

# TRAINING MODULE

For The Members of Village Level Child Protection Committee

**JHARKHAND STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY, RANCHI,**  
Department of Women, Child Development and Social Security,  
Government of Jharkhand, Department of Panchayati Raj and,  
Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation





# SATYARTHI

KAILASH SATYARTHI CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

## Message

Every child has the right to a dignified life, which is free from exploitation. Safety and security of children are integral to their overall well-being. Hence, the constitution of India also provides highest priority to the safety and security of children and their protection from exploitation, abuse and neglect. Article 39 (f) of the constitution of India provides that “children are given opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity and that childhood and youth are protected against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment”. Children’s exposure to violence and abuse leads to long- term physical, psychological and emotional harm and can have very long lasting, even crippling effect on them. Concerted efforts are required to create a safety net for children by eliminating risks in public spaces, within family and community, reducing specific risk factors like access to and harmful use of alcohol and drugs, protection from child marriage, child labour and trafficking.

In order to provide a safety net of services and institutional care for all the children in difficult circumstances, the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India is executing Mission Vatsalaya Scheme (erstwhile Child Protection Services Scheme). The Scheme assigns the existing Committees of the local bodies to look after the issues related child welfare and protection at village level. Hence it is important that the existing committees of the local bodies are well versed with the welfare and protection related issues of children. This training module is based on the principles embedded in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015 and provide a roadmap that helps the master trainers at State and District level to strengthen the knowledge base of the existing committee on child rights and protection.

This Training Module is an outcome of close coordination and cooperation of Kailash Satyarthi Children’s Foundation, Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority, Department of Women, Child Development and Social Security, Department of Panchayati Raj.

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To report child abuse, please call **1800-102-7222**





**SHRI KRIPA NAND JHA, I.A.S.**  
Secretary  
Department of Woman,  
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Government of Jharkhand

## Message

Members of Village Level Child Protection Committee have very important role in achieving the objective of protecting child rights and ensuring safe childhood. This Module has been prepared in close coordination with the Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation.

It will be very useful for Government Departments as well as NGOs alike. It will bring about required knowledge, skill and aptitude in the members of VLCPC for discharging their duty efficiently.

It is my firm belief that this Module will help us in achieving our objectives.

  
Kripa Nand Jha





**Rajeshwari B., I.A.S.**  
Director-cum-Member Secretary,  
Jharkhand State Child Protection Society  
Government of Jharkhand

### *Message*

**T**he Village Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPCs) can play a vital role in sensitising the rural communities on issues related to children and be the focal point for implementation of Mission Vatsalya in the Gram Panchayats.

For successful and effective implementation of Mission Vatsalya and facilitating child friendly ecosystem in rural areas of Jharkhand the strengthening of VLCPCs is essential. The module prepared will be instrumental in creating awareness and building capacities of the VLCPC members and other stakeholders engaged in implementation of child protection services.

**Rajeshwari B.**





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## ABBREVIATION

ICPS	Integrated Child Protection Scheme
RMSA	Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan
RTE	Right To Education
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
SJPU	Special Juvenile Police Unit
SAA	Specialised Adoption Agency
SSA	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
NEGP	National e-Governance Plan
NSP	National Scholarship Portal
DCSP	District Child Protection Society
DCPU	District Child Protection Unit
JSCPS	Jharkhand State Child Protection Society
JJACT	Juvenile Justice (Care And Protection Of Children) Act, 2015
TE	Teacher Education
POCSO	Protection Of Children From Sexual Offences
BLCPC	Block Level Child Protection Committee
VLCPC	Village Level Child Protection Committee
CWC	Child Welfare Committee
CCI	Child Care Institution

## Introduction

"Mission Vatsalya Yojana" (M.V.) erstwhile Child Protection Services (CPS) Scheme was conceived by the Government of India under the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan and implemented since 2009 for welfare and rehabilitation of children in difficult circumstances. The main objective of this scheme is to enlarge the scope of child protection in close coordination of the Central and State Governments. It aims to merge the previously operated and new schemes for child protection under one umbrella. M.V. fixes collective responsibility of various departments to ensure the facilities, means and implementation of the law etc. are made for the protection of rights of all the children.

Committees have been constituted at various level of every State for the effective implementation of the revised Mission Vatsalya Yojana. The Government of Jharkhand, vide Letter No. 989 dated 29.12.2022 has reconstituted the committees at various level in the state. The grass root level committee under M.V. is the Gram Panchayat Level Child Welfare Protection Committee (erstwhile Village-Level Child Protection Committee). It is difficult to achieve the objective of M.V. and child protection until the committees actively start working and report to higher committees on child right's violations or any child-related issues.

The present training module has been prepared by keeping in mind these important issues and the experiences of various agencies and government departments. This training module will prove to be useful for the non-governmental organization/organization working for child protection as well as to ensure that services and programmes designed for children shall reach timely and engage communities to take ownership of the well being of its children.



## **Constitution of Village-Level Child Protection Committee and General Information**

Mission Vatsalya provides for constitution of Child Welfare Protection Committee at lowest level in every Gram Panchayat. This Committee is to be constituted with an objective of securing best interest of child (persons of 0-18 years), prevention of violation of child rights, participation of community and village in physical, psychological and social development of child, monitoring of various programs and schemes and their qualitative improvement etc.

In the light of the letter no. 989 Ranchi dated 29-12-2022 of the Director-cum-Member Secretary of Department of Women, Child Development and Social Welfare, Jharkhand State, the said committee will be constituted with following members-

<b>SL. No.</b>	<b>Name of member</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Position</b>
1.	Gram Pradhan in scheduled area / representative nominated by Gram Pradhan / People's representative of the concerned village in non-scheduled area.	1	Chairman
2.	Anganwadi worker	1	C o n v e n e r - c u m - Secretary
3.	A member / Sahiya from the Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee	1	Member
4.	Women's saving group/self-help group	1	Member
5.	Bal Sansad / Bal Samuh/ teenager, one boy and one girl (10-19 years)	2	Member
6.	A woman and a man representative of the School Management Committee	2	Member
7.	An activist/social worker selected by Gram Sabha	1	Member

# Training Schedule

## Day 1

Session	Subject of Session
<b>Session I</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b>	<b>Information about children and their rights.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Who are the Children?</li><li>• Child Rights</li></ul>
<b>Session II</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b>	<b>Need for child protection.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is there a need for child protection?</li><li>• From whom protection is needed?</li><li>• Where can children be at risk?</li><li>• At what levels, measures may be taken to protect the children?</li></ul>
<b>Session III</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b>	<b>General introduction of Mission Vatsalya Yojana and information of it's components</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction</li><li>• Components of Mission Vatsalya Scheme</li></ul>
<b>Session IV</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b>	<b>Information regarding Functions and Responsibilities of Village Level Child Protection Committee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Functions of Village Level Child Protection Committee</li><li>• Responsibilities of the Members</li></ul>
<b>Session V</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b>	<b>The data related to the current status of the children in the village, collection and mapping of adequate and suitable resources for the children in the village.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Individual responsibility for data collection</li><li>• Assessment of current status of children in the village</li></ul>

## Day 2

<b>Session</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>Session VI</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b>	<b>Understanding Children and Child Abuse.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is child abuse and its different forms</li><li>• Child abuse in India</li><li>• Build an understanding of abuse and exploitation in the light of the vulnerability of children</li></ul>
<b>Session VII</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b>	<b>Understanding the Signs of Child Abuse</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Physical Abuse of Children.</li><li>• Emotional abuse of children</li><li>• Child neglect by parent/caregiver</li><li>• Sexual Abuse of Children</li></ul>
<b>Session VIII</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b>	<b>Outreach Services for children</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Integrated Child Development Services</li><li>• Child Protection Services</li><li>• Foster Care Services</li><li>• Sponsorship Services</li><li>• Childline Services</li><li>• Holistic Education Program</li><li>• Ujjwala scheme of the Ministry of Women and Child Development</li><li>• National Scholarship Schemes for Children</li></ul>
<b>Session IX</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b>	<b>Sensitizing Mothers and Children about Child Rights and child Abuse</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Effects of abuse on children (circumstantial and psychological)</li><li>• How to respond to harassment or abuse</li><li>• Where to report about harassment</li><li>• 0–3-year-old child</li><li>• 3–6-year-old child</li><li>• Important Points for Village Level Child Protection Committees</li></ul>

Session	Topic
<p><b>Session X</b> <b>(60 minutes)</b></p>	<p><b>Role of Village Level Child Protection Committees in the protection of children</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role and responsibility of Village Level Child Protection Committees in protecting children from abuse and exploitation</li> <li>• A summary table of the most vulnerable children in the area (summary sheet)</li> <li>• Annexure I: Suggestions for such works that can be performed by the Village Level Child Protection Committee under sensitive circumstances.</li> <li>• Annexure II: Teaching program to teach children about safe and unsafe touches.</li> </ul>



# **TRAINING MODULE**

## Session I (60 minutes)

# Information about Children and their Rights

- Who are the Children?
- Child Rights

(At the outset of this session, the trainer would apprise the participants about the Committee and the need to understand children for whom this committee has been constituted. This session would aim to bring about sensitivity. Hence, trainer is expected to express all the facts and information seriously.)

Let us start with the name of our committee: - "Village Level Child Protection Committee (VLCPC)." This Village Level Child Protection Committee is a committee which works for child protection.

### **Q.1 Who is a child?**

**Possible answer: Any boy or girl.**

### **Q.2 According to you, who is called a child?**

(This question should be discussed with everyone; many answer can be found here, but it is also possible that they may not match each other.) Would a boy with moustache or beard not to be a child? or a girl whose age is 16 years old and is married, then will she be called a child? There are many arguments and differences coming in front of on these questions. In the same way, many definitions have been given regarding children at the national and international level. There is often a difference of opinion.

Generally, we tend to accept any boy or girl as an adult as per situation. This misconception is still prevalent in society that the girl/boy who gets married or the boy who leaves his studies and gets employed are adults or the physical changes in body with age makes a person an adult.

