

F. No.CARA-SCI011/5/2017
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINIST RY OF WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT
CENT RAL ADOPT ION RESOURCE AUT HORITY

Dated 13th May, 2017

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUB: Responsibility of the District Magistrate/District Collector/Dy. Commissioner in adoption.

Every orphan/abandoned/surrendered child has a 'Right to Family' to be realized through adoption, as envisaged in *Section 56 (1) of the Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act, 2015*.

2. The District Magistrate/District Collector/Dy. Commissioner of the District has a pivotal role to play in promoting, facilitating & regulating adoption of orphan/abandoned/surrendered children in the District. These have been provisioned in the *JJ Act 2015, JJ Model Rules 2016 and Adoption Regulations 2017* and have been enumerated in the succeed.

3. The provisions 'mandatory reporting' of children in need of care and protection (orphan/abandoned/surrendered children) to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) of the District has to be enforced, as per *Sections 32 of the JJ Act, 2015*, through hoardings/posters at nursing homes/maternity homes/hospitals/bus stands and other conspicuous places in the District. Non reporting of the same is an offence and punishable under *Sections 33 & 34 of the JJ Act, 2015*.

4. Sensitisation of the medical fraternity needs to be undertaken as mandatory reporting by nursing homes, hospitals & maternity homes about all abandoned or lost child is as must as per *Section 32 of the JJ Act, 2015*. It must be made mandatory for the Public Health Department to display boards regarding this in all health care institutions (Non reporting is an offence as per *Section 33 of the JJ Act, 2015* and penalty of six months imprisonment and/or fine of Rs 10000/- for the offence is provisioned in *Section 34 of the JJ Act, 2015*).

5. Ensure placement of cradles (*palnas*) at nursing homes/hospitals/ maternity homes (with the contact numbers of the Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs), registered Child Care Institutions (CCIs), District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) and Child Line (1098) mentioned therein), so as to ensure safe abandonment of children, whom biological parent(s) want to relinquish due to social & emotional factors beyond their control and don't want to come forward to surrender them.

6. Get advertisements issued for the orphan/abandoned children produced before the CWC in case the DCPU is non-functional as per *regulation 6 (8) of Adoption Regulations, 2017*.

7. Ensure that the CWC meets at least twenty days in a month as per *Section 28 (1) of the JJ Act, 2015*, review their functioning on quarterly basis and take necessary remedial measures as mandated in *Section 27 (8) of JJ Act, 2015*.