

Frequently Asked Questions on NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015.

Q1. What are the main Objectives of this Scheme?

- Ans.**
- To provide children with meaningful, effective, affordable and age appropriate legal assistance.
 - To outline the basic rights and benefits that should be afforded to children.
 - To ensure legal representation to the children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law at all levels.
 - To strengthen Legal Services, Institutional Care, Counselling and support services at National Level, State Level, District Level and Taluq Level for providing child friendly legal services.
 - To develop effective coordination and interface with all Government bodies (or) functionaries, institutions, authorities, NGOs and other organizations concerning are entrusted with the responsibilities relating to child rights.

Q2. What are the basic human rights that should be afforded to every child?

Ans. The basic human rights that should be afforded to children are classified into four categories covering all civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights of every child viz.,

- 1) **Survival rights** which include the child's right to life and needs that are most basic to existence, such as nutrition, shelter, and adequate living standard and access to medical services.

- 2) **Development rights** include the right to education play, leisure, cultural activities, access to information and freedom of thought, conscience and religion.
- 3) **Protection rights** which ensure that children are safeguarded against all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, including special care for refugee children; safeguards for children in the criminal justice system; protection for children in employment; protection and rehabilitation for children who have suffered exploitation or abuse of any kind.
- 4) **Participation rights** encompassing children's freedom to express opinions, to have a say in matters affecting their own lives, to join associations and to assemble peacefully. As their abilities develop, children shall have increasing opportunities to participate in the activities of their society, in preparation for responsible adulthood.

Q3. What is the protection available to a child under the Constitution of India?

Ans. The following are the provisions of the Indian Constitution relating to protection of children:

- 1) Article 14 provides that the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India.
- 2) Article 15(3) provides that nothing in this Article shall prevent the State from making any special provision for women and children.
- 3) Article 21 provides that no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.
- 4) Article 21A provides that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.
- 5) Article 23(1) provides that traffic in human beings and beggar and other similar forms of forced labour are prohibited and any

contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.

- 6) Article 24 provides that no child below the age of fourteen years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment.
- 7) Article 29(2) provides that no citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out-of-State funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language or any of them.
- 8) Article 39(e) provides that the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing that the health and strength of workers, men and women, and the tender age of children are not abused and that citizens are not forced by economic necessity to enter avocation unsuited to their age or strength.
- 9) Article 39(f) provides that the state shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing that children are given opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner, in conditions of freedom and dignity and that childhood and youth are protected against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment.
- 10) Article 45 provides that the State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.
- 11) Article 47 provides that the State shall regard the raising of the level of nutrition and the standard of living of its people and the improvement of public health as among its primary duties.
- 12) Article 51A(k) provides that it shall be the duty of every citizen of India who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.

Q4. What are the other legislations which deals with children?

Ans. (I) The Guardian and Wards Act, 1890: The Guardian and Wards Act, 1890 deals with the qualifications, appointment and removal

of guardians of children by the courts and is applicable to all children irrespective of their religion.

- (ii) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986.
- (iii) The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994.
- (iv) Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000.
- (v) The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.
- (vi) The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.
- (vii) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.
- (viii) The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

Q5. What are the measures available under law to prevent misuse of sex determination techniques to avoid female foeticide?

Ans. The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 provides for the regulation of the use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for the purpose of detecting genetic or metabolic or chromosomal abnormalities or certain congenital malformation or sex-linked disorders and for the prevention of misuse of such techniques for the purpose of pre-natal sex determination leading to female foeticide.

Q6. How the child's right i.e., Right to Education is protected?

Ans. Article 21A of the Constitution, provides that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine. Parliament has made the law contemplated by Article 21A by enacting the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. This Act provides for free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years.

Q7. How the menace of child labour can be curbed or eliminated?