In our first meeting today, we will first discuss the definition of a child given by the Government of India under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of children) Act 2015:

***"Every citizen of our country who has not completed the age of 18 years, whether boy or girl, or transgender is called a child."***

### **Child Rights:**

Like every citizen, children have also been given rights for their safety and all around development. They have been given pre-birth rights as well as rights available to them till they reach the age of 18 years. Right as to identity, security, education, health, nutrition equality etc. are automatically received by every child without discrimination of religion, caste, gender etc. (If the committee where the meeting/training is being organized is a rural tribal area or due to lack of awareness, the members of the committee are not able to understand the terms like rights/law/Constitution, then before giving this information to them by the trainer , some Examples can be given, like - You all probably know that we have Ward member, Sarpanch and further that now a law has been made that if a person has more than two children, then he cannot contest elections. Our employment guarantee law to provide employment to all has been made and

like that laws have been made for our children too.)

- Children have got pre-birth rights as well as rights available to them till the age of 18 years. Rights as to identity, security, education, health, nutrition equality etc., are naturally received by every child of the country without discrimination of religion, caste, gender, etc.
  - The United Nations General Assembly organized an assembly on 20 November 1989 for the rights of children, in which all the countries consented to the protection of child rights. India has also signed this agreement.
  - There are total 54 articles which talks about the rights of children, but in the essence, These rights can be clubbed into four heads i.e. right to life, right to development, right to security and right to participation.
1. Right to Life: This right includes the right to live, to have the highest standard of health, to have good nutrition, to enjoy a decent standard of living and to bear a name and nationality.
  2. Right to Development: According to Article 6 of the Convention, the countries involved in the Convention will take all endeavors to ensure survival and development of their children. As such, it has been observed that during calamities like famine, flood, war, etc., many children dies during displacement and more children become the victims of disability. Right to development means the right of the child to integrated development in which there is inclusion of proper education, proper care, social security, sports and description of various activities.
  3. Right to Security: As per Article 19 of the Convention, the Countries involved in the Convention have emphasized on ensuring the safety of the children of their respective nation. Safety here means protecting the child from abuse, exploitation, violence, neglect etc.
  4. Right to Participation: According to Article 12 of the Convention, children have a right to freely express their views on every issue. Participation implies respect for the views of children, freedom of expression, access to relevant information, the right to listen to the voice of conscience and freedom of religion.

## Session II (60 minutes)

### Need for Child Protection

The participants will understand the difference between protection and security; it has to be understood that all children need protection.

- Do children need protection?
- Whom children need protection from?
- Where can children be at risk?
- At what levels, measures can be taken to protect children?

Now we understand another word in the name of our committee i.e. "Child Protection". We might have understood the word "child", but, what does protection means?

#### The following questions can be put by the trainer-

1. Do you all think that the children need protection?
2. If yes, then from whom?
3. At which places can children be at risk?
4. At what levels, measures for child protection can be taken?

#### Let us understand all these by an incident.

##### "Helpless Rekha"

Rekha is a 14-years-old girl studying in the upper primary school in Mahudi. Her mother died about two years ago, and thereafter, her father remarried. After the second mother came, she put the burden of all the household work on Rekha. Rekha was allowed to go to school on the condition that she would do the entire household work. She was given the leftover foods. Not only this but many times, she used to be beaten very badly. To get rid of her, her stepmother arranged her marriage with a 30-year-old widower. Helpless Rekha is frustrated. She doesn't understand anything, and one day, finally upset with the widower, Rekha leaves the house. But bad luck did not leave her here either and she fell into the hands of traffickers. She was sold to a businessman in Bombay for Rs. 5000/-, and again, the same life was before Rekha. Could Rekha's life have been saved? What went wrong with Rekha? Who are the people responsible for this condition of Rekha? Can we do something, so that, no other children may face this situation ever? (Listening to the participants, trainer should try to create an atmosphere for discussion and try to create sensitivity, so that, the participants may understand and feel the need and importance of child protection.) If we look at the reality, thousands of children like Rekha leave their homes every year and ruin their lives by falling into the hands of traffickers and bad people. But the question is whether the children are guilty behind this or we, are equally guilty. Whenever, it comes to security, we always think outside, whereas, in reality, security starts from home. To ensure child protection, the beginning has to be made from home. Like Rekha, if the rights of children are violated, then instead of their misfortune, the narrow-mindedness, ignorance, lack of awareness and selfishness of the people living in the society are to be blamed. All such customs and mindsets have to go, discrimination between boys and girls, child marriage, child labour, colour discrimination, discrimination on the basis of economic status, etc need to

be changed. It is not possible to stop child abuses until the voice is raised for this, whether it is physical punishment given to children in the name of discipline or mental harassment given to a child. We have to break our silence and come forward against it. At the Gram Panchayat level, the Panchayat meeting is held for the entire Panchayat, where all the problems are discussed resolution, but perhaps the children have not been able to become a part of this forum even today. The need for child protection is perhaps at the village level today also because we can work in the best interest of the children by understanding the various aspects related to it. Let us try to understand the issues related to children as a child, be sensitive to their behaviors and make any decision considering the importance of child protection. A unique effort has been made by some Panchayats/Village where the children in the Panchayat/Village have been provided with a platform to present their views while providing equal opportunities, where they can voice their grievance and also give their suggestions. This kind of village is a “child-friendly village.” In the upcoming trainings, we will discuss in detail how we can make our village also- child friendly.

## Session III (60 minutes)

### Mission Vatsalya Yojana and its components

- Introduction
- Components of Mission Vatsalya

(At the very outset, the trainer would make it clear that in this session, we will come to know about our committee, the purpose of training and our responsibilities.)

From the discussion so far, we have known what child protection is, what is the need therefore. Now the big question arises as to how to ensure child protection.

#### **Should arrangements be made to ensure that all children are protected?**

#### **Violation of child rights should be stopped.**

Before this again, the trainer would like to ask a question to all. Which departments can be related to the child (The answers obtained should be written by the trainer on a chart displayed in front of everyone.)

#### **Possible answer:**

1. Department of Education (School)
2. Department of Women and Child Development (Anganwadi Vaccination of pregnant women and others)
3. Health Department (NHM, Hospital, Health Center etc.)
4. Panchayati Raj Department

(If any other departments are mentioned by the participants, then write them on the chart as well. Trainer now draws everyone's attention to the following case study to clarify the answers to these questions.)

Sohan is a 14-year-old boy living in Pahadi village whose father died two years ago, and his mother left his home and married another person this year. Sohan lives with his 70-year-old grandfather along with his younger sister Sushila. Due to poor economic conditions, Sohan leaves his studies and works at an iron shop in the city. One day while working, while lifting a heavy iron rod slipped from his hand, and Sohan's leg got fractured. During his treatment at the hospital, Sohan's condition is noticed by a representative of a non-governmental organization (NGO), and he finds out what is going on with Sohan. Realizing the situation, the NGO representative calls up the nearest police station. Appropriate action is taken by the police in collaboration with the representatives of the Labour Department and the Child Welfare Committee. Now, Sushila is going to Anganwadi and sohan is studying in a government school located in the village. Their grandfather is getting the benefit of the old age pension. (After listening to the case study, discuss with everyone the following motivating questions.)

## **Q.1 Which departments/organizations worked for Sohan and Sushila?**

### **Possible answer:**

- Health Department (Hospital)
- Education Department (School)
- Police Department (Police Station)
- Department of Women and Child Development (Anganwadi)
- Social Justice Empowerment Department (Pension Scheme)
- Non-Government Organization (NGO)
- Child Welfare Committee (CWC)
- Gram Panchayat (Form filling and other cooperation)
- any other

## **Q.2 Don't you think that there is a need for everyone to work together for the children?**

### **Possible Answer:**

Yes. I am glad to inform that considering this, the government implemented a scheme in April 2022 named "Mission Vatsalya Yojana". Under Mission Vatsalya Yojana, cooperation is expected from the Government in bringing about such a system, which provides protection to children effectively. This scheme is based on "protection of children" and "paramount interest of the child." (Child protection means to protect children from violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse. While "paramount interest of the child" means that under any circumstances, work should be done or decisions should be taken keeping the best interest and wishes of the child.) Under this scheme, different categories of children (0-18 years) including the child with special care and needs have been included and provisions have been made in special legislation known as the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of children) Act, 2015.

Under this scheme, efforts have been made to work for the best interest of the children by bringing all the departments and schemes related to children under one umbrella. Under this scheme, different committees have been constituted at different levels. In which representatives of social organizations are included along with representatives of the concerned departments.

Mainly the representatives of the following departments/organizations have been included in these committees-

1. Women and Child Development Department
2. Police Department
3. Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
4. Education Department

5. Department of Law and Justice
6. Labour Department
7. Food and Supplies Department
8. Urban infrastructure (in urban area)
9. Rural and Panchayati Raj Department (in rural areas)
10. District Level / Ward / Sub-Divisional Level / Panchayat Level Officer
11. Representatives of voluntary organizations
12. Representatives of backward and minority classes
13. Youth

**Note: Representation of the above departments/groups in any of the components will be as per the prescribed rules.**

**Following are the major components of Mission Vatsalya Yojana**

1. State Child Protection Society
2. District Child Protection Unit
3. Block Level Child Protection Committee
4. Panchayat / Village Level Child Protection Committee

We will also learn why all these committees are needed right from the state to the village level and how they are related to each other.

**Our committee, i.e., VLCPC plays the most important role.**

**The main objectives of the Village Level Child Protection Committee (VLCPC) are as under:-**

- To Understand the issues related to child protection.
- To identify issues affecting the safety of children at the village level.
- To be aware or to have information about child welfare schemes and about the various departments working for the protection and care of children.
- To identify and help children in trouble and to pass information to concerned agency
- To make every child aware about his/her rights of non-discrimination and living with full dignity and respect.
- To create the proper environment for Bal Mitra Panchayat.



- To cooperate in ensuring as well as monitoring of child protection and child welfare services.

Perhaps the question in everyone's mind is as to how this this will be ensured? Firstly, we have to understand the current situation of children in village and this responsibility shall be given in today`s meeting.

All the representative or head of Departments, whose responsibilities were dicussed in our case study, are present in our today`s meeting.

### **How to discuss:**

#### **Assessment of the current status of the children in the village**

- All the children of the village are like our own children, and we have to think and act for their protection.
- At present, what is the situation of all the children in the age group of 0-18 years living in the village?

### **Fictional story**

(Trainer would tell the story of a village girl to make them understand the situation of children in village.)

