



सत्यमेव जयते

Government of Rajasthan

DEPARTMENT FOR CHILD RIGHTS

VISION | MISSION | MANDATE



resolution

**Government of Rajasthan
Department for Child Rights**

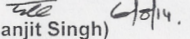
Ambedkar Bhawan (Extension), Rajmahal Residency Area, Civil Lines, Jaipur

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Dated: ०४ August, 2014

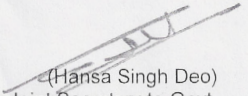
RESOLUTION

The Government of Rajasthan established the Department for Child Rights (Baal Adhikarita) vide notification no. 1740, dated 17th May, 2013. To reiterate its commitment to the protection of rights of children, Government of Rajasthan embarked upon setting out a clear Vision, Mission and Mandate of the Department for Child Rights, which hereby stands approved and adopted.


(Dr. Manjit Singh)
Principal Secretary to Government
SJE & SS Department

ORDER

Ordered that a copy of the resolution be communicated to all Departments of the Government of Rajasthan, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Cabinet Secretariat, Chief Minister's Office and the Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights.


(Hansa Singh Deo)
Director & Joint Secretary to Govt.
Department for Child Rights

background



While 39 percent of India's population is children aged 0-18 years, in Rajasthan, they constitute 43.6 percent of the total state population. Respecting the Constitution of India and the international obligations under treaties such as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), ratified by India in 1992, the centre and the state governments have been striving for protection of all rights for all children.

In recognizing the role of government as a custodian of child rights, the Government of Rajasthan has taken several measures to ensure compliance with these national and international commitments and overcome the challenges in their implementation. Setting up regulatory and oversight mechanisms and establishing necessary linkages to address the gaps between commitment and implementation has been a serious concern. As a result, over the years, the state has invested greatly in strengthening the institutional base and policy and programmatic interventions to secure basic rights of its children.

A separate State Child Policy was formulated in 2008 with a view to ensure comprehensive development of children, protection of their rights and mainstreaming

children's rights into all development agenda through convergence with various state departments. In 2013, a State Policy for the Girl Child came into existence to address their vulnerabilities and a State level Task Force on Care and Protection of the Girl Child was set up to augment state action. The Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights was established on 23 February 2010 as an independent statutory mechanism for reviewing and monitoring the implementation of laws and policies relating to children. Action plans, guidelines and protocols have been issued from time to time to implement child-specific legislation such as the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, and the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.

The state's initiative to formulate child related policies, plans of action, guidelines, protocols and institutions necessitated the need for an overarching administrative unit that would strengthen and streamline governance for children. The Department for Child Rights was thus established and child protection programmes like ICPS, Palanahar, Hunar Vikas were transferred from the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment to set up a distinct and full-fledged Department for Child Rights responsible for the promotion and protection of children's rights in Rajasthan vide notification dated 17 May, 2013.



vision

To recognize and realize the full range of civil, cultural, social, legal, political and economic rights of all children, especially the most vulnerable, deprived, exploited and the marginalized, by creating an enabling and protective environment with equity and gender sensitivity.

The National Policy for Children, 2013 and the Rajasthan State Child Policy, 2008 define a child as a person below the age of 18 years. Recognizing children as young citizens and rights' holders, Government of Rajasthan strongly believes that children should rightly take their place in society as functional, healthy individuals whose dignity and worth are valued and protected. They should be able to develop to their full potential, free from harm, abuse and neglect, and should not be found wanting in their basic and crucial needs.

For realization of its vision, Department for Child Rights envisages critical and effective partnerships within the government, with children, their communities, civil society organizations, UN agencies, corporate sector and concerned individuals.



mission

The mission of the Department is to:

