



# *Child Protection- Pocso Act & Bharosa Centres in Telangana*

**SWATI LAKRA, IPS**

**ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE  
ORGANIZATON & HOME GUARDS, TELANGANA, HYDERABAD**



## WHO IS A CHILD

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***"Children are neither the property of their parents nor are they helpless objects of charity"- UNICEF***

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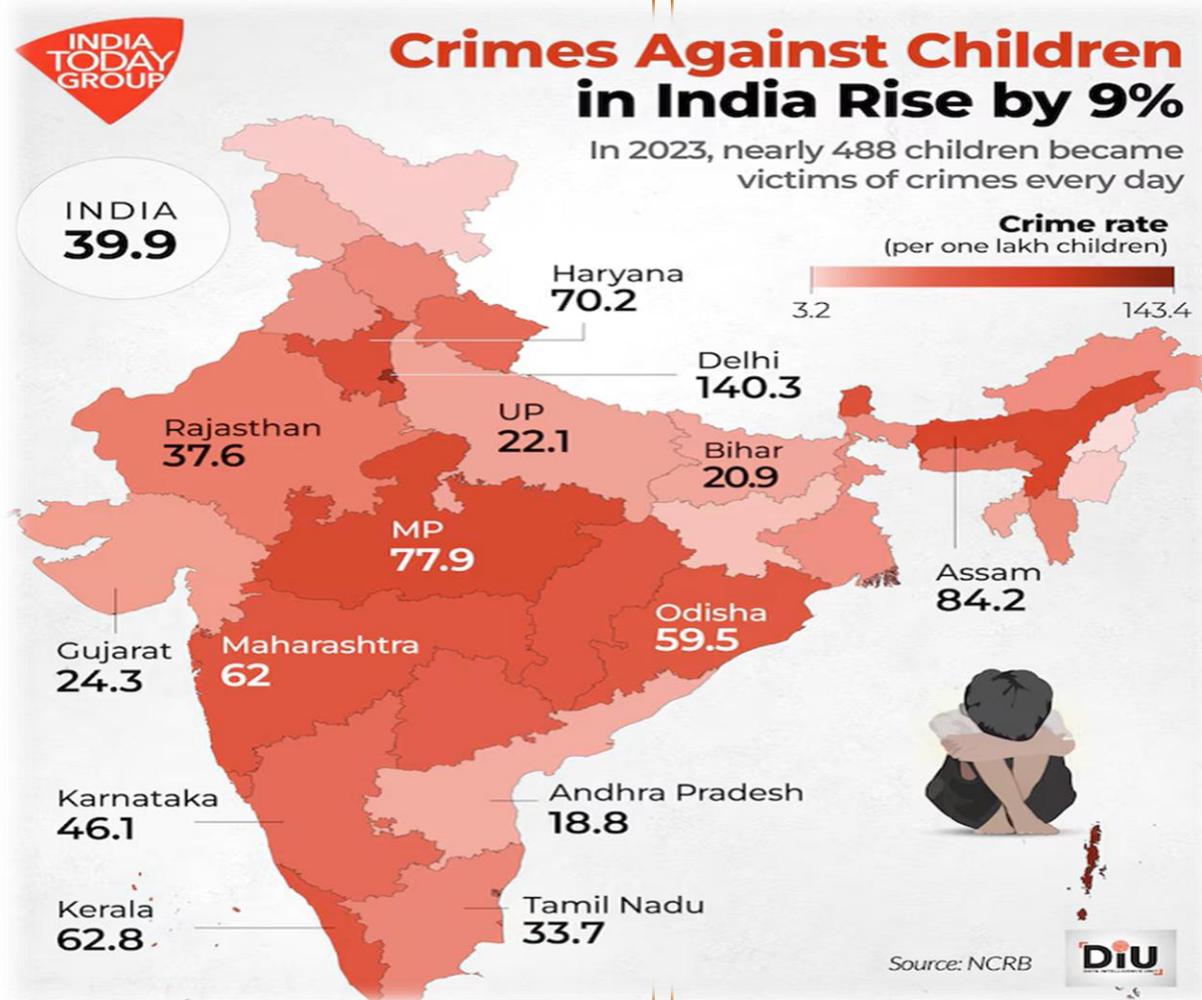
United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Children (UNCRC) defined 'Children' as all human beings below the age of 18 years.