#### **“Innocent Soni”**

Soni is a 15-year-old daughter of a widowed mother living in village Guda, Her elder sister Kavita aged about 17 years is mentally and physically challenged. Soni's mother, Parvati, worked as a labourer for some time after her father died in an accident, but now she stays at home due to illness and old age. Due to small holdings and no means of employment, poor Soni had to leave her studies and work. Earlier, she had to work as a labourer in the village, but, for the last six months, she has been working in city as domestic help on monthly salary of 1000/- and she is running her house with this money. For the last two months, Soni has not sent any money to home nor has her ailing mother received any information about her. Her mother is worried about her daughter's well being.

After narration of this story, trainer should ask some questions to the members of the committee: -

#### **Q1. Can such an incident happen in a tribal area or a village?**

Trainer shall discuss this for at least 15 minutes and invite participation of all (men and women) and write answers on chart and try to understand both answers (yes or no).

#### **Q2. Can Soni get benefit of any government scheme?**

#### **Q3. What wrongs are happening to Soni, or what wrong has happened to her?**

**Q4. If a sensible person from the village or Panchayat had looked into this earlier, what would have been the situation?**

Now trainer shall draw the attention of all participants/officials to other children like Soni who are in similar difficult situation else where. Such children may be:

1. Orphan children or children of widowed mothers.
2. Drop out children or Children who never went to school
3. Poor and illiterate families who unknowingly sent their children outside
4. Child labour.
5. Children of poor families or families in need of support for survival.
6. Any other response if received from participants.
  - The Resource person should now inform the office bearers about the data of Panchayat.
  - Children deprived of education (number of children)
  - Children not coming to school daily (as per information received from headmaster)
  - Children working in the village or anywhere. (Number)
  - Children in Anganwadi - (number/name of the center)
  - Children who are going to be married or have married in the last year (number)

The question should be asked by the trainer.

**Q- 1 Don't you think that children need protection?**

**Q. 2 Is there no need to do any additional work for the children in the village?**

**Q. 3 Is government thinking anything about this?**

The resource person shall tell all the participants/officials that this Committee has been constituted by Government to deal with these problems.

The Government, after keeping in mind these all things, has constituted this committee under Mission Vatsalya Scheme.

# Mission Vatsalya and its Components

## Mission Vatsalya Yojana

The Government of India has prepared the "Mission Vatsalya Yojana" in the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan by bringing the previously operated and new schemes under one umbrella. The aim of the scheme is to provide better access to the care, protection and different services for children. The said scheme has been implemented in the year 2022.

A committee has been formed at every level under the scheme for fulfilling the objective of scheme and monitoring the effective implementation of scheme:

- ❖ Jharkhand State Child Protection Society
- ❖ District Child Protection Unit
- ❖ Block Level Child Protection Committee
- ❖ Panchayat/Village Child Protection Committee
- ❖ Ward Level Child Protection Committee

### 1. Jharkhand State Child Protection Society (JSCPS)

Jharkhand State Child Protection Society is at the state level as the main component for the implementation of Mission Vatsalya Yojana. It's main task is to ensure the effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of children) Act in the state and cooperation and monitoring of various institutions, units, agencies under Mission Vatsalya Yozana. Chief Secretary is the Chairman of the Society and Principal Secretaries of Departments related to children are its members.

### 2. District Child Protection Committee

This unit will function as part of the JSCPS in each district under the Mission Vatsalya scheme. A District Child Protection Committee (DCPC) will be constituted in the district under the Chairmanship of the Zila Parishad Chairman, who shall monitor the implementation of Mission Vatsalya Yojana at the district level.

- President, District Council- President
- Deputy Commissioner, District - Co-Chairman
- District Social Welfare Officer - Member
- District Child Protection Officer - Member
- Civil Surgeon - Member
- District Education Officer- Member
- Officer of Labor Department /Assistant Deputy Commissioner- Member
- President of Block Child Protection Committee- Member
- Representatives of voluntary organizations / Social workers working on child protection issues  
- 2 Members

- Teenagers of Block Child Protection Committee- 4 Members

### **Invited Members -**

- District & Sessions Judge
- Deputy Mayor
- Representatives of religious groups
- Representatives of Teachers' Union
- Representatives of Building construction Department
- Master/Superintendent of concerned Railway Station

***Note: Meeting shall mandatorily be convened once in every 3 months and attendance of 1/3 members of Committee is compulsory.***

### **3. Block Level Child Protection Committee**

Block Level Child Protection Committee is there in each block of district. The main function of the committee under M.V. is to ensure better access to protection services and participation of Panchayat and village level representatives in its program besides monitoring of various programs.

1. Chief /Deputy Chief (Standing Committee on Women and Children)- Chairman
2. Block Development Officer- Member Secretary
3. Child Development Project Officer- Coordinator-cum-Member Secretary
4. Chief-cum-Chairman of Panchayat Child Protection Committee- 2 Members
5. Labor Inspector / Representative of Labor Department - One member
6. Child Welfare Officer of the concerned police station- 1 Member
7. Representatives of social service organizations who are working on issues related to child right and protection in the block - 2 members
8. Representative of Health Department- 1 Member
9. Nominated Male and Female Teenagers - 2 Members
10. Block Education Extension Officer- Member
11. Two Presidents of Village Child Protection Committee (in a sequential manner)- Member

### **Invited Member**

1. Member of District Child Protection Committee
2. Representatives of religious Groups
3. Representative of Voluntary Social Work Organization working on the issue of child protection

***(Note: Meeting shall mandatorily be convened once in every 3 months and attendance of 1/3 members of Committee is compulsory.)***

### **Rights and Responsibilities of Block Level Child Protection Committee**

The Block Level Child Protection Committee shall work on matters related to the safety and protection of children. The committee shall ensure no malpractice like child sexual abuse, unsafe migration, trafficking, human trade, child marriage shall take place at the block level. The Committee, on receipt or notice of any such incident, shall take endeavour to solve the problem at the local level and shall collect all such information and immediately inform to the concerned Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), District Child Protection Committee (DCPC) and Child Welfare Committee for immediate action.

**This committee other works are :**

- The Block Child Protection Committee will conduct awareness programs on issues related to child protection such as child labour, child marriage, child trafficking etc. and shall inspect the establishments where child labor is suspected
- This committee will recommend the implementation of child protection services at the block level.
- Implementation of family-based care program.
- To organize awareness programs on child protection issues on regular basis.
- Preparation of list of children benefited from Mission Vatsalya Yojana at block level.
- To establish coordination between Child Welfare Committee and Juvenile Justice Board and work for proper care and rehabilitation of children.
- Coordination with the task force formed to prevent block level child labor.
- To Review the reports submitted by the Village Level Child Protection Committee and recommend to District Child Protection Unit for further action
- Reviewing the works of village level child protection committee and recommend for further action
- To timely send the proceedings of the meeting to the District Child Protection Unit.

**4. Ward Level Child Protection Committee**

1. Child Protection Committee will be formed at the ward level in the urban areas of Jharkhand.
2. Ward level child protection committee shall monitor child protection issues at ward level in all municipalities, municipal corporations, notified areas, census towns and cantonment areas of Jharkhand.

**Constitution-**

No	Name of Member	Number	Designation
1	Ward Councillor	1	Chairman
2	ICDS Supervisor	1	Secretary
3	Police Station CWPO	1	Member
4	Representative of the School Management Committee- One woman, One man	2	Member
5	Bal Sansad, Children Group, Forum of Adolescent-Two representatives-[One Boy, One Girl (10-19 years)]	2	Member
6	NGO Child Line-Representative	1	Member

No	Name of Member	Number	Designation
7	Health Department-Representative ASHA / MOIC	1	Member

### Invited member

1. Para Legal Volunteer / Eminent Advocate
2. Headmaster of government / private school located in the concerned ward
3. Social worker/ Eminent person from the concerned ward
  - The procedure of formation of Village Level Child Protection Committee and its rights, duties and responsibilities shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to Ward Level Child Protection Committee as well.

### 5. Panchayat/ Village Level Child Protection Committee

Village Level Child Protection Committee is there in every revenue village in Jharkhand to identify the various issues related to children and protection of child right. Two village child protection committees may be constituted in such revenue village which has population of more than 1000 persons. Village Level Child Protection Committee has been formed with an objective to ensure protection of children, prevention of child rights violations and welfare of children.

#### Constitution-

The Village Level Child Protection Committee has a minimum of nine members. Out of which two children (10-19 years) are mandatory members:

No	Name of Member	Number	Designation
1	Public representative nominated by Gram Pradhan / Gram Pradhan in scheduled area/ public representative of the concerned village in the non-scheduled area	1	chairman
2	Anganwadi worker,	1	Coordinator Joint Secretary
3	A member / Sahiya from the Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee	1	Member
4	Representatives of Women's Savings Group / Self Help Group	1	Member
5	Two representatives of the Children's Parliament / Children's Group / Adolescent One Boy and one girl (10-19 years)	2	Member
6	Representatives of the School Management Committee (One woman, One man)	2	Member
7	An active / social worker selected by the Gram Sabha	1	Member

## **Invited member-**

1. Member of District Child Protection Unit
  2. Para Legal Volunteer
  3. A.N.M.
  4. Nominated teacher by the headmaster/ headmaster of government schools located in the concerned village.
  5. One divyang representative from the concerned village.
- Representation of all *tolas* and all sections, especially Scheduled Castes, in the Village Child Protection Committee and participation of tribes and primitive tribes shall be ensured.
  - The Chairman of the committee will be the ward member in the scheduled area and in case of having more than one ward member; preference will be given to female ward member.
  - The Committee shall present the proceedings and suggestions of each of its meetings through the Block Child Protection Committee to the District Child Protection Committee within 10 days of the meeting.
  - The Village Child Protection Committee shall also submit the details of its works to the Gram Sabha in every three months.
  - The Village Child Protection Committee shall coordinate with the Standing Committees related to education and health etc. at Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad level to create a safe environment for the children and will make regular communication/ coordination with Block and District Child Protection Committee in this regard.

## **Procedure For Constitution of Village Level Child Protection Committee**

1. The training of the village head / Anganwadi worker and Panchayat public representative at the block level shall be done by the District Child Protection Society (DCPS) through the Child Development Project Officer before the formation of the Village Child Protection Committee.
2. The Child Development Project Officer will fix the Gram Sabha-wise meeting date for the formation of the committee and will send a letter through the Block Development Officer to the heads of the panchayats regarding convening of the meeting of the gram sabha in all the villages of the said panchayat.
3. The villagers will be informed at least seven days in advance about the Gram Sabha meeting and this responsibility will be of the head of the concerned panchayat.
4. The quorum of the Gram Sabha will be one-third of the total members in the scheduled area and 10 percent of the total members in the non-scheduled area, wherein the presence of one-third women shall be ensured.
5. Anganwadi worker shall extend assistance in conduct of the Gram Sabha Meeting.
6. Copy of Gram Sabha proceedings will be sent to Child Development Project Officer through local Anganwadi worker within three days of the meeting. The Child Development Project Officer will thereupon compile all the lists and send them to the District Child Protection Society (DCPS).

