

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS



Open Access, Refereed Journal Multi Disciplinary
Peer Reviewed

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RIGHTS OF CHILDREN UNDER THE JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN) ACT, 2015

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Abstract

*Children constitute one of the most vulnerable sections of society and require special legal protection to ensure their survival, development, participation, and dignity. The concept of child rights has evolved from a welfare-based approach to a rights-based approach, recognizing children as independent rights holders rather than mere beneficiaries of parental care. In India, the enactment of the **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015** (hereinafter "JJ Act, 2015") marked a significant milestone in strengthening the legal framework for the protection of children in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection. The Act incorporates constitutional mandates and international obligations, particularly those arising from the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), 1989**, while introducing institutional mechanisms for rehabilitation, social reintegration, foster care, sponsorship, adoption, and child-friendly justice. This paper examines the rights guaranteed to children under the JJ Act, 2015, analyses its legal and constitutional foundations, evaluates the role of institutions established under the Act, and identifies the practical challenges in its implementation. The study further offers recommendations to strengthen the child protection system in India.*

Keywords: *Child Rights, Juvenile Justice, Care and Protection, Rehabilitation, Adoption, Juvenile Justice Board, Child Welfare Committee.*

1. Introduction

Children are universally recognized as the future of every nation, and their welfare is regarded as a fundamental indicator of social progress and human development. Since children lack the physical, emotional, and economic capacity to protect themselves, they require special care, protection, and legal safeguards. Every civilized society recognizes that childhood is a crucial phase of life during which proper education, healthcare, nutrition, emotional support, and legal protection determine the future of individuals as well as society. Consequently, the protection of children's rights has become an essential responsibility of every democratic State.

Historically, children were often viewed merely as dependents of their parents or guardians without possessing independent legal rights. The traditional legal approach focused primarily on parental authority rather than the individual rights of children. However, the twentieth century witnessed a remarkable transformation in legal philosophy, leading to the recognition of children as independent holders of human rights. International conventions, constitutional guarantees, and national legislations gradually shifted the emphasis from charity and welfare to the protection of legal rights and human dignity.¹

India has consistently demonstrated its commitment towards child welfare through constitutional provisions, legislative enactments, judicial activism, and policy initiatives. The Constitution of India contains several provisions specifically aimed at protecting children from exploitation, ensuring education, promoting healthy development, and safeguarding their dignity. Nevertheless, the increasing incidents of child abuse, trafficking, abandonment, child labour, juvenile delinquency, and exploitation highlighted the necessity for a comprehensive legal framework specifically designed to address issues relating to children.

The **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015** represents India's principal legislation dealing with children who come into contact with the legal system. It provides a comprehensive mechanism for the care, protection, rehabilitation, development, treatment, and social reintegration of children in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection. The Act seeks to balance the objectives of child welfare, rehabilitation, and accountability while ensuring that the best interests of children remain paramount.

Unlike earlier legislation, the JJ Act, 2015 adopts a rights-based approach that recognizes

¹ H.M. Hennelly, *Children's Rights and Human Development* 24 (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2013).

children as individuals possessing inherent dignity and legally enforceable rights. The Act establishes institutional mechanisms such as Juvenile Justice Boards, Child Welfare Committees, Special Juvenile Police Units, Observation Homes, Special Homes, Children's Homes, Foster Care Services, Sponsorship Programmes, and Adoption Agencies to safeguard children's rights at every stage.

2. Meaning and Concept of Child Rights

The expression "child rights" refers to the legal, social, economic, civil, political, and cultural rights that belong to every individual below the age of eighteen years. These rights are intended to ensure the survival, protection, participation, and holistic development of children without discrimination. Child rights recognize that children possess evolving capacities and therefore require special legal protection alongside opportunities for growth and participation.

