 lakhs each year in the Baal Kosh for the welfare and rehabilitation of children.

In his concluding remarks, Justice Rakesh Mohan Pandey recommended that data on after care needs to be collected to ensure effective restoration and curtail any recidivism.

Good Practices from Delhi



Hon'ble Ms. Justice Rekha Palli, Judge, High Court of Delhi shared experiences from Delhi on the subject of preliminary assessments (PA) and the challenges faced which include (i) age determination (ii) veracity of documents (iii) use of digital platform for documents keeping in mind the privacy and dignity and rights involved (iv) defining heinous crimes. She also highlighted the difficulties of retrospective assessments of the child's mental, physical, emotional capacities in committing an offence and the lack of expertise and trained manpower to conduct such assessments with efficacy. She commended the increased focus on continually refining the process with solutions and capacity enhancement efforts.

As the session chair, Ms. Justice Revati, Hon'ble Judge, Bombay High Court suggested two things with regards to Preliminary Assessments – (i) there is a need to collect data and build a body of knowledge by studying cases of 16-18-year-olds and PA and (ii) role of psychologists is important in PA especially given the early onset of maturity in children and thus concomitant investments need to be made in developing a trained workforce to cater to the child protection machinery.

Good Practices from Gujarat



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biren A. Vaishnav, Judge, High Court of Gujarat shared the targeted efforts in the state to strengthen police as first responder including 1000+ volunteers appointed as Friends of Police for Women and Children who assist police in early flagging of cases of crime against women and children, human trafficking, missing children and identifying hotspots. He also highlighted the efforts undertaken by the Women and Child Development Department in establishing counselling centres in police stations in convergence with the police. Currently 65 such Police Station Based Support Centres (PBSCs) with 130 women counsellors (two women counsellors in each police station) are functioning to support survivors of violence.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Chandru, Former Judge, Madras High Court presented his remarks on the two best practice sessions.



Concluding the session, the chair **Hon'ble Mr. Justice (Retd.) K. Chandru, Former Judge, Madras High Court**, recommended a closer alignment between legislation, guidelines and the actual functioning of observation/special homes. In such a scenario he emphasized on the need to change attitudes while also improving budgetary outlays and spends. In conclusion he requested a consideration of civil judges being appointed in JJBs to aid in requisite child friendly and restorative approach and attitude.

Stakeholders Consultations on Four Thematic Areas

To take stock and stir discussions for critical actions, sessions were designed to enable group-work. Stakeholders were divided into four groups based on the four key themes of the National Consultation. Each group was chaired by one Chairperson of JJC-HC. Presentations were made by identified states per parallel session, followed by group discussions.

The group work culminated in a succinct presentation which highlighted the progress, gaps, challenges, good practices and way forward on the theme.



Box 1: Thematic Areas for Groupwork

Group 1: Prevention of Child Offending

Group 2: Diversion, Alternatives to Detention and Non-Custodial Alternatives

Group 3: Rehabilitation and Restorative Practices

Group 4: Right to Fair Trial and Child Friendly Procedures, including Legal and other Appropriate Assistance



Group 1: Prevention of Child Offending

Promising practices in this session were shared from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh.

Hon'ble Justice Dr. V.R.K. Krupa Sagar, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, chaired this session.

Good Practices



Hon'ble Justice Dr. V.R.K. Krupa Sagar, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh stressed on the role of schools in laying a good ground for preventive measures. The good practices shared from the state include 15,000 Mahila Police personnel trained to complement and assist Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD) and police in POCSO awareness.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Inderjeet Singh, Judge, High Court of Rajasthan stated that the two leading causes of children committing offences are (i) psychological reasons including peer pressure, substance abuse, lack of positive role model, undiagnosed or untreated mental health concerns (ii) familial reasons including parental neglect, domestic violence, and economic constraints etc. He highlighted the importance of quality education amongst the economically disadvantaged sections and meaningful programming on youth outreach, peer support and mentorship; and regulation of digital use by children as pragmatic prevention strategies.



