



CARA to organise Third Regional Consultative Workshop for Central Zone in Bhopal

The Consultative Initiative underscores CARA's continued efforts to strengthen India's adoption and child protection ecosystem

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The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA), under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, will organise its Third Regional Consultative Workshop for the Central Zone in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, on Tuesday, 17th March 2026, in collaboration with the Government of Madhya Pradesh and the concerned State authorities. The workshop will be graced by Nirmala Bhuria, Hon'ble Minister for Women and Child Development, Madhya Pradesh, who will attend the programme as the Chief Guest. Her presence will reaffirm the State Government's commitment to strengthening child protection mechanisms and promoting family-based care for children, particularly those with special needs.

The workshop is aligned with CARA's ongoing Adoption Awareness Campaign themed "Promoting Non-Institutionalised Rehabilitation of Children with Special Needs (Divyaang Children)", reinforcing the national commitment to ensure that every child grows up in a nurturing family environment.

The Central Zone, comprising Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand, is the largest among all zones of the country—North, North-East, Western, South and East—in terms of the number of districts. Reflecting this extensive coverage, the workshop is expected to witness participation from representatives of more than 170 districts, making it one of the most comprehensive regional consultations under the campaign.

This consultative initiative underscores CARA's continued efforts to strengthen India's adoption and child protection ecosystem by promoting family-based care for children with special needs and reducing long-term institutionalisation. The deliberations are anchored in the mandate of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, which prioritises the best interests of the child through adoption and other non-institutional care mechanisms.

The workshop will bring together key stakeholders from across the Central Zone, including representatives from State Adoption Resource Agencies (SARAs), Specialised Adoption Agencies (SAAs), Child Care Institutions (CCIs), District Child Protection Units (DCPUs), Chief Medical Officers (CMOs), healthcare professionals, and child protection practitioners.

The programme will feature focused thematic sessions covering:

- State-wise status and best practices in the adoption of children with special needs
- Presentation of success stories and evidence-based interventions
- Group discussions to formulate actionable and time-bound recommendations

- Deliberations on medical, legal, financial, and grievance-related challenges

A special film portraying a successful adoption of children with special needs will also be launched during the workshop, highlighting the transformative power of family-based care, acceptance, and community support.

Through collaborative dialogue and knowledge sharing, the workshop aims to identify systemic gaps, enhance inter-departmental coordination, and develop policy-level recommendations to promote adoption and holistic rehabilitation of Divyaang children. The outcomes of the consultation are expected to significantly contribute to building a more inclusive, responsive and child-centric adoption framework across the country.

SS/PC

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