Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi (Child Protection Unit) 5th Floor ISBT Building Kashmere Gate Delhi-110006

F. No.61(1470)/CWC Matter/SCPS/AD(ICPS)/DWCD/2021/180

Dated:- 04.05.2021

ORDER

Whereas, COVID-19 cases has drastically increased the vulnerability of the children affecting their development and well-being particularly in a situation where parent/s have died of COVID-19 or the bread earner in the family has lost the source of income or is facing economic hardship. And whereas, Sub-Section 4 of Section 45 of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 prescribes for Sponsorship program to provide supplementary support to families to meet medical, nutritional, educational and other needs of the children, with a view to improving their quality of life.

And whereas, Sub Rule 5 of Rule 24 of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Model Rules, 2016 confers discretionary power on the Juvenile Justice Board and the Child Welfare Committee or the Children's Court who may suomotu, or on an application received in that behalf, consider the placement of a child under sponsorship for which purpose it shall verify from the panel whether a sponsor is available to support such child and pass an order for placement of the child under sponsorship in Form 36.

And whereas, the Integrated Child Protection Scheme was launched as Centrally Sponsored Scheme by the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India under which provision of Sponsorship has been made for the children to prevent them become destitute and vulnerable and that with financial assistance children in the CCIs can be restored to their families and supported for their rehabilitation.

And whereas, Sub Rule 2 of Rule 25 of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Model Rules, 2016 confers discretionary power on the Juvenile Justice Board to pass an order for release of After Care support and the same is read asunder:

"Any child who leaves a Child Care Institution may be provided after care till the age of twenty-one years on the order of the Committee or the Board or the Children's Court, as the case may be, as per Form 37 and in exceptional circumstances, for two more years on completing twenty-one years of age."

Therefore, in view of the aforesaid provisions, the Juvenile Justice Board or as the case may be, the Child Welfare Committee may pass order for Sponsorship in Form 36 or for After Care support in Form 37 restricted to the amount at the rate of Rs.2000/- per child for the period as considered necessary which is determined by the Ministry of Women & Child Development, GOI to be released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Child Protection Scheme considering the need of the child to provide supplementary support to meet medical, nutritional, educational and other needs of the children with a view to improving their quality of life or as the case may be, for after care to a person leaving institutional care on attaining the age of 18 years for rehabilitation and mainstreaming in the society.

The above supplementary support of sponsorship or after care should be considered as interim arrangement but necessary to mitigate the hardship being faced by the child or his family affected of COVID-19 and therefore the order of the Board or the Committee must include follow up of the case by the District Child Protection Unit concerned.

(Dr. Rashmi Singh) Director, WCD

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Copy to:

- 1. Joint Registrar, Juvenile Justice Committee, High Court of Delhi
- 2. Chairperson, Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights
- 3. Principle Magistrates of Juvenile Justice Boards, GNCTD
- 4. Chairpersons of Child Welfare Committees OSD to Secretary (WCD), GNCTD
- 5. District Child Protection Officers (WCD), GNCTD
- 6. Nodal Officers/ District Officers (WCD), GNCTD
- 7. OSD to Secretary (WCD), GNCTD

(Premoday Khakha)

Assistant Director (CPU-II)