Mr. Kripa Nand Jha (IAS), Secretary DWCD, Government of Jharkhand shared experience at the primary, secondary and tertiary level of a prevention approach. The primary strategies include increasing enrolments in education; engaging with women collectives and setting up child protection committees at the village level to build community prevention; setting up dedicated, separate JJ funds for improving quality of services; policy level measures in After-Care; and adolescent wellness programmes. Secondary strategies include specific measures and programmes aimed at prevention like family restoration programme, Project SHISHU for

COVID orphans, identification of CNCP and connecting them with sponsorship schemes, creating restorative circles, family counselling at CCIs, Shaurya Didi initiative where assigned police officer keeps vicinity vigilance through community interaction and rapport building. Tertiary strategies include prevention which includes converting CCIs into boarding schools, stepping up counselling services, introducing sports and yoga in CCIs, life skill training for children in institutions etc.



Dr. Vineet Kapoor, (IPS), Principal Staff Officer to DGP, Government of Madhya Pradesh presented the state's promising practice in social policing through a convergent model which involves stakeholders across DWCD, police, judiciary, civil society, and CSOs etc. Madhya Pradesh Police is working to create a "community connect" to shed inhibitions to come and talk to police. The initiative has been targeted in vulnerable and violence prone areas and also in households which are susceptible to gender injustice as child offending is higher in such cases. Additional interventions include systematic capacity building through resource polling with Women and Child Development (WCD), development of Bal Mitra Thana, engagement with adolescent groups for boy and girls and interagency collaboration.

Telangana shared details regarding its strengthened Village Child Protection Committees as the primary grassroots level institution enabling a prevention approach within child offending.

Kerala shared several good practices for prevention like (i) collaborative efforts of Department of Education and WCD to appoint counsellors in schools for identifying children who need

psychosocial support and create awareness amongst parents (ii) parenting clinics have been opened via Integrated Child development Scheme (ICDS) at block level for vulnerability mapping at ground level (iii) KAVAL Scheme for family-based monitoring and community surveillance (iv) age-oriented curriculum on sex education has been drafted and will be rolled soon in the state.

Summary Recommendations

- Build better linkages and convergence between Child Protection, Health and Education
- Strengthen and improve mobilisation of community structures
- Undertake focused research and studies of root causes of child offending including identification of especially vulnerable populations
- Strengthen role of police as first responders
- Implement with intent, programmes on legal awareness for children
- Initiate mentorship of children by children who have been rehabilitated as role models

Group 2: Diversion, Alternatives to Detention and Non-Custodial Alternatives

Presentations on good practices in this session were made from UT of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and States of Telangana, Tamil Nadu, and National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).

Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anu Sivaraman, Judge, High Court of Kerala, chaired this session.

Good Practices



Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anu Sivaraman, Judge, High Court of Kerala showcased the KAVAL programme as an innovative community-based psychosocial care programme with inter-departmental convergence between DWCD, Police and *National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences* (NIMHANS). The programme has reduced recidivism rate from 25% to 3% and led to a reduction of Observation Homes from 12 to 8.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tashi Rabstan, Judge, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh shared capacity development efforts including capacity building on JJ Act and legislations related to child protection, and on ensuring an improved understanding of laws alongside improved clarity on the principle of the best interest of child to promote judgments focused on diversion and to avoid routine trials.



Dr. Ashok, Additional SP, Sangareddy, Telangana presented good practices in (i) Creating child-friendly corners through multi-stakeholder engagement (ii) Counselling support for resolution and integration with schools coupled with regular follow up mechanisms (iii) Formation of Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) Teams by Telangana Police who work with communities when cases are reported on issues like harassment, stalking, romantic relationship etc. and provide counselling to ensure prevention of detention.