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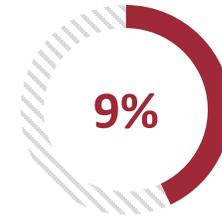
India Ratified UNCRC in 1992.

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The Juvenile Justice Act 2015 and POCSO defined Child as a person who has not completed 18 years.



### CRIME AGAINST CHILDREN RAISE BY

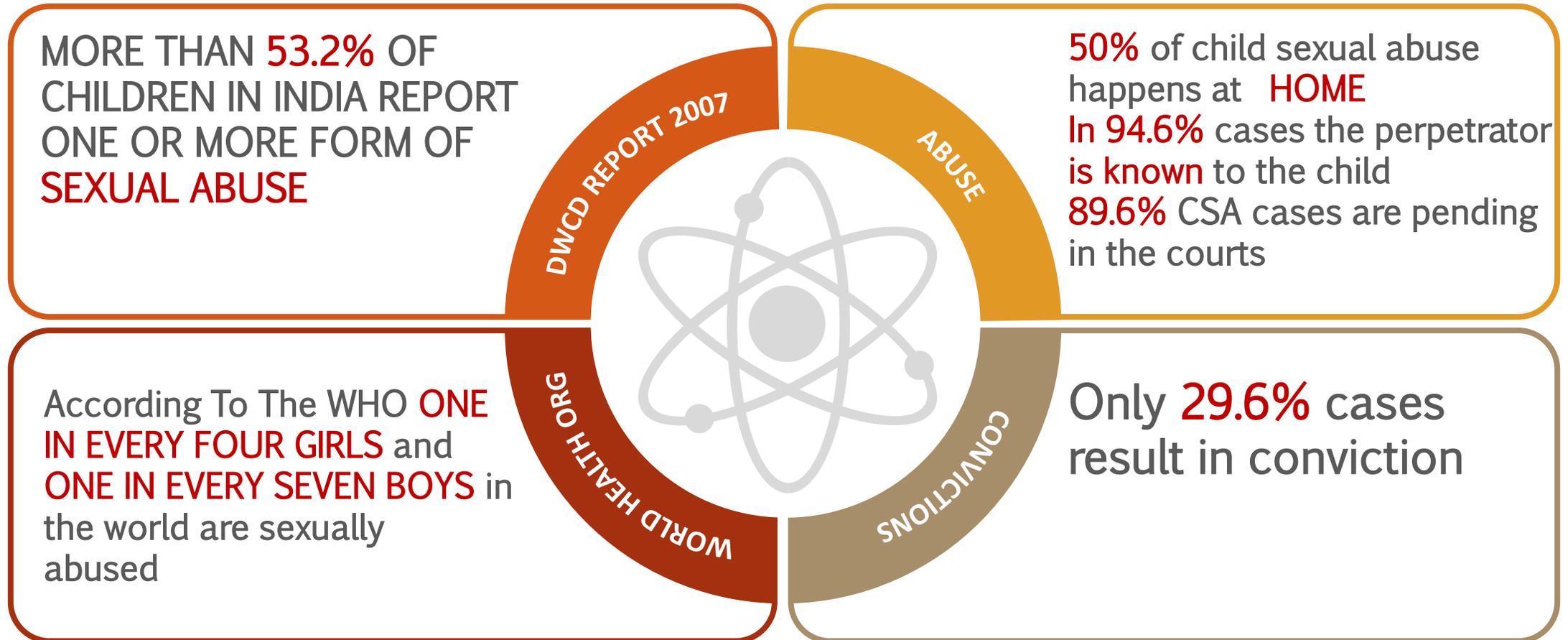


# LAWS RELATED TO CHILDREN

- The Pre-Conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Technique (Prohibition of Sex Selection) PCPNDT Act, 1994
- The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1986
- The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 2016
- The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
- The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005
- Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006
- Right to Education Act -2009
- Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act - 2012



