

- **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO)**

This law is to protect and rehabilitate children who are victims of Sexual Offences. The Act defines a child as any person below eighteen years of age, and regards the best interest and well being of the child as being of paramount importance at every stage, to ensure the healthy physical, emotional, intellectual and social development of the child. It defines different forms of sexual abuse, including penetrative and non-penetrative assault, as well as sexual harassment and pornography, and deems a sexual assault to be "aggravated" under certain circumstances, such as when the abused child is mentally ill or when the abuse is committed by a person in a position of trust or authority vis-a-vis the child, like a family member, police officer, teacher, or doctor or a child below 12 years of age or victim of incest.

- **Child Labour**

The Child & Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 is one of the most debated acts regarding children in India.



The Act defines a child as any person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age; and an adolescent who has completed his fourteenth year of age but has not completed his eighteenth year. The Act bars employment of children in any occupation

excepting family enterprises or process and of an adolescent in any of the hazardous occupations or processes set forth in the schedule. Economic exploitation of children between 14 – 18 years is also a criminal offence under the Juvenile Justice Act and the IPC.

- **All India Legal Aid Cell on Child Rights**

The Delhi State Legal Services Authority has established an All India Legal Aid Cell on Child Rights alongwith NALSA and Bachpan Bachao Anolan. The Cell is working for the rescued Child Labourers. DSLSA has appointed 25 Advocates for the panel of All India Legal Aid Cell on Child Rights. (Tel.-49211111, 26224899)

- **Legal Literacy Clubs in Schools and Colleges**

DSLSA organizes Legal Literacy and Awareness Programmes in Schools and Colleges on Fundamental Rights and Duties, Traffic Laws, Anti Ragging, POCSO Act, Sexual Offences, Cyber Laws, Functioning of Police Stations, Environmental Laws etc. DSLSA has established more than 1200 Legal Literacy Clubs in Private, Govt., Govt. Aided and NDMC Schools of Delhi.

- **The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006**

The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act defines child marriage as marriage in which either the girl or the boy is underage, i.e. the girl is under 18 years of age or the boy is younger than 21 years. Child Marriage will be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for two years and fine which may extend to Rs. 1 Lakh.

District Legal Services Authorities

East District Legal Services Authority

Room No. 36, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi
Tel : 22101336 | Mob: 9667992793 | Email: east-dlsa@nic.in

Shahdara District Legal Services Authority

Room no. 35-A, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi
Tel : 22101456 | Mob: 9667992795 | Email: shahdara-dlsa@nic.in

South District Legal Services Authority

Ground Floor, Utility Block, Saket Courts, New Delhi
Telefax : 29562440 | Mob: 9667992799 | Email : south-dlsa@nic.in

New Delhi District Legal Services Authority

Patiala House Courts, New Delhi
Tel : 23071265 | Mob: 9667992802 | Email : nndistrictdlsa@gmail.com

North-West District Legal Services Authority

Room No. 405, Rohini Courts, Delhi
Tel : 27555536 | Mob: 9667992798 | Email : north-west-dlsa@nic.in

North District Legal Services Authority

Room No. 405, Rohini Courts, Delhi
Tel : 27557310 | Mob: 9667992797 | Email : north-dlsa@nic.in

South-East District Legal Services Authority

Ground Floor, Utility Block, Saket Courts, New Delhi
Tel : 29561040 | Mob: 9667992800 | Email : southeast-dlsa@nic.in

South West District Legal Services Authority

Room No. 5A, Admin. Block, Dwarka Courts,
Sector -10, Dwarka, New Delhi
Tel : 28041480 | Mob: 9667992801 | Email : southwest-dlsa@nic.in

West District Legal Services Authority

Room No. 295, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi
Tel : 23968052 | Mob: 9667992792 | Email : west-dlsa@nic.in

Central District Legal Services Authority

Room No. 287, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi
Tel : 23933231 | Mob: 9667992791 | Email : central-dlsa@nic.in

North-East District Legal Services Authority

Room No. 35, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi
Tel : 22101335 | Mob: 9667992794 | Email : northeast-dlsa@nic.in

DELHI HIGH COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Room No. 33-38, Lawyers Chamber,
High Court of Delhi, New Delhi
Tel : 23383418 | Email : dhclsc-dhc@nic.in | Web : www.dhclsc.org



DELHI STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Legal Assistance Establishment 'NYAYA SANYOG'

Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001
Tel: 011-23071265, Mobile : 9870101337,
Helpline : 1516 (24x7 Toll Free)

E-mail: lae-dlsa@gov.in | Website: www.dlsa.org
Facebook : https://facebook.com/dlsa

Laws for Children



Children are the future of the country. The progress of every nation depends on how it treats its children. Being the most vulnerable, they are easy targets of violence, neglect, abuse and exploitation. India is thus committed to children's well-being and has enacted several laws to protect the rights of its children, especially those in difficult circumstances.

- **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015**

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 is the primary legal framework for Juvenile Justice in India. The Act provides for a special approach towards the children keeping in mind their best interest and provides a framework for the protection, treatment and rehabilitation of children in the purview of the juvenile justice system whether they are children in conflict with law or children in need of care and protection. The Act defines a child as any person below the age of eighteen years.

