

**SMT. STUTI KACKER, IAS (Retd.)**  
**CHAIRPERSON (CARA)**

D. O. No.1-3/2015/State-Cir.-CARA

12.8.2015

Dear

Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India, is mandated to monitor and regulate adoption of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children. As envisaged under the JJ Act 2000, State JJ Rules and Adoption Guidelines notified by Government of India (2015), orphan, abandoned and surrendered children need to be placed in adoption expeditiously so that such children can grow up in a caring and nurturing environment. In order to give impetus to this process new Guidelines Governing Adoption of Children, 2015 have been notified by the Central Government on 17th July 2015 (effective from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015).

CARINGS (Child Adoption Resource Information & Guidance System), the IT application for effective e-governance of adoption of children has been upgraded for more transparency and efficiency. Now online referral has started w.e.f. 7.8.2015. The entire adoption process would be regulated by CARINGS. CARA has also stipulated that all Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs) have to work online on CARINGS.

However, adoption of orphan, abandoned and surrendered children is only possible once their legal status is determined by the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). Thereafter such children can be placed in adoption with waiting families provided prospective adoptive parents (PAPs) register on CARINGS ([www.cara.nic.in](http://www.cara.nic.in)) and are considered eligible and suitable. Children are referred to such parents as per their preference. Each adoption is finalised through a court order.

It would be appreciated, if you kindly instruct your concerned department to set-up at least one specialised adoption agency (SAA) in each district, which can be linked with all child care institutions (CCIs) in the district to benefit all children without parental care. It is also requested that all CCIs are registered under Section 34 of the JJ Act so that all such children are able to secure families with full legal safeguards.

At present, CARINGS has about 10,000 waiting parents whereas legally adoptable children are only 1500 or so. These figures do not seem to reflect ground reality and therefore, it is imperative that urgent steps are taken to rectify the situation. I would, therefore, request you to direct the concerned officers to organise sensitization programme in your State/UT so that various stakeholders can be educated about the 2015 Adoption Guidelines and CARINGS.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

**(Stuti Kacker)**

**The Chief Secretaries**  
**All States / UTs**