# DOES CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE REALLY EXIST?



*1 CHILD IS RAPED EVERY 8 MINUTES IN INDIA – NATIONAL CRIME RECORDS BUREAU 2023*

NO CULTURE OF CONVERSATION

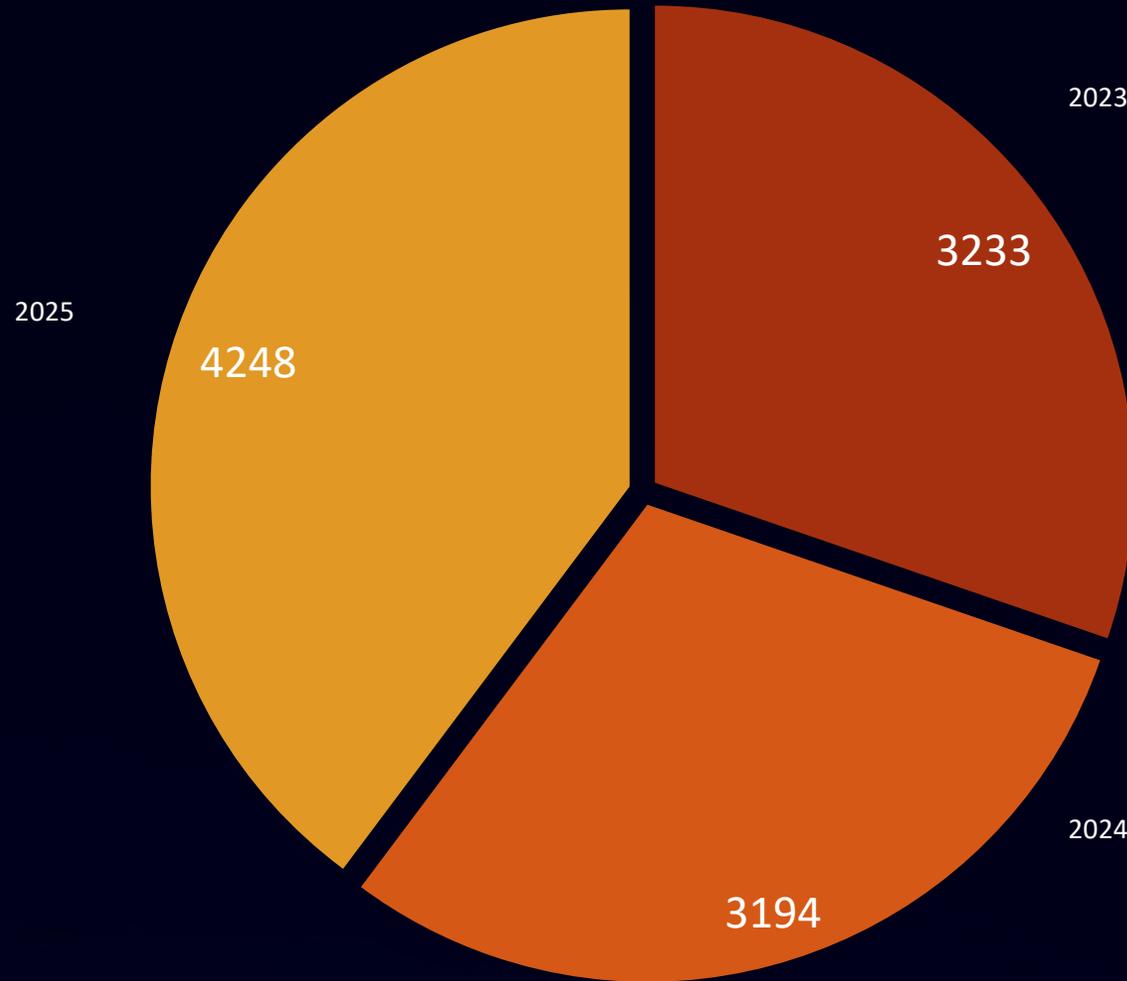
CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