Ms. D. Kalpana Nayak, IPS, ADGP, Tamil Nadu Police spoke about Operation Pallikoodam which targets vulnerable hotspots and children through community outreach activities and has a robust engagement programme with young people.



Ms. Santosh Snehi Mann, Member Secretary, NALSA drew from her erstwhile experience as a JJB Principal Magistrate and highlighted how the spirit of the law encompasses the Diversion, Alternatives to Detention and Non-Custodial Alternatives. The law also recommends summary trials which embodies diversion.

Summary Recommendations

- Develop SOPs for improved/clearer direction and understanding on Diversion, Alternatives to Detention and Non-Custodial Alternatives
- Workforce development especially of law enforcement and judiciary to be able to implement Diversion and Non-Custodial Measures
- Integrate mental health and psychosocial services as an essential service for CCL
- Strengthen service linkages including of recreational, educational, de-addiction and vocational services.

Group 3: Rehabilitation and Restorative Practices

Presentations on promising practices in this session were shared from Odisha, Karnataka and Society for Promotion of Youth and Masses (SPYM).

Ms. Justice Lisa Gill, Hon'ble Judge, High Court of Punjab and Haryana, chaired this session.

Good Practices



Hon'ble Ms. Justice Lisa Gill, Judge, High Court of Punjab and Haryana moderated the session on rehabilitation and restorative practices. She shared her insights on rehabilitation and restorative practices and highlighted the need to strengthen case management and standards of care practices within the CCLs for CCLs. She iterated the need to use provisions such as community service within orders passed for children in conflict with law; and the need for facilitating improvements in quality of preliminary assessments.



Mr. Lingraj Panda, IAS, Director, ICDS Scheme and Social Welfare, Government of Odisha shared relevant good practices being followed in the state including the development of tailored rehabilitation Individual Care Plans; the E-Sikhya a technology integrated learning and education initiative; implementing sports programming as a means of rehabilitation; trauma informed care and psychosocial support and care and the wide use of video conferencing for JJB hearings.



Smt. Vasanthi Uppar, Deputy Director, DWCD, Government of Karnataka shared good practices including (i) Multi-stakeholder engagements between government and non-governmental partners to conduct vulnerability mapping and strengthening community-led child protection safety mechanisms (ii) Rigorous follow ups and case management practices followed for children who are passing through formal judicial proceedings including a strong focus on restoration and rehabilitation. This is evidenced from a state context where 95% of CCL are now with their family (iii) Special homes are managed by NGOs and funded

by the government with specific directions to support in developing improved Individual Care Plans enabling linkages with relevant services including meaningful vocational courses in hotel management, traffic policing, computer courses etc. to ensure dignified skill building and employability (iv) Several programmes including SAMVAD, MAANASA and ULLAASA have been established as convergent programmes on providing mental health and psychosocial services to all children including CCL.



Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Executive Director, SPYM shared highlights from the study on Pattern and Profile of Children using Substances in India to show that children are becoming the targets of drug traffickers at an alarmingly young age with the average age of starting substance use being 13 years. Around 40-70% substance use is amongst street children in India.

In light of the present context, he suggested early prevention as a key strategy. It should be considered through the following strategies

(i) Implementation of school-based interventions to combat children's vulnerability to drugs (ii) Promotion of peer support networks (iii) Sustained and deep engagements with parents and caregivers (iv) Establishing and engaging children in extracurricular activities.

At the *intervention stage*, after a child has indulged in substance use, he emphasized the importance of counselling access and mental health support along with deaddiction support if/ as relevant. Dr. Rajesh stressed on the importance of addressing stigma through awareness and education and in creating an enabling environment for individuals to seek help without judgment.

Summary Recommendations

- Explore sustained and sustainable multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach to create an ecosystem of targeted prevention programmes.
- Establish meaningful services including vocational, educational, life skills⁴ and health services to support the child's reintegration through opportunities for employability and well-being with dignity.
- Explore and promote public private participation including funding opportunities from corporate social responsibility.
- Strengthen post release follow up and after care policies and implementation.