- Be the custodian of child rights and strengthen governance for children
- Uphold the principles of non-discrimination and best interest of the child in law, policy and action
- Ensure equal opportunities for all children and young people of Rajasthan in achieving their best possible development, with special focus on removing obstacles in the realization of rights of the socially, economically, physically and mentally disadvantaged children, especially girls
- Spearhead strategic direction, support, guidance and advice in ensuring optimal development, well-being and protection of all children in the state
- Act as a resource centre on child rights by investing in knowledge creation, updation and dissemination
- Strive for child-centred and rights-based planning and implementation of programmes and optimization of outcomes
- Implement programmes relating to child protection in the state
- Take special measures for care, protection and rehabilitation of children affected by natural calamities and emergencies with emphasis on policy making, relief assistance, psycho-social care and follow-up
- Set norms and standards of child friendliness in all spheres of governance, civil society action, media reporting, etc.
- Inform, educate and empower various arms of state government in order to mainstream child rights universally
- Encourage children's participation and their right to be heard at all levels of decision making and governance with respect to matters concerning their life
- Integrate children's rights into all development agenda by strengthening intra-state, inter-state, inter-regional, inter-departmental and collateral coordination and convergence
- Act as a regulatory and oversight mechanism by monitoring impact and developing tools to measure performance on various child rights indicators

As the state of Rajasthan makes efforts to achieve optimal development, well-being and protection of children, improve their access to legal entitlements and strengthen child rights in governance, achieving the goal of all rights for all children continues to be a challenge. Therefore, the newly formed Department must be strengthened through investment in infrastructure and human resource to be able to streamline and improve planning and implementation of programmes and services for children; build a cadre of child protection professionals; ensure coordination of efforts of both state and non-state actors; promote, provide and coordinate quality services for children and their families; and monitor the impact of all measures being taken to optimize outcomes and impact.

In fulfilling its vision and mission, the Department shall uphold the constitutional guarantees assured to the young citizens of the country and shall, in particular, strive to ensure that no child in the state is discriminated against and that the best interest of children is the primary consideration in all decisions and actions affecting their life.





mandate

The Department for Child Rights bears the following mandate

CUSTODIAN OF CHILD RIGHTS

- Function as the nodal department for implementation of the National Policy for Children, 2013, Rajasthan State Child Policy, 2008, Rajasthan State Girl Child Policy, 2013 and other child protection policies that may be developed from time to time;
- Facilitate the setting up of the State Coordination and Action Group as per the requirements of the National Policy for Children, 2013;
- Strengthen the Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights in order to enable it to carry out its functions effectively;
- Prepare state reports and contribute to the country reports in consultation with various government departments and civil society on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), MDG, post-2015 MDG Agenda and other international obligations of India that have a bearing on children's rights;
- Focus on the most marginalized children such as the girl child, children of de-notified and nomadic tribes, children with disability, child labourers, children without parental care and homeless children, child victims of sexual abuse and trafficking, child beggars, children of sex workers, children in conflict with the law, children affected by

HIV/AIDS, children affected by natural or man-made disasters or development induced displacement, children living in the border areas etc. by initiating special programmes and measures;

- Make governance accountable to children by laying down necessary guidelines, protocols and standards of transparency in child rights programming;
- Place child rights at the core of development agenda of all local bodies, line agencies and civil society;
- Strengthen families, communities and other agencies and institutions responsible for child protection.