7. The office of the Village Child Protection Committee will be located in the village itself in the community building / Anganwadi building / Panchayat building / government school.
8. The meeting of the Village Child Protection Committee should be held every month and under any circumstances, meeting once in two months will be held mandatorily.
9. If the meeting is not held in three months, the meeting can be called by the head of the Gram Panchayat/village head with direct intervention and can recommend the reconstitution of the committee to the Block Child Protection Committee.
10. The Village Child Protection Committee will maintain a meeting register and a child tracking register. The Information related to each child up to the age of 18 years will be entered updated in the register.
11. The Village Child Protection Committee will be able to receive funds from various departments/ panchayats/district child protection institutions/individual donors/donors for its work. In this regard, it will be mandatory to open a bank account with the joint signature of the president and secretary and it will also be mandatory to keep a proper account of income and expenditure.
12. A suitable arrangement for collecting the proceedings of every meeting will be made by the Child Protection Agency as per the guidelines of the State Child Protection Agency.
13. In the absence of the Chairman, the meeting shall be presided over by a member selected from amongst the members.
14. The responsibility of convening the meeting will be on the Secretary of the Village Child Protection Committee with the permission of the chairman.
15. Conscious efforts will be made to ensure the consent and participation of child members in the decisions of the committee.
16. The member of Committee may be removed from VLCPC by majority of vote if member is absent for three consecutive months without any reason or is found guilty of objectionable conduct against children or due to physical incapacity.
17. The Block Child Protection Committee shall review the meetings and activities of the Village Child Protection Committee and the members nominated by the Block Child Protection Committee shall attend the meeting of the Village Level Child Protection Committee time to time.
18. It shall be the responsibility of District Child Protection Society through the Child Development Project Officer to conduct training for making the Village Child Protection Committee active and effective. The help of Local Non-Governmental Organization may be taken in this regard.



## Session IV (60 minutes)

# Information about the functions and responsibilities of the members of the Village Level Child Protection Committee

- Functions of VLCPC
- Main responsibilities of the members.

### Functions and Responsibilities of VLCPC Members

(In this session, the trainer should make the participants understand the functions of VLCPC and give them each and every information. This session will be useful for upcoming meetings and the members will deeply connect with the VLCPC.

- We all have discussed in our earlier meetings about main objectives for constitution of our committee i.e. Village Level Child Protection Committee. Some simple questions may be raised, so that, the main points of the previous meeting can be refreshed.

#### Q.1 What are the objectives of our Committee?

#### Q.2 What kind of environment does our committee lay emphasis on in the revenue village?

#### Q.3 What will our committee primarily monitor?

#### Possible answer:

Different answers can be obtained to above questions. Trainer should briefly discuss them and move the session forward. Trainer shall seek the attention of the officials on the concept and functions of the committee.

#### • Concept:

State Government has constituted Child Protection Committee in every Panchayats/Revenue Gram Panchayats of district. Such VLCPCs have been constituted with an objective to provide care and protection to the children coming under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015 and Mission Vatsalya Yojana. The state government is to provide a safe environment and child protection services to the children who fall under the category of child in need of care and protection. Child Protection Committee has been constituted to ensure access of child to the child protection services, participation of representatives of the community and Panchayati Raj Department for quality improvement and continuous monitoring. Village Level Child Protection Committee is known as the committee or group that protects children at the village level.

#### Functions of the Committee-

- The Village Child Protection Committee will keep the data of all the children/families of children living in difficult circumstances (Vulnerable Child/Family), Such as children who have gone out of the village and identified as vulnerable children through the list of children

available in Anganwadi center and school. They must prepare a list of Missing Children so that, special care can be taken for rescue of these children. The list will be updated every month. A copy of the updated list will be sent to the Block and District Child Protection Committee.

- The Village Child Protection Committee will provide appropriate support to the District Child Protection Unit in identifying all the children/families of children living in difficult circumstances and children who are to be sponsored.
- The Village Child Protection Committee will work on matters related to the safety and protection of children. The committee will ensure that there is no malpractice like child labor, child sexual abuse, unsafe migration, trafficking – human trade, child marriage at the village level. The Committee, on receiving information of incident, will take endeavour to solve the problem at the local level and immediately inform to the Special Juvenile Police Unit, District Child Protection Unit and Child Welfare Committee of the concerned police stations for further course of action.
- The Village Child Protection Committee shall conduct awareness programs at the village level on the topics related to child protection such as child labor, child marriage, child trafficking. It shall also inspect the establishments where child labor is suspected.
- The committee will take effective steps to stop the trade and endeavor to make the village child labor and child marriage free. Periodic discussion on issues related to child protection shall also be held.
- ❖ Trafficking – The Committee will recommend to the Gram Panchayat about the information of identified families who may not support children due to financial crisis and get the parents benefited from employment oriented schemes so that these families become empowered for proper upbringing of the children. Such information shall also be sent to District Child Protection Unit.
- ❖ The Village Level Child Protection Committee in coordination with the School Management Committee/Village Education Committee shall ensure that every child, not studying in school, is enrolled in the school under Right to Education.
- ❖ Village Child Protection Committee Children shall identify those children living in adverse circumstances and need family based care. Sponsorship, Foster Care, Adoption, After Care Program are the programmes for such children. In this regard, it shall propose suggestions to District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) and Child Welfare Committee (CWC) for their proper rehabilitation.

- ❖ The Village Level Child Protection Committee will keep vigil on the outsiders/contractors/agents etc. coming to the village to ensure that no child escapes or is subjected to human trafficking in village.
- ❖ Village Level Child Protection Committee will maintain migration register for safe migration of the persons/families who migrates from the village.

## Meeting

- ❖ The committee will hold at least one meeting in every month and if required, then more than one meeting may be convened.
- ❖ The date, place and time of next meeting will be decided with the consent of all the members and all the members should be informed three days before the meeting.
- ❖ The decisions made in the presence of at least 50 percent members in meeting will only be considered valid.
- ❖ The details of the proceedings will be maintained in the register and a copy of same will mandatorily be sent to District Child Protection Unit.
- ❖ Where the President or Member Secretary is absent, the meeting will be presided over by the person nominated by present members.
- Now the following pictures should be shown to the participants by the trainer-
  - Crossing the road (or any picture showing road rules)
  - People pushing a heavy object/vehicle - of a school
- After showing the picture, the participants are to be asked:-
  - Why traffic rules are made?
  - What if there is no collective effort?
  - Why is there a fixed time for school?

(Now an open discussion should be held with the participants on the basis of these three pictures.)

- Some rules or conditions are necessary for our Committee as well.

(Give time to the members to think about the objectives, tasks and other functions of the committee mentioned in earlier sessions.)

- Should there be collective effort? What can we all do together?

(The members of the committee should understand that all the members are necessary for the committee and no future is possible without children)

(Explain to the members of the committee that discipline, timely meeting, decision making are absolutely necessary for our committee.)

## **Key Responsibilities**

- Presiding/organizing of the monthly meeting.
- Settlement of internal disputes.
- Reviewing and assessing the progress of the works given to the members on the basis of division of work.
- Preparing meeting information and meeting agenda and informing all concerned.
- Maintenance of attendance register and proceedings of the meeting.
- To make available the names and telephone numbers of all the members of the committee at the concerned schools, health centres and Anganwadi centres.

## **Quarterly Progress Report of the Committee:-**

The details of the meetings organized by the Committee every month, the decisions taken and the updated progress should mandatorily be sent to the Block Level Child Protection Committee and District Child Protection Unit etc.

## **The following points should be included in the report of the committee.**

- Number of meetings held during the quarter and details of members present in the meeting.
- Detailed report of the activities/programs conducted etc.
- Details of suggestions/challenges/problems etc.
- Details of the status etc. of previously sent investigation reports/complaints etc. to the concerned officer/department.
- Information related to children should be recorded in the report along with figures so that progress made may be assessed.

## **(e) Members of the Committee:-**

In addition to the President and the Secretary, the members of the Committee should also discharge their duties and the work assigned to them. For example, as the member of the committee, the Principal of the local school should provide the information of children studying in the school, of those not studying in school and irregular children from the school in the meetings of the committee. Similarly, Anganwadi workers can provide information about children below 6 years of age attending Anganbadi Centre or out of it.

(On the basis of the responsibilities given by the trainer in the last meeting and keeping in mind the activeness and interest of the members towards the work, the responsibilities of the members can also be determined in this phase of the meeting.)

## Session V (60 minutes)

# Compilation of data related to the current status of children in the village and preparation of village profile

- Individual responsibility for data collection
- Assessment of the current status of children in the village
- Preparation of Village Profile

### Individual Responsibility for Compilation of Data related to Children

- Today we have discussed many topics from which we must have come to know many new things and may still have curiosity or doubt on some topics. Till today we have touched the superficial knowledge or in simple words surface knowledge, but there will be an in-depth systematic discussion on each topic in our next meetings and for that we will have to do an essential work.
- We will have to collect the information related to the children for the purpose of the next meeting.
- Firstly, we will see the data required to be made available by the government and thereafter, we will find out the ward wise condition of the children.