⁴ Navchetna, the new education module on life skills developed by Ministry of Social Justice and Ministry of Education was specifically mentioned

Group 4: Right to Fair Trial and Child Friendly Procedures, including Legal and other Appropriate Assistance

Presentations on good practices in this session were shared from Bihar, Assam and SAMVAD-NIMHANS (A National Initiative and Integrated Resource for Child Protection, Mental Health, and Psychosocial Care).

Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. Amarnath Goud, Judge, High Court of Tripura, chaired this session.

Good Practices



Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. Amarnath Goud, Judge, High Court of Tripura outlined initiatives from Tripura – (i) Periodic inspection of Observation Homes (ii) Under Project Mukti, rigorous inter-agency convergence and follow ups with NALSA, Ministry of External Affairs and international border organization to ensure repatriation.



Mr. Harmeet Singh (IPS), Special DGP, Assam Police highlighted the policy focus on justice delivery with empathy and dignity as cornerstones - both for CNCP and CCL. Under the Shishu Mitra programme, all investigating officers are trained in child rights related legislations and are actively encouraged and capacitated to establish/nurture child-friendly corners. Shishu Mitra Resource Centres provide handholding support to officers regarding procedures, pendency of cases, regular refresher courses, and how to translate guidelines/judgments etc. into community outreach programmes.



Dr. Sheila Ramaswamy, SAMVAD, NIMHANS highlighted SAMVAD's focus on standardizing preliminary assessment methodology and framework performance. SAMVAD has been advocating that preliminary assessment is time sensitive and should be conducted within three months. The programme has helped in the use of vulnerability and risk lenses to plan rehabilitation of children. Overall, the programme is helping bring scientific evidence of child psychology and neuro-development domain of knowledge i.e. a transdisciplinary approach to application of Sec 15 of JJ Act, 2015.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vipul M Pancholi, Judge, Patna High Court highlighted the importance of general principles of Care and Protection of JJ Act with focus on Fair Trials and Child Friendly Procedures. The 'right to fair trial' of a child begins much before it reaches the judicial body and continues till the object of proper social reintegration is achieved, which at times goes much beyond the age of 18 years. In similar manner, the onus of child-friendly procedures does not rest only with the judiciary but all the stakeholders viz. Police, CWC/JJB, *District Child Protection Unit* (DCPU) and other agencies/individuals engaged with the child

during the process. All the stakeholders have the responsibility to ensure that the child feels safe and secure during all the stages of engagement. He shared that Government of Bihar has established 48 Child-Friendly Courts covering all the 37 judicial districts. Child-friendly witness cum victim waiting room equipped with high-tech video- conferencing systems are functional in all the Child-Friendly Courts. Principal Magistrates, Public Prosecutors and Court Masters have been provided adequate training and assistance on child rights and child-friendly procedures.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice (Retd.) Deepak Gupta, former Judge, Supreme Court of India highlighted the need for systematic efforts to be undertaken to ensure that children are able to access quality and effective services with the child centric justice system. He emphasized on the need for all stakeholders to work together to discharge their duty in ensuring that children stay protected.

Summary Recommendations

- Standardize standards of care and set of practices in Observation Homes and ensure strict adherence through mechanisms established
- Ensuring HR adequacy as per sanctioned strength
- Enhancing capacities and understanding of the child protection workforce
- Identify and replicate best practices and create platforms for exchange of ideas.
- Focus on systematic implementation of legal rights awareness programmes for children in justice and welfare systems, particularly overrepresented groups.
- Strengthen free legal aid for children and national/regional cadres of specialized lawyers and paralegal services

Recap and Reflections



Reflections by Ms. Vandhana Kandhari, OIC - Chief of Child Protection, UNICEF India shared her reflections from the two-day National Consultation. She highlighted the key takeaways as prevention, better linkages to services, improved case management, ensuring alternatives which work in the best interest for children, preventing recidivism, providing legal aid, creating systems for skill building within CCIIs and developing context-specific care plans for the child for effective rehabilitation and reintegration.