Unlike ordinary legal rights available to adults, child rights impose positive obligations upon the State, family, educational institutions, and society to create conditions conducive to the healthy development of children. Such rights include protection against abuse, neglect, exploitation, trafficking, child labour, early marriage, and all forms of violence while simultaneously guaranteeing access to education, healthcare, nutrition, identity, family life, recreation, and participation in matters affecting them.²

Modern child rights are generally classified into four broad categories:

- **Survival Rights**, including healthcare, nutrition, shelter, and identity.
- **Development Rights**, including education, play, cultural participation, and vocational training.
- **Protection Rights**, safeguarding children against abuse, exploitation, neglect, trafficking, child labour, and violence.
- **Participation Rights**, enabling children to express their views in accordance with their age and maturity.

The recognition of these rights reflects the global consensus that children are not merely passive recipients of care but active holders of human rights deserving equal respect and protection.

² Gerison Lansdown, *The Evolving Capacities of the Child 9–14* (UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence, 2005).

3. Evolution of Juvenile Justice in India

The juvenile justice system in India has evolved gradually over more than a century. During the colonial period, juvenile offenders were largely treated in the same manner as adult criminals. Punitive measures dominated the criminal justice system, and very little attention was paid to rehabilitation or psychological development. The first significant legislative measure was the **Apprentices Act, 1850**, which sought to rehabilitate neglected children through vocational training. Subsequently, various provincial Children Acts were enacted during the early twentieth century to provide separate treatment for juvenile offenders. These enactments introduced the concept of reformatory institutions rather than ordinary prisons.

After independence, constitutional principles emphasizing social justice significantly influenced juvenile legislation. Parliament enacted the **Children Act, 1960**, applicable primarily to Union Territories. Subsequently, the **Juvenile Justice Act, 1986** established a uniform legal framework throughout India and emphasized rehabilitation over punishment. Following India's ratification of the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), 1989**, the **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000** replaced the earlier legislation. The 2000 Act incorporated several international principles relating to child protection, rehabilitation, and social reintegration.³

However, increasing concerns regarding heinous offences allegedly committed by juveniles, particularly those aged between sixteen and eighteen years, generated widespread public debate regarding the adequacy of the existing law. Consequently, Parliament enacted the **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015**, introducing a comprehensive legal framework while retaining rehabilitation as the central objective of juvenile justice. The 2015 legislation broadened institutional mechanisms, strengthened adoption procedures, introduced foster care and sponsorship programmes, improved rehabilitation services, and created procedures for preliminary assessment in respect of children aged between sixteen and eighteen years accused of heinous offences.

4. Objectives of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

³ R.N. Choudhry, *Law Relating to Juvenile Justice in India: Commentary on the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000* 15–28 (Orient Publishing Company, New Delhi, 2nd edn., 2007).

The principal objective of the JJ Act, 2015 is to establish a child-friendly legal system that promotes care, protection, development, treatment, rehabilitation, and social reintegration of children. The Act recognizes that children differ fundamentally from adults in terms of psychological maturity, emotional development, and decision-making capacity.

The legislation seeks to protect two distinct categories of children:

- Children in conflict with law.
- Children in need of care and protection.

The Act is founded upon several guiding principles, including the principle of presumption of innocence, the principle of dignity and worth, the principle of best interests, the principle of family responsibility, the principle of participation, the principle of safety, and the principle of institutionalization as a measure of last resort. Unlike conventional criminal laws, the Act prioritizes rehabilitation over punishment. It aims to prevent recidivism by providing education, vocational training, counselling, psychological assistance, healthcare, family reintegration, and community participation. The Act also seeks to streamline adoption procedures through a centralized legal framework, regulate child care institutions, establish monitoring mechanisms, and ensure accountability of authorities responsible for child welfare.⁴

5. Significance of a Rights-Based Approach

One of the most significant features of the JJ Act, 2015 is its departure from the traditional welfare model towards a rights-based framework. Under the earlier approach, assistance to children was viewed largely as an act of charity or State benevolence. In contrast, the rights-based approach recognizes children as independent legal subjects entitled to enforceable rights and obliges the State to respect, protect, and fulfil those rights. This shift is reflected in the Act's emphasis on child participation, family-based care, non-discrimination, privacy, rehabilitation, social reintegration, and institutional accountability. Decisions concerning children must be guided by the **best interests of the child**, ensuring that every intervention contributes to the child's long-term welfare and development. Institutionalization is treated as a measure of last resort, with preference given to family-based alternatives such as foster care, adoption, sponsorship, and restoration. The rights-based approach also requires that children

