

Report on Two-Day Training of Paralegal Volunteers & Support Persons

Date of Event: 23-24 December 2025

Day 1: Time - 09:30 A.M. to 05:00 Noon

Day 2: Time – 09:30 A.M. to 01:30 Noon

Location: Hotel Indo-Prime, M.I. Road, Jaipur

Type of Event: Two-Day Training of PLVs & Support Persons

1. Introduction

A two-day Legal Aid Training Programme on Child Welfare and Paralegal Volunteers (PLVs) was organised by Aasra Foundation (Asra Family), in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority, Jaipur Metropolitan-I and Jaipur Metropolitan-II, with academic and institutional support from ICFAI University through ICFAI Law School.

The programme was conducted to strengthen grassroots access to justice, enhance the capacity and effectiveness of Paralegal Volunteers and Support Persons, and promote a legally informed, ethical, and child-centric approach while working with vulnerable sections of society, particularly children.

2. Presence of Dignitaries and Resource Persons

The programme was graced by the presence and active involvement of Dr. Pratima Soni, Associate Dean, ICFAI Law School, ICFAI University, who provided academic leadership and delivered key sessions on constitutional provisions and child protection laws. The programme also witnessed the active participation of Mr. Vivek Sharma, Member, Aasra Foundation, and Ms. Mangla Sharma, Member, Aasra Foundation, whose contributions were instrumental in the planning, coordination, and execution of the programme. On the second day, the programme was further dignified by the presence of Ms. Pallavi Sharma, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, and Mr. Kishor Talepa, Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, who formally released the awareness materials developed during the programme. The training sessions were conducted by experienced resource persons, including Dr. Pratima Soni, Mr. Janardan Atrey, Ms. Sheela Saini, Dr. Abhinav Bhardwaj, Mr. Lohit Ameta, and Dr. Shahina Parveen, whose knowledge-based and interactive deliberations significantly enriched the programme.

3. Child Welfare and Vulnerable Children

The training programme primarily focused on children who are victims of abuse, exploitation, neglect, child labour, and other forms of silent suffering. Sessions highlighted the role of

Paralegal Volunteers under the Legal Services Authorities Act, emphasizing their rights, duties, and function as a vital link between the justice delivery system and marginalized communities.

4. Constitutional Framework and Child Protection Laws

A detailed session on *Understanding the Constitution and Child Protection Laws* examined the constitutional vision under Articles 21 and 39, underscoring the State's obligation to ensure dignity, protection, and holistic development of children. The session reinforced the constitutional mandate of child welfare as a core responsibility of the legal system.

5. POCSO Act and Victim Compensation Mechanisms

Special emphasis was placed on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, highlighting its gender-neutral and child-centric framework. Participants were sensitized to victim compensation schemes framed by the National Legal Services Authority and the Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority. The discussion covered interim and final compensation, absence of rigid limitation periods, prescribed processing timelines, and special provisions applicable to children belonging to the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe communities.

6. Child Labour: Compensation and Rehabilitation

The compensation and rehabilitation of children rescued from child labor were discussed with reference to the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act. Directions of the Supreme Court of India were highlighted, mandating expeditious disposal of child labour cases, adoption of child-friendly procedures such as video-conferencing for recording statements, and provision of rehabilitation assistance to affected children.

7. Institutional Mechanisms and Government Schemes

Sessions were also conducted on the functioning of the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) and the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB), with clear explanations of their roles and procedures. Government schemes, including Mission Vatsalya and the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) were discussed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of institutional support systems for child care, protection, and rehabilitation.

8. Interactive Training and Skill Development

Interactive sessions on communication skills, counselling, and victim support were conducted to train participants in adopting empathetic, trauma-informed, and child-friendly approaches. These sessions aimed to enhance the practical capacity of Paralegal Volunteers while dealing with children in vulnerable circumstances.

9. Launch of Awareness Flash Cards

A key initiative undertaken during the programme was the launch of Awareness Flash Cards on Child Labour and Free Legal Aid. These materials are intended for use in schools,

community outreach programmes, and public awareness campaigns to promote legal literacy, awareness of child rights, and access to free legal aid services.

10. Conclusion

The two-day Legal Aid Training Programme on Child Welfare and Paralegal Volunteers concluded successfully, achieving its objective of strengthening legal awareness, practical capacity, and ethical sensitivity among Paralegal Volunteers and Support Persons. The programme effectively integrated constitutional principles, child protection laws, victim compensation and rehabilitation mechanisms, and institutional frameworks with practical and experiential learning.

By combining legal instruction with interactive sessions and field-based insights, the programme reinforced the critical role of Paralegal Volunteers in safeguarding child rights and ensuring access to justice at the grassroots level. The initiative stands as a significant step towards building a legally informed and socially responsible support system for vulnerable children and communities.

Vote of Thanks

The Vote of Thanks was proposed by Mangla Sharma, Member, Aasra Foundation, who expressed sincere gratitude to the District Legal Services Authorities, ICFAI University, resource persons, dignitaries, participants, media representatives, and all individuals associated with the programme for their valuable support and cooperation. She reaffirmed the commitment of Aasra Foundation (Asra Family) to continue organising such capacity- building and legal awareness initiatives in collaboration with legal services institutions.

Glimpse of the event:







Two Days Training of Paralegal Volunteers & Support Persons

In collaboration of

District Legal Services Authority, Jaipur

Metropolitan-I, II & Jaipur District

&

The ICFAI University, Jaipur

Date: December 23-24, 2025

Venue: Hotel IndoPrime, M.I. Road, Jaipur

Organized by: Aasra Foundation Jaipur (AFJ)

Report Submitted By:

**The Legal Aid and Pro Bono Committee,
ICFAI Law School, The ICFAI University,
Jaipur**