



# LISTEN TO US!

It Will Make a Difference



**EVENT REPORT ON TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR CHILD WELFARE  
POLICE OFFICERS (CWPOS) ON CHILD RELATED LEGISLATION**

**JULY 2022**



**TAMIL NADU STATE JUDICIAL ACADEMY**  
**And**  
**INTEGRATED TRAINING CENTRE FOR SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT**  
**(Department of Social Defence, Government of Tamil Nadu)**  
**In association with**  
**UNICEF**  
**Report on Training programme for Child Welfare Police Officers**  
**(CWPOs) on Child related Legislation conducted on**  
**12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 at TNSJA Headquarters, Chennai**



## **Objective of the Training Programme**

A child in conflict with law is wrongly seen and treated as a criminal, and a child survivor of abuse or a child in need of care and protection is not handled with due sensitivity, thus triggering their trauma.

In this light, the manner of interaction between police and children needs to be accorded special attention. Children by nature are impressionable and vulnerable. Beyond knowledge and skill, it is the attitude, which determines the effectiveness of police officers when interacting with children. This attitude must begin from a place of empathy.

The Police Officers, be it Child Welfare Police Officers (CWPOs) or members of Special Juvenile Police Units (SJPU) play a critical role in securing welfare and protection for children, and have the power and potential to make a difference in the children's lives.

Keeping the above objective in mind, the training for CWPOs is scheduled in all the three centres of the Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy. The first leg of the Training Programme was successively conducted on 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 at Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, Headquarters Chennai.

## Event Report

The Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy and Department of Social Defence, Government of Tamil Nadu in association with UNICEF organized a training programme on Child related Legislation for Child Welfare Police Officers (CWPOs) from the districts of Chennai, Cuddalore, Thirupathur, Vellore, Kallakuruchi, Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram and Thiruvannamalai on 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2022. The training programme commenced at 09.30 am with the invocation song “தமிழ்த் தாய் வாழ்த்து”.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Subramanian, Judge, High Court of Madras/ Member, Board of Governors Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, delivered the welcome address for the programme. His Lordship welcomed the participants to the training programme and enunciated the role of Special Juvenile Police Unit and the Child Welfare Police Officers. His Lordship also emphasised on the need to efficiently deal with the increasing pendency of cases involving children.

Thereafter, a special address was delivered by Mr. Shambhu Kallollikar, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, Tamilnadu. He spoke about the role played by Child Welfare Police Officers in the lives of children and explained the significance of



exclusive funding by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the welfare of children in need of care and protection. He concluded his speech by reminding the police officials to implement the procedures they learn in the said training programme.



The Special Address was followed by the launch of the study material for the Child Welfare Police Officers, titled 'Listen to Us! – It will make a difference'. Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. Raja, Judge High Court of Madras/President, Board of Governors, TNSJA, released the study material. His Lordship formally inaugurated the programme and delivered the inaugural address. His Lordship explained the vulnerability of children, whether they are in conflict with law or in need of care and protection, and highlighted the Do's and Don'ts to be followed by the stakeholders while handling Children.





Mr. K. L. Rao, Chief - Social Policy, UNICEF Office for Kerala and Tamil Nadu, proposed the vote of thanks and also shared a personal anecdote to highlight the importance of guiding children on the right path, failing which, the child continues to be in

conflict with law throughout their adulthood as well.

On 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2022, the first operative session was handled by Mr. E.V. Chandru @ E. Chandrasekaran, Advocate, High Court of Madras, who spoke on the topic

“Belligerence to Benevolence: The Right Attitude Brings Light”. He began the session by explaining the significance of Articles 14 and 15 of Constitution of India for child rights. He discussed the dimensions of child rights as incorporated in several statutes. He discussed the Right to Education in Article 21A of the



Constitution which mandates all children be given Free and Compulsory Education until the age of fourteen years. He discussed the legislation pertaining to prohibition of child labour and explained that children should not be engaged in any kind of work which is hazardous in nature. He further elaborated on the duties and functions of the Police Officers who handle children with relevant provisions of Law and guidelines issued by the government.