⁴ Ved Kumari, *The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015: Critical Analysis* 15–19 (Universal Law Publishing Co. Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, 2017).

be treated with dignity throughout legal proceedings. Child-friendly procedures before Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Welfare Committees, confidentiality of records, access to legal aid, counselling, education, healthcare, and opportunities for rehabilitation reflect the broader objective of safeguarding the inherent dignity and developmental needs of every child. Thus, the JJ Act, 2015 transforms juvenile justice from a punitive or welfare-oriented model into a comprehensive human rights framework consistent with constitutional values and international child rights standards.⁵

6. Rights of Children under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

The **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015** (hereinafter referred to as the **JJ Act, 2015**) is founded upon the philosophy that every child possesses inherent dignity and is entitled to special protection under the law. The Act recognizes children as rights holders and not merely as beneficiaries of welfare measures. It seeks to ensure that every child, whether in conflict with law or in need of care and protection is treated with compassion, fairness, equality, and respect for human dignity. The legislation is based on constitutional principles, international child rights standards, and the reformatory theory of justice. Chapter II of the Act lays down the **general principles of care and protection of children**, which serve as the guiding framework for all authorities functioning under the Act. These principles influence every decision made by the Juvenile Justice Board, Child Welfare Committee, Special Juvenile Police Unit, Child Care Institution, and other agencies dealing with children.

6.1 Right to Equality and Non-Discrimination

One of the fundamental rights guaranteed under the JJ Act, 2015 is the right to equality and protection against discrimination. Every child, irrespective of religion, caste, sex, disability, language, social background, economic status, nationality, or family circumstances, is entitled to equal treatment under the Act. This principle flows from **Articles 14 and 15(3)** of the Constitution of India. While Article 14 guarantees equality before law, Article 15(3) authorizes the State to make special provisions for women and children. The JJ Act operationalizes these constitutional guarantees by ensuring that no child is denied protection because of social or economic disadvantages. The principle of equality is particularly significant for children belonging to vulnerable groups such as street children, orphaned children, abandoned children,

⁵ J.B. Pande, *The Law of Juvenile Justice in India* 45–52 (Central Law Publications, Allahabad, 2018).

trafficked children, children with disabilities, migrant children, and children belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Every authority under the Act is required to provide equal opportunities for care, education, rehabilitation, and social integration. Furthermore, Rule 3 of the Juvenile Justice Model Rules, 2016 reinforces the obligation to ensure equality in access to institutional services, legal aid, healthcare, education, and rehabilitation programmes.⁶

6.2 Right to Life, Survival and Development

The right to life under **Article 21 of the Constitution** has been interpreted by the Supreme Court to include the right to live with dignity, education, healthcare, nutrition, shelter, emotional well-being, and opportunities for development. The JJ Act adopts this expanded understanding by requiring authorities to promote the physical, mental, emotional, intellectual, and social development of every child. The concept of holistic development is reflected throughout the Act, particularly in relation to children rescued from trafficking, child labour, abuse, neglect, or exploitation. The Child Welfare Committee is empowered to pass appropriate orders to ensure the long-term development and rehabilitation of children under its jurisdiction.

6.3 Right to Dignity and Worth

The JJ Act expressly recognizes the **Principle of Dignity and worth**, requiring every child to be treated with compassion and respect irrespective of the circumstances in which the child comes before the legal system. Children who commit offences often come from disadvantaged social backgrounds characterized by poverty, abuse, neglect, family disintegration, addiction, or lack of education. The Act therefore prohibits treating such children as hardened criminals. Institutional staff, police officers, probation officers, social workers, and judicial officers must adopt child-sensitive procedures during inquiry and rehabilitation. This principle distinguishes juvenile justice from ordinary criminal justice, where punishment often assumes greater importance.

