


PRL. DISTRICT COURT :: WEST GODAVARI :: ELURU : DT.22-11-2024.

Communicated the copy of the Hon'ble High Court's letter in ROC.No.558/SO/2024, Dt.21.11.2024 along with copy of letter Dt.12.11.2024 of the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, New Delhi, along with Advisory on the Hon'ble Supreme Court's direction of **Magistrates to prevent Child Marriages**, for information and compliance of the directions issued therein.

  
PRL. DISTRICT JUDGE,  
W.G., ELURU.

**Copy to :-**

1. All the Judicial Officers in the Unit of West Godavari.
2. The Secretary, DLSA, Eluru.
3. The Chairman, PLAPUS, Eluru.
4. The Special Magistrate, Tanuku.
5. The Official Receiver, Eluru.
6. The Superintendent, Accounts Section, Central Nazarath, OP-Cell, P.Tr Section, Copyist Section, Central Record Room of the Principal District Court, Eluru.
7. The In-charge System Officer (e-Courts project), Principal District Court, Eluru, with a direction to place the same in the Principal District Court's website and send **e-mails** to all the Officers.

Dis No. 7651

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at: 22/11/24

Dr. Y. LAKSHMAŃA RAO  
REGISTRAR GENERAL



AMARAVATI  
(Off):0863 2372613  
(Telefax):0863 2372631

ROC No.558/SO/2024

Dated. 21.11.2024

To  
All the Principal District Judges  
in Andhra Pradesh.



Sir,

Sub: High Court of Andhra Pradesh Letter dt:12.11.2024 of the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, New Delhi — Advisory on Hon'ble Supreme Court's directions for Magistrates to prevent Child Marriages – Forwarded – Reg.

213953  
21/11/24

Ref: Letter dt:12.11.2024 of the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, New Delhi.

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Adverting to the subject and reference cited, as directed, I am to forward herewith copy of letter dt:12.11.2024 of the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, New Delhi, along with the Advisory on Hon'ble Supreme Court's directions for Magistrates to prevent Child Marriages and request you to cause circulation of the same among all the Judicial Magistrates working in your respective Districts, for compliance.

Further, I also request you to communicate the same to all the Judicial Officers in your Unit and to the Presiding Officers of Labour Courts/Tribunals in the District working under the control of the High Court, for information and compliance of the directions issued therein.

Communicated  
to all  
to  
my

Encl: As stated.

Yours sincerely,  
Y. Lakshmana Rao  
21/11/2024  
REGISTRAR GENERAL



आंग्रेत मल्लक, आई.एस.एस.

आंग्रेत

Anil Malik I.A.S.

आंग्रेत

फोन: 11-23333586, 23366731

फोन: 11-23331495

ई-मेल: secy.wcd@gov.in

D.O.No. 16/7/2018- WW



सत्यमेव जयते



आजादी का  
अमृत महोत्सव

आंग्रेत मल्लक

मल्लक एंव बाल विकास मंत्रालय

शासकीय भवन, आई.डी.सी.-110 001

Government of India

Ministry of Women & Child Development

5<sup>th</sup> November, 2024

Dear Chief Secretary/ Administrator,

I would like to draw your attention to the judgement dated 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 (copy enclosed) of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (C) No. 1234 of 2017 titled "Society for Enlightenment and Voluntary Action & Anr. Vs Union of India & Ors" wherein petitioners had sought directions for effective implementation of "The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (PCMA)".

2. The Hon'ble Court while passing the directions in the said petition noted that PCMA as a social legislation will succeed only through the collective efforts of all the stakeholders to address the issue within a broader social framework which emphasizes the need for multi-sectoral coordination. Therefore, it necessitates the enhancement of reporting mechanisms, expansion of public awareness campaigns, and investment in the training and capacity-building of law enforcement officers and related actors. It is also crucial to regularly monitor the implementation of the Act, conduct evaluations to identify gaps and establish feedback mechanisms to continually refine and improve responses to child marriage. A copy of the action points in the judgment along with the responsible/competent authorities to take action on those points is attached as Annexure.

3. The Ministry of Women and Child Development will shortly hold consultations with all the Central line Ministries and States /UTs to ideate on the way forward. Therefore, you may kindly consider this as an advance information to prepare a strategy and Action plan in respect of your respective States/ UTs, for reducing the incidence of Child Marriages so that we may collectively ensure the well-being, survival and holistic development of all girls in our country to enable them to contribute to nation building in an effective way.

4. I, therefore, request you to kindly issue necessary directions to all the officials concerned for implementation and compliance of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in letter and spirit. I also request that feedback on the way forward may kindly be provided to this Ministry by 18.11.2024 at email id women-welfare1@gov.in under the Subject heading "Feedback on Way Forward for Bal Vivah Mukat Bharat Initiative."