A close-up photograph of a young girl with dark hair, looking directly at the camera with a distressed expression. She is covering her mouth with her hands, suggesting she is being silenced or is in a state of fear. The background is dark, and the lighting is dramatic, highlighting her face.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

# POCSO ACT IN TELANGANA

■ 2023 ■ 2024 ■ 2025 ■



No. of POCSO Cases

# POCSO ACT

## CORE ELEMENTS

### OBJECTIVE

- Protect children (<18) from penetrative/non-penetrative sexual assault, sexual harassment & pornography
- Sec 3 (Penetrative sexual assault)
- Section 7 (Sexual Assault)
- Section-11 (Sexual Harassment)
- Section 13 and 14 (Pornography)

### COVERAGE

- All persons <18 (gender-neutral)

### OFFENCES DEFINED

- Penetrative assault, sexual assault, sexual harassment, child pornography; includes aggravated categories.

### CHILD-FRIENDLY PROCEDURES

- Mandatory reporting, recording of statement in safe place, in-camera trials, protection of identity, and burden-of-proof safeguards for children.

### PENALTIES

- Stringent imprisonment terms
- **2019 Amendment** added provisions for aggravated offences.



UNDER POCSO  
THE NATURE OF  
OFFENCE  
BECOMES  
AGGRAVATED  
BASED ON

**Person** who is committing the crime

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**Situation** in which the crime occurs

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**Impact** the crime has on the child

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PUNISHMENT  
FOR  
AGGRAVATED  
OFFENCES  
(SEC: 5 &6  
9&10)

For Penetrative Sexual Assault: 20 years to life imprisonment  
(Below 12 years – Hang unto death) (Section 5&6)

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For Sexual Assault: 5 to 7 years (Section 9&10)

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FOR PORNOGRAPHY  
OFFENCES

Using Child for pornography (Section 14)

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Storing/Possessing of CSAM (Section 15)

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AGGRAVATED  
OFFENCES

## Section 19

Any person who has apprehension that an offence under this act is likely to be committed or has knowledge that such offence has been committed has to report.

## Section 19 (7) –

No person is to incur liability [civil or criminal] for providing information about commission of offence under the Act in good faith to SJPU or police

## Section 20

Media, hotels, lodges, clubs, hospitals, studios must report objectionable material or acts

**MANDATORY  
REPORTING  
&  
RECORDING**

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**SECTION 21-  
FAILURE  
TO  
REPORT &  
RECORD**

Any person **who fails to report** commission of an offence and **who fails to record** such offence – Shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to **six months** or with fine or Both

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Any person **being in charge of company or institution fails to report** - Shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to **one year** and with fine

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## Disclosure of identity of the child by Media: Section 23

- Media should not disclose any details of the child including name, family details, photograph, name of school, details of his neighborhood or community except with written permission of Special Court
- JJ ACT Section 21 also mentions the same
- Punishable with imprisonment from 6 months to 1 year or fine or both

## REPORTING OF CRIME

FIR REGISTRATION SEC.173 BNSS and must be registered immediately

By female officer, if victim is a girl

Free legal aid & support must be offered.

## MEDICAL EXAMINATION SEC.184 BNSS

Exam within 24 hours, preferably by female doctor

Guardian must be present during examination

## STATEMENT BEFORE MAGISTRATE SEC.183 BNSS

Must be recorded by judicial magistrate

Preferably by Women Magistrate

If women Magistrate is not available, male can do so in the presence of women

Can also be recorded using Audio & video Electronic means in presence of an advocate.

## INVESTIGATION & CHARGE SHEET

Strictly time bound focusing on child friendly procedures

Charge sheet should be filed to the special POCSO court within 60 days(monitored through ITSSO portal, CCTNS)

Statements of the child may be recorded at the child's residence or place of their choice by the women police officer and not in uniform

Use of screens & video links allowed.

