

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

- **Should the police file an FIR in all cases involving Children?**

No, in matters involving children, the police is required to file an FIR only when the offence alleged to have been committed by the child is heinous in nature and punishable with a sentence of seven years or more.

- **As a child can I be arrested in the first place?**

Yes, the police can arrest children if they believe they have committed a crime. Typically, police stations will have a child welfare protection officer (Section 107 of JJ Act 2015) and in each district and city, there will be at least one special juvenile police unit. When the police arrest a child on suspicion of committing a crime, this should normally be done by a Special Juvenile Police Unit(SJPU). If a regular police officer arrests the child, then the child should immediately be placed under the care of the Juvenile Police Unit, or a designated Child Welfare Police Officer(SWPO). (Section 10 of JJ Act 2015).

The Police can also arrest children who have run away from an institution where they were placed under the JJ Act (Section 26 of JJ Act 2015), such as an Observation Home (Section 47 of JJ Act 2015), Special Home or Place of Safety (Section 49 of JJ Act 2015).

In certain circumstances for example, with respect to habitual thieves, the Magistrate can order the adults be detained in prison if they do not execute a bond for good behavior or peace. (The Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 – Section 106). Even though arrests of children are allowed, the Magistrate cannot order a similar detention with respect to children. (Section 22 of JJ Act 2015).

- **What are the responsibilities of the police when they arrest me?**

The police cannot handcuff you or exert any force when they arrest you (Rule 8(3)(ii), the Bihar Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017.)

- The police officer must, immediately, inform your parents or guardians.

- If they do not release you on bail, then the officer must tell them the location of the JJB where you will be produced. (Section 13 of JJ Act 2015).
- The police officer, or probation officer if there is one, is also required to prepare a 'Social Investigation Report' within two weeks and submit it to the JJB. This contains details that would be helpful for the JJB to make its decisions, such as your family background. (Section 13 of JJ Act 2015.)

- **Who shall produce a Child before the Juvenile Justice Board and in what time frame?**

A designated Child Welfare Police officer from Special Juvenile Police Unit should produce a Child before the Juvenile Justice Board within 24 hours.

- **Is the police supposed to produce all juveniles before the Juvenile Justice Board?**

In all cases where a Child is apprehended, production before the Board is mandatory.

- **What should the police do if a child is apprehended for a crime that is punishable by a sentence of less than seven years?**

In such cases the police should not file an FIR. These are cases where only a DD entry is supposed to be made by the police and the child has to be produced before JJB within 24 hours. The police is required to prepare a social background report of the Child, a report stating the circumstances of the alleged offence, a report about recovery of any stolen articles from the child and age proof of the child along with other relevant documents before the Board before the first hearing.

- **Can the police keep me in jail?**

A child can never be kept in a police lockup or regular jail. The police must bring you before the 11B within 24 hours (Section 10 of 11 Act 2015). If the police does not release you immediately on bail, you can only be kept in an Observation Home (Section 12 of 11 Act 2015) until you are taken to the 11B (within 24 hours). The police are also supposed to inform a child welfare officer who is supposed to accompany you to the 11B for the first hearing.

(Rule 8(2)(iii), the Bihar Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017.)

- **I don't know why the police have arrested me. What can be done?**

The police have a duty to tell your parents or guardians why you have been arrested. They can ask the police for the charges under which you have been arrested.

If the police have registered an FIR (or first information report), they have a duty to give your parents or guardians a copy of this FIR (Rule 8(3)(iii), the Bihar Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017). An FIR is the document prepared by the police when they get any information about a crime that has occurred. To know more about FIRs.

- **Who can release a child on bail?**

In petty offences, the police may release a child on bail. But in all non-bailable matters involving i.e heinous or serious offences only the Juvenile Justice Board is authorised to release a child on bail.

- **At the time of apprehension of the Child whom should the Police mandatorily to inform?**

The Police shall mandatorily inform the parents/guardian and Probation officer.