Ans. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 came into force to prohibit the engagement of children in certain employments and to improve the conditions of work of children in certain other employments. Under the Act "Child" means a person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age. The Act is intended to ban the employment of children i.e., those who have not completed their 14 years in specified occupations and processes. To eliminate the menace of child labour and to effectuate the mandate of the Constitution, Hon'ble Supreme Court had given a large number of mandatory directions in *M.C.Mehta Vs. State of Tamil Nadu* reported as (1996) 6 SCC 756. One of the important directions was to direct an employer to pay a compensation of Rs.20,000/- for having employed a child below the age of 14 years in hazardous work in contravention of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986. The appropriate Government was also directed to contribute a grant/deposit of Rs.5,000/- for each such child employed in a hazardous job. The said sum of Rs.25,000/- was to be deposited in a fund to be known as Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare fund and the income from such corpus was to be used for rehabilitation of the rescued child.

Q8. How a girl child is protected from child marriage?

Ans. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 restrains the solemnization of child marriages by laying down the minimum age for both boys & girls. According to Section 2(a) of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, a "child" means a person who, if a male has not completed twenty one years of age, and if female, has not completed eighteen years of age.

Q9. How the children are protected from sexual exploitation?

Ans. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 protect the children from offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography and provide for establishment of Special Courts for trial of such offences and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Under Section 40 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, the Legal Services Authority shall provide a lawyer to the family or the guardian of child, if they are unable to afford a legal counsel.

Q10. How the children in conflict with law be dealt with?

Ans. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 deals with the law relating to juveniles in conflict with law by providing proper care, protection and treatment by catering to their development needs, by adopting a child friendly approach in the adjudication and disposition of matters in the best interest of children and for their ultimate rehabilitation through various institutions established under the Act.

Q11. What kind of rehabilitation is provided to the children in need of care and protection?

Ans. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 deals with the law relating to children in need of care and protection, by providing proper care, protection and treatment by catering to their development needs, disposition of matters in the best interest of children and for their ultimate rehabilitation through various institutions established under the Act.

Q12. What are the key principles which are to be strictly adhered by legal services institutions?

Ans. The key principles that should be kept in mind by legal services institutions at all levels are:-

Best interest of the Child: Every child has the right to have his or her best interests given primary consideration while providing legal services to the children in need of care and protection and child in conflict with law.

Welfare of the child: The Welfare of children must always come first, regardless of all other considerations. Early intervention and support should be available to promote the welfare of the child.

Right to dignity: Every child has the right to be treated with dignity and compassion and its worth is to be respected and protected.

Right to equality and no discrimination: A child should be treated without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child's caste,

race, religion, beliefs, age, family status, culture, language, ethnicity, disabilities (in any) or place of birth.

Principle of right to be heard: Every child has right to be informed, right to be heard and right to express views and concerns freely.

Principle of right to safety: Every child has right to safety at all stages and he or she shall not be subjected to any harm, abuse or neglect etc.

Principle of confidentiality: The privacy of a child shall be protected by legal services institutions at all levels.

Q13. How the 'child-friendly' legal services be extended to children under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987?

Ans. Children are the beneficiaries of legal services under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Under section 12(c) of the Act, a child who has to file or defend a case is entitled to legal services. Therefore, it is the mandatory duty of various Legal Services Institutions to provide free legal aid to juvenile in conflict with law and work towards speedy disposal of cases.

In this background this NALSA Scheme has been drawn up and all the Legal Services Institutions viz State Legal Services Authorities, District Legal Services Authorities, Taluq Legal Services Committees, High Court Legal Services Committee, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee have to follow "the NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015", while they deal with legal services to the children.

Q14. What are the functions of legal services institutions in the country?

Ans. The legal services institutions right from State Legal Services Authority to Mandal Legal Services Committees have been asked to discharge the following main functions -

(i) to provide free and competent legal services to the eligible

persons including children u/Sec. 12(c) of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

- (ii) to organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes
- (iii) to organize Legal Awareness Camps; and
- (iv) to implement the Schemes and policies directed by NALSA through strategic and preventive Legal Service Programmes.

Q15. What is free Legal Aid?