- **Juvenile Justice Boards (JJB)**

The Juvenile Justice Boards are constituted for inquiring into the matters of children who are alleged to be in conflict with law. The Juvenile Justice Board consists of a Judicial Magistrate and two social workers. Provisions of bail are very liberal for children. In case a child is found to be involved in an offence, the child can be sent to the special home or place of safety for reformation and rehabilitation or can be asked to do community service or be released on probation. Orders for the child to complete education or vocational training can also be passed. If a child in the age group of 16 to 18 years is alleged to have committed a heinous offence i.e. an offence for which the minimum punishment prescribed under the law is 7 years, the JJB, after conducting a preliminary assessment can send the case to the Children's Court for trial. The Children's Court may decide to treat the child as a child or as an adult and accordingly conduct an inquiry or a trial and pass final orders if the child is found to be involved in the offence.



Vide Delhi Gazette Notification dated 16.10.2015, the Govt. of NCT of Delhi has authorized the Principal Magistrates of Juvenile Justice Board (JJB)'s/Chairpersons of Child Welfare Committee, to issue birth order in respect of delayed birth registration of children whose age verification is done by them, in the NCT of Delhi.

- **Child Welfare Committees (CWC)**

The Child Welfare Committees are constituted for rehabilitation of children in need of care and protection viz, orphan, street children, children found homeless or begging, neglected or abandoned children, victims of abuse of any kind. The Child Welfare Committee consists of a Chairperson and 04 other persons one of whom at least should be a woman. The Committee is the final authority to dispose of cases for the care, protection, treatment, development and rehabilitation of the children as well as to provide for their basic needs and human rights. A child rescued from hazardous occupation, brothel, abusive family or other such exploitative situation must be produced before the CWC which will conduct an inquiry to ensure optimum rehabilitation with minimal damage to the child. Children in need of care and protection are sent directly to the



Children's Home by the Child Welfare Committee that passes necessary orders for their rehabilitation, restoration and social re-integration. The rehabilitative alternatives provided under the Act include adoption, foster care, sponsorship and after care.

1. **Child Welfare Committee-I**
Nirmal Chayya Complex, Jail Road, New Delhi
Tel: 011-28546733 (Area: West District)
2. **Child Welfare Committee-II**
Kasturba Niketan Complex, Lajpat Nagar-II,
New Delhi, Tel: 011-29819329
(Area: South District)
3. **Child Welfare Committee-III**
Sewa Kutir Complex, Kingsway Camp, Delhi
Tel: 011-27652575
(Area: North & North West District)
4. **Child Welfare Committee-IV**
Primary School, Phase-I, Near Delhi Police
Apartment, Mayur Vihar, Delhi
Tel: 011-22755527, (Area: New Delhi District)
5. **Child Welfare Committee-V**
Sanskar Ashram, Dilshad Garden, Delhi
Tel: 011-22572224
(Area: East, North East & Shahdara District)
6. **Child Welfare Committee-VI**
Asha Kiran Complex, Avantika, Rohini, Delhi
Tel: 011-27515910
(Area: Outer District)
7. **Child Welfare Committee-VII**
Nirmal Chayya Complex, Jail Road, New Delhi
Tel: 011-28522023, (Area: South West District)
8. **Child Welfare Committee-VIII**
VCH-II, PWD Barrack, B-Block, Kalkaji,
New Delhi, Tel: 011-29819329
(Area: South East District)
9. **Child Welfare Committee-IX**
Community Center, Palika Dham,
Near Gol Market, New Delhi, Tel: 011-23743454
(Area: New Delhi District & Railway)
10. **Child Welfare Committee-X**
Room No. 1 & 2, Building No. 5,
Children Home for Boys, Opp. PS Alipur,
Delhi, Tel : 011-27202292
(Area: Rohini)

- **Role of DSLSA in Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Welfare Committees**

Delhi State Legal Services Authority has a dedicated panel of Legal Services Advocates in JJBs and in Child Welfare Committees, who provide free Legal Services to Children in JJB and CWC and also visit Observation Homes & Children's Homes



to interact with the children to ascertain their needs and grievances. DSLSA also provides periodic Training and Orientation to Principal Magistrates and Members of JJBs and also to Chairpersons & Members of CWCs, Legal Services Advocates and other stakeholders in the juvenile justice system.

- **Children's Homes**

The State Government has established either by itself or in association with NGOs Children's Home in every District or group of Districts for the reception of Children in need of care and protection during the pendency of any inquiry and subsequently for their care, treatment, education, training, development and rehabilitation.

- **Observation Homes**

The State Government has established and maintains either by itself or under an agreement with some NGOs, Observation Homes in every District or group of Districts for the temporary reception of children in conflict with law during the pendency of any inquiry regarding them under the Act. The Act also makes provision for setting up of Place of Safety for temporary or long term reception of children in conflict with law and Special Homes for reception of children who are found to be in conflict with law.

- **Child Welfare Police Officer (CWPO)**

The Child Welfare Police Officer at each Police Station handles the cases of both children in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection and the social worker at the Special Juvenile Police Unit shall be the first line of intervention in all cases, as far as possible.

- **Special Juvenile Police Unit for Women & Children**

Special Juvenile Police Unit is a dedicated Unit of the Police at the District Level for handling matters concerning children in conflict with law and also children in need of care and protection. The SJPUs are headed by the DCP with ACP as the Nodal Officer