Anganwadi worker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Number of children in the age group of 0-6 years in the entire village,</li><li>• The number of children enrolled in Anganwadi</li><li>• Number of children attending regularly</li><li>• Any other information of children of this age group which will be helpful.</li></ul>
The Principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• List of children deprived of school in the village,</li><li>• List of Children who have not been able to join the school as per the nodal in-charge,</li><li>• List of children who are irregular in the school for more than 7 days</li><li>• Present need of the school,</li><li>• Teacher-student ratio,</li><li>• School-wise any other information of children aged 6-14 years.</li></ul>
ANM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immunization status of children,</li><li>• Number of adolescent girls in the Panchayat and what regular facilities should be given to them</li><li>• Number of pregnant women in the village (if any girl is below 18 years of age, then separate information should be provided),</li><li>• Health status of children in the village,</li><li>• Any other.</li></ul>

Ward Panch (All)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find out the condition of children (ward wise),</li> <li>• Number of children (orphans)</li> <li>• Number of widowed mothers with liability of children</li> <li>• Information of disabled children</li> <li>• Whether they are availing any benefit of pension or not? (Collect your ward wise information)</li> </ul>
Nominated by DCPU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide information about any scheme related to child protection or any new social security scheme related to children.</li> </ul>
Child Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• children who do not attend your school everyday,</li> <li>• Requirement in your school,</li> <li>• what is needed from the Panchayat,</li> <li>• Whether Bal Manch is formed or not?</li> <li>• Which children come from the farthest distance to study</li> <li>• Other important issues.</li> </ul>
Community representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is necessary for the children in the village?</li> <li>• What is the main problem of children?</li> <li>• Status of child labor, status of child marriage etc.</li> </ul>

(Thus, simple and clear tasks can be given to everyone. Next date for meeting may be fixed with the directions that everyone should be present in the next meeting with this information. If any member desires to take work or shows interest, priority may be given to him.

### **Preparation of Village Profile**

(This session is very important. If, it appears to the trainer that Members of Committee do require more time to understand the concept or the issues of village level child protection committee, then he can take this session in the next meeting, otherwise he will start preparing village profile.

### **Village Profile -**

The trainer should explain that this is not a new thing or information rather it is only a means of understanding our own village and we will be helped in preparing the profile of our entire panchayats and on the basis of this, the strategy for child protection in the village will be discussed in the upcoming meetings of the panchayat

### **Enter in the chart-**

- Population figure
- Children's status (age-wise)
- How far is the school from the children's residence (Make a group of 30-35 children) (6-14

years, to see how accessible the school is.)

- Hazards to children.
- Number of children going to school
- Number of children not attending the school
- What are the children (more than 14 years old) doing?
- Do all the children from Anganwadi join the school after 5 years or at the age of 6 years or not?
- Availability of nutrition and health services.
- Other.

(This can be a detailed and time-consuming process, if the office bearers have not been able to bring the information as mentioned in the first meeting, then in such a situation information can be recorded again in the upcoming meetings which will be updated from time to time.)

**Annexure -1**

**Child means a person who is less than  
18 years of age**

**Children living in vulnerable condition are as under:-**

1. Whose mother and father have passed away.
2. Children of widowed mother / single parent.
3. The family which is being looked after by the child
4. Uncared children with disabilities.
5. Children whose parents are in jail.
6. Children living with aged grandparents or whose parents have abandoned the child.
7. Children affected by HIV AIDS.
8. Children whose mother and father are suffering from disability or any other serious illness.
9. Children who are victims of drug abuse.
10. Unsafe migrated Children / Individuals / Families
11. Children indulged in work/ children rescued from child labor or child trafficking.
12. Children used/being used for illegal activities.
13. Children belonging to extremely Poor / Landless / B.P.L. families.
14. Children who have been married at a young age. (Under 18 Girl Under 21 Boys)
15. Children from Primitive Tribe families.



## Session VI (60 minutes)

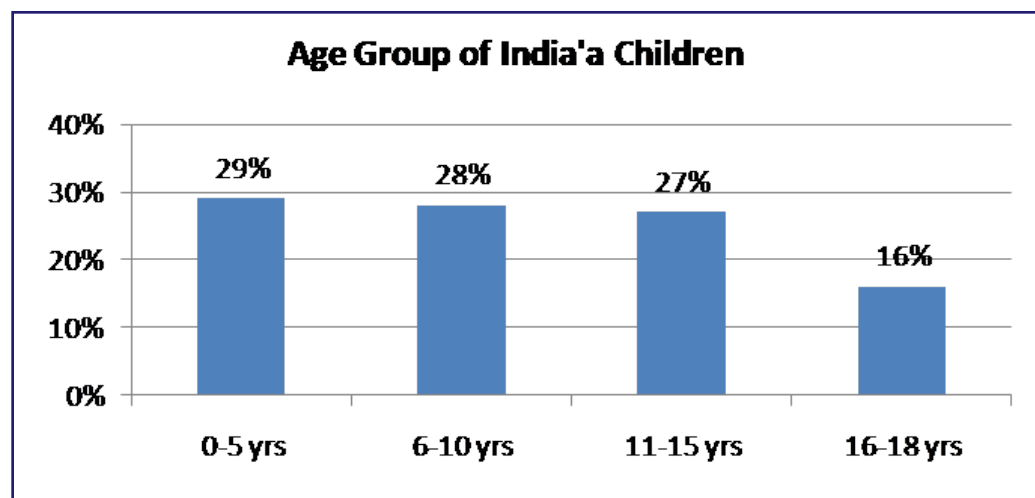
# Understanding Children and Child Abuse

❖ What is child abuse and what are its different forms

❖ Child abuse scenario in India

❖ Children's vulnerability to harassment and abuse

Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, under its Section 2(12) defines child as 'a person who has not completed eighteen years of age'. 39 percent of India's total population constitutes children, which amounts to 470 million



## Do Children need Rights?

### YES, Children do need RIGHTS because:

- They are also human beings and their rights are Human Rights
- They are more vulnerable than adults to the conditions in which they live
- In many societies, views persist that children are their parent's property, or are adults in the making, or are not yet ready to contribute to society
- They are vulnerable to exploitation and abuse
- They are unheard many times

## What is child abuse?

The word abuse in generic term means to use something in a wrong way or use of rude words to insult someone etc. for example wrongly using drugs is called drug abuse. Hence, child abuse means use of child or children in wrong way or use of wrong words for children. Child abuse is defined as "Child abuse constitutes all forms of physical and/or emotional ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect or commercial or other exploitation, which results in actual or potential harm to the child's health, survival, development or dignity in the context of a relationship of responsibility, trust or power." This definition might seem complicated, but we will understand it by breaking it into three parts or components.

1. The first part explains the types of child abuse such as physical abuse, emotional abuse, ill-treatment, sexual abuse, neglect, exploitation, etc.
2. The second part describes the impact abuse has on children such as it causes harm to the child's health, his survival, development and dignity. The harm can be actual or may happen later.
3. The third part explains who the abuser generally is. These are very often the people who are in a position of responsibility, trust or power with the child such as parents, teachers, doctors, police, etc.

In following sections, we will understand these three parts or components of child abuse in detail.

## **1. Types of child abuse**

This is the first component or part of the definition of child abuse. There are four categories of child abuse as explained below:

- i. **Physical abuse:** It means imposing physical injuries on a child. It includes hitting, punching, burning, kicking, beating etc. It also includes any other physical punishment to a child inappropriate to his/her age.
- ii. **Sexual abuse:** it means inappropriate sexual behavior with a child. It includes inappropriately touching private parts of the child or asking the child to do so with an adult, it also includes: rape, sodomy, showing obscene pictures or movies or animations to children etc.
- iii. **Emotional abuse:** it is also called verbal, mental or psychological abuse. It includes use of such words or actions which could cause serious behavioral, emotional or mental trauma to a child. It also covers extreme form of punishments like confining child in a closet or dark room or tying child to a chair for long periods of time or threatening or terrorizing a child. Some of the less severe acts on the child includes use of derogatory words, tendency to blame the child etc.
- iv. **Neglect:** denying or failure to provide basic needs such as food, cloth, shelter, medicine etc. to the child. Neglect can be physical, emotional, educational

## Session VII (60 minutes)

### Understanding the signs of child abuse

- ❖ Physical abuse of children
- ❖ Emotional abuse of children
- ❖ Child neglect by parents/caregivers
- ❖ Child sexual abuse

#### Understanding children's vulnerability or vulnerability to abuse and exploitation

This is another part or component of the definition of child abuse. Now we will understand what is vulnerability and how children are affected by abuse and harassment and how children become vulnerable to abuse.

#### What is meant by vulnerability?

Vulnerability is the lack of ability of an individual or group to anticipate, face, resist and recover from a difficult situation. In other words, the vulnerability to harm and other forms of exploitation due to various socio-economic and environmental factors can also be seen as vulnerability.

#### Are all children vulnerable?

Yes, all children are vulnerable to different types of abuse and exploitation due to factors like age, gender, physical or mental health, family environment, neighborhood etc. However, some children are more vulnerable than others. Let us know about those weakest children who are more vulnerable.

The most vulnerable children are those who do not receive good shelter, adequate education, nutrition, psychological support, care and affection, putting their safety, well-being and development at risk. Although many children are at risk of becoming weak or vulnerable due to deprivation and poverty, children who have lost a parent may be even more vulnerable because they have the experience of losing a parent. They do not have necessary emotional and physical maturity to deal with psychological trauma.

#### Most Vulnerable Categories of Children

##### Indicative list of weakest children

- Street children or homeless children
- Working children / child labor
- Children found begging
- Children who have been addicted to drugs or alcohol

- Mentally or physically special children
- Children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS
- Children affected by natural or man-made disasters, children at risk of early marriage
- Orphan children
- Abandoned children
- Children whose parents are unwilling or unable to take care of them.
- Orphan children or children with single parents
- Children whose parents are suffering from serious illness.
- Children whose parents are suffering from life-threatening diseases.
- Children whose parents are in jail.
- Children whose parents are involved in illegal activities.
- Children who lost both or a single parent during Covid.

The above list of vulnerable children is an indicative list and more categories of vulnerable children may be added during discussion with the participants.

Those children in the above category can be classified as most vulnerable if they are also accompanied by the following conditions:

- Child is under 10 years' old
- She is a girl
- The child is transgender
- The child belongs to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe
- Children whose parents have drug or alcohol addiction
- Children of daily wage laborers or workers
- Children of prostitutes or children living in red light areas
- Children whose parents are heavily in debt

Many times children are not aware of harassment nor are they able to understand it. Therefore, they do not reveal it to anyone and remain silent even when they are harassed. Adults are also reluctant to talk about abuse and are concerned about the safety of children. All these things make children easy targets for abusers.

Although in some cases children do not understand the abuse or do not report it due to fear, but at the same time many questions arise in the mind of the child who has faced the abuse.

- What happened with me?
- Was it right or wrong?
- Why did this happen to me?
- Was it my fault?

- Why did I meet that person?
- Should I tell anyone about this?
- Should I talk about it?
- Who should I talk to?
- How would my family react if I told my experience to anyone?
- What will people think or say about me when they find out?
- Will everyone blame me?
- Who can I trust now?
- How do I explain this to anyone?
- What if no one believed? Does anyone believe me?
- Will you do it and help me?
- Should I remain quiet and not tell anything to anyone?