Ans. Legal advice by a legal practitioner
Representation on behalf of entitled person in any legal proceedings.
Payment to the entitled person or on his behalf;

- Of court fee;
- Of process fee and expenses of witnesses;
- Of charges for preparation of paper book, including charges for printing and translation of documents;
- Of charges for the supply of certified copies of judgments and other documents
- Of any amount on any other account in any legal proceedings.

Q16. Who is a Panel Lawyer?

Ans. "Panel Lawyer" means a lawyer selected under regulation 8 of the National Legal Services Authority (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations 2010 to render free and competent legal services to the deserving and needy persons under the Scheme.

Q17. What is the role of Panel Lawyer?

Ans. Panel Lawyer has to represent the best interest of the Children and effective Child Friendly Legal Services are to be provided to Children in need of Care and Protection and children in conflict with law at all levels and also spreads awareness on this NALSA Scheme and also various Government Schemes meant for the benefit of the Children.

Q18. Who is a Para Legal Volunteer?

Ans. A person with basic knowledge of law and other available welfare measures and legislations with an inclination to assist their immediate neighbourhood is selected as Para Legal Volunteer by the concerned Legal Services Institution and trained to improve the legal services network.

Q19. Who should be the Para Legal Volunteer?

- Ans.**
- Advocates, Teachers and lecturers of Government and Private Schools and Colleges of all levels.
 - Anganwadi workers.
 - Private or Government doctors and other Government employees.
 - Field level officers of different departments and agencies of the State and Union Governments.
 - Students of graduation and post graduation in Law, Education, social services of humanities.
 - Members of a political service oriented Non-Governmental Organizations and Clubs.
 - Members of Women Neighbourhood Groups, Maithri Sanghams Educated prisoners serving long term sentences in Central Prison and District Prison.
 - Social Workers and volunteers, volunteers of Panchayat Raj and Municipal institutions.
 - Members of Cooperative Societies, Members of Trade Unions.
 - Any other persons the District Legal Services Authority or Taluk Services Committee deems fit to be identified as Para Legal Volunteers.

Q20. What are the duties of trained Para Legal Volunteers and their Honorarium?

Ans. PLVs shall

1. educate people, specially those belonging to Weaker sections of the society.
2. spread awareness among the people about their basic human rights, fundamental rights to enjoy all the constitutionally and statutorily guaranteed rights.
3. PLVs shall also constantly keep watch on violators of law or Acts of injustice in their operation.
4. They will also assist in conducting legal literacy camps.
5. They will work by sitting in front offices.
6. They are eligible for a Honorarium of Rs250/- per day when engaged for rendering services in Legal Aid Clinics and Front Offices.

Q21. Whether the work of the Para Legal Volunteers is monitored regularly?

Ans. Yes. The Secretary of DLSA., shall monitor the work done by the PLVs every month and the PLVs shall maintain the prescribed Registers.

Q22. Whether the Para Legal Volunteers can be disqualified and removed?

Ans. Yes. Para Legal Volunteer is disqualified if he/she

1. Fails to evince interest in the scheme.
2. Has been adjudged as insolvent.
3. Has become physically and mentally incapable.
4. Has abused his or her position or misconduct in any manner so as to render his / her continuance prejudicial to the public interest.
5. Affiliated to political parties.

Such para legal volunteer can be removed by the Chairman DLSA and has to intimate the same to the State Legal Services Authority.

Q23 What is the role of Para Legal Volunteer in protecting the best interest of the children?

Ans) The Para Legal Volunteers spreads awareness among the public at large about the child rights and their protection and available child protection services, including child friendly legal services, schemes including this NALSA Scheme which are meant for the benefit of the Children and also creates awareness about the prohibition of all form of child labour up to 14 years of age and about the need of Free and Compulsory Education to the Children in between the age group of 6 to 14 years and the issues of Child Trafficking etc.

Q24. What is the role of State Legal Services Authority in the implementation of various Government schemes and NALSA scheme ?

