Society & Social Justice · GS - II

Despite constitutional guarantees and stringent laws, violence against women and children remains a serious concern in India. Examine the major challenges in ensuring their safety and suggest measures for effective prevention and justice.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 22/10/2026	GS - II	Society & Social Justice

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Article 21; gender-based violence; child protection; POCSO Act; criminal justice system; police accountability; victim support; public awareness; prevention and rehabilitation

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Model Answer

Introduction

Violence against women and children violates dignity, bodily autonomy and the right to life. The reported incident in Dausa highlights the importance of effective prevention, investigation and victim-centred support.

Major Challenges

- **Social barriers:** Stigma, fear of retaliation and victim-blaming can discourage reporting.
- **Institutional gaps:** Delays in investigation, forensic examination and trial may undermine justice.
- **Protection deficits:** Vulnerable individuals may lack access to safe transport, emergency assistance and support services.
- **Child-specific concerns:** Children require specialised, sensitive procedures that prevent further trauma.

Legal and Institutional Framework

Article 21 protects life and personal liberty. The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, addresses sexual offences, while the POCSO Act, 2012, provides specific safeguards for children. Effective implementation requires trained police personnel, timely medical care, forensic capacity and child-friendly judicial procedures.

Way Forward

- Ensure prompt, impartial investigation and accountability.
- Strengthen emergency response, victim compensation and psychological support.
- Improve public awareness, safe reporting mechanisms and community prevention.
- Protect survivors' identities and prevent disclosure of identifying details, particularly for minors.

Conclusion

Legal provisions must be supported by sensitive institutions, swift justice and sustained prevention efforts to ensure safety, dignity and equal protection for women and children.

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