6.4 Right to Privacy and Confidentiality

Protection of privacy is an essential component of child rights. Public disclosure of a child's identity may lead to social stigma, discrimination, and psychological trauma. Media organizations are prohibited from publishing information likely to reveal the identity of any

⁶ M.P. Jain, *Indian Constitutional Law* 1318–1325 (LexisNexis, Gurugram, 9th edn., 2025).

child dealt with under the Act except with permission of the competent authority. The confidentiality requirement extends to police records, judicial proceedings, institutional documents, and adoption proceedings. The Supreme Court has repeatedly emphasized that the privacy of children is inseparable from their dignity and future rehabilitation.

6.5 Right to Legal Aid and Fair Procedure

Every child is entitled to legal representation and fair treatment throughout the judicial process. The JJ Act provides child-friendly procedures before the Juvenile Justice Board. Unlike ordinary criminal courts, proceedings before the Board are informal, rehabilitative, and welfare-oriented. Children cannot ordinarily be detained in police lock-ups or regular prisons. The Act requires Special Juvenile Police Units to handle cases involving children in a sensitive manner. Police officers must avoid the use of force, handcuffs, or coercive interrogation. The availability of free legal aid under the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** further strengthens procedural fairness.⁷

6.6 Right to Education

Education plays a central role in preventing juvenile delinquency and promoting social integration. The JJ Act therefore treats education as an indispensable component of rehabilitation. Where formal education is not immediately possible, vocational training and non-formal education programmes are provided to improve employability and self-reliance. The right is further reinforced by **Article 21A of the Constitution** and the **Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009**. Educational opportunities significantly reduce the likelihood of reoffending and facilitate reintegration into society.

7. Right to Rehabilitation and Social Reintegration

Rehabilitation constitutes the central objective of the juvenile justice system. Rather than focusing on punishment, the Act emphasizes correcting behavioural patterns through education, counselling, vocational training, and family support.

Section 39 provides various rehabilitation measures including:

- counselling,
- psychiatric support,
- education,

⁷ V.N. Shukla, *Constitution of India* 349 (Eastern Book Company, Lucknow, 13th edn., 2017).

- vocational training,
- de-addiction programmes,
- foster care,
- aftercare,
- sponsorship,
- community-based rehabilitation.

Social reintegration is intended to enable children to become productive members of society while reducing the possibility of future offending. Observation Homes, Special Homes, Children's Homes, Open Shelters, and Aftercare Organisations play an important role in this process.⁸

8. Rights of Children in Conflict with Law

Children alleged or found to have committed offences are entitled to several procedural and substantive safeguards under the Act, including:

- Presumption of innocence.
- Child-friendly inquiry.
- Speedy disposal of cases.
- Protection from detention in regular prisons.
- Social investigation before final orders.
- Individual care plans.
- Rehabilitation rather than punishment.
- Separation from adult offenders.
- Right to education, healthcare, and counselling during institutional care.
- Confidentiality of records and proceedings.

For children aged **16–18 years** alleged to have committed **heinous offences**, the Act requires a **preliminary assessment** by the Juvenile Justice Board regarding their mental and physical capacity to commit the offence and their ability to understand its consequences before deciding whether the matter should be transferred to the Children's Court. Even in such cases, procedural

⁸ Vijay Hansaria & P.I. Jose, *Juvenile Justice System* 241 (Universal Law Publishing Co. Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, 2nd edn., 2012).

safeguards and the child's best interests remain central considerations.⁹

9. Fundamental Rights Protecting Children

(a) Article 14 – Equality before Law

Article 14 guarantees equality before the law and equal protection of the laws to every person, including children. It ensures that children are not subjected to arbitrary or discriminatory treatment. The JJ Act, 2015 reflects this principle by extending equal protection to all children irrespective of caste, religion, gender, disability, language, or socio-economic background.

The constitutional guarantee of equality also permits reasonable classification. Accordingly, children are treated differently from adults in criminal proceedings because of their age, psychological maturity, and developmental needs. Such differential treatment is constitutionally valid as it is intended to protect children's best interests.

(b) Article 15(3) – Special Protection for Children

Article 15(3) empowers the State to make special provisions for women and children. This provision constitutes the constitutional foundation for numerous child welfare legislations.

The Juvenile Justice Act derives much of its legislative authority from Article 15(3), as it creates special procedures, institutions, and protections exclusively for children. The establishment of Juvenile Justice Boards, Child Welfare Committees, Child Care Institutions, foster care programmes, and adoption mechanisms represents constitutionally permissible affirmative action.