Ans. The State Legal Services Authorities have an important role to play in representing the best interest of the Children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. The State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs) will have to act as a bridge between the children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law and the Government Departments. The State Legal Services Authorities will have to ensure that Rule of law prevails. Restoring faith in the legal system, efficacy of rule of law is of prime importance. The Legal Services Institutions should explore activities in these areas by sensitizing NGOs, CBOs and other stake holders in realizing their duties and responsibilities for protecting the interest of the Children. Legal Services Institutions shall also ensure that child friendly legal services are provided to the children and to see that every child in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law is legally represented and provided free legal aid and necessary support wherever necessary.

Q25. What are the various authorities that are constituted for protection of a Child?

Ans. Juvenile Justice Board at District Level: Under Section 4 of JJ Act,

the State Government has been authorized to constitute Juvenile Justice Board in every district. The SLSA shall ensure that Juvenile Justice Board is established in each district separate from the regular court and where no such Board has been set up SLSA will take up the matter on urgent basis with State Government so that JJB is established in every District.

Child Welfare Committees at District Level: Section 29 of JJ Act allows the State Government to form Child Welfare Committees in relation to child in need of care in every district. Such committees will consist of a Chairperson and four other members appointed by the State Government including one woman. The SLSA shall ensure that Child Welfare Committees are established in each district and where no such committee has been set up, it will take up the matter on urgent basis with State Government so that Committee is established in every district.

Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU): The JJ Act contemplates constitution of Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) to deal with Juvenile in conflict with law. In every police station, at least one police officer specially instructed and trained is required to be designated as Juvenile/ Child Welfare officer to deal with the Juvenile. (Section 63 of the JJ Act and rule 11 of JJ Rules). SLSA shall ensure that such Special Juvenile Police Unit has been established.

Designated Juvenile Welfare Officers and Members of SJPUs: The SLSA shall ensure that list of designated Juvenile Welfare Officers and members of SJPUs with contact details be prominently displayed in every police station in the State.

Child Protection Unit at district level: Under Section 62 A of the JJ Act, every state government shall constitute a child protection unit for the State and for every district to take up the matters relating to children in need of care and protection. The SLSA shall ensure that such child protection Unit has been established.

State Commission for Protection of Child Rights: Under Section 17 of the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, the State is under obligation to constitute State Commissions. The SLSA shall ensure that such commission has been constituted and working effectively.

Child Marriage Prohibition Officers at district level or for group of districts: Under section 16 of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, the State Government is authorized to appoint for the whole State, or such part thereof as may be, an officer or officers to be known as the Child Marriage Prohibition Officer to prevent child marriage and to deal the matters connected thereto. The SLSA shall take up the matter with State for appointment of the Child Marriage Prohibition Officer, wherever they have not been appointed.

Q26. What are the categories of homes for Juveniles in conflict with Law?

Ans. Juveniles in conflict with law are kept in a home and not in a jail or lockup. There are two categories of homes for juveniles in conflict with law, namely Observation Homes and Special Homes.

Juvenile is kept in the Observation Home pending inquiry against him by the Board and such homes are to be established and maintained by the State Government in every district or group of districts (section 8 of JJ Act r/w rule 16(1) of JJ Rules).

Similarly, special homes are to be set up in every district or group of districts separately for boys and girls to house juveniles, if found guilty on conclusion of inquiry (section 9 of JJ Act r/w rule 16(1) of JJ Rules).

Q27. What is the purpose of Children Homes and Shelter Homes?

Ans. Under section 34 of JJ Act, the State Government has been empowered to establish and maintain either by itself or in association with voluntary organizations, children homes in every district or a group of districts for the reception of child in need of care and protection during the pendency of any inquiry and subsequently for their care, treatment, education, training , development and rehabilitation.

The SLSA shall keep the updated record of as to how many institutions i.e. children homes, shelter homes and observation homes, either run by the State Government or by Voluntary Organizations for Children in need of care and protection or children in conflict with law are there in the State.