No child to be detained in Police station at nights for any reason

## CHILD – FRIENDLY COURT PROCEDURE (SEC.36 OF POCSO ACT)

Child victim not to be exposed to the accused while testifying

May utilize video conferencing/ curtains or 1 way mirror

While the child is protected, accused should be able to hear the testimony

No aggressive questioning

## POCSO ACT PROCEDURES (AS PER BNSS + POCSO ACT)

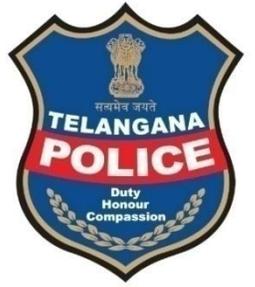
# COMPENSATION

Section 33(8) POCSO ACT:

Special Court in addition to punishment, may direct payment of compensation to child for any physical or mental trauma caused or for “immediate rehabilitation”.  
(After FIR, 25%, after charge sheet 50%, and after judgement 25%)

Victims are also entitled for compensation under the victim compensation scheme (NLSA) by National Legal Services Authority up to Rs 1 Lakh, if SC/ST then up to Rs 3 to 8 Lakhs.

Map workflow: Police → **DLSA**(District Legal Services Authority) → Collector → Treasury → Victim  
Compensation is payable even if the accused is acquitted, discharged or remains untraceable



# BHAROSA

Support Center for Women and Children

***POLICE ADMINISTERED PROFESSIONALLY RUN SUPPORT CENTERS THAT PROVIDE SINGLE WINDOW SERVICES TO CHILD SURVIVORS OF GRAVE SEXUAL OFFENCES IN TELANGANA***

# HIGH LIGHTS OF BHAROSA

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**BHAROSA**  
Support Center for Women and Children

**Bharosa is an innovative and victim friendly centre away from Police Stations & Hospitals operating 24/7**

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**Medical Unit for medical examinations**

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**Video- conference facility for 183 BNSs (164 Cr.PC) statement recording by Judicial Magistrate**

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**Recording 180 BNSs (161 Cr.PC) statement by lady Sub Inspector of Police**

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**Victim Assistance Fund for immediate relief in addition to quick compensation**

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# HIGH LIGHTS OF BHAROSA

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**BHAROSA**

Support Center for Women and Children

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**Successful Convergence between all the stakeholders**

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**Experts & corporate hospitals providing free services & NGOs giving shelter & skilling**

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**Child Welfare Committee sessions happen in Bharosa**

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**It has been registered as a Society to become financially self-sufficient.**

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**Tax exemption under 80-G and 12-A**

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**BHAROSA Centre has been replicated in all the districts of Telangana**

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# RECORDING OF STATEMENTS- POCSO BEST PRACTICES

## 180 of BNSS - Examination of witnesses by police

- Women Police Officer [SI and above] assisted by a Social Counsellor and Support Person.
- Video recording for deposition in Court
- Child Friendly Room.
- Guardian and Family holding area
- Food and Refreshments

## 183 of BNSS - Recording of confessions and statements

- Mock Court Training to the Child in advance
- Assistance of Support Person and Legal support Person.
- One Way Mirror in select Centres
- Child Friendly Court in the Premises of Hyderabad Bharosa Centre
- Deposition through Video Conferencing
- Facility for Statement Recording and Evidencing from Bharosa Premises

