



केंद्रीय दत्तक-ग्रहण संसाधन प्राधिकरण Central Adoption Resource Authority

(भारत सरकार के महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय का सांविधिक निकाय)

(A Statutory Body of Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India)

सं. / No. CARA-MISC/330/2023-CARA-Part(1)(109423)

दिनांक / Date 07-07-2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Implementation of Counselling Provisions under Adoption Regulations, 2022 – reg.

The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), in exercise of its powers under Section 70(1)(a) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (as amended in 2021), hereby issues the following directions to all State Adoption Resource Agencies (SARAs) for the effective implementation of counselling provisions at the pre-adoption, during-adoption, and post-adoption stages, as prescribed under the Adoption Regulations, 2022. These directions are aimed at strengthening the psychosocial support framework for prospective adoptive parents (PAPs), adopted children, and surrendering biological parents across all States and Union Territories.

2. It is reiterated that the Adoption Regulations, 2022 contain specific provisions requiring the delivery of structured and need-based counselling services at each stage of the adoption process. These include, but are not limited to, Regulation 10(7), Regulation 30(4)(c), Regulation 30(4)(e), Regulation 7(11), Regulation 30(2)(c), Regulation 14(4), Regulation 14(6)(b), and Regulation 21(6) of Adoption regulation 2022 which collectively envisage a holistic support system for all relevant stakeholders.

3. In pursuance of the above, all SARAs are hereby directed to undertake the following measures to ensure structured and consistent implementation of the counselling-related provisions:

- a. Designate or empanel qualified counsellors at the district and state levels, preferably professionals with specialization in child psychology, social work, or mental health.
- b. Ensure delivery of mandatory pre-adoption counselling to prospective adoptive parents as an integral component of the Home Study Report process in accordance with Regulation 10(7).
- c. Facilitate counselling for older children at the pre-adoption and during-adoption stages, in alignment with Regulation 30(4)(c).
- d. Provide post-adoption counselling, as may be required, in the following scenarios:
 - i. When adoptees initiate a root search (Regulation 30(4)(e));
 - ii. In cases of non-adjustment between the adoptee and adoptive family or any indication of potential disruption/dissolution (Regulations 14(4), 14(6)(b), and 21(6));
 - iii. Any other circumstance warranting psychosocial intervention, as determined by the SAA or DCPU.
 - iv. Any other.

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पश्चिमी खंड-8, विंग-2, द्वितीय तल, रामकृष्ण पुरम, नई दिल्ली-110066 (भारत)

West Block-8, Wing-2, 2nd Floor, R.K. Puram, New Delhi- 110066 (India)

टोल फ्री / Toll Free: 1800-11-1311, 011-26760471, 26760472, 26760473

ई-मेल/Email: carahdesk.wcd@nic.in, वेबसाइट/ Website: <https://cara.wcd.gov.in>

- e. Counsel surrendering biological parents on the implications of their decision, including the legal finality of surrender after 60 days and the possibility of future root search by the child, in accordance with Regulations 7(11) and 30(2)(c).
- f. Maintain detailed records of all counselling sessions and interventions undertaken, and ensure timely documentation at the SAA and DCPU levels.

4. All SARAs are requested to ensure compliance by respective DCPUs/ SAAs/CCIs/under their jurisdiction.


(Bhavna Saxena)
CEO, CARA

To:

Member Secretary/Director/ Joint Director/ Assistant Director, SARA
All States and UTs

Copy to:

Concerned Pr. Secretary/ Secretary
WCD/ SW,
All States and UTs

भावना सक्सेना / Bhavna Saxena
सदस्य सचिव एवं मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी -
MS & Chief Executive Officer
केन्द्रीय दत्तक-ग्रहण संसाधन प्राधिकरण
Central Adoption Resource Authority
महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय
Ministry of Women & Child Development
भारत सरकार / Government of India
पश्चिमी खण्ड-8, विंग-2, द्वितीय तल, आर.के. पुरम
West Block-8, Wing-2, 2nd Floor, R.K. Puram
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi-110066