### **Potential risk factors for child abuse**

#### **Some factors that contribute to the likelihood of child abuse include:**

- Parental isolation and lack of support: This occurs when the parent/caregiver of the child does not have the necessary support to raise the child such as extended family, parents, friends, relatives or community support And they continue to struggle for upbringing.
- Stress: Parents may be dealing with unemployment, financial pressures, job worries, health problems, and increased stress and hassles in caring for a child.
- Unrealistic expectations: parents may not fully understand the child's physical and cognitive developmental stages and behavior
- **Drug and Alcohol Addiction:** They may be victims of alcohol or drug addiction and hence may not be fully capable of raising children.
- Lack of Self- Esteem and Self- Confidence - Sometimes, parents doubt whether they will be able to meet their child's needs or not. They doubt their own abilities.
- Bad childhood experiences Parents who have had bad childhood experiences may be treating their children the same way
- A child is unsafe when he:
  - Neglected, unloved, deprived of a good upbringing and has no one to talk to
  - Discrimination on the basis of gender, caste, class, race etc.
  - Has been physically abused or is experiencing physical abuse
  - Has been mentally tortured
  - Has been sexually abused

### 3. Who is a child abuser?

This is the third component or part of the definition of child abuse. According to Indian government statistics, in about 95% of reported cases of child abuse, the perpetrator or abuser is someone related or known to the child. These are often people who have a responsibility to the child or in whom the child trusts or who have authority; Like parents, teachers, doctors, police, etc.

Children who are victims of abuse, especially sexual abuse, often find it very difficult to tell someone about the abuse. There are many reasons why children do not disclose abuse. Some of those reasons are:

- Child feeling embarrassed
- The child is very scared of the incident of assault and the aggressor. The child does not understand how to describe the incident
- The abuser has asked the child to keep the incident confidential or the child may not be aware that what is happening is normal or not.
- The child is so young that he cannot understand harassment.

### Factors increasing the vulnerability of children

The following table highlights the risk factors that play a role in increasing vulnerability. Might be possible. The risk factors are:

- Physical and mental health factors
- Social factors
- Family related factors

Risk factor	Vulnerability
Physical and mental health related factors	Physical disability Mental disability Chronic diseases Deadly diseases like HIV Emotional or psychological problems Poor academic performance Poor school attendance Drug addiction Alcohol addiction

Social factors	Poverty, lack of food, clothing and Shelter, lack of emotional or psychological support Homeless children Lack of care, love, guidance and support Emotional, physical and sexual abuse, Trafficked children
Family related Factor	Children from very poor families Refugee or displaced children Children living in unsafe environments such as slums without toilets, children exposed to crime, gangs and drug abuse Children with single parents Children of unmarried mothers, Orphan children, Children living with a mother abandoned by the family, or with unwilling parents, parents suffering from alcohol or drug addiction, children whose parents are in prison, children whose parents have been in hospital for a long time, Parents who are unemployed or disabled, very old and infirm parents, emotionally distressed parents,

**Effect of vulnerability or weakness on children:**

The effect of vulnerability is different for every child. The World Bank has drawn a downward spiral to represent childhood poverty in a diagram. This spiral line is an indicator that with each shock a child moves into a new level of vulnerability and is exposed to a new risk.

**Why do we need to identify such vulnerable children?**

To prevent children from becoming the most vulnerable to abuse and exploitation, it is vital that the downward spiral of childhood vulnerability is stopped. The Spiral Line of Vulnerability also emphasizes that the sooner the intervention is made, the faster the child can be protected.

The data for the last three years i.e. 2016 to 2019 shows a huge increase (38.5%) in crime against children.

**Scenario of child abuse in India**

The situation of child abuse in India is very worrying. According to the statistics of the Government of

India, every year the incidents of crime against children are increasing in the country. The most common crimes against children include kidnapping, sexual assault with rape, trafficking, murder, infanticide, grievous hurt, sale of minors for prostitution, child labor, child marriage, etc.

### **Crime against children data shows that**

- Every hour, some incident of crime occurs against 16 children.
- 5 children are sexually abused every hour
- 2 children are raped every hour
- In 95% of the cases the culprit is a person related or known to the child.

### **Understanding signs of abuse**

#### **1. Physical abuse in children**

Physical abuse can be easily identified with the use of following physical and behavioural indicators

<b>Physical Indicators</b>	<b>Behavioural Indicators</b>
Bite marks	avoids physical contact with others
Discoloration of skin (red, blue, purple in colour)	purposely wear clothes that conceal injury such as long sleeves
Unusual bruises	seems frightened by the abuser who could be parents or teachers
Burn marks	Is often late or absent from school
Frequent injuries, swellings on face	If child is being abused at home then he tends to come early to school and seems reluctant to go home afterwards
Fractures	refuses to undress during physical test in school
	plays aggressively, often hurting peers

#### **2. Emotional abuse of children**

##### **Emotional abuse can be identified by following indicators:**

- Isolation, which means physical confinement of a child by parents , teachers or any other person
- Rejection- refusing to acknowledge child’s presence, value or worth. Telling the child that she or he is useless or devaluing her/his thoughts and feelings
- Humiliation- degrading self-esteem of a child, often in the presence of others. Instances of humiliation include treating harshly, shouting, demeaning, name calling and using abusive language while addressing children



- Comparison: compare one sibling with the other or one child with the other in terms of their physical appearance and other characteristics, thus affecting the social, emotional, and intellectual development of a child

## 2.1 Impact of emotional abuse on children

Emotional abuse can have dire physical and behavior impact on the child. Physical impact of emotional abuse on children are:

- Bed-wetting without medical cause
- Psychosomatic complaints like headache, nausea, abdominal pain, etc.
- Learning or speaking disorder like stammering, receptive disorder (unable to understand spoken and written language)
- Attention deficit, hyper active behavior etc. Similarly, behavioural impacts of emotional abuse on children are:
- Self-destructive behavior such as self-harming, suicidal attempts, drug or alcohol abuse and other psychological problems like attention seeking behaviour or extreme inhibition to play, depression, anxiety, withdrawal or aggression, sleep and eating disorder etc.

### Examples of humiliation

- o Rohit's teacher calls him by names like 'pagal' (mad), 'buddhu' (stupid), and 'duffer' whenever he makes a mistake
- o Priya is always bullied by other children in her school and locality. They call her 'moti', 'hathni', 'fatty' etc. because of her weight and don't let her play with them

### Example of comparison

Sonia's parents always compare her with Ria (Sonia's cousin sister) and constantly ridicule her for not being active and smart like Ria. In order to punish her, they lock her up in the bathroom

## 3. Child neglect by parents/caregivers

Child neglect can take place due to various reasons such as large families wherein parents don't give quality time to all the children, low self-esteem of parents, poverty, mental disability or illness of any family members, discrimination against girls are possible reasons behind neglect of a girl child etc.

### 3.1 Signs of neglect in children

- Poor appearance and hygiene – It includes being smelly or dirty, wearing unwashed and tattered clothes, not wearing season-appropriate clothes such as no warm clothes in winters
- Health and development problems such as anemia, poor muscle tone or prominent joints, dental issues, missed vaccinations, usage of incorrect medicines, regular illness or infections,
- Change in behaviour like becoming clingy, aggressive, socially withdrawn, depressed, anxious, school absenteeism, self-harm, drug or alcohol usage
- Family and housing issues like being left alone at home for long hours without any supervision

## **4. Sexual abuse of children**

Sexual abuse has also behavioural and physical signs. These are described below.

### **4.1 Behavioural signs**

- Sudden changes in behavior such as self-harm, poor impulse control, attempt to suicide
- Fear of a particular person or object
- Recurrent nightmares or disturbed sleep pattern
- Being anxious, nervous, upset, or angry
- Withdrawal or disconnect from family members, friends, and social life
- Avoiding school or social gatherings
- Poor performance at school
- Losing appetite or changes in eating habits
- Fear of using computer or cellphone
- Being nervous when getting an instant message, text, or email
- Becoming secretive or over protective of one's life

### **4.2 Physical signs**

- Sexually Transmitted disease
- Pain or itching in genital area
- Pain during elimination
- Difficulty in walking or sitting
- Marks of burn or bites or bruises

## Session VIII (60 minutes)

### Useful services for children (outreach services)

- ❖ Mission Nutrition Services
- ❖ Child protective services
- ❖ Foster Care Services
- ❖ Sponsorship Services
- ❖ Childline Services
- ❖ Holistic education program
- ❖ Ujjwala Scheme of the Ministry of Women and Child Development
- ❖ National Scholarship Schemes for Children

### Some important Government Schemes and programmes for children

- Integrated Child Development Services: The Anganwadi worker is an important functionary of this scheme and therefore they know the main components of this Scheme, which include: supplementary nutrition, pre-school non-formal education, nutrition and health education, immunization, health check-up and referral services.
- Child Protection Services: The Child Protection services is a centrally sponsored scheme aimed at building a protective environment for children in difficult circumstances, as well as other vulnerable children, through Government-Civil Society Partnership. The Scheme provides for several institutional and non-institutional measures for such children. The institutional care services for children include Children Homes, Specialized Adoption Agencies, Open Shelters, Observation homes, Special homes and place of Safety. These institutions cater to all the needs of children such as shelter, food, education, counselling, vocational training, etc. and help children to become productive citizens of country with proper care and protection.
- Foster Care Services as per Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015: The children who are in need of care and protection can be placed under Foster Care. Foster care service means placement of a child in the domestic environment of a family, other than child's biological or adopted family. Foster care can be individual foster care or group foster care. The Child welfare Committee is the competent authority to pass the order for placing a child under foster care. The foster family is selected, approved and supervised by the Child Welfare Committee for providing care to the child. A child can stay with foster family for short period or long period depending upon the need of the child.
- Sponsorship services as per Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015: This service is provided as supplementary support, financial or otherwise, to the families to meet medical, educational and developmental needs of the child. The children who are eligible for sponsorship under the Act include:
  - where mother is a widowed or divorced or abandoned by family;
  - where children are orphan and are living with the extended family;
  - where parents are victims of life threatening disease;
  - where parents are incapacitated due to accident and are unable to take care of the

child both financially and physically.

The duration of sponsorship can be short term or long term and it normally does not exceed three years.

