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

AUGUST 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
23rd, 24th and 25th August, 2022 at TNSJA Regional Centre,
Coimbatore



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 12th, 13th and 14th of July 2022 at Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, Headquarters Chennai; on 02nd, 03rd and 04th of August 2022 at Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, Regional Centre, Madurai and on 23rd, 24th and 25th of August 2022 at Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, Regional Centre, Coimbatore.

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 Coimbatore, Coimbatore City, Dharmapuri, Erode, Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Salem, Salem City, The Nilgiris, Tiruppur and Tiruppur City on 23rd, 24th and 25th of August 2022. The training programme commenced at 09.30 am with the invocation song “தமிழ்த்தாய் வாழ்த்து”.



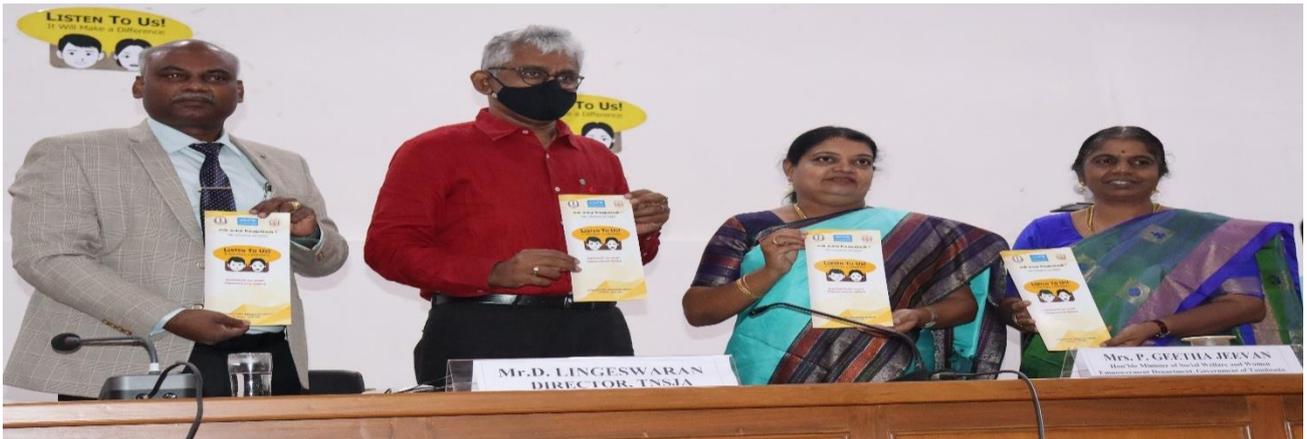
On 23rd August, 2022, Mrs. S. Valarmathi, I.A.S., Director, Department of Social Defence / Secretary, State Child Protection Society, Tamil Nadu welcomed the Hon'ble dignitaries on the dais and the participants for the programme. She also gave a brief account on

the need to have responsible approach towards children.

The scope and object of the training programme was enunciated by the Director of the Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy, Mr. D. Lingeswaran. He emphasised on the importance of dealing children with sensitivity. He spoke about the possible outcome of this training which would help the Child Welfare



Police Officers to cultivate the right attitude and emotional intelligence.



The Hon'ble Minister Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, Mrs. P. Geetha Jeevan, released the handout in Tamil, containing the basic procedures to be followed by CWPOs when dealing with children.



The dignitaries on the dais were honoured by the Director and his team with presentation of books.



Mrs. P. Geetha Jeevan, Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, inaugurated the programme at Coimbatore. In her inaugural address, the

minister spoke about the importance of the training programme and the various

welfare schemes and initiatives taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, for the benefit of children. She highlighted that, Tamil Nadu is the first State to have a State child policy in 2021. The minister expressed her sincere appreciation for the efforts taken by the Judiciary and law enforcement authorities in coordination with the social welfare department of Tamil Nadu and in association with UNICEF.

Mr. G. Kumaresan Social Policy Specialist, UNICEF Office for TamilNadu & Kerala proposed the vote of thanks and expressed his gratitude for the efforts and highest-level commitment of the State Government and the judiciary in developing a comprehensive scheme to come together for the cause of protecting the best interest of children.



After a short tea break on 23rd August, Mr. V. Balakrishnan, Commissioner of Police, Coimbatore City, addressed the participants during the technical sessions of the programme and emphasized upon the theme of the programme. He conveyed the message of working in unison and coordination through a small story. He also reiterated that all the stakeholders must strive to

work with the spirit in which the statutes were enacted. He also said that every responsible citizen must have the responsibility of safeguarding the interests of children.

Common Technical Sessions on all the three days:



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 or a Police officer?”. 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 and 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 that they faced in rescuing children. The participants asked doubts which were duly clarified by the Director.

In the post lunch session, the topic “Know how to handle sensitive situations (Emotional Intelligence)”, handled by Dr. M. Selvi, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Madurai. She explained the biological, psychological and sociological factors that affects children and the adults who deal with children. She discussed the various child friendly mechanisms that can be adopted by the participants. She also discussed the importance of active listening and mentioned the Dos and Don’ts of effective communication.



