

सुजाग्रति समाज सेवी संस्था मुरैना म0 प्र0

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Child Protection Policy



**Sujagriti Samaj Sevi Sanstha
Morena, Madhya Pradesh**

1. Introduction

Every child deserves a safe, dignified, and nurturing childhood, free from violence, exploitation, and discrimination. With children comprising 40% of India's population, their protection is both a human rights imperative and a national investment.

The Constitution of India, along with key child protection laws—such as the Juvenile Justice Act (2015), POCSO Act (2012, amended 2019), RTE Act (2009), and others—provides a robust legal framework to safeguard children. India is also a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), reinforcing this commitment.

This policy draws from national and international standards to create a safe environment for children, preventing abuse and exploitation. It guides all stakeholders—governmental, non-governmental, and private—to understand and uphold their responsibilities toward child protection. The POCSO Act, a cornerstone of this framework, ensures stringent penalties for offenders and prioritizes the child's best interests, treating all forms of sexual abuse with utmost seriousness, especially when committed by persons in authority or trust. **Sujagriti Samaj Sevi Sanstha (SSSS) is committed to safeguarding the rights and well-being of every child. This policy outlines our zero-tolerance approach to abuse, exploitation, and neglect, ensuring a safe environment for children across all programs and interventions.**

2. Purpose

To establish a framework that prevents and responds to all forms of child abuse, ensuring every child associated with SSSS feels protected, respected, and valued.

3. Scope

Applies to all staff, volunteers, board members, partners, consultants, and anyone engaged in SSSS activities.

4. Definitions

- Child: Any person under 18 years of age.
- Abuse: Includes physical, emotional, sexual abuse, and neglect.
- Child Protection: Measures to prevent and respond to abuse and exploitation of children.

5. Guiding Principles

- Best Interests of the Child: Paramount in all decisions and actions.
- Non-Discrimination: No child shall be discriminated against on any basis.
- Participation: Children's views are respected and considered.
- Accountability & Transparency: All actions and decisions are open to scrutiny.

6. Prevention Measures

- Recruitment: Rigorous background checks and references.
- Training: Mandatory child protection training for all stakeholders.
- Code of Conduct:
 - No physical punishment or harmful discipline.
 - No inappropriate physical contact.
 - No discrimination or humiliating language.
 - No development of inappropriate relationships with children.
 - Immediate reporting of suspected abuse.

7. Reporting & Response Mechanism

- Reporting: Any suspicion or incident must be reported within 24 hours to the designated Child Protection Officer (CPO).
- Response:
 - Immediate action to ensure child safety.
 - Confidential handling of complaints.
 - Coordination with local authorities as required.
 - Support to the affected child and family.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

- Child Protection Officer: Main contact for all child protection concerns.
- Staff & Volunteers: Adhere to policy and report concerns promptly.
- Management: Ensure implementation and monitoring of the policy.

9. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years or in response to significant changes in child protection standards or incidents.

Approved by:
Zakir Hussain, President

Name.....
Head of the Organization
President
Sujagati Samaj Sevi Sansa
Morena (M.P.)