- **Childline services:** CHILDLINE No. 1098 is a 24x7 free emergency phone service for children in need of aid and assistance. The service not only responds to the emergency needs of children but also links them to relevant services for their long-term care and rehabilitation. The child himself/herself or any other person on behalf of child can call the toll free number of Childline for help.
  - **Mid-day meal scheme:** The basic aim of the scheme is enhancing enrollment, retention and attendance and simultaneously improving nutritional levels among children. The scheme provides for cooked nutritious food for all children studying in primary and upper primary classes.
  - **Samgra Siksha Programme:** It subsumes the three erstwhile Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). The scheme envisages the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to Senior Secondary levels. The vision of the Scheme is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education from pre-school to senior secondary stage in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for Education. The major objectives of the Scheme are: provision of quality education and enhancing learning outcomes of students; Bridging social and gender gaps in school education; Ensuring equity and inclusion at all levels of school education; ensuring minimum standards in schooling provisions; promoting vocationalisation of education; Support States in implementation of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009
  - **UJJAWALA Scheme of Ministry of Women and Child Development:** This scheme is for those women and children who are vulnerable to trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation or who are victims of such form of exploitation. Under this Scheme, children are provided with legal assistance, medical care, shelter, food, education, etc. to help them lead a better life.
  - **National Scholarship Schemes for children:** National Scholarship Portal is one-stop solution through which various services starting from student application, application receipt, processing, sanction and disbursement of various scholarship to Students are enabled. National Scholarship Portal is taken as Mission Mode Project under National e-Governance Plan (NeGP)
1. **Pre Matric Scholarship Scheme for Minorities by Ministry of Minority Affairs:** The scholarship at pre-matric level encourages parents from minority communities to send their school going children to school, reduce their financial burden on school education and sustain their efforts to support their children to complete school education. The scholarship is awarded for studying

in India in a government or private school from class I to class X. under the scheme 30% scholarship is earmarked for girl students of each minority community which is transferable to male students in case of non-availability of girls. The scheme is implemented through the National Scholarship Portal (NSP). It is mandatory for all students to apply online on the website i.e. [www.scholarships.gov.in](http://www.scholarships.gov.in).

2. Post Metric Scholarship Scheme by Ministry of Minority Affairs: The objective of the scheme is to award scholarship to meritorious students belonging to economically weaker sections of minority community so as to provide them better opportunities for higher education, increase their rate of attainment in higher education and enhance their employability
3. Central Umbrella Scholarship Scheme "Scholarships for Students with Disabilities, 2018" by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. This scheme provides for Pre-matric Scholarship for SwDs (For Class IX & X) and Post-matric Scholarship for SwDs (For Class XI to Post-graduate Degree/ Diploma). These Scholarships are paid to the students whose parents/ guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2,50,000/- (Rupees two lakh fifty thousand only) per annum.
4. Financial Assistance schemes for children of Beedi workers: This scheme is for students whose parents have been working as beedi workers for at least 6 months. Total monthly Income of the Worker's family from all sources should not exceed Rs. 10,000/-

## Session IX (60 minutes)

### Sensitizing mothers and children about child abuse or abuse

- ❖ Effects of abuse on children
- ❖ How to respond to harassment or abuse
- ❖ Where to report harassment
- ❖ 0-3 year old kids
- ❖ 3-6 year old children
- ❖ Points to note for village level child protection committees

#### Sensitizing Mothers About Abuse

##### 1. Effects of abuse on children

Explain to mothers about signs of various forms of abuse in children. Explain them that there are various reasons why children may not disclose about the abuse. Some of the reasons are:

- Child is embarrassed
- Child does not have words to speak out about the abuse
- Child is too small to understand the abuse (specially children below 3 years of age)
- Abuser has asked the child to keep it a secret
- Child thinks adults already know

Also explain to mothers that child abuse has both short term and long term effect on children, if not handled carefully. This include:

- Inability to perform day to day work
- Nightmare
- Fear
- Phobia
- Bedwetting
- Low self-esteem and confidence
- Lack of trust

##### 2. How to react to abuse

- Mothers must believe in what children say
- Let the child talk about abuse or that incident , don't interrupt in between
- Don't ask a lot of questions
- Mothers must comfort their child about the abuse faced by the child and never let the child feel guilty of such abuse
- Children must never be blamed for the abuse

- Mothers must never be emotionally overwhelmed and remain composed while talking to child about the abuse
- Mothers must understand that believing and supporting the child are the best actions to start the healing process
- Mothers must reassure the child that the abuse is not their fault
- Mothers must come forward to report any case of abuse reported by their children
- Try to follow regular routine around home, maintain usual bedtime, chores and rules
- Seek professional counselling for psychological assistance if their child's behavioural and emotional reactions do not subside
- Tell the mothers that
  - ✓ It is crucial for both parents to support each other during crisis
  - ✓ Blaming each other for not protecting the child will not serve the purpose
  - ✓ Encourage the child to participate in any activity available at school or at the community

### 3. Where to report about abuse

- Call the police -100
- Call Childline-1098
- Complain online at POCSO e box <https://www.ncpcr.gov.in/index2.php>
- Call Bachpan Bachao Andolan's complaint cell 1800-102-7222

## Sensitizing Children about Abuse

### 1. 0-3 year old children- parents will be sensitized

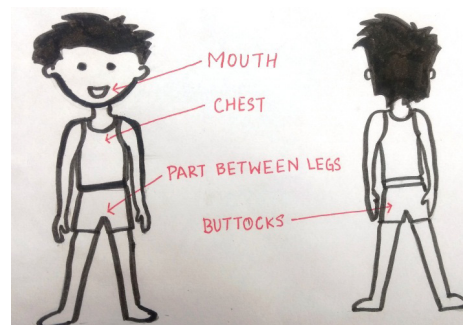
Children of this age group are too young to understand about abuse. Hence it is important to sensitize their parents about signs of abuses. As a caretaker you one can also notice physical and behavioural changes in small children. Physical changes like swollen lower private body parts, discomfort while sitting, constant and severe stomach ache. Behavioural changes in children include constantly touching lower body parts, irritation in genital area etc. indicate that the child is being abused.

### 2. 3-6 years old children

Tell children about safe and unsafe Touch. Tell children that our body is very precious. It's very important to take care of our own body.

#### Content

- Learning about Safe Touch, Unsafe Touch and No Touch: Children are introduced to basic skills to protect themselves without explicitly introducing the concept of child sexual abuse. A child learns to identify safe touch and unsafe touch and how to keep her/his body safe. (Explain that My body is only mine,



who can touch me in my safe zones? and how to stay safe)

- Learning to say No: A child has to be taught the importance of saying No, or expressing dissent without fear. Children are taught about what is always “wrong”, whosoever the doer of the wrong could be

## **Do you know how can we take care of our own body?**

We need to wash our face, brush our hair, wash our teeth and eat healthy food every day. There are some private parts in our body and we also need to take care of our body’s private parts.

## **Do you know what your body’s private parts are?**

(Note for Anganwadi worker: the AWW can draw a child’s body on a blackboard as it is shown here below, highlight with a red mark the private parts and write the names of these body parts).

- ✓ Mouth
- ✓ Chest
- ✓ Part between legs
- ✓ Buttocks
- ✓ Thighs

These are our private parts. We cannot see or touch anyone in their private parts.

## **We need to protect our private parts.**

***Remember: no one can see you or touch you in your private parts without asking you!***

## **Who can touch you in your private parts?**

1. Your mother while giving you a bath, helping you to wear clothes, checking you when you get hurt.
2. Doctor while checking you in front of your mother

## **Do you know why? Because this touch can keep us clean and healthy!**

- ❖ How do you feel when your mother gives you a kiss?
- ❖ How do you feel when your grandmother hugs you?
- ❖ How do you feel when your father sits next to you and tells you a story?
- ❖ How do you feel when your Anganwadi didi gives you a pat on your back if you do well in a test?

When you feel loved and happy, it is called safe touch! If you feel bad, unhappy, scared, angry or shy, it is called bad touch. When someone pulls your cheeks really hard, it is bad touch. When someone hits you it is bad touch. If someone touches your private parts it is called unsafe touch!

If someone touches your private parts, don’t keep the secret. Tell your parents or adult.

***Remember: it’s never your fault if anyone touches your private parts! And don’t keep it as secrete.***



***Remember, no matter what. Your body is only yours!***

**How can we stay safe?**

- ❖ Say no to any bad touch!
- ❖ Scream!
- ❖ Search for a safe place!
- ❖ Talk to adults with whom you feel safe
- ❖ Keep telling adults with whom you feel safe.
- ❖ If your trusted adult doesn't listen, you call child line (1098) or police (100)

**Quiz**

1. We talked about body's safe zones. Do you know what are the safe zone of your body?
2. Can someone touch your safe zone?
3. Give an example of good touch?
4. What is a bad touch?
5. How can children be safe from bad touch?

Note for Anganwadi Workers: Make children feel safe during the class discussion. You may encourage students to reach out to you personally to share anything they like. However, remember that when the child is sharing about the abuse, remain calm and offer support keeping the emotional and physical well-being of the child as priority.

***Attachment 1: Suggestions for some tasks that the Village Level Child Protection Committee can do in sensitive situations-***

## Session X (60 minutes)

# Role of Village Level Child Protection Committees in the protection of children

- ❖ Role of village level child protection committees in protecting children from abuse and exploitation
- ❖ A summary table of the most vulnerable children in the region (summary sheet)
- ❖ Attachment I: Suggestions for some tasks that the Village Level Child Protection Committee can undertake in sensitive situations
- ❖ Attachment II: Lesson plan for the committee to teach children about safe and unsafe touch

## Role of VLCPCs in protection of children from abuse and exploitation

- Anganwadi worker is also a member of Village Child Protection Committee (VCPC). These Committees are constituted under the Child Protection Services. The Anganwadi worker can take appropriate action if she finds any vulnerable child and some of the suggestive actions are given in Annexure I. It is important for the Anganwadi worker to inform about such children to the Village Level Child Protection Committee and ensure that the matter is reported to District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) so that necessary action can be taken immediately.
- In her engagement with children at Anganwadi Center, she must take efforts to sensitize children about safe and unsafe touch. A lesson plan on how to teach safe and unsafe touch is placed at annexure-II
- She must sensitize the mothers about sexual, physical and emotional abuse. She must sensitize the mothers of those children who are attending Anganwadi center, about the following topics on safety of children
  - o What is child abuse and what are its various forms
  - o What are the signs and symptoms of child abuse
  - o Mothers must come forward to report any case of abuse reported by their children
  - o Mothers must comfort their child about the abuse faced by the child and never let the child feel guilty of such abuse
  - o Children must never be blamed for the abuse
  - o Mothers must believe their children
  - o Mothers should never be emotionally overwhelmed and remain composed while talking to child about the abuse
  - o Mothers must understand that believing and supporting the child are the best actions to start the healing process
  - o Mothers must reassure the child that the abuse is not their fault
- Maintain a register of vulnerable children coming to Anganwadi Centre with their detailed information as per the table given below. Share the list of these vulnerable children with District Child Protection Unit on every months.