The next session was an interactive session titled "Be Bright, Bring Light" by Mr. D. Lingeswaran, Director, Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy. In order to understand how police officers perceive their role towards children, the participants were posed the question "Who are you for a child? Whether a

Parent, a Teacher, a Police officer, or a Judge?". Further, a picture containing various images of children was displayed and the participants were asked which of the children shown in the picture they think can be reformed and rehabilitated. The Director also displayed video clippings of police officers interacting with children asked the participants what kind of police officer they would like to be. During the interactive session, the participants also shared their experiences and the difficulties they faced in rescuing children. participants asked doubts which were duly clarified by the Director.

In the post lunch session, Ms. A. Arulmozhi, Advocate, High Court of Madras, spoke on the topic "Despair to Delight: Developing Skills for Rehabilitation of Children". She explained that the way Police Officers approach children makes all the difference. She further reiterated that, the Police officers' motive should not only be that of punishing children in conflict with law, but to help them reform and become a good citizen for the future. She discussed the rehabilitation mechanisms available to children, including financial assistance for child survivors.



The lecture was followed by a session on 'Success Stories of Skilful Saviours', where the participants shared some of their experiences related to handling children and safeguarding the rights of children.

Dr. C. Sylendra Babu, I.P.S. Director General of Police and Head of Police Force, Tamilnadu, spoke on the topic "Police: The Heroes of Children". He emphasised that the police department has the responsibility of providing care and protection to the child in conflict with law. He shared some of his experiences in handling children and spoke about the evolution of children's mentality and the need for society to accommodate children with dignity. He explained that police officers have to treat the CCL and CNCP in a friendly manner since children cannot think rationally and do



not have the sufficient mental understanding to know the consequences of their actions.

The next session was on the topic "Know how to handle sensitive situations (Emotional Intelligence)", handled by Dr. V. Venkatesh Mathan Kumar, Professor, Madras Medical

College. He explained the biological, sociological and psychological factors affecting children and adults dealing with children. He explained the difference between Intelligence Quotient [IQ] and Emotional Quotient [EQ]. He discussed the sources and signs of EQ. He also discussed the importance of active listening and mentioned the Do's and Don'ts of effective communication.



On 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2022, Mr. K. Vanniya Perumal, I.P.S., ADGP, Crimes against Women and Children, explained the Scope and Object of the Programme. He spoke about the increase in crimes against women and children and the crimes committed by children. Further, he



spoke about handling children in conflict with law with due care and not to treat them like an adult offender. He said that even though the children in conflict with

law have committed an offence they are also, children in need of care and protection and therefore they should also be treated on par with the children in need of care and protection.



The next session was on the topic "Relevance of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child for CWPOs"

by Ms. P. Selvi, Advocate, High Court of Madras. Firstly, she spoke about the various conventions of the rights of children. She elaborately explained the procedures in which the rights of the children must be safeguarded and how a child welfare police officer should handle children. She also discussed the guidelines issued by the United Nations with respect to police officers handling children.





On 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2022, Mr. M. Ravi, I.P.S., DGP (Retd.), spoke on the topic "My Attitude made a Big Difference in the Lives of Little Children". He spoke about how the importance of attitude of a police officer and explained that all the Child Welfare Police Officers should have the right attitude in order to shape the lives of

children. He also mentioned that during his tenure of handling cases pertaining to Crimes against Women and Children and that the number of crimes against women and children reduced significantly during the said period. Lastly, he emphasised that a police officer should be a role model to the children and they should not intimidate children as they would in case of an adult offender.

After the technical sessions for each day was completed, there was a question-and-answer session moderated by the Director, TNSJA. The programme for each day concluded with the participants submitting their individual feedback on the programme and receiving certificate of participation from the Director, TNSJA.



