

## Annexure – I

### Theme-Wise Guidance Note for Focus Group Discussion at State Level

#### Theme I : Rehabilitation and Reintegration of POCSO Survivors and Preventive

**Measures** : – Practices, Gaps and Opportunities.

- Awareness and engagement with community level structures on prevention of incident, community monitoring mechanism and respectful rehabilitation of survivors within community setting.
- Engagement with adolescent and young people in educational institutions for prevention of sexual abuse, or any form of abuse, violence and discrimination including online safety.
- Victim compensation ( national and state) to the survivor and families and role of different institutions. This includes panchayat at community level, legal service authority, child welfare committee and Civil Society Organization as support person.
- Quality legal aid services, provision of para legal volunteers and role of District Legal Service Authority (DLSA).
- Support Person services to the survivor and families and role of Child Welfare Committee, and Civil Society Organizations as support person as well expert organization.
- Rehabilitation support including referrals to medical care/treatment, education, life skill, vocational skills, family support to healing and life with dignity, Restorative Justice. This includes mechanism to facilitate legal documents for accessing entitlements.
- Mental Health and Psychosocial care and support, counseling services etc.
- Interim shelters and considerations around institutionalization of victims as interim arrangement from safety and security perspective. This includes provision for adequate services for children with special needs who have experienced and survivor of sexual abuse/violence.
- Good practices – Please highlights one specific intervention at state level that has potential for scaling up at national level.
- Recommendations with critical actions for presentation

**Theme II : Child friendly Court Procedures** during prosecution for POCSO survivors  
:- Practices, Gaps, and Opportunities

- POCSO related child friendly procedures. This includes survivor protection pre, during and post court proceedings. Practice of protocols from reporting to disposal of cases by various authorities/ functionaries ( medical examination and treatment , police during the enquire, counselling services, compensation, legal services, and post rehabilitation support, participation of survivors and parents at all stages is crucial)
- Functionality of Child Friendly Courts. This includes setting up appropriate child friendly environment within court premises such as separate room, vulnerable witness centers, recording of the statement before the magistrate under 164 CrPC, availability of Special Prosecutors, support person, translators, or interpreters as per the legal provision.
- Intersection of POCSO Act, JJ (CPC) Act, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act and Personal Laws : the issue of child/ early marriage, elopement, consented and romantic relationships, medical termination of pregnancy of children and rights of the survivors and the child conceived from the act of sexual abuse, treatment facilities etc.,
- Conflict between the practices of customary laws and implementation of POCSO act, out of court settlements, role of community-based tradition institutions such as caste panchayats, religious bodies, and role of other community level key influencers
- Good practices - Please highlights one specific intervention at state level that has potential for scaling up at national level.
- Role of NCPCR and SCPCR in monitoring the POSCO implementation
- Recommendations with critical actions for presentation

**Theme III : Investigation of Cases** under POCSO : - Role of Police, Medical Officer, Special Public Prosecutors, Probation Officer, and Support Person.

- Recording of the statement under section 161 CrPC. Child not to be seen in accused at the time of testifying. Procedures in case the commission of offence by the child and age determination, and role of different functionaries (Child Welfare Committee, Medical Officer, Special Juvenile Police Unit, Juvenile Justice Board etc).
- Role of Special Juvenile Police Unit and Child Welfare Police Officer in the investigation process. Collection and protection of evidence, coordination and

networking with other key stakeholders such as forensic lab and medical officer, district child protection unit and legal cum probation officers, and public prosecutors.

- Medical examination of the Child. Guidelines/ Protocols on application of medico-legal care for survivor and victims of sexual violence. Involvement of parents and legal guardian during and post medical examination and case hearing process, and support for counseling services.
- Convergence with other actors, and role of District Child Protection Unit. Periodic update and regular data sharing with among the key institutions, quarterly multi-stakeholders' convergence meeting, support to ensure smooth access and facilitate linkages to avail services such as counselling, legal aid, compensation and post rehabilitation follow up support to survivors.
- Intersection of POCSO Act, JJ (CPC) Act, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act and Personal Laws : the issue of child/ early marriage, elopement, consented and romantic relationships, clarity on application of section under various special laws along with IPC and CrPC while filing FIR and Chargesheet. Importance of use of uniform reporting format.
- Good practices - Please highlights one specific intervention at state level that has potential for scaling up at national level.
- Recommendations with critical actions for presentation

#### **Theme IV : Building Capacity of functionaries under POCSO Act and the role of State-run training institutions**

- Role of state level training institutions such as Judicial Academy, Police Academy, State Council of Education Research and Training, State Institute of Rural Development in developing training module and building capacity of key functionaries in different form such as inclusion of POCSO theme in-service and pre-service training; and organization of special / customized course; and standardized training curriculum for all stakeholders.
- Availability of training materials in local languages, State level Resource Pool of trainers, and Information, Education and Communication materials for raising awareness at different level
- Follow up and feedback after training pre and post analysis, undertaking training need assessment and developing annual calendar. For instance, introduction of new emerging challenges in different forms such as online safety, cybercrime, positive masculinity and engaging with boys

- Good practices : Please highlights one specific intervention at state level that has potential for scaling up at national level.
- Recommendations with critical actions for presentation