

SURENDRANATH LAW COLLEGE

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Invitation

We would like to take this Golden Opportunity to request you to make your gracious presence in a Symposium on "A Critical Study of Protection of Child from Sexual Offence Act, 2012" Scheduled be held on 3rd August, 2018 at 11.00 a.m.

Your kind presence in the said programme is highly solicited.

Thanking you,

Yours,
Dr. Mohammadi Tarannum
Vice Principal
Surenranath Law College

A CRITICAL STUDY OF PROTECTION OF CHILD FROM SEXUAL OFFENCE ACT, 2012 FROM WEST BENGAL PERSPECTIVE

The Act is a 'specific' legislation for the protection of the child from the sexual offences.

The Act has some unique features setting up of Special Juvenile Courts and appointment of Special Public Prosecutor. In the past, it has been observed that the trials took unnecessarily long time to dispose of the matter, but the new Act was suggested to disposing with the case within one year. The essence of the Act lies in the fact that it is more child-friendly while recording of evidence, reporting and during investigation and trial, a support system from Police administration. Under this act, the statement of the girl child is to be recorded by a woman police officer who is not below the rank of sub-inspector. The presence of parents and other relatives during medical examination of the victim is allowed under the act. In the case of a victim girl, a medical examination is to be conducted by women doctor. Thirdly, this act has an implication of the point that the person, who has attempted to commit the crime under the act, is liable for punishment. Just like in rape cases where the burden of proof is on the accused, here also the burden of proof of his innocence is on the accused. It should be noted that the act provides punishment for false accusation as well.

The Act is in force and what is the real picture of POCSO Act in this 5 years. The entire civilization is at crossroad, every minute of every day, the most vulnerable sections in the world are raped for profit with impunity, yet efforts to combat child sexual offences remains inadequate and misdirected. There are several reasons for

this insufficiency. First, despite increased media attention, child friendly environments remains poorly understood. Second, the organizations dedicated to combating such offences are underfunded and uncoordinated. Finally, despite numerous studies and reports conducted to identify strategic points of intervention, has not yet been undertaken.

Child related offences have increased dramatically with globalization. According to National Crime Record Bureau, Crime, 2015 report the rate of crime against child offence is 16.9% of the total head of the crime.¹ In 2014, number of cases registered for child offence was 8,904 and in 2015, the number increased to 14,913 which is 67.5% hike in the offence. In the West Bengal itself after the Act came into force, in 2014 under the head of POCSO Act, there was 1,058 cases registered and in 2015 it was 1,289. The latest data revealed that there is some sort of problem in detecting the menace in the root.²

SUBTHEMES

1. Social aspect of child abuse.
2. Duties of police as specified in POCSO Rules, 2012.
3. Judicial Response to the implementation of the POCSO Act.
4. Is there any need for change and reform in the existing legal and administrative mechanism to prevent and prosecute the offenders? If so, what type of changes would be appropriate?
5. An Overview of POCSO in the Light of 2018 Amendment.

¹ www.ncrb.gov.in

² www.ncrb.gov.in

SURENDRANATH LAW COLLEGE

ONE DAY SYMPOSIUM

ON

**A CRITICAL STUDY OF PROTECTION OF CHILD FROM
SEXUAL OFFENCE ACT, 2012 FROM WEST BENGAL
PERSPECTIVE**

3RD AUGUST, 2018

INAUGURAL SESSION : 11.00 A.M. to 12 O'Noon

- Welcome Address** : **DR. MOHAMMADI TARANNUM**
Vice Principal, Surendranath Law College
- Lightening of the Lamp** : **By Hon'ble Guests**
- Inaugural Speech by
Chief Guest** : **Mr. Malay Ghatak**
Hon'ble Minister of Law
Government of West Bengal
- Speech by
Guest of Honour** : **MR. ASHOK KUMAR DEB**
Chairman, Bar Council of West Bengal
& Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly
Government of West Bengal
- Speech by Special Guest** : **PROF. (DR.) J. K. DAS**
Dean, Department of Law
University of Calcutta
- Keynote Address by
12 O'Noon to 1 P.M.** : **MR. VIVEK CHOWDHURY**
Judicial Secretary
Government of West Bengal
- Vote of Thanks** : **CONVENER OF THE SYMPOSIUM**

BREAK : 1.00 P.M. to 1.30 P.M.

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3RD AUGUST, 2018

TECHNICAL SESSION – I : 1.30 P.M. TO 2.30 P.M.

Speaker : **DR. JOYDEEP MAZUMDER**
Executive Director
Vidyasagar School of Social Work
Vidyasagar University, Salt Lake, Kolkata

Topic : **Social Aspect of Child Abuse**

TECHNICAL SESSION – II (2.30 P.M. TO 3.30 P.M.)

Speaker : **DR. KAVITA SINGH**
Associate Professor
Presiding Officer, ICC, NUJS, Kolkata

Topic : **An Overview of POCSO in the Light of 2018
Amendment**

TECHNICAL SESSION – III (3.30 P.M. TO 4.30 P.M.)

Speaker :

Topic : **Duties of Police as Specified in POCSO Rules,
2012.**

4.30 P.M. to 4.35 P.M. : **Vote of Thanks**
Surendranath Law College