- **What is mandatory at the time of apprehension for Police?**

- ◆ In no case send the child to lock-up or jailor keep him with adult accused;
- ◆ Not to delay his charge being transferred to the Child Welfare Police Officer from the nearest police station.
- ◆ Not to hand-cuff, chain or otherwise fetter a child;
- ◆ provide appropriate medical assistance, assistance of interpreter if the child cannot understand the language or any other assistance which the child may require;

- ◆ give food to the child if he has not had his meals;
  - ◆ The parents shall be present during the interview of the child by the police.
  - ◆ The child should not be compelled to confess his guilt and he should be interviewed only at the Special Juvenile Police Unit or at a child-friendly premises or a child friendly corner in the police station.
- **How does the JJB decide when to detain me?**
    - ◆ The JJB has the power to detain you (Section 12 of JJ Act 2015), though, this is the exception and the rule is bail. If the JJB decides to allow for your release on bail, your parents or guardians are supposed to submit an undertaking in a certain form (Form 2, the Bihar Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017).
    - ◆ If you are unable to satisfy the bail conditions for a week, then the JJB is required to modify these to help you (Section 12 of JJ Act 2015).
    - ◆ The JJB may decide to deny bail if this is against your interests. For instance, if this would bring you into contact with criminals or expose you to moral, physical or psychological danger. (Section 12 of JJ Act 2015).
  - **So if I'm not going to be in jail, where will they send me?**

While the inquiry is going on, you can only be detained in Observation Homes or a Place of Safety. The JJB has to tell you how long you will be detained in the order (Section 12 of JJ Act 2015).
  - **Who can release a child on bail?**

In bailable matters, the police can release a child on bail. But in all non-bailable matters involving juveniles, the Juvenile Justice Board is authorized to release a child on bail.
  - **Whether Inquiry to determine the age of a child is essential in each case before JJB?**

NO, the JJB can record a finding based on appearance of the

person before it that the said persons is a child and proceed with the inquiry under section 14 or section 36, as the case may be without waiting for further confirmation of age The age recorded by the Committee or the Board to be the age of person so brought before it shall, for the purpose of this Act, be deemed to be the true age of that person. (Section 94(1) & (3) of the JJ Act 2015).

- **What are Petty, Serious, and Heinous Offences?**

The JJ Act 2015 inserted a new scheme which divided crimes into three categories: Petty, Serious and Heinous.

1. **Petty Offences**: Crimes for which maximum punishment is imprisonment up to 3 years. These include crimes such as assault, causing simple hurt, theft, forgery etc.
2. **Serious Offences**: Crimes for which punishment between 3 to 7 years' imprisonment. These include crimes such as attempt to commit culpable homicide, causing grievous hurt, cheating etc.
3. **Heinous Offences**: Crimes for which minimum punishment is imprisonment for 7 years or more. These include crimes such as murder, rape, dacoity etc.

- **How are things different for the different types of crimes?**

The manner in which the JJB must conduct its proceedings will now depend on the type of the crime you have been accused of committing. Now, the JJB must first look at the nature of the offence. Different procedures are adopted for different kinds of offences.

- ◆ **Time Limits**: In all cases, the JJBs required to complete its inquiry within 4 months. This may be extended to 6 months. But any inquiry pending after 6 months expire shall be terminated in cases of Petty Offences (Section 14 of JJ Act 2015).
- ◆ **No automatic termination happens in cases of Serious or Heinous Offences** - here the courts can grant an extension even beyond 6 months. (Section 14 of JJ Act 2015.)

- ◆ **Different Legal Procedure:** Cases with Petty Offences are disposed of in the same way a Summary Trial is conducted (Section 14 of JJ Act 2015). Those with Serious Offences are conducted the way Summons cases are tried under the Cr.P.C (Section 14 of JJ Act 2015.)
- ◆ **Different rules on FIR Registration:** For Petty Offences or Serious Offences, the police are not supposed to register a FIR. They are supposed to record it in the general diary along with the social background report. Only when a Heinous Offence is alleged can the police register an FIR against a child (Rule 8(1), the Bihar Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017).
- ◆ **Different Duties on Police Investigation:** In cases of Heinous Offences, the police must produce statements of witnesses and other documents collected during investigation within one month from the date when the child was first produced. Copies of these have to be given to the child or their parents [Rule 10(5) the Bihar Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017]. In other cases, the police must file the Final Report within two months from the date of information (Rule 10 ( 6), the Bihar Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017).

- **What happens when it is a Heinous Offence?**

If the inquiry is about Heinous Offences, then it becomes crucial to determine whether the child is above or below the age of 16 years. If the child is below 16 years, the JJB conducts an inquiry just like it would for a Serious Offence i.e., where a summons case procedure is followed. But if the child is older than 16, then the JJB must conduct a 'Preliminary Assessment' (Section 15 of JJ Act 2015).