## RECEPTION



## CHILD FRIENDLY COUNSELLING ROOM



## MEDICAL ROOM



**BHAROSA**  
Center for Women and Child Welfare  
Initiative of the Hyderabad City Police

## WAITING HALL AND PLAY AREA





# Bharosa Centers

## One Stop Support for Survivors

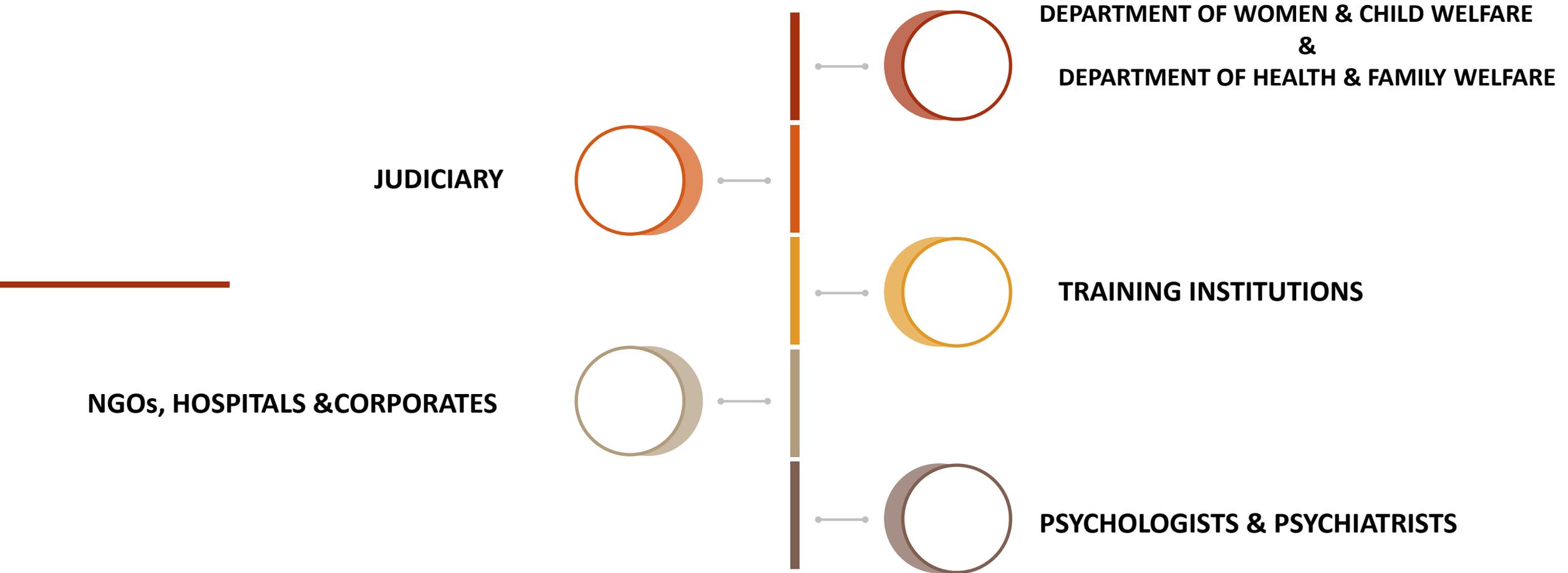
The Bharosa Centres in Telangana serve as a single-window support and handholding system for women and girls seeking justice and rehabilitation. Currently, there are **38 Bharosa Centres** in operation across the state.

Operating statewide under Women Safety Wing, Telangana Police

- Psychological
- Police & Prosecution
- Medical
- Legal
- Shelter
- Outreach
- Rehabilitation
- Helpline

☐ **34 Centres across Telangana** | Immediate help and emergency response.

# SUPPORTING INSTITUTIONS



# COMPENSATION SANCTIONED FOR POCSO VICTIMS IN TELANGANA

YEAR	TOTAL COMPENSATION RECEIVED UNDER NALSA SCHEME (IN RS)	NUMBER OF VICTIMS WHO RECEIVED COMPENSATION UNDER NALSA SCHEME	TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED UNDER VICTIM ASSISTANT FUND FROM BHAROSA (IN RS)	NUMBER OF VICTIMS WHO RECEIVED VICTIM ASSISTANCE FUND
2023	26,684,500	857	1,685,900	203
2024	27,030,000	861	1,759,400	261
2025	61,311,537	1472	1,990,530	272



**CHILD FRIENDLY COURT *SPECIAL COURT FOR TRIAL OF OFFENCES UNDER POCSO ACT***

# CHILD FRIENDLY COURT

As per the guidelines of the Supreme Court and POCSO Act.

Different from other Child Friendly courts in the country.

## Highlights of the Child Friendly Court

- Away from regular Courts
- Two Entrances
- Child Friendly waiting area.
- Video Linkage Room.
- Child Friendly Court hall.
- Separate room for accused with one way mirror.

Legal support officer to take the case to Logical Conclusion.

World class infrastructure.