(c) Article 21 – Right to Life and Personal Liberty

Article 21 has emerged as the most significant constitutional provision relating to child rights.

The Supreme Court has interpreted the expression "life" to include:

- dignity,
- education,
- nutrition,
- healthcare,
- shelter,
- emotional well-being,

⁹ Ved Kumari, *The Juvenile Justice System in India: From Welfare to Rights* 221 (Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2nd edn., 2010).

- protection against exploitation,
- opportunities for development.

The JJ Act incorporates these constitutional values by emphasizing rehabilitation, education, counselling, healthcare, vocational training, family restoration, and social reintegration. Children placed in institutional care continue to enjoy all constitutional rights except those lawfully restricted.

(d) Article 21A – Right to Education

Inserted through the Eighty-Sixth Constitutional Amendment, Article 21A guarantees free and compulsory education to children between the ages of six and fourteen years.

Education plays a vital role in preventing juvenile delinquency by promoting social inclusion, skill development, and economic independence. The JJ Act complements Article 21A by requiring Child Care Institutions and rehabilitation homes to ensure access to formal education, bridge courses, vocational training, and life skills.

The educational rights of children under the JJ Act are further reinforced through the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009.

(e) Article 23 – Protection against Exploitation

Article 23 prohibits trafficking in human beings, forced labour, and similar forms of exploitation.

Many children rescued under the JJ Act are victims of trafficking, bonded labour, forced begging, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, or child labour. The Child Welfare Committee is empowered to provide immediate protection, rehabilitation, counselling, and reintegration for such children.

The constitutional prohibition against exploitation therefore forms an essential component of the child protection framework.

(f) Article 24 – Prohibition of Child Labour

Article 24 prohibits the employment of children below fourteen years in factories, mines, or hazardous occupations. Children rescued from illegal employment frequently fall within the definition of "children in need of care and protection" under the JJ Act. Rehabilitation measures under the Act seek not merely to rescue such children but also to provide education, healthcare,

counselling, and family restoration.¹⁰

10. Directive Principles of State Policy

Although the Directive Principles are not enforceable by courts, they provide the guiding philosophy behind child welfare legislation.

Article 39(e)

Requires the State to protect children against abuse and exploitation.

Article 39(f)

Directs the State to ensure that children develop in conditions of freedom and dignity while being protected against moral and material abandonment. These provisions directly influence the objectives of the JJ Act by emphasizing rehabilitation, family care, education, and protection from exploitation.

Article 45

Requires the State to provide early childhood care and education.

Article 47

Obliges the State to improve nutrition and public health, which are essential components of child development.¹¹

11. Conclusion

The **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015** represents a landmark achievement in the evolution of child rights jurisprudence in India. It reflects a progressive transformation from a welfare-oriented model to a rights-based approach that recognizes every child as an independent holder of legal rights and human dignity. The Act is firmly grounded in the constitutional guarantees of equality, life, dignity, education, and protection against exploitation, while simultaneously incorporating internationally accepted principles contained in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Beijing Rules, the Havana Rules, and the Riyadh Guidelines.

¹⁰ J.N. Pandey, *Constitutional Law of India* 189 (Central Law Agency, Prayagraj, 61st edn., 2024).

¹¹ D.D. Basu, *Introduction to the Constitution of India* 183 (LexisNexis, New Delhi, 23rd edn., 2021).

A distinctive feature of the Act is its comprehensive protection of two categories of children: children in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection. Rather than adopting a punitive approach, the legislation emphasizes rehabilitation, counselling, education, vocational training, family restoration, foster care, sponsorship, adoption, and social reintegration. The establishment of specialized institutions such as Juvenile Justice Boards, Child Welfare Committees, Child Care Institutions, and the Central Adoption Resource Authority reflects the legislature's commitment to creating a child-friendly justice system.