All such homes or institutions run by the State Government or by

Voluntary Organizations for Children in need of care and protection have to be registered under the provisions of Section 34 of JJ Act, read with Rule 71 of the said Act.

Any unregistered institutions for children in need of care and protection are there then they have to be shut down or taken over by the State Governments. (Re.Exploitation of Children in Orphanages in the State of Tamil Nadu Vs.Union of India (UOI) and Ors. (2014)2 SCC 180). In this regard, the SLSA shall take up the matter with the State Government so that needful could be done in respect of unregistered institutions.

The SLSA shall ensure that there are observation homes, shelter homes and child care homes in sufficient numbers registered with the government to house the juvenile in conflict with law and child in need of care and protection.

Q28. What is the objective of Observation and Children Home Committee?

Ans. The SLSA shall constitute a committee namely "Observation and Children Home Committee" for every district in the State comprising the District Secretary as chairperson, one panel lawyer and probation officer as members. The committee so constituted shall formulate a calender of its visit to each of home situated in the district at least once in a month.

Broadly the functions of the committee would be to see that observation homes, special homes and children homes are child friendly and it should not look like a jail or lockup and should have a good quality of care and facilities. It should have sanitation and hygiene, clothing and bedding, meals and diet, medical and mental health care, tie up with local primary health centre, maintaining the health record etc., if anything deficient is noted by the committee, then the SLSA will take up the matter with concerned authorities for necessary action at their end and shall follow up the matter.

Q29. Where the Legal Aid Clinics and Legal Literacy Clubs under the scheme need to be established for the benefit of children? How best can a mechanism be evolved to reach legal aid to the children in rural ares?

Ans. The SLSA shall set up Legal Services Clinic at every Juvenile Justice Board and Child Welfare Committee in each district in the State.

All DLSAs shall set up legal literacy club in each of the schools in the District under the control of DLSA in coordination with the principals.

Many children in need of legal service live in remote rural areas. Therefore, the children often find it impossible to physically access legal services from where they live. To overcome this barrier, the SLSA may take some initiative including mobile clinics and One Stop Centre programmes offering a range of legal services to the children at the same location.

Q30. What is the role of State Legal Services Authorities to provide Child Friendly Legal Services to Children?

- Ans.**
- (a) To meet the requirement of law, SLSAs shall constitute a separate panel of trained and committed advocates to represent child/juvenile before every forum i.e. JJBs, CWCs etc., so that meaningful and effective legal services could be provided at the ground level.
 - (b) SLSAs shall ensure that legal services provided to child or juvenile is of high quality and that it is effective which requires competent and dedicated panel lawyers at JJB and CWC's.
 - (c) SLSAs shall supervise and monitor the working of Panel Lawyers and have mechanism of surprise check.
 - (d) The remuneration to the panel lawyer may be released on the basis of work done report countersigned by the JJB or CWCs wherever the panel lawyer is deputed.
 - (e) SLSA shall ensure an effective coordination between legal officer, panel lawyer and Legal Services clinic established at JJBs and CWCs so that every child is legally represented and provided free legal aid and other necessary support.
 - (f) All SLSAs shall have database of all the existing Central or State schemes, policies, regulations, SOPs, police directives, conventions, rules, declarations, comments, and reports etc.,

available for child welfare and protection so that same may be used as and when required for legal awareness and for providing legal services to the juveniles.

Q31. What are the training and orientation programmes that are to be imparted to various functionaries under this Scheme?

Ans. a) State Legal Services Authority shall strictly adhere to various guidelines already issued by the NALSA for training of designated Juvenile/Child/Welfare officers attached to every Police Station and members of Special Juvenile Police Units and members of JJBs in compliance of the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Sampoorna Behrua Vs. Union of India and others WP(c) 473/2005.

b) To undertake and organize training (problem based and interactive), orientation and sensitization programmes, for senior police officers, SJPU, JWOs, panel lawyers, PLVs, member of JJBs and CWCs, welfare officers, counsellors, probation officers, public prosecutor, judicial officers, care takers of various homes for their skill enhancement and for creating a sense of responsibility amongst them;

c) Every State Legal Services Authority shall coordinate with the Head of the concerned Police Department to ensure that a Standing Order outlining the roles, responsibilities and functions of Special Juvenile Police Units and Juvenile/Child Welfare Officers is issued. Such Standing Order shall be based on the JJ Act, JJ Rules/ the applicable Rules (If State Government has notified its own Juvenile Justice Rules) and the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Sheela Barse V. Union of India (1986 SCALE (2) 230): (1987) 3 SCC 50.

