

**Orientation of Program Officers of National Services Scheme (NSS)**

Participatory Action on priorities for Child Friendly Communities in the Post COVID Scenario

Child Resource Centre (CRC) was established as a joint initiative of the Department for Child Rights, HCM Rajasthan State Institute of Public Administration and UNICEF, Rajasthan to ensure the effective implementation of Child Protection Laws and Schemes related to children through the capacity-building of child protection stakeholders in the State.

In order to strengthen the child protection structure, various online and on-campus training and capacity-building programs are being organized by the CRC to enhance the knowledge of stakeholders and youth about child rights and child protection. An understanding of their role in the implementation of child protection laws and schemes related to children is also necessary. Along with this, technical support is being provided to various stakeholders regarding the challenges faced in the cases of children and developing a group of experts having competence in the field of child protection.

UNICEF Rajasthan is continuously working with various Government Departments and civil society organizations such as - Department for Child Rights, Police, Sardar Patel Police University, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, Child Resource Centre, Social Justice and Empowerment Department, National Service Scheme (NSS) etc., to create a protective environment for the children in the state.

NSS and UNICEF share a strong partnership in Rajasthan. In the last few years, COVID-19 and its far-reaching impact on the communities has added greater purpose and significance to this collaboration. The volunteers of NSS have actively partaken in spreading awareness regarding COVID 19, and COVID-19 sensitive behaviours, entitlements, and services for the most vulnerable in the State through their volunteerism. The right holder’s voice collated by them through the social listening initiatives have informed strategies for fine-tuned outreach on risk communication.

To sustain this collaboration and meaningful engagement with volunteers on NSS in the academic year, an orientation is being planned for select programme officers of 17 districts on building a common understanding on key issues of violence against children, rights, entitlements, and legal provisions, gender stereotypes, linkage to violence, voice and vistas of opportunities, creating safe learning spaces for children with parents and communities, COVID-19 vaccination and sensitive behaviours. Armed with this understanding, these program officers will be able to guide the energies of the volunteers of NSS towards constructive civic engagement on these significant priorities in our state. In addition, program officers’ will support UNICEF in conducting the social listening insights on the above-mentioned issues in their respective districts through their team of NSS volunteers.

The one-day residential orientation workshop is scheduled on 15 September 2022 at HCM-RIPA, through technical and financial support by UNICEF. This workshop is jointly planned by regional office of NSS, State nodal officer and UNICEF and duly endorsed by Department of Higher education as per protocol. As a result of the workshop, the action plans for the respective district and the relevant POs will be developed and implemented with technical support of UNICEF as required.

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| **Date: 15-09-2022** |
| **Time** | **Topic** | **Methodology** | **Facilitator** |
| 8:45-09:00 | Registration |  | Child Resources Center, RIPA. |
| 09:00-9:10 | Welcome  |  | Gaurav,CRC HCM RIPA |
| Setting the context  | Dr. Dharmendra Singh, SLO, NSS- Rajasthan |
| 09:10-9:15 | Inaugural Remarks and Motivational Words |   | Mr. S.P. Bhatnagar Regional Director, NSS |
| 09:15-9:20 | Ms. Isabelle Bardem, Chief, UNICEF, RFO. |
| 09:30-10:15 | Experience Sharing -NSS in action in the COVID context | Participatory | Mr. Zameer AnwarUNICEF Field Office, Rajasthan. |
| 10:15-10:45 | Priorities for support in the Post Covid Scenario | Participatory & presentation  | Ms. Manjaree Pant, C4D Specialist,UNICEF Field Office, Rajasthan |
| **10:30-10:45** | **Tea** |
| 10:45-11:15 | Social Listening and NSS ContributionCommunity perceptions of safe public spaces, stereotypes around boys and girls  | Presentation & Discussion | Mr. Nesar Ahmad, BARC, Jaipur, Rajasthan. |
| 11:15- 11:45 | Gender stereotypes, linkage to violence, voice and vistas of opportunities  | Participatory & presentation | Jatan Sansthan/ Ms. Manjaree Pant, C4D Specialist, UNICEF Field Office, Rajasthan |
| 11:45–12:15 | Violence against children, rights, entitlements, and legal provisions | Presentation and Discussion | Mr. Rajkumar Paliwal CRC-RIPA |
| 12:15-12:45 | Creating safe learning spaces for children with parents and communities  | Presentation and Discussion | Room to Read/Ms. Amrita Sengupta, Edu Specialist, UNICEF Field Office Rajasthan |
| 12:45-01:15 | COVID-19 Vaccination and Sensitive Behaviors. | Presentation, Discussion | Zameer Anwar SBCC Consultant, UNICEF Field Office, Rajasthan. |
| **01:15-02:15** | **Lunch** |
| 02:30-04:30 | Action Planning by participating POs Community based activities Social listening, identification of volunteers, orientation of volunteers, district wise data collection plan, certificationReporting and recognition  | Group work, discussion | BARC and UNICEF |
| **04:30-04:45** | **Tea** |
| 04:45-04:55 | Open House |  | Chaired by Dr. Surendra Singh Yadav, State Coordinator, College Education- NSS. Rajasthan |
| 04:55-05:00 | Conclusion and vote of thanks  |  | Chaired by Rajesh Yadav (Retired IAS,)Senior Fellow, Child Resources Center, RIPA.Gaurav RIPA |