

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
DEPT OF JUVENILE WELFARE, CORRECTIONAL SERVICES &
WELFARE OF STREET CHILDREN

Schemes available for the Children with Disabilities who are in need of care and protection under Juvenile Justice (CPC) Act and Mission Vatsalya Scheme

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015 / Amendment Act 2021 and Juvenile Justice (CPC) Rules 2016 / Amendment Rules 2022 is meant for care, protection, development and rehabilitation of 'Children in conflict with law' and 'Children in need of Care and Protection'.

Children in need of Care and Protection:

'Child in need of care and protection' means a child who is in need of any type of care and protection as defined in Sec. 2 (14) of the JJ (CPC) Act 2015.

Children with disabilities covered under the Act:

The Section 2 (14)(iv) of the Act included the children with disabilities such as children who are mentally ill or mentally or physically challenged or suffering from terminal or incurable disease, having no one to support or look after or having parents or guardians unfit to take care, if found so by the Juvenile Justice Board or the Child Welfare Committee are included as a "child in need of care and protection" (CNCP).

Services provided to the children under the Act - 'institutional' and 'non institutional services':

- Though the children with disabilities are not specifically dealt under the JJ Act, they are extended with the specialized services in convergence with various State Govt departments such as Health & Family Welfare, School Education, Samagra Shiksha, Panchayat Raj etc.
- There are no schemes in specific for the children with disabilities. However, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015 / 2021 has been legislated for the 'children in need of care & protection' and 'children in conflict with law', including the children with disabilities.

Institutional services/Child Care Institutions:

The department maintains the child care institutions such as Children Homes, Open Shelters, Specialized Adoption Agencies, Observation Homes & Special Homes for temporary shelter and for rehabilitative stay of the 'children in need of care and protection' and 'children in conflict with law'. The department also issues registrations for the NGOs to run the Child Care Institutions. The

State & Central Govts also provide Grant in aid to the NGO to run the Open Shelters. The Government of A.P. has designated the children homes for girls run by WDCW Dept., at Amalapuram, Akiveedu, Chittoor, Sullurupeta & Kondayapalli, as Special Need Children Home for Girls.

Non-Institutional services:

Schemes available for the 'children in need of care and protection' and 'children in conflict with law' with disabilities:

- Though the schemes under the JJ Act or under Mission Vatsalya are not specifically meant for the Children with Disabilities, they can be included as 'Children in need of care and protection'.
- Under Non-Institutional Care, there are various schemes under the Juvenile Justice Act and Mission Vatsalya Scheme, such as Sponsorship, Foster Care, including group foster care, Adoption & After Care
 - Sponsorship (Preventive sponsorship & Rehabilitation sponsorship): Supplementary financial support is provided to the vulnerable children living with families / biological relatives to meet the nutrition and health needs of the children, as per Section 2 (58) of the JJ (CPC) Act, 2015.
 - Foster Care: The responsibility of the child is undertaken by an unrelated family for care protection and rehabilitation of the child. Financial support is provided to biologically unrelated Foster Parents for nurturing the child.
 - Adoption: Finding families for the children found legally free for adoption. Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAA) will facilitate the adoption programme.
 - After Care: The children who are leaving a Child Care Institution on completion of 18 years of age may be provided with financial support to facilitate the child's re-integration into mainstream of society. Such support may be given from the age of 18 years up to 21 years, extendable up to 23 years of age to help her/him become self-dependent.

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