State Legal Services Authority shall render assistance in drafting and preparing such Standing Order. State Legal Services Authority shall also ensure that such Standing Order is translated into local language and is made available at all the Police Stations.

d) The Legal Services Providers, ie. Panel Lawyers, PLVs, Police Officer (Special Juvenile Police Unit) or Judicial Officers are to be

trained to enhance their skills for effectively communicating to the children.

Q32. What is the role of Nodal Officer in implementing the NALSA Scheme?

Ans. The Nodal Officer nominated in the District would be responsible for ensuring the convergence of NALSA Scheme with the policies, Schemes and Guidelines of the Government on the subject matter.

Q33. Who will take the responsibility of spreading awareness about the welfare schemes ?

Ans. As per the NALSA scheme, a team of panel lawyers, PLVs and social workers would be constituted for spreading awareness on welfare schemes of NALSA and also various Government Schemes meant for the benefit of the Children.

Q34. Whether sensitization of Judicial Officers with regard to Legal Services Schemes including this NALSA Scheme is essential?

Ans. Yes. Once all the Judicial Officers in the Country are properly sensitized with regard to the relevance and importance of legal aid schemes including this NALSA Scheme, the legal rights of the children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law are well protected. .

Q35 Who is the Competent Authority for payment of victim compensation as per the Telangana Victim Compensation Scheme, 2015?

Ans. The Member Secretary of the State Legal Services Authority is competent for payment of Victim Compensation as determined by the Court or as determined by the Legal Services Institutions on an enquiry.

Q36. How legal awareness is to be created about the child rights and role of SLSAs in spreading legal awareness?

Ans. a) Every SLSAs shall publish booklets/pamphlets/legal service

manual containing the details of the available schemes pertaining to the child rights. Copies of booklets/pamphlets/legal service manual shall be kept available in all front offices, legal services clinics, JJBs, CWCs, police stations etc.

- b) Information regarding the above details should also be disseminated through Doordarshan, All India Radio and Community Radio.
- c) Every SLSAs shall spread awareness amongst the public about children rights and their protection in collaboration with educational institutions, State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, NGOs etc.
- d) Essay competitions, street play competitions, poster making competitions, painting competitions and even debate or other means of spreading awareness of child rights amongst school and college students.
- e) PLVs may be asked to create an effective out reach campaign through the distribution of posters using child appropriate messaging.
- f) Each SLSA shall take up the matter with the State Government so that child rights could be included in the school curriculum of all schools to enable children to know their rights.
- g) SLSAs shall spread awareness about the newly added provisions of section 357 A Cr.P.C and any Victim Compensation Scheme of the State so that immediate compensation is released to the children.
- h) Each SLSA shall develop directory on legal services which must be available ready with all key stake holders.
- i) Each SLSA shall organize intensive legal awareness campaigns at all levels about children's right to education as well as fundamental duties of parents to send their children to schools.
- j) There is a need for creating awareness about the availability of non-institutional services such as adoption, sponsorship and

foster care for children.