- **What is a Preliminary Assessment?**

If a child is above 16 years, and is alleged to have committed a Heinous Offence, the JJ Act allows for the proceedings to be conducted under normal procedures like an adult and not the child-friendly procedures of the JJ Act. To decide whether a child should

be tried by regular procedure, the JJB must conduct a 'Preliminary Assessment'. (Section 15 of JJ Act 2015).

The Preliminary Assessment is an attempt to find out whether the child was mature enough to understand his/her acts and their consequences. The JJB can take the help of trained psychologists and experts to arrive at its conclusions, (Section 15 of JJ Act 2015), but must complete the inquiry within 3 months. (Section 14 (3) of JJ Act 2015).

If the JJB passes an order to keep proceedings under the Act and not send the case to the regular court, the government can appeal against this order.

- **So how are Children tried as Adults?**

When the JJB decides that a child should be tried as an adult after a Preliminary Assessment, it sends the case to a Children's Court (Section 18 (3) of JJ Act 2015). The Children's Court may be an existing Sessions Court that is dealing with child-specific laws, or a special court set up for the purpose of dealing with crimes under the JJ Act. (Section 2(20) of JJ Act 2015).

- **How does a Children's Court work?**

The Children's Court may do one of the following two things (Section 19 of JJ Act 2015). :-

1. It may decide that the child must be treated like an adult for the trial, and then conduct a regular trial and pass final judgment. While the Children's Court can generally pass the maximum sentence for a Heinous Offence (i.e., it can pass a sentence of more than 3 years), it cannot award the death penalty or life imprisonment without the possibility of release in such cases.
2. It may decide that there is no need to conduct a trial as an adult, and may conduct an inquiry like the JJB, passing orders under Section 18 of the JJ Act.

In all proceedings, the Children's Court must ensure a child-friendly atmosphere is maintained. It must also ensure that the child be sent to a Place of Safety, if detained during proceedings. If he

is found guilty of having committing the Heinous Offence, he will be sent to the Place of Safety until he becomes 21 years old, after which he can be sent to jail (Section 20 of JJ Act 2015.). The child should have access to reformative services (like education, skill development) when he is at the Place of Safety.

- **What is Board and what qualification is required to be a member of the Board?**

The Juvenile Justice Board is constituted for exercising the powers and discharging its functions relating to children in conflict with law. The board consists of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of First class as a Principal Magistrate with at least three years' experience and two social workers, of whom at least one shall be a woman. The social worker appointed by the State Government shall be actively involved in health, education, or welfare activities pertaining to children for at least seven years or shall be a practicing professional with a degree in child psychology, psychiatry, sociology or law.

- **What is the composition of JJB?**

The JJB consists of a Metropolitan Magistrate or a Judicial Magistrate of First Class as the Principal Magistrate of the Board and two social workers as members. In the earlier law, in many States, it was found that the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) or Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) were holding the charge of Principal Magistrate. As they are already burdened with cases, the cases before the JJB remained un-attended leading to huge pendency of cases. In order to address this issue, in the new Act under Section 4(1), it is clearly stated that the CMM or CJM cannot be the Principal Magistrate of the Board.

The Social worker members should be persons who have been actively involved in health, education, or welfare activities pertaining to children for at least seven years or a practicing professional with a degree in child psychology, psychiatry, sociology or law.

- **What is the term of members of the Board?**

The term of social worker members of the Board is for a period of three years from the date of appointment. They are eligible for maximum of two terms which cannot be continuous.

- **What are the provisions for sitting of the Board?**

The Board is required to hold its sittings in either an Observation Home or a Special Home or any place which is close to these child care institutions. The Board cannot hold its sittings in any court or jail premises.

The Board is required to sit on all working days for a minimum of six hours unless the case pendency is less.

- **What are the provisions in law to ensure JJB members are sensitized on the law?**

Under Section 4(5), the State Government is made responsible to provide induction training and sensitisation to all members including Principal Magistrate of the Board on care, protection, rehabilitation, legal provisions and justice for children, within a period of sixty days from the date of their appointment. Further, under Model Rule 89, the State Government is also required to organize regular training programmes for all stakeholders including JJB members on the implementation of the JJ Act, 2015.

- **Who monitors the pendency of cases in a JJB?**

The Chief Judicial Magistrate or the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate reviews the pendency of cases of the Board once in every three months. Based on the review, they may direct the Board to increase the frequency of its sittings or may recommend the constitution of additional Boards.