- Prepare a summary sheet of most vulnerable children in her area of operation as per the below mentioned matrix

Categories of vulnerable children	No Children below 10 years	Girl Children	Transgender children	Children from SC/ST communities	Children whose parents are alcoholic/ drug addicts	Children of daily wagers	Children of sex workers	Total number of children
Street children								
Child labour								
Child beggars								
Children inducted into drugs or alcohol								
Mentally Challenged Children								
Physically challenged children								
Children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS								
Children affected by natural or man-made hazards								
Children at risk of early marriage								
Orphan children								
Abandoned children								
Surrendered children								
Children whose one or both the parents died								
Children whose parents are chronically ill								
Children whose parents are suffering from life threatening diseases								
Children whose parents are in jail								
Children whose parents are involved in illegal activities								
Total								

- Assist the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) in collecting additional information of vulnerable children, whenever required
- Assist the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) in organizing awareness generation programme for protection of children
- Organize discussions or talks on child protection issues for children, their mothers and young adults
- Involve local religious leaders such as maulvis, priests etc. to sensitize and spreading awareness among general public on child protection issues

***Annexure I: Suggestive Actions by Anganwadi Worker under certain vulnerable situations***

### **In case of missing children**

- Help the family to file complaint of their missing child
- Wherever required inform CHILDLINE about the cases of missing children
- Keep a record of the missing children in the register
- Facilitate the family in taking follow up of their case
- Help provide moral support to the family
- Discuss the cases of missing children in the meeting
- Contact SJPU for updates to status of investigation

### **In case of child labour**

- Keep a vigil of all places in the village where children may be found working
- Report a complaint about Child Labour to the Police or CHILDLINE or at PENCIL portal
- Discuss the issue of child labour in Gram Sabha meetings and sensitize the villagers about punishment associated with engaging children in employment
- Help the families to get benefit of various scheme such as CPS, SABLA etc. so that they do not encourage children for work
- Help the authorities to monitor the progress of rescued child
- In case of any lapses in the rehabilitation of the children, inform CHILDLINE or CWC about this
- Assist the District Task Force to verify the complaint with regard to child labour in the village

### **In case of child marriage**

- Visit home of both parties and make the parents aware that child marriage is a punishable crime under the law and advise them to stop the marriage.
- Speak to the guardians/relatives and make them aware about the child marriage and try to persuade them.
- Talk to the child and make him/her aware of child marriage and its consequences
- Complain to the police

### **In case of child trafficking**

- Immediately complain to the police/Childline/DCPU
- Discuss the cases in the meeting
- Apprise the outreach worker about such cases in the village

### **In case of migration**

- Keep a register of all children migrating from village
- Keep record of agents
- Educate community about safe migration

## **If the children are in need of care and protection**

- Identify the families who do not allow children to attend school due to financial constraints or could not able to fulfill the medical needs of their child
- Prepare a list of children who can avail sponsorship or foster care facilities
- Share the list of those children who can be given benefit of foster care and sponsorship with Block Level Child Protection Committee (BLCPC)
- Identify people who can sponsor the education or health requirement or any other special requirement of children
- Share the list of individual sponsors with BLCPC or DCPU through community workers
- Identify families or persons who can be declared fit to take care of children under foster care programme

## **In case children found in conflict with law**

- Help the police in preparing the social background report of children in conflict with law
- Where the board orders the child to perform community service, upon finding the child, to be in conflict with law, the VLCPC can supervise the child accordingly at village/community level
- Monitoring the conduct of the child in conflict with law, who is released on probation
- If a child in conflict with law has been released on probation or bail or to reintegrate in to society after completing a period of stay in special home or place of safety, insure that the child is not subjected to any abuse.
- In case of any abuse/harassment to the child under social re-integration, the VLCPC should immediately inform CHILDLINE and Police
- Help the Board or Committee along with the designated NGO to accompany the child back to the family for restoration
- Help the probation officer or child welfare officer or the case worker or the social worker in preparing follow-up report of the child released from CCIs

## ***Annexure- II: Lesson Plan for Anganwadi Worker to teach Children about Safe and Un-safe Touch***

### **Title of the Lesson**

Our body is very precious. It's very important for us to take care of our own body.

### **Content**

- ❖ **Information about Safe Touch, Unsafe Touch and No Touch:** Children are introduced to basic skills to protect themselves. A child learns to identify safe touch and unsafe touch and how to keep her/his body safe. (Explain that my body is only mine, who can touch me in my safe zones? and how to stay safe)
- ❖ Learning to say 'No': A child has to be taught the importance of saying No, or expressing

disagreement without fear. Children are taught about what is always “wrong”, whosoever the doer of the wrong is.

### **Do you know how can we take care of our body?**

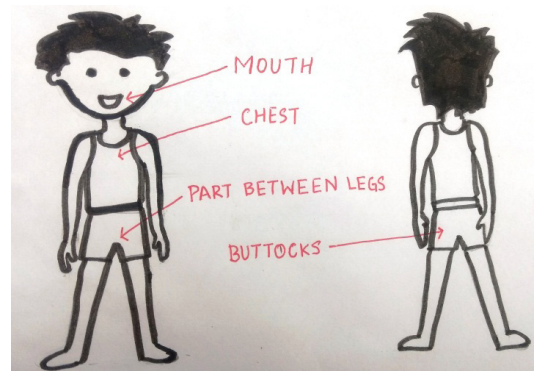
We need to wash our face, brush our hair, wash our teeth and eat healthy food every day.

We also need to take care of our body’s safe zones.

### **Do you know which are the safe parts of your body?**

(Note for Anganwadi worker: the AWW can draw a child’s body on a blackboard as it is shown here below, highlight with a red mark the safe zones and write the names of these body parts).

- ✓ Mouth
- ✓ Chest
- ✓ Part between legs
- ✓ Buttocks
- ✓ Thighs



**These are our safe zones.**

**We should not let anyone touch or see our private parts.**

**We should protect our safe zones.**

**Remember: no one can see or touch touch your private parts without asking you!**

**Who can touch your private parts?**

3. Your mother while bathing you, dressing you or when you get hurt.
4. Doctor during checkup, when your mother is also present there.

**Do you know why? Because this touch can keep us clean and healthy!**

- ❖ How do you feel when your mother kisses you?
- ❖ How do you feel when your grandmother hugs you?
- ❖ How do you feel when your father sits beside you and tells you a story?
- ❖ How do you feel when your anganwadi worker gives you a pat on your back if you do well in a test?

**When you feel loved and happy, it is called safe touch!**

If you feel bad, unhappy, scared, angry or ashamed, it is called bad touch.

When someone pulls your cheeks very hard, it is bad touch. When someone hits you, it is bad touch. If someone touches your safe zone it is called **unsafe touch!**

If someone touches you in your safe zone, don't keep the secret. Tell the elders in the house.

**Remember: it's never your fault if anyone touches you in your safe zone!**

**Remember, no matter what. Your body is only yours!**

**How can we stay safe?**

- ❖ Say no to any bad touch!
- ❖ Shout out!
- ❖ Find a safe place!
- ❖ Talk to adults with whom you feel safe!
- ❖ Keep telling adults with whom you feel safe.
- ❖ If your trusted adult doesn't listen, call child line (1098) or police (100).

**Quiz**

6. We talked about body's safe zones. Do you remember what are your body's safe zone?
7. Can someone touch your safe zone?
8. Give an example of good touch?
9. What is a bad touch?
10. How can children stay safe from bad touch?

Note for Anganwadi Workers: Make children feel safe. Encourage them, that if they want to share something with you privately or in person, they can do so. However, remember to listen calmly when the child is sharing something about abuse or harassment. Provide support to your child by you giving priority to him or her emotional and physical well being.

**Indication related to children at risk/vulnerable families  
(For members of Village Level Child Protection Committee)**

Order Number	At risk/vulnerable families signs related to children	Number of children	Comments
<b>School enrollment status of children</b>			
1.	Never enrolled in school		
2.	Enrolled but not attending school or been very bad		
3.	School dropout		
<b>Status of enrollment of children in Anganwadi</b>			
	Never enrolled in Anganwadi		
	Enrolled but did not attend Anganwadi or very bad		
	Dropped out children from Anganwadi		
<b>Family status of children</b>			
	Children are victims of neglect in the family		
	There is discrimination between boys and girls in the family		
<b>Children from families who need sponsorship. Section 45 of the JJ Act 2015 According to this, children in the following families need sponsorship-</b>			
	Those children need sponsorship Is; Where the mother is a widow or widow or by the family is abandoned		
	Where children are orphans and live with extended family. are being		
	Where the parent is suffering from life threatening disease		
	Where the parent is incapacitated due to accident and unable to take care of the children both financially and physically.		
	Children with special needs		
	Children who have a family with a disability		
	Transgender children		
	Children with poor health		
	Children whose mother Father is old		
	Who do not have access to health services		
	Who are unable to obtain gainful employment		



	Children whose relatives or family members have already migrated or settled in cities		
	Families whose children have been trafficked has been saved		
	Family members in contact with suspected people		
	Children from families with loans or those who have taken loan from bank		
	Children who are affected by natural disasters		
	Children who are affected by COVID-19 cases		
	There has been any difficulty in the family due to any reason or there is an accident		
	Children of Family conflict		
	Children are abused/discriminated in the family		
	Children are unhappy with the family for various reasons		
	Family members are addicted to alcohol		
	Children using or likely to use drugs that may be a victim of narcotics		
	Children in the village are engaged in child labor or their children likely to engage in labor		
	History of children absconding / running away from home		
	Economic condition of the family is very bad, due to which		
	Reasons the child is likely to be trafficked		