Closing Session



Mr. Priyank Kanoongo, Hon'ble Chairperson, NCPCR shared data from recent NCPCR research to highlight the need for strengthening – (i) Record maintenance at the Observation Homes (ii) Equitable and quality legal aid (iii) Mitigation measures to prevent recidivism. Speaking on opportunities available within CCIIs, he concurred that vocational training provided for livelihood and rehabilitation should be better aligned to the child's capacity, skill, interest or aspiration.

“Vocational training and education for children in Observation Homes has to be in alignment with their needs and aspirations. We should aim towards turning Observation Homes into schools for the children who reside there, in line with the emphasis on innovative education centres in the Government of India's National Education Policy.”

He also shared that a Monitoring App for Seamless Inspection (MASI) has been rolled out as a digital initiative for Observation Home monitoring. He emphasized on the need to implement the National Education Policy 2020 and since it prescribes the creation of innovative education centres, Observation Homes could be considered as the foundational ground to start innovative education and vocational learning centres.



Mr. Indevar Pandey, IAS, Secretary, MWCD, GoI highlighted recent interventions by MWCD including increased budgetary allocations for non-institutional care.

He also shared about the extension of Childline services to 30 states and the establishment of panchayat-level structures for child protection. He highlighted the need for the availability of robust and real-time data on different aspects of CCI management for improved evidence informed planning. At the same time, the sensitivity of data sharing and privacy is a concern and needs caution in the best interest of the child. He reiterated the importance of empathy while designing and delivering child protection services.



The Government of India's policies and programmes are endeavouring to support family-based alternative care for vulnerable children. This year, the budget for the same has increased to 400 crores. This is the first time we are allocating a larger budget for children in need of care and protection who are outside Child Care Institutions.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Chairperson, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India in his closing remarks stated that the purpose of the national consultations is to 'amplify the voices of those who are marginalized and carry forward the knowledge gained.' He appreciated that resource allocation to reform the child protection system is seeing a gradual shift from institutionalization towards non-custodial detention and family-based care with a rights-based approach. He commended the promising practices emerging from various states. He said that these demonstrable models provide insights on trans-disciplinary functioning to address issues of the most vulnerable children in an increasingly urbanized context, at scale.



A child's future hinges on the social worker's motivation, capability and understanding. For an administration to provide this individualized attention to children, its workforce needs to be highly qualified and sensitized, no less than any other professional. Therefore, if we are able to ensure a professionalised social worker cadre, then the value our investments in services, social protection schemes, cash transfers, and infrastructure bring could multiply manifold.



Summing up the way forward, Hon'ble Chairperson, JJC, Supreme Court highlighted the following points: Workforce development; Shift towards family-based care and prevention; Assessment of per child context and vulnerabilities; Preliminary assessment; Reduction in pendency; Post-release monitoring; and Data-driven programming.



Hon'ble Mrs. Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Member, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India closed the two-day consultation with a vote of thanks and an appeal for empowerment of children through an approach centred on the fundamentals of human right and dignity.

She concluded stating that it is of utmost importance that everyone shares the common objective of best interest of the child and every functionary involved in the Juvenile Justice system collaborates towards this common goal and priority.

“We remain committed to the voices of children and youth whose lives have been entwined with the juvenile justice system. Everyone shares a common objective: to advance what is best for our children and consequently for our communities. It is only when every functionary involved in the juvenile justice system has common goals and priorities.”

