



# Bulletin

Quarterly E Newsletter of Campaign Against Child Labour

Issue One

October - December 2020

## Message from National Convenor

Dear Friends,

Greetings from CACL National Secretariat ,

I am happy that the Campaign has been able to resume the publishing of a CACL Bulletin in the electronic form after a gap of many years. Thanks to the initiative and efforts by Mr. K.K Tripathy of our National Advocacy Unit. It is important for CACL to come out with a News Letter periodically so that everyone will have an opportunity to share information among ourselves and also to reach out to the larger public. This can also contribute a lot for our advocacy efforts.

It is quite frustrating that India still is the home for a large population of child labourers. Even after all vigorous campaigning and awareness generation, a large number of people including employers are left insensitive towards this worst form of child rights violation. Most of the difficulty is because of the fact that child labour is made only partially illegal due to the distinction of 'hazardous' and 'non hazardous' labour. The position that children can be permitted to work in the so called "non hazardous' sectors is very unfortunate and cannot be justified with any arguments. All forms of child labour are exploitative, abusive and violent, denying a joyful childhood and education. The other question to be resolved is the issue of age. The State should comply with the UNCRC's definition of the child and prohibit child labour up to the age of 18 years. A law has to be enacted for total prohibition.

Let us hope that this News Bulletin will strengthen our Campaign further towards making this country totally free of child labour where all our children are in schools.

With regards,  
Mathews Philip,  
National Convenor - CACL

## Message from National Advocacy Convenor

Dear Friends,

Greetings from CACL National Advocacy Unit ,

We are happy to share the first issue of CACL Bulletin. In this issue of CACL bulletin we are sharing highlights of the activities conducted in past three months by CACL members at state and National level to address child labour related issues. We are also sharing brief information about the 'Rapid Assessment Survey conducted by some of the state chapters on the Status of Child Labour in the Context of Covid 19 Pandemic. Highlights of the webinar on "DEVELOPING ONLINE RESOURCE CENTER ON CHILD LABOUR " and highlights of the 'CACL National Coordination Committee Meeting' has also been shared here in the e newsletter. There is a column titled LISTEN ! CHILDREN SPEAK is also there to share children's voices from the states. In the column 'Child Labour in News' you will find some of the news clippings on concerned child rights issues. Along with this some other articles are also there on various child rights and child safeguarding issues for your perusal. Hope you will find all these materials informative and useful.

We request all the CACL members to contribute write-ups about the initiatives, innovations and social actions taken by their organisation (especially in the field of child labour) for this quarterly e-newsletter. Sharing of information will keep us posted on our engagements and learnings in the field. Looking forward to hearing from you and hoping to feature news from your region in the next issue of CACL Bulletin.

With regards,  
Ashok Kumar,  
Convenor - CACL National Advocacy Unit



# Bulletin

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## Rapid Assessment Survey on Child Labour

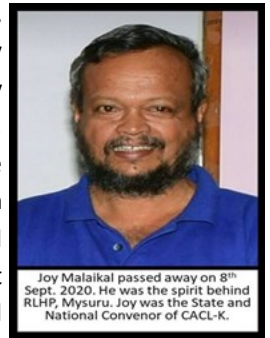
Whole world is facing an unprecedented challenge in 2020 with the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. Various measures and protocol to control the spread of the coronavirus has included widespread lockdowns, school closures and many restrictions on public life, activities & movements. Billions of children around the world have already been impacted directly – indirectly by this crisis in numerous ways. While the mid- to long-term consequences of this pandemic on the protection of children remain uncertain, all reports point to a difficult time ahead especially for the children and senior citizens because they are the most vulnerable sections of the society. Media reports say that child labour, child marriage, violence against children and cases of child sexual abuse has increased in the present circumstances.

In the above context CACL has conducted 'Rapid Assessment Survey on Child Labour' in many states of India to find out the status of working children at grassroots level during the pandemic. Survey has captured the challenges working children are facing and the impact of the initiatives/ efforts of child protection NGOs to address those issue and challenges. Thanks to the CACL state conveners who have conducted this 'RA Survey on CL' in their states. These state survey reports are being compiled, once this is final we will share it With very one.

During the pandemic it was remarkable to see the child protection NGOs coming together and exchanging on various key topics which are crucial for safeguarding children and their rights in the midst of pandemic outbreaks. These Collaborated efforts will be certainly be crucial in identifying and addressing the root causes of child rights violations during this pandemic. \*\*\*