

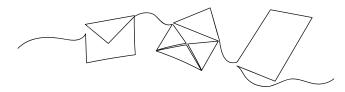


CENTRE FOR CHILD & YOUTH JUSTICE NALSAR UNIVERSITY OF LAW

There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children.

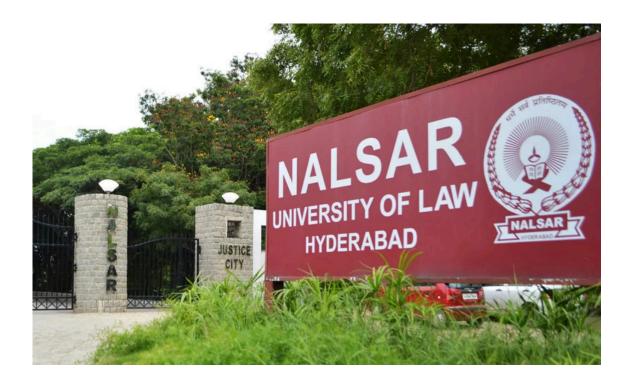
~Nelson Mandela

NEWSLETTER JAN - SEPTEMBER 2024



28 September, 2024

ABOUT CENTRE FOR CHILD & YOUTH JUSTICE (CCYJ) NALSAR UNIVERSITY OF LAW, HYDERABAD



NALSAR University is one of the premier law schools known for its excellence in legal education and research with a strong focus on social justice. In furtherance of university's objectives, the Centre for Child and Youth Justice (CCYJ) was established, which is working to advance the rights and welfare of children & youth. The mission of the Centre is to serve the children through law. Its work focuses on interdisciplinary research, legal education, advocacy, stakeholder engagement, capacity-building and providing policy recommendations in line with international standards. It has partnership with UNICEF, Telangana government, CRY NGO and many eminent figures working in child rights. At present, it is running a project on "Access to Justice for Children through systems strengthening on child protection issues" funded by CRY-Child Rights and You.

EDITORIAL

As the first half of 2024 draws to a close, the Centre for Child and Youth Justice (CCYJ), NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad takes a moment to reflect on its journey and initiatives. We've dedicated this period to strengthening the capacities of key stakeholders and contributing to the development of progressive legal frameworks for child protection.

In this edition of our bi-annual newsletter, you'll read the highlights from our capacity-building programs aimed at empowering DCPUs, LPOs, and CWPOs; our consultative meeting with the Telangana State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (TGSCPCR) and roundtable discussion with U.S. officials on on cases involving international parental child abduction and abandoned children overseas by both parents. At the end of our newsletter, you'll find details about some exciting upcoming events.

Together we can pave the way for a better future for all children. We're eager to work even more closely in the coming months. We would love to hear your thoughts and suggestions.

Happy reading!

Dr. D Bala Krishna Faculty & Co-Ordinator CCYJ, NALSAR.

CAPACITY BUILDING Intervention



Orientation Program on Role of Police as per Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and Functioning of Child-Friendly Corners in Police Station, Sangareddy District-Telangana



Section 2 (15) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 defines the term 'child friendly' as "any behavior, conduct, practice, process, attitude, environment or treatment that is humane, considerate and in the best interest of the child". Section 2 (9) defines 'best interest of child' as "the basis for any decision taken regarding the child, to ensure fulfillment of his basic rights and needs, identity, social well-being and physical, emotional and intellectual development". The police are often the first responders when a child comes into contact with the Juvenile Justice System which plays a crucial role in ensuring the implementation of a child-friendly approach.

On August 31, 2024, the Centre for Child & Youth Justice, NALSAR University of Law in collaboration with UNICEF Child Protection Resource Centre and the Sangareddy District Police held a one-day orientation program focused on the role of police under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the functioning of Child-Friendly Corners in police stations. Dr. D. Bala Krishna provided an overview of the stakeholder's 2015 and its JJ Act responsibilities. Mr. P. David Raj, UNICEF discussed the police's role in supporting children, the principle of diversion and the challenges in implementing the principle of diversion.



CCYJ in collaboration with the Department of Women Development & Child Welfare, Government of Telangana and UNICEF organized a state level review consultation meeting of stakeholders involved in Juvenile Justice and Child Protection. The event took place on 04.09.2024 at the Auditorium NIMSME, Hyderabad.

Smt. Vakati Karuna, IAS, Secretary of WCD & SC, Telangana emphasized on Mission Vatsalya. She urged stakeholders to adopt a professional approach and focus on delivering results. She stressed the need to digitize all Juvenile Justice and POCSO related forms thereby moving away from traditional paperwork.

CONSULTATIONS AND OTHER EVENTS

Discussion with Telangana State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (TGSCPCR)



HIGHLIGHTS OF DISCUSSION ARE:-

- Shortage of child protection manpower in Sangareddy district, particularly in the Juvenile Justice Board. Without one social worker, the Principal Magistrate is disposing of cases.
- Lack of data on child labour from concerned ministries and stakeholders despite visible children engaged in labour, especially migrant children in unorganized work, whose cases rarely reach prosecution.
- Child labour used as a generic term. The data we get for children is from Police, WCD and Labour Department is of such nature that it does not categories Child labour and Migrant labour in different heads, they both are different. Nobody has data on urban preparedness. There is no division of below 14 years of child labour and above 14 years of adolescent labour, hazardous and non-hazardous works, the right to education of these children.
- RTE is not being implemented by all schools in terms of 25% quota for children from weaker and disadvantaged sections in private and unaided schools.
- Difficulties in obtaining release certificates from District Magistrates in child labour cases and the Legal Services Authority's role in handling these cases.

US officials Visit at CCYJ NALSAR University of law

US officials visited the Centre for Child and Youth Justice, NALSAR University of Law on 23 April, 2024 to discuss the implementation of collaborative strategies to address issues related to international parental child abduction and the protection of children abandoned overseas. The discussions focused on strengthening cross-border cooperation, sharing best practices and enhancing support mechanisms for affected children and families.





Upcoming Events:

- Centre for Child & Youth Justice, NALSAR University of Law in collaboration with CRY- Child Rights & You will be coming out with a comparative handbook on provisions relating to children in the 3 Old and New Criminal laws.
- Call for Paper Presentation to be announced in November month.