Annexure: Agenda

Inaugural Session Saturday, 23 September, 2023 Venue: Auditorium, 3rd Floor, C-Block, Addi. Building Complex	
Time	Programme
09:00 hrs- 10:00 hrs	Arrival of Participants and Registration
10:00 hrs - 10:05 hrs	Welcome of the Guests
10:05 hrs - 10:15hrs	Opening Remarks: Mrs. Justice B.V.Nagarathna Hon'ble Judge, Supreme Court of India
10:15 hrs - 10:22 hrs	Short Video showcasing good practices on Children in Conflict with Law: Prevention, Restorative Justice, Diversion and Alternatives to Detention
10:22 hrs - 10:30 hrs	Introductory Remarks: Ms. Cynthia McCaffrey Country Representative, UNICEF India
10:30 hrs -10: 45 hrs	Special Remarks: Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani Hon'ble Minister for Women & Child Development and Minority Affairs, Government of India
10:45 hrs onwards	Keynote Address: Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat Hon'ble Chairperson, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee and Judge, Supreme Court of India
	Vote of Thanks
11:15 hrs -11:45 hrs	Tea break

Technical Sessions: Day - I 23 September 2023, Saturday Venue: Auditorium, 3rd Floor, C-Block, Addi. Building Complex	
11:45 hrs -12:35 hrs	Presentations: Global Knowledge around Children in Conflict with Law
11:45 hrs - 11:55 hrs	Chair Hon'ble Mrs. Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Judge, Supreme Court of India
11:55 hrs -12:10 hrs	Presentation by Mr. Cornelius Williams, Ex Director, Child Protection, UNICEF
12:10 hrs-12: 25 hrs	Presentation by Dr. Shekhar Seshadri, Advisor, SAMVAD, NIMHANS
12:25 hrs-12:35 hrs	Remarks: Ms. Indra Mallo (IAS), Joint Secretary to the Govt of India

12:35 hrs -12:55 hrs	Best Practices from Sri Lanka: Hon'ble Justice S. Thirairaja, P.C., Justice of the Supreme Court, Sri Lanka
12:55 hrs -13:40 hrs	Presentations from States on Promising Practices -I
12:55 hrs-13:05 hrs	Chair Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Sharma, Judge, High Court of Himachal Pradesh
13:05 hrs-13:15 hrs	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Bhanot, Judge, Allahabad High Court : Prevention of Child Offending
13:15 hrs-13:25 hrs	Hon'ble Mr. Justice I. P Mukerji and Hon'ble Ms. Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya, Hon'ble Judges, Calcutta High Court: Diversion and Alternatives to Detention
13:25 hrs-13: 40 hrs	Open Discussion
13: 40 hrs -14:30 hrs	Lunch Break
14:30 hrs -15:30 hrs	Presentations from States on Promising Practices -II
14:30 hrs-14:40 hrs	Chair Hon'ble Ms. Justice Revati Mohite Dere, Judge, Bombay High Court
14:40 hrs-14:50 hrs	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rakesh Mohan Pandey, Judge, High Court of Chhattisgarh: Rehabilitation and Restorative Measures
14: 50 hrs-15:00 hrs	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Rekha Palli, Judge, High Court of Delhi: Preliminary Assessment
15:00 hrs-15:10 hrs	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biren A. Vaishnav, Judge, High Court of Gujarat: Right to a fair trial and child friendly procedures, including legal and other appropriate assistance
15:10 hrs-15:30 hrs	Open Discussion
15:30 hrs-15:45 hrs	Remarks on Best Practices Sessions I & II: Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Chandru, Former Judge, Madras High Court
15:45 hrs - 16:00 hrs	Briefing on Group Work (in Auditorium and thereafter participants to depart to their respective Group Sessions venue after High Tea)