Despite its progressive framework, significant implementation challenges remain. Inadequate infrastructure, shortage of trained personnel, overcrowded Child Care Institutions, delays in rehabilitation, weak monitoring systems, and limited public awareness continue to affect the realization of children's rights. The existence of comprehensive legislation alone cannot guarantee effective protection unless supported by adequate financial resources, institutional capacity, trained professionals, and strong political commitment.

The future of juvenile justice in India depends upon strengthening family-based care, promoting community participation, enhancing rehabilitation programmes, improving educational and vocational opportunities, expanding mental health services, and ensuring effective monitoring of all child protection institutions. A child-centric justice system must continuously evolve to respond to changing social realities while preserving the fundamental principles of dignity, equality, compassion, and rehabilitation.

Ultimately, protecting children's rights is not merely a statutory obligation but a constitutional and moral responsibility. Every child deserves an environment in which they can survive, develop, participate, and realize their full potential. The effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 is therefore indispensable for building a just, inclusive, and humane society where every child is assured protection, opportunity, and hope for a better future.

The effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 requires continuous efforts by the Government, judiciary, law enforcement agencies, child welfare institutions, and society at large. Although the Act provides a comprehensive legal framework for the protection and rehabilitation of children, its objectives can only be

achieved through efficient institutional mechanisms, adequate financial support, and coordinated implementation. In light of the issues discussed in this study, the following suggestions are proposed.

The Government should prioritize strengthening the infrastructure of Child Care Institutions, including Observation Homes, Special Homes, Children's Homes, and Places of Safety. These institutions must provide a safe, hygienic, and child-friendly environment equipped with adequate accommodation, nutritious food, healthcare facilities, educational resources, recreational activities, and counselling services. Improved infrastructure will ensure that children receive proper care and opportunities for their physical, emotional, and intellectual development while staying in institutional care.

Capacity building of all stakeholders involved in the juvenile justice system is equally important. Members of Juvenile Justice Boards, Child Welfare Committees, Special Juvenile Police Units, probation officers, social workers, counsellors, and institutional staff should undergo regular training programmes on child rights, child psychology, trauma-informed care, rehabilitation techniques, and child-friendly legal procedures. Continuous professional development will enable these officials to deal with children with greater sensitivity and competence.

The implementation of the Act should focus more on family-based care rather than institutionalization. Since a family environment plays a crucial role in the emotional and psychological development of children, restoration to biological families, foster care, kinship care, sponsorship, and adoption should be encouraged wherever possible. Institutional care should remain the last resort and should only be used when family-based alternatives are not feasible or are contrary to the best interests of the child.

Mental health services should be integrated into every stage of the juvenile justice process. Many children entering the juvenile justice system have experienced neglect, abuse, trafficking, violence, or other traumatic experiences that require specialized psychological support. Every Child Care Institution should therefore appoint qualified psychologists and counsellors to provide mental health assessments, behavioural counselling, trauma therapy, and emotional support to facilitate effective rehabilitation and social reintegration.

Access to quality education and vocational training should be ensured for every child covered under the Juvenile Justice Act. Educational programmes should include formal schooling, bridge courses, digital literacy, life skills education, vocational training, and career counselling. Such initiatives will help children develop the skills necessary for independent living, reduce the likelihood of reoffending, and promote their successful reintegration into society.

Regular monitoring and inspection of Child Care Institutions should be strengthened to ensure accountability and compliance with statutory standards. Independent inspection committees should periodically evaluate the quality of care, educational facilities, healthcare services, rehabilitation programmes, and living conditions in these institutions. Transparent grievance redressal mechanisms should also be established so that children can safely report incidents of abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

Public awareness regarding children's rights and the provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act should be significantly enhanced through awareness campaigns, educational programmes, legal literacy initiatives, and media outreach. Increased public awareness will encourage early reporting of child abuse, trafficking, child labour, neglect, and other violations while promoting community participation in child protection efforts.

Greater coordination among all stakeholders involved in child protection is essential for the effective functioning of the juvenile justice system. Juvenile Justice Boards, Child Welfare Committees, police authorities, District Child Protection Units, educational institutions, healthcare providers, Legal Services Authorities, and non-governmental organizations should work collaboratively through regular meetings and integrated case management systems to ensure timely rehabilitation and comprehensive support for children.