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## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE



### TAMIL NADU STATE JUDICIAL ACADEMY

*and*

### INTEGRATED TRAINING CENTRE FOR SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT

(Department of Social Defence, Government of Tamil Nadu)

*in association with*

**UNICEF**

### *Training Programme for Child Welfare Police Officers (CWPOs) on Child related Legislation*

S. No.	Place	Proposed Dates
1.	TNSJA Headquarters, Chennai	12 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> July, 2022
2.	Regional Centre, Madurai	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> August, 2022
3.	Regional Centre, Coimbatore	23 <sup>rd</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> August 2022

**\* The remaining 6 programmes will be conducted between September and December, 2022.**

*Training Programme for Child Welfare Police Officers (CWPOs) on Child related Legislation*

*At INSJA*

09.30 a.m. – 09.35 a.m.	<b>Invocation</b> <b>Welcome Address</b>
09.35 a.m. – 09.50 a.m.	<b>Scope and Object of the Programme</b>
09.50 a.m. – 10.20 a.m.	<b>Relevance of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child for CWPOs</b>
10.20 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	<b>Belligerence to Benevolence: The Right Attitude Brings Light</b>
11.30 a.m. – 11.45 a.m.	<b>Tea Break</b>
11.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m.	<b>Session continues...</b>
12.15 p.m. – 01.00 p.m.	<b>Be Bright, Bring Light – An interactive session</b>
01.00 p.m. – 02.00 p.m.	<b>Lunch Break</b>
02.00 p.m. – 03.00 p.m.	<b>Despair to Delight: Developing Skills for Rehabilitation of Children</b>
03.00 p.m. – 03.30 p.m.	<b>Success Stories of Skillful Saviours</b>
03.30 p.m. – 03.45 p.m.	<b>Tea Break</b>
03.45 p.m. - 05.05 p.m.	<b>Know how to Handle Sensitive Situations (Emotional Intelligence)</b>
	<b>Police : The Heroes of Children</b>
	<b>Render Justice to Children: An Interactive Session</b>
	<b>Vote of Thanks</b>
<b>National Anthem</b>	

**JUST LISTEN TO ME!**

**Nobody Listened!  
Nobody Cared!  
I ran away from home!**

**Nobody Gave!  
Nobody Cared!  
I stole a loaf of bread!**

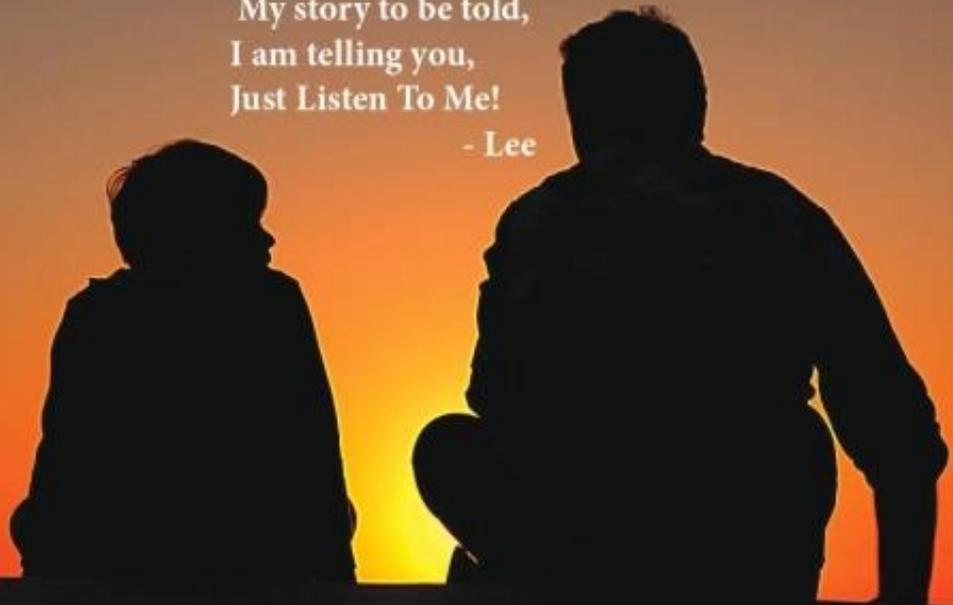
**Nobody Loved!  
Nobody Cared!  
I wanted to be touched!**

**Nobody watched!  
Nobody Cared!  
I drowned in weed!**

**Nobody helped!  
Nobody Cared!  
I had this monster killed!**

**Now, you want  
My story to be told,  
I am telling you,  
Just Listen To Me!**

**- Lee**



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