

Juvenile Justice Board (JJB)

What is the Juvenile Justice Board?

A statutory body under the **JJ Act, 2015**, to handle cases of *children in conflict with the law*.

Why It Matters?

55% of cases pending before JJBs (India Justice Report, 2023) → Highlights delays in child justice.

Composition of JJB

- **Principal Magistrate** (3+ years' experience)
- **Two Social Workers** (at least one woman)

Key Powers

- Can assess 16–18-year-olds accused of **heinous offences**
- May **transfer cases** to the Children's Court after assessment

Core Functions

- Protect child rights during the inquiry
- Ensure legal aid
- Monitor rehabilitation
- Conduct **monthly inspections** of child care facilities

Goal

- **Child-friendly justice**
- Fair process
- Timely hearings
- Rehabilitation over punishment