The pendency of cases is also reviewed every six months by a high level committee consisting of:

- ◆ Executive Chairperson of the State Legal Services Authority as the Chairperson
- ◆ Home Secretary

- ◆ Secretary responsible for the implementation of JJ Act, 2015 in the State
  - ◆ a representative from a voluntary or nongovernmental organization to be nominated by the Chairperson
  - ◆ The JJB is required to furnish information of pendency of cases to the Chief Judicial Magistrate or the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate and the District Magistrate on quarterly basis in Form 12 of the Model Rules.
  - ◆ The Board is also required to maintain “Case Monitoring Sheet” of every case and every child in Form 11 of the Model Rules. The sheet facilitates tracking and monitoring of timelines of cases before the Board.
- **Does the Board have power to pass a decision or order in case of children who are in need of care and protection?**

No, the Board has the power to deal with children in conflict with law. Children who are in need of care and protection are to be referred to a Child Welfare Committee for appropriate order.

- **What happens if a child ceases to be a child during the process of inquiry?**

Under Section 5 of the Act, where an inquiry has been initiated in respect of any child under this Act, and during the course of such inquiry, the child completes the age of eighteen years, then, the inquiry is to be continued by the Board and orders as if such person had continued to be a child.

- **What happens if a person is apprehended for committing an offence when he was a child?**

Under Section 6 of the Act, if a person is apprehended for committing an offence when he or she was a child or below 18 years of age then such person is to be treated as a child under the JJ Act, 2015. However, as

the person is an adult and cannot be kept in an observation home with children, the Act states that such person is to be placed in a Place of safety.

Every State Government is required to establish at least one place of Safety in a state.

- **If the Board is not sitting, can a child be produced before a single member of the Board?**

Yes, a child in conflict with law can be produced before a single member of the Board. The order given by individual member is to be ratified by the Board in its next meeting.

The Principal Magistrate is to draw a monthly roster of member who are required to be available and accessible every day including Holidays. The roster is to be circulated in advance to all police stations, CJM/CMM, District judge, District Magistrate, Child Welfare Committee, District Child Protection Unit and Special Juvenile Police Unit.

- **Can one member of the Board pass an order for disposal of the case?**

No, at least two members including the Principal Magistrate should be present at the time of final disposal of a case.

- **What happens if there is difference of opinion among members of the Board in an interim or final order?**

In case of difference of opinion among members of the Board, the opinion of majority is to prevail and if there is no majority then the opinion of Principal Magistrate is to prevail.

- **Is the Board required to give bail in all cases brought before it?**

If a child is brought before the Board for committing a bailable or non-bailable offence, the Board may release the child on bail with or without surety and place him under the supervision of probation officer or a fit person. The bail may however be denied if there appears reasonable ground for believing that:

- ◆ the release is likely to bring him into association with any known criminal
- ◆ expose him to moral, physical or psychological danger
- ◆ his release would defeat the ends of justice
- **The Board is expected to adopt child friendly approaches, what are these?**

The child friendly approaches include:

- ◆ Ensuring no person un-connected with the case is present during proceedings
- ◆ Ensuring only persons whom the child feels comfortable, are present during proceedings
- ◆ The premises should not look like a court room
- ◆ Board members should interact with child face to face
- ◆ Board members should ensure their facial expressions, body language, eye contact, intonation and volume of voice in addressing children is not threatening to child rather it should make the child comfortable
- **What are the functions of JJB other than disposing of matters related to children in conflict with law?**

The Board is required to conduct at least one inspection visit every month of Observation Home, Special Home and Place of safety and recommend action for improvement to the District Child Protection Unit and State Government.

- ◆ The Board is also required to conduct regular inspection of jails meant for adults to check if any child is lodged in jail. In case a child is found then the Board is to take immediate action for transfer of child to an Observation home.
- **How does the Board ensure free legal aid for the child?**

Every child who files or defends a case is entitled to free legal services under the Legal Services Authority act, 1987. The Board is to ensure free legal services to

children through State or District Legal Aid Services Authority or through the Legal cum Probation Officer placed in the District Child Protection Unit.

The Board can also deploy services of student volunteers or NGOs for para legal and other tasks such as contacting the parents of child and collecting relevant social and rehabilitative information about the child.

- **What is the timeline for inquiry if a child commits a petty offence?**

The inquiry is to be completed within four months from the date of first production of child before the Board. The period may be extended for a maximum of two months by the Board. In case the inquiry remains inconclusive even after the extended period then the proceedings stand terminated as per Section 14(4) of the Act.