With Regards

Enrl: As above.

Chief Secretaries/ Administrators of all States/ UTs.

Copy to:

Add. Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/ Secretary, Women and Child Development/ Social Welfare Department of all States/ UTs.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Anil Malik)

Sd/-

(Anil Malik)

Copy for similar action to:

1. Secretaries to Government of India of Ministry/ Department of (i) School Education and Literacy, (ii) Higher Education, (iii) Home Affairs, (iv) Justice, (v) Panchayati Raj, (vi) Rural Development, (vii) Health and Family Welfare, (viii) Social Justice and Empowerment, (ix) Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, (x) Tribal Affairs, (xi) Minority Affairs, (xii) Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
2. The Member Secretary, NALSA.
3. The Member Secretary, NCPCR.

(Anil Malik)

No. 15011/22/2024-Jus-II/9732  
Government of India  
Ministry of Law & Justice  
Department of Justice  
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Jaisalmer House, 26 Mansingh Road,  
New Delhi-110011,  
Date: 12 November, 2024

To,

Registrars General of High Courts  
(As per list attached)

**Subject: Advisory on Hon'ble Supreme Court's Directions for Magistrates to Prevent Child Marriages**

Madam/Sir,

This is with reference to the Ministry of Women and Child Development (M/o. WCD) letter dated 5.11.2024 (copy enclosed), with regard to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment in *Writ Petition (C) No. 1234 of 2017, Society for Enlightenment and Voluntary Action & Atv. V's Union of India & Ors.* The judgment emphasizes the importance of judicial measures in strengthening the enforcement of *The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (PCMA)*.

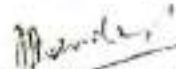
2. This Department is issuing this advisory to the High Courts to facilitate the implementation of two key judicial actions outlined by the Supreme Court, as given below:

- i. **Suo Motu Injunctions by Magistrates:** Magistrates are encouraged to issue *Suo Motu* injunctions to prevent the solemnization of child marriages. Particular focus should be on dates regarded as 'auspicious days' for mass weddings, as these are commonly associated with a heightened risk of child marriages.
- ii. **Judicial Action for Child Protection:** Magistrates are advised to actively use their judicial authority to prevent child marriages and ensure the protection of minors in accordance with the provisions of the PCMA.

3. It is requested to circulate this advisory to all concerned Magistrates within your jurisdiction, reinforcing the importance of vigilance and judicial intervention in preventing child marriages. The Supreme Court has underlined the judiciary's essential role in safeguarding children, and it is crucial that these directives be implemented effectively.

4. Your prompt attention and cooperation in this critical matter will be highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

  
(P. P. Pandey) 12/11/24

Joint Secretary to the Government of India



S.NO.	Action Point	Responsibility
	limited to, any difficulty relating to social ostracization for preventing child marriages	
4.4	The Unit shall act as a forum of sharing best practices, inviting trained professionals to dispense knowledge and collectivise and redress grievances.	
<b>B. Judicial Measures</b>		
<b>1. Empowering Magistrates to Take Suo Moto Action and Issue Preventive Injunctions</b>		
1.1	Magistrates to issue suo motu injunctions to prevent the solemnization of child marriages.	Department of Justice may issue necessary advisory to all States/ UTs.
	Magistrates to particularly focus on 'auspicious days' known for mass weddings--- and use their judicial powers to halt such marriages and ensure child protection	
<b>2. Exploration of Special Fast-Track Courts for Child Marriage Cases</b>		
2.1	The Union Government, in coordination with State Governments, to assess the feasibility of establishing special fast-track courts exclusively to handle cases under the PCMA. These courts will expedite case proceedings, thereby preventing prolonged delays that often lead to additional harm for the affected children; and	Department of Justice may take necessary action in consultation with State/ UTs
2.2	A status report on establishment, resource allocation and potential effectiveness of these fast track courts shall be submitted to the Supreme Court within a year.	
<b>3. Mandatory Action Against Neglectful Public Servants.</b>		
3.1	Strict disciplinary and legal action be taken against any public servant found to be in deliberate neglect of duty concerning child marriage cases within their jurisdiction.	State Governments and UT Administration
<b>C. Community Involvement</b>		
<b>1. Annual Action Plans and Community-Centric Capacity Building</b>		
1.1.	Each State and UTs is directed to develop an Annual Action Plan to prevent child marriages, incorporating Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that reflect local cultural and social contexts. This plan should include measurable goals tailored to address community-specific beliefs and practices related to child marriage;	State Governments and UT Administration
1.2.	States and UTs shall incorporate regular orientation programs, seminars, and workshops in their annual schedules aimed at building the capacity of all stakeholders. These initiatives should target CMPOs, Gram Panchayat or	State Governments and UT Administration