POLICY MAKING, LAW REFORM, STANDARD SETTING AND ADVOCACY

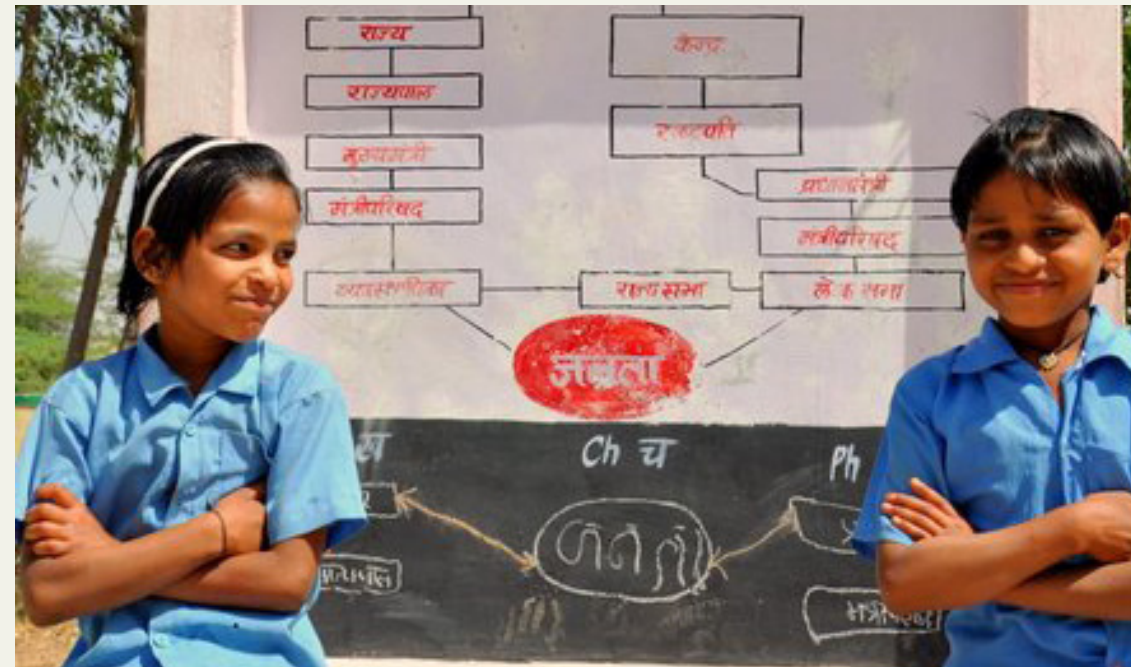
- Formulate, review, amend and advocate for policies that address the needs of different categories and groups of children, with specific focus on disability, gender disparity and other socio-cultural, economic and geographical vulnerabilities among children;
- Strengthen local legislation and rule making and for protection of every right of every child in the state, including periodic review of the existing legal framework, framing of new laws and amending the existing ones if required;
- Formulate and facilitate implementation of integrated Plans of Action for Children at state, district and other levels of administration and governance based on the national and the state policies for children, the Five Year Plan commitments and programmes related to child protection;
- Establish ethical and social standards for programmatic interventions, service delivery, institution building, research, evaluation and monitoring of child rights initiatives;
- Develop, review and revise norms and standards for enhancing outreach and quality of services, and establish indicators of child friendliness for all service providers, media, families, civil society and other actors/stakeholders coming in contact with children;
- Develop a mechanism for accreditation of service providing agencies, institutions and organizations as a measure to ensure compliance on child rights;
- Develop protocols, guidelines and SOPs on various child rights issues to improve the implementation of state, national and international commitments to children;

KNOWLEDGE HUB

- Regularly create and update knowledge to inform policy makers, planners, government and non-government organizations and civil society at large about children's situation and vulnerabilities and constantly educate the masses;
- Introduce and institutionalize state census on children and their rights in association with state and central agencies;
- Generate an annual report on state of child protection in Rajasthan and prepare data-sets on child protection indicators for regular updation;
- Commission research, survey, evaluation and documentation on issues relevant to child rights, and collate and analyze similar initiatives undertaken elsewhere and their outcomes on a regular basis;
- Promote inclusion of child rights in school curricula and encourage schools and institutions of higher education to undertake research studies on children's rights in the state;
- Promote innovation in high impact, low cost intervention strategies that will target a child's need for a healthy and secure life;
- Develop a child tracking system;
- Generate performance budgets and reports for programme purposes;
- Organize seminars, workshops, discussions etc. on various dimensions of child rights

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Develop a specialized cadre of professionals on child protection;
- Identify training needs in different child rights sectors at different levels of governance;
- Develop training and IEC materials for awareness and sensitization;
- Invest in training, sensitization, orientation and overall capacity building of various government and non-government functionaries engaged in the implementation of laws, policies, action plans, programmes and schemes for the realization of children's rights;
- Establish specialized training institutes to develop training modules and refresher courses on child rights and child protection and provide training to both state and non-state actors directly



responsible for or dealing with child protection issues;

- Facilitate inclusion of specialized courses relating to child rights and protection in higher studies;
- Facilitate introduction of child rights and child protection courses in the State Judicial Academy, Police Academy, State and District Legal Services Authorities, Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights and such other training institutes and statutory bodies that play a significant role in protection of children's rights;
- Collaborate with training institutions and experts and develop local resources to address the training needs