# COURT ROOM

# COURT ROOM



←  
Accused Room  
-One Way  
Mirror Room



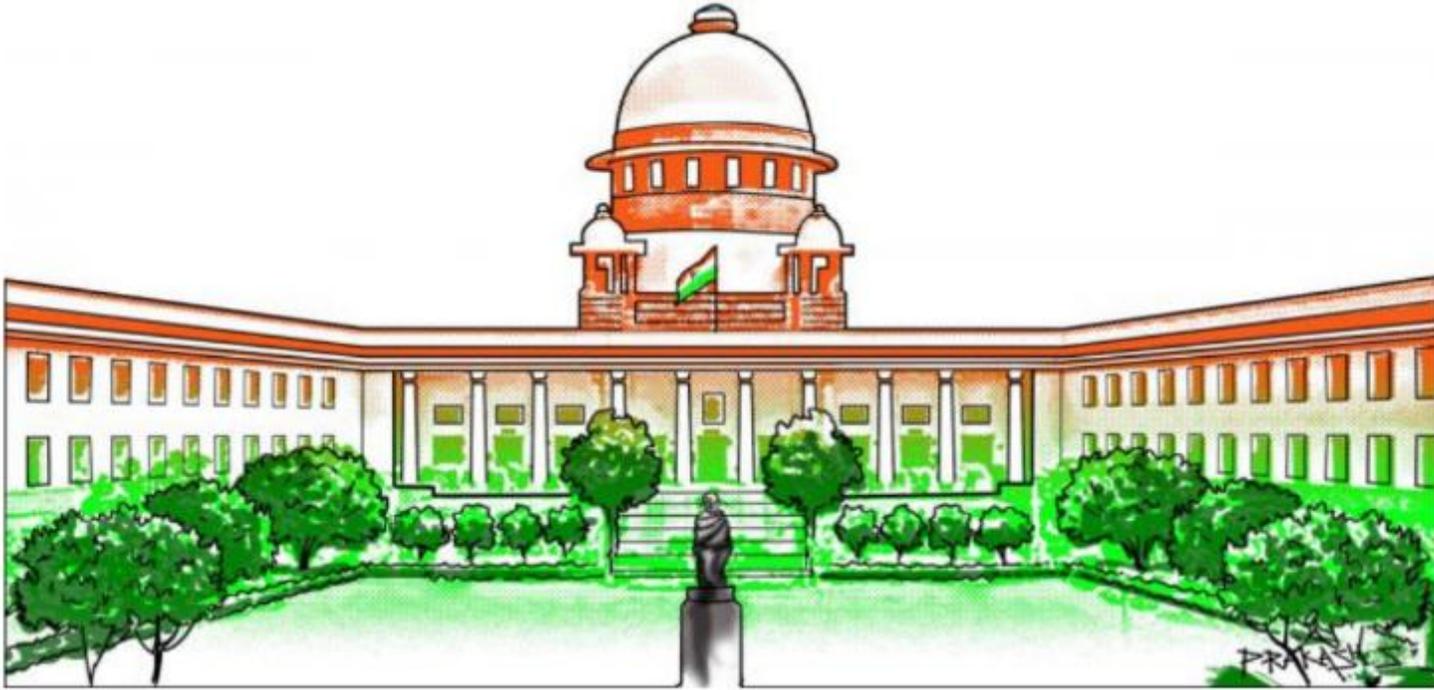
# ACCUSED ROOM -ONE WAY MIRROR ROOM

# CHILD WAITING AREA



# VIDEO LINKAGE ROOM





# SC citation & recognition for **BHAROSA**

*In fact, it would be in the interest of children and women, and in the interest of justice if one stop centres are also set up in all the districts of the country as early as possible.*

*Once such centre which has already been set up is "**BHAROSA**" in **Hyderabad**. THIS CAN BE USED AS A MODEL FOR OTHER ONE STOP CENTRES IN THE COUNTRY .*

*Nipun Saxena vs Union Of India Ministry Of Home ... on 11 December, 2018*

**THANK YOU!**

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**GIVE THEM RIGHTS AND MAKE THEM RESPONSIBLE**