- **What are the timelines for inquiry if a child commits a serious or heinous offence?**

The inquiry is to be completed within four months from the date of first production of child before the Board. The period may be extended for a maximum of two months by the Board. However, if the Board requires more time, the permission needs to be taken from the Chief Judicial Magistrate or Chief Metropolitan Magistrate after recording reasons in writing.

- **If a child aged 15 years commit a heinous offence, can the Board conduct preliminary assessment?**

No, preliminary assessment is to be conducted only when the child completes sixteen years of age. In this case, the Board is to conduct inquiry as per Section 14 and pass order as per Section 18 of the Act.

- **What are the provisions to tackle heinous offences committed by children?**

- I. If heinous offence is committed by a child below the age of 16 years, then the child is to be tried by the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) as per the procedures under Section 14 and 18 of the Act. This implies that

a child will not be given detention of more than three years.

- II. If heinous offence is committed by a child between the age of 16-18 years, then the child is first produced before the Juvenile Justice Board. The Board is to conduct a preliminary assessment. The assessment is basically to assess the capacity of the child to commit the offence and whether the child understands the consequences of the alleged offence.

Based on the preliminary assessment, two situations may arise:

- a) The Juvenile Justice Board decides that the matter should be disposed of by the Board itself, the Board follows the procedures as per Section 14 and 18 of the Act.
- b) The Board decides that the child needs to be tried as an adult and thus make an order to transfer the trial of the case to the Children's Court as per Section 18(3) of the Act.

When the matter comes before the Children's Court, the Children's Court has two options:

- ◆ The Children's Court decides that there is no need for trial of the child as an adult. In such case, the Children's Court has the power of the Juvenile Justice Board as per Section 8(2) of the Act and therefore instead of transferring the case back to the Board, the Children's Court can conduct inquiry and pass orders accordingly. This implies that a child will not be given detention of more than three years.
- ◆ On the other hand, the Children's Court may decide that there is a need for trial of the child as an adult and thus will follow the procedures prescribed under CrPC. The quantum of detention in such case is not prescribed in the

Act and has been left at the discretion of the Children's Court.

Under Section 21 of the Act, no child for any offence can be sentenced for life without the possibility of release or sentenced to death by the Board or the Children's Court.

- **Is preliminary assessment an inquiry by the Board?**

No, preliminary assessment by the Board is to assess the capacity of child to commit the offence and if the child understands the consequences of the alleged offence. To do so, the Board may take the assistance of experienced psychologists or psycho-social workers or other experts.

- **Can the period of preliminary assessment be extended?**

No, the preliminary assessment should be completed within a period of three months.

- **Is the order of the Board in case of preliminary assessment appealable?**

Yes, the order of the Board in case of preliminary assessment is appealable under Sub-section (2) of Section 11 of the Act.

- **Are there any timelines for police to submit reports to JJB?**

Yes, the Model Rules have laid down timelines under Rule 10, these are:

- In case of petty or serious offences, the final report by police is to be submitted within two months of receiving information.
- In case of heinous offence alleged to have been committed by a child above 16 years of age, police has to submit statement of witnesses and other documents during the course of investigation within ONE MONTH from the date of first production of the child before the Board.

- **What is the procedure if police is unable to file final report as it is not reasonably known that the person involved in the offence is a child?**

In such cases, extension of time may be granted by the Board for filing final report by Police.

- **Can the Board give a punishment of more than three years if after preliminary assessment the Board decides to conduct inquiry on itself?**

If after preliminary assessment, the Board comes to the conclusion that the child committed the offence with a “child-like” mind then it will keep the case with itself and after inquiry it may give order to keep the child in a child care institution for a maximum of three years.

- **What happens in a case where the behavior or conduct of a child already placed in a Special Home is not in his best interest or in the interest of other children?**

If the behavior of child placed in a Special Home is not in his interest or in the interest of other children then in such a case, the Board can order for the transfer of the child to a Place of safety.

- **What is the procedure for determining age of the child?**

The Act under Section 94 gives two possible scenarios. In the first scenario, if on the basis of appearance of the child, the Board decides that the child brought before it is a child then in such case, it has to record its observation stating the age of child as nearly as may be and proceed with inquiry without waiting for further confirmation of age.