- k) SLSAs shall endeavour the accreditation of NGOs having sound credentials and involved in matters of children who are in need of care and protection.
- l) To initiate awareness programme that enable community mobilization and outreach to change social norms, perception and attitudes and to educate the villagers and communities about the harm caused to children on account of child marriages especially on their health and personality and also on their future productivity.
- m) To have greater social community engagement through PLVs to prevent young girls from being coerced into early marriage.
- n) Each SLSA shall take up necessary step to solve the problem of Child Labour by working in villages with the help of PLVs to sensitize families about the long term benefits of education and to make them aware that child labour is not acceptable.
- o) There should be awareness programme at all levels for the effective prohibition of all forms of labour for children upto 14 years of age and to effectively address the issues of trafficking of children.
- p) Vulnerability to trafficking for Child Labour or destitution increases during disasters and natural calamities. Therefore, the core group constituted by the SLSAs under the NALSA scheme i.e. "A Scheme For Legal Services To Disaster Victims Through Legal Services Authorities", must ensure that all measures are taken to protect the rights of these children and for their welfare.

Q37. What are the major Centrally Assisted Schemes for the benefit of Children?

Ans. a) Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS):

This scheme ensures

- Early child hood care,

- Education and development,
- Care and Nutrition counselling
- Health Services in coordination with Health Department. Mother and Child protection cards are issued to all the children below 5 years
- Community Mobilization

b) Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP):

The Government of India introduced Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP). Under this scheme, children in between the age group of 3 to 6 years who visit Anganwadi Centre are provided morning snacks in the form of milk / banana / egg / seasonal fruits / micro nutrient fortified food followed by hot cooked meal (HCM) and for children below 3 years of age, take home rations, (THRS) in form of pre-mixes / ready to eat food are provided

c) Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS):

This scheme aims to provide care and protection of all the children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. ICPS provides preventive statutory care and rehabilitation services to vulnerable children including those from potentially vulnerable families and families at risks, children of socially excluded groups like migrant families, families living in extreme poverty, SCs, STs and OBCs families subjected to or affected by discrimination, minorities, Children infected and / or affected by HIV / AIDS, Orphans, child drug abusers, children of substance abusers, child beggars, trafficked or sexually exploited children, children of prisoners, street and working children, abandoned and destitute children and missing children.

d) Rajiv Gandhi Scheme: for empowerment of adolescent girls (SABLA).

This scheme was launched by Government of India on 19.11.2010. This scheme aims at covering adolescent girls in the age group of 11 to 18. This scheme aims at improving the nutrition and the health status of adolescent girls by Supplementary Nutrition Programme, upgrade their home based skills, life skills and vocational skills and this scheme is implemented in three districts i.e. Adilabad, Mahabubnagar and Hyderabad.

- e) **Kishore Shakthi Yojana Scheme**: is introduced in the year 2000 by the Government of India and the scheme is aimed at empowering the adolescent girls by providing a supportive environment for development and the scheme is implemented in 7 districts in Telangana State.
- f) **Scheme of National Child Labour Project**: This scheme is meant for the children under the age of 14 years who are involved in child labour. The purpose and object of the scheme is rehabilitating the children involved in child labour under hazardous conditions.
- g) **Balika Samrudhi Yojana** : This scheme is meant for female children born on 15th August, 1997 or later and belong to BPL families. The purpose and object of the scheme is to change negative attitude towards girl child among community and family members, retaining the girl child at school, raising the age for marriage and to help the girl child to take part in the activities for income generation.
- h) **Pre-matric scholarships to the children who are engaged in un-clean occupations**: This scheme is meant for children who are engaged in un-clean occupations like flaying, tanning and scavenging. The purpose and object of the scheme is to provide 100% financial assistance to State Governments and Union Territories to cover the expenditure of the scheme so as to provide pre-matric scholarships to target group.
- i) **Ujjwala** : This scheme is meant for women and children who are vulnerable to and victims of human trafficking aimed towards commercial exploitation. The purpose and object of the scheme is rescuing rehabilitating and re-integrating women and children who are vulnerable to and victims of human trafficking through various agencies who have prior experience in the field of trafficking.
- j) **Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the children of working mothers** : This scheme is meant for the children of the age group of six months to six years. The purpose and object of the scheme is to provide day care facilities for children ensuring

emotional development, social development, physical and cognitive development of children and also provides proper education to parents and care givers, so that they provide better child care.