In the next session Mr. E. V. Chandru, Advocate, High Court of Madras, spoke on the topic “Despair to Delight: Developing Skills for Rehabilitation of Children”. He

explained in detail the provisions which provide for rehabilitation and how important it is to rehabilitate these children. Further, he spoke about the District Legal Service Authority established in each district which aides in providing free legal assistance. He then discussed elaborately the rehabilitation mechanisms available to children, including educational rehabilitation, psychological rehabilitation and financial assistance provided by the government to both the Children in conflict with law and the Children in need of care and protection.

On the 25th of August 2022, Ms. S. P. Lavanya, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Salem City spoke on the topic "Our Attitude makes a Big Difference in the lives of little children." She about the increase in crimes against women and children and the crimes committed by children. She spoke about 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. She also emphasised that police officer should see the children as their own and treat them with utmost care. She shared few of her personal experiences related to helping children in need of care and protection and the children in conflict with law. She also reiterated that, police officers should not indulge in moral policing by asking not to wear sleeveless and shorts.





After the technical sessions for each day was completed, there was a question-and-answer session moderated by the Director, TNSJA and Mr. E. V. Chandru, Advocate, High Court of Madras.





Mr. S.P. Rishi Roshan, the Deputy Director, Regional Centre, Coimbatore proposed the vote of thanks on all the three days. He thanked all the participants and resource

persons for making the training programme a grand success.

The participants were given certificates for their participation.

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	Dates
1.	TNSJA Headquarters, Chennai	12 th , 13 th and 14 th July, 2022
2.	Regional Centre, Madurai	2 nd , 3 rd and 4 th August, 2022
3.	Regional Centre, Coimbatore	23 rd , 24 th and 25 th 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 TNSJA

09.30 a.m. – 09.50 a.m.	Invocation Welcome Address
09.50 a.m. – 10.20 a.m.	Scope and Object of the Programme
10.20 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	Belligerence to Benevolence: The Right Attitude Brings Light
11.30 a.m. – 11.45 a.m.	Tea Break
11.45 a.m. – 12.15 p.m.	Our Attitude makes a Big Difference in the Lives of Little Children
12.15 p.m. – 01.00 p.m.	Be Bright, Bring Light – An interactive session
01.00 p.m. – 02.00 p.m.	Lunch Break
02.00 p.m. – 03.00 p.m.	Know how to Handle Sensitive Situations (Emotional Intelligence)
03.00 p.m. – 04.00 p.m.	Despair to Delight: Developing Skills for Rehabilitation of Children
04.00 p.m. – 04.15 p.m.	Tea Break
04.15 p.m. – 05.00 p.m.	Render Justice to Children: An Interactive Session
	Vote of Thanks
National Anthem	

JUST LISTEN TO ME!

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

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

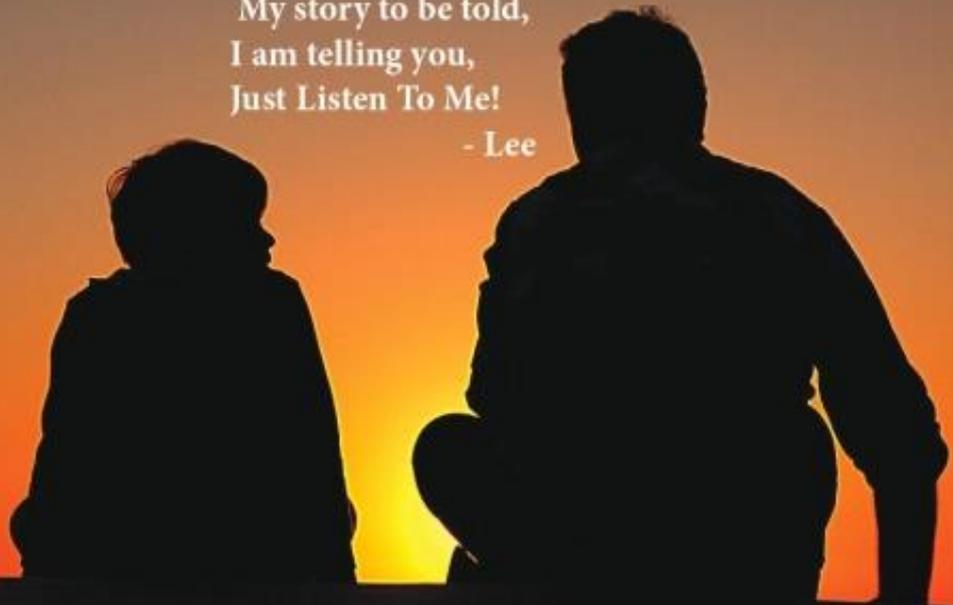
**Nobody Loved!
Nobody Cared!
I wanted to be touched!**

**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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