16:00 hrs -17:30 hrs	Thematic Group Discussion - Parallel Sessions
Parallel Sessions in respective venues 16:00 hrs -17:30 hrs (90 Minutes)	Group I Prevention of Child Off ending (Venue -Multipurpose Hall, 2nd Floor, C-Block, Addi. Building Complex) Chair: Hon'ble Justice Dr. V. R. K. Krupa Sagar, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh Panelists 1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vijay Bishnoi, Judge, High Court of Rajasthan 2. Mr. Kripa Nand Jha (IAS), Secretary DWCD, Govt. of Jharkhand 3. Dr. Vineet Kapoor, (IPS), Principle Staff Officer to DGP, Govt of Madhya Pradesh Remarks: Ms. Tripti Gurha (IRTS), Joint Secretary, Government of India, Ministry of Women and Child Development & Director, National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development
	Group II Diversion, Alternatives to Detention and Non-Custodial Alternatives (Venue - Congregation Hall, 2nd Floor, C-Block, Addi. Building Complex) Chair: Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anu Sivaraman, Judge, High Court of Kerala Panelists 1. Hon'ble Mr Justice Tashi Rabstan, Judge, High Court of J&K 2. Ms. Santosh Snehi Mann, Member Secretary, NALSA 3. Dr. Ashok, Addl SP, Sangareddy, Telengana 4. Ms. D. Kalpana Nayak, IPS, ADGP, Tamil Nadu Police
	Group III Rehabilitation and Restorative Practices (Venue - Conference Hall, 2nd Floor, C-Block, Addi. Building Complex) Chair: Hon'ble Ms. Justice Lisa Gill, Judge, High Court of Punjab & Haryana Panelists 1. Shri Lingraj Panda, IAS, Director, ICDS & SW, Govt of Odisha 2. Smt. Vasanthi Uppar, Deputy Director, Dept. of WCD, Govt. of Kamataka 3. Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Executive Director, SPYM

	Group IV Right to Fair Trial and Child Friendly Procedures, including Legal and other Appropriate Assistance (Venue: Auditorium, 3rd Floor, C- Block, Addl. Building Complex) Chair: Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. Amarnath Goud, Judge, High Court of Tripura Panelists: 1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vipul M Pancholi, Judge, Patna High Court 2. Mr. Harmeet Singh (IPS), Special DGP, Assam Police 3. Dr. Sheila Ramaswamy, SAMV AD, NIMHANS
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Day - II 24 September, 2023, Sunday Venue: Auditorium, 3rd Floor, C-Block, Addl. Building Complex	
09:00 - 10:00 hrs	Arrival of Guests and Participants
10:00 hrs- 12:00 hrs 120 Minutes)	Presentation of Summary of Focus Group Discussions
10:00 hrs 11:00 hrs	Part I- Presentation by Group I & II Chairs: Hon'ble Justice Dr.V.R.K Krupa Sagar, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh (10 Minutes Presentation and 15 Minutes Discussion) Chairs: Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anu Sivaraman, High Court of Kerala (10 Minutes Presentation and 15 Minutes Discussion) Closing Remarks: Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.B. Lokur, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India
11:00 hrs - 12:00 hrs	Part II - Presentation by Group III & IV Chairs: Hon'ble Ms. Justice Lisa Gill, Judge, High Court of Punjab & Haryana (10 Minutes Presentation and 15 Minutes Discussion) Chairs: Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. Amarnath Goud, Judge, High Court of Tripura (10 Minutes Presentation and 15 Minutes Discussion) Closing remarks: Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Gupta, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India
12:00 hrs 12:10 hrs	Reflections Chief, Child Protection, UNICEF India
12:10 hrs - 12:30 hrs	Tea Break and Group Photo

12:30 hrs - 13:15 hrs	Closing Session Venue: Auditorium, 3rd Floor, C- Block, Addl. Building Complex
12:30 hrs 12:40 hrs	Specials Remarks Sh. Priyank Kanoongo Chairperson, National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights
12:40 hrs - 12:50 hrs	Special Remarks Mr. Indevar Pandey (IAS) Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India
12: 50 hrs onwards	Closing Remarks Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat Chairperson, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Committee & Judge, Supreme Court of India
	Vote of Thanks Mrs. Justice B.V.Nagarathna Hon'ble Judge, Supreme Court of India
	National Anthem
13:15 hrs onwards	Lunch and Departure