K) Sukanya Samridhi Yojana : This scheme is meant for the children of the age group of zero to six years. The purpose and object of the scheme is to promote savings for girl child, her future education and marriage.

L) Beti Bachao, Beti Pado Scheme (BBBP) :
The scheme was launched on 22nd January, 2015 and it aims to prevent gender biased sex selective elimination and to ensure survival and protection of girl child, ensure education of girl child.

Q38. What are the state Government schemes meant for the benefit of the children.

Ans. A) Girl Child Protection Scheme : This scheme is meant for the girl children. The purpose and object of the scheme is to enroll and retain female children in school, to spread awareness among female children about their rights, encouraging them to get married only after attaining the age of 18 and to encourage parents to adopt family planning and to get rid of negative attitude towards girl child in the society and in the family.

B) Bangaru Talli Scheme : This scheme is meant to take care of Girl child in every house hold from her birth till she completes her graduation. If she gives birth to a baby girl, Rs. 2,500/- will be deposited into her account. Rs. 1,000/- will be given for the first two years at the time of immunization. Rs. 1500/- will be given every year to the family through Anganwadi till the baby attains the age of 5 years from 3rd year onwards.

At the time of admission to school, Rs 2,000 will be given every year for her studies from the first to the fifth standard, and Rs 2,500 from sixth to eighth standard, Rs 3,000 for ninth and tenth standard. For the girls study of Intermediate, she will be given Rs. 3,500 each year, and Rs. 4,000 a year during her graduation.

The eligibility criteria to avail this scheme is:

The girl child born within "two live births norm" born on or after 1st May, 2013.

Having white ration card.

Institutional delivery in public or private hospital.

Q39. What are the institutions that are run by the Women and Child Welfare Department for the benefit of Children?

Ans. The following institutions are set up to take care of those children who are orphans, semi orphans, destitute, etc.

- i) Sisu Gruhas / Sisu Vihars:
- ii) Children Homes;

Sisu Gruhas / Sisu Vihars : They are meant for children in the age group of 0 - 6 years and the Sisu Gruhas function as specialized adoption agencies for facilitating adoption of orphans declared as free by child welfare committees. In all 10 districts 30 specialized adoption agencies (SAA) are functioning .

In Sisu Vihars for every 10 children 6 Ayas are provided on shift basis who are trained on child care and feeding practices. Full time nurse and part time doctor will take care of the health needs. Maintenance grant @ Rs.2000/- per child, per month is provided for food, milk powder, feeding bottles, clothing, play material etc.

Children Homes: They are meant for children in the age group of 6 to 15 years and provides shelter, care and protection to the children of said age group.

Q40. What is Aanganwadi Centre?

Ans. Aanganwadi Centres are the primary institutions for service delivery at village level where services like supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check up, referral services and pre-school non formal education are provided.



For further details of Scheme or any information may contact nearest Project Director, Women Development and Child Welfare Agency, PRO in District Collector Office, NGO.

or
Nearest Legal Service Institutions.



**For Legal Aid and other details of the scheme
may contact the following:**

**Secretaries of District Legal Services Authorities and
the Secretary of High Court Legal Services Committee**

| | | |
|--|---|--------------|
| District Legal Services Authority, Adilabad | - | 9440901043 |
| District Legal Services Authority, Nizamabad | - | 9440901057 |
| District Legal Services Authority, Karimnagar | - | 9440901049 |
| District Legal Services Authority, Khammam | - | 9440901050 |
| District Legal Services Authority, Warangal | - | 9440901063 |
| District Legal Services Authority, Nalgonda | - | 9440901055 |
| District Legal Services Authority, Ranga Reddy | - | 9440901059 |
| District Legal Services Authority, Mahaboobnagar | - | 9440901053 |
| District Legal Services Authority, Medak | - | 9440901054 |
| City Civil Court Legal Services Authority, Hyd | - | 9440901065 |
| Metropolitan Legal Services Authority, Hyd | - | 040-23442488 |
| High Court Legal Services Committee, Hyd | - | 9492358157 |

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