In the second scenario, if the Board has reasonable ground regarding age of child then it will follow the procedure as per Section 94(2), which is given below:

- I. Date of birth certificate from the school or the matriculation or equivalent certificate from the examination Board concerned, and in the absence thereof;
  - II. Birth certificate given by a corporation or a municipal authority or a panchayat;
  - III. And only in the absence of (i) and (ii) age is to be determined by an ossification test or any other medical test for determining age of child. Provided the test is completed within 15 days of order by the Board.
- **What are different orders that a Board can give in respect of child found to be in conflict with law?**

The orders that can be given by Board in respect of a child found to be conflict with law are listed in detail under Section 18 of the Act. These are summarized below:

- I. Allow the child to home after advise and admonition
- II. Direct the child to participate in counselling
- III. Order the child to perform community service
- IV. Release child on probation of good conduct and place with parent/guardian/fit person/fit facility
- V. Send child to special home for not more than three years
- VI. Order child to attend school/vocational training centre/therapeutic centre/undergo de-addiction programme
- VII. Prohibit child from visiting a specified place
- VIII. Order for re-admission or continuation of the child in school where the child has been disallowed from continuing his education on account of pendency of inquiry or because the child has stayed in a child care institution for any length of time
- IX. Issue rehabilitation card to monitor progress made by the child

- **What is the procedure, if a child runs away from an observation home or special home or place of safety?**

If a child runs away from a home, the police is required to take charge of the child and produce him within twenty-four hours before the Board, which had passed the original order in respect of that child. If the child is found in a different district or city or state, then the child is to be produced before the nearest Board.

The Board is to determine the reasons as to why did the child run away and give appropriate directions keeping the best interest of child as the main consideration. The Board cannot initiate any additional proceedings in respect of such run-away child.

- **For how long is the Board required to maintain records of children in conflict with Law.**

The records of conviction in respect of a child in conflict with law are to be kept in safe custody till the expiry of the period of appeal or for a period of seven years, and no longer. Thereafter, the records are to be destroyed by the Board.

- **What are the provisions for appeal if a person is aggrieved by an order of the Board?**

Any person aggrieved by the order of the Board can file an appeal in Children's Court within 30 days from the date of order. Any person aggrieved by an order of Children's court may file an appeal before the High Court.

An appeal against an order of the Board after making preliminary assessment u/s 15 of the J.J. Act 2015 can be filed before a Court of Session.

- **What is SJPU?**

Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU) means a unit of the Police force of a district or city exclusively dealing with the cases of children The SJPU headed by a Police officer not below the rank of a Deputy Superintendent of Police

- **What is the difference between Police officer and Child Welfare Police Officer?**

The duty of a Police Officer is to enforce laws, investigate crimes, and make arrests and a Child Welfare Police Officer is an officer placed in every Police Station of the district and the CWPO shall not be below the rank of assistant sub inspector, dealing exclusively with children either as victims or perpetrators.

- **A child belongs to Patna, Bihar but is apprehended for crime in Gaya, what will be the procedure?**

**Answer:** - The Juvenile Justice Board will mark the out station Social investigation inquiry to the District Child Protection Unit, Gaya, headed by District Child Protection officer. Further which will be forwarded to DCPO of Patna and submit the report to JJB in Stipulated time period. Further if the child not released on bail then he/she will stay in observation home during the period of enquiry.

- **What is Track Child Portal and what its role relating to Children in Conflict with law?**

"Track Child Portal" (<https://trackthemissingchild.gov.in> ) is a web based mechanism created by Ministry of Women and Child Development for the purpose of tracking 'missing' and 'found' children, ultimate repatriation of missing children & proper care and development of Vulnerable children including children in conflict with law .

- **What is SLSA?**

- ◆ State Legal Service Authority (SLSA) has been constituted to give legal services to the people, and to ensure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity, and provide free legal aid, by suitable legislation or schemes or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disability.
- ◆ In Bihar State Legal Service Authority has created a panel of advocates to provide free legal aid to children in conflict with law under the Juvenile Justice (Care and protection of Children) Act 2015. Similar panel of advocates has been

created in each district of Bihar by concerned District Legal Service Authorities to provide free legal aid to children in conflict with law under the JJ Act.

- **What is the difference between Social Background Report (SBR) and Social Investigation Report (SIR)?**

	<b>Prepared by</b>	<b>Submitted to</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>
<b>SBR</b> (Social Background Report)	A report prepared at the time of apprehension about the social economic condition of the child by the designated Child Welfare Police Officer.	Juvenile Justice Board	At the time of apprehension
<b>SIR</b> (Social Investigation Report)	A report prepared by the Probation Officer in relation to a child including all information pertaining to the containing information regarding the antecedents and family background of the child and other material circumstances likely to be of assistance to the Board		Within 15 days from the date of first production before the Board.