- Invest in non-institutional care for children in need of care and protection;
- Establish exclusive Children's Courts in the districts as per the Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 to deal with offences committed against children;
- Establish a cadre of dedicated and trained police officers to provide child protection services at every police station level and in the district level SJPUs;
- Promote decentralization of policy and programme implementation to ensure effective execution and improved governance for children at all levels

PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

- Function as the nodal agency responsible for planning and implementation of the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005, Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 and other laws, policies and programmes relating to child protection;
- Develop a multi-sectoral operational plan to inform and coordinate achievement of outcomes for children;
- Invest in need-based, equity focused and gender sensitive planning and implementation of programmes for children;
- Improve access, reach and quality of services for children, especially girls, children with disability and children belonging to the most vulnerable and deprived sections of society;
- Develop and implement preventive strategies to address juvenile crimes and other child protection issues;



OVERSIGHT MECHANISM

- Denominator based analysis, monitoring and reporting
 - Undertake Child Budgeting as a measure of periodic analysis of outlay, expenditures and outcomes;
 - Set out the core indicators for measuring performance and progress;
 - Develop baseline and annual score cards on child protection for determining compliance;
 - Develop innovative tools for measuring progress and improving planning and implementation e.g. child-tracking system, district-level child rights index for the state, social audits etc;
 - Commission evaluation studies and child rights impact assessments, and undertake periodic analysis and audit of all policies, laws, programmes and schemes directed at securing children's rights



ADVISORY CUM COORDINATION MECHANISM

- Set up technical support group and advisory cum coordination mechanisms at the state, district and village levels, enlisting participation of both state and non-state actors;
- Provide overall guidance and advice to the state government and its relevant departments in realizing and mainstreaming the rights of children into local governance structures, policies and processes;
- Create conditions for local action and cross-organizational collaboration and convergence at all levels of governance;
- Establish coordination and convergence among the Department for Child Rights and other nodal departments responsible for programmes relating to child health and nutrition, early childhood

care and development, education, child labour, drugs and substance abuse, disability, data management and statistics etc;

- Ensure coordination and cooperation between the Special Juvenile Police Units (SJPUs), District Child Protection Units (DCPUs), Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs), Special Courts under the POCSO Act, District Child Protection Officers, Child Marriage Prohibition Officers (CMPOs) ChildLine and such other institutional mechanisms and structures established for child protection;
- Collaborate with the health and education departments, the Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC), the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training - CCRT Regional Centre, Udaipur, Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages etc. to ensure the right to name, nationality and identity, right to education, health, development, growth and protection particularly

for children in difficult circumstances or children placed in institutional care;

- Engage with and establish coordination, communication and synergy with state and local agencies, panchayati raj institutions, civil society organizations working for children in the state and outside, media and most importantly children and their communities for realization of the Department's vision, mission and mandate.

PROMOTING CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION

- Promote children's participation in decision making based on age-specific capacities;
- Create and disseminate age appropriate information to help children understand their rights and duties, laws, policies and programmes meant for them and enable their meaningful participation;
- Encourage setting up of model children's parliament, children's gram sabhas and panchayats, children's committees in child care institutions and such other appropriate forums for children to ensure their participation in matters affecting their life;
- Encourage and strengthen children's participation through existing forums and platforms such as the Nehru Yuvak Kendras, NCC, NSS etc.;
- Advocate for safe cyber space for children and cyber regulations that help children access relevant information to participate in educative and policy forums and at the same time introduce checks and balances to reduce their vulnerability to cyber crimes;
- Ensure child-friendly structures, mechanisms and processes to promote children's right to be heard in judicial and administrative proceedings.

CAMPAIGNS AND PROMOTION OF CHILD RIGHTS

- Initiate campaigns and innovative use of mass-media to promote and protect the rights of children;
- Institute rewards, commendations, citations etc. for children, communities they live in, organizations and individuals contributing to and standing up for the rights of the most vulnerable and marginalized sections of children; and
- Organize awareness drives and public events to mark significant days such as the National and Universal Children's Day, Anti-Child Labour Day, World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse, International Girl Child Day, International Day of Persons with Disabilities, Global Day against Child Trafficking etc.



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