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संयुक्त सचिव
Rashmi Saxena Sahni
Joint Secretary



भारत सरकार
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Date: 05.05.2017

Dear *Sir / Madam*

I am writing to you in the context of a reader developed by the Ministry of Women and Child Development titled "Raising Happy Children and Providing Safe Childhoods". It is an attempt to provide a framework to implement the general principles enshrined in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015. These principles include protecting the best interest of the child, ensuring their safety, promoting positive measures and principle of diversion through measures for dealing with children in conflict with law without resorting to judicial proceedings. The reader suggests a broad framework for the parents, teachers and community to protect children from delinquent behaviour through early detection, counselling and positive engagement.

2. Young children experience their world through their relationships with parents, teachers, peers and other caregivers. Therefore, we need to create a warm, loving and nurturing environment where their physical, emotional and spiritual needs are recognized and honored by their family, school and community so as to allow them to reach their full potential. Keeping the above in mind, the reader draws upon good practices across the world which have proved to be successful in keeping children safe and away from offending behavior. It emphasizes that detention or institutionalization is a measure of last resort in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and prioritizes the best interest of the child, including positive measures and principle of diversion. It must be understood that the reader is not prescriptive in nature but may be used as a resource for parents, teachers, and community members who can use these, suggestions to help them guide their thinking, planning, action, and create a more


protective and caring environment for children in the society. It suggests a broad framework for imbining positive skills such as conflict resolution and violence prevention as well as early detection of risk-taking behaviours among children. It is an initiative towards creating a larger awareness and sensitivity towards children's needs and conditions which push them towards offending behavior.

3. It is also requested that copies of the reader may be further disseminated widely among different stakeholders and inputs from the reader may be included as a part of the training and capacity building initiatives of teachers, parent-teacher associations, schools management committees and other community-based organizations such as youth groups. I hope that it will be useful in creating a safe environment so that every child can enjoy a happy childhood.

With regards,

Enclosed: As above

Yours Sincerely,


(Rashmi Saxena Sahni)

To,

All the Principal Secretary/Secretary, Women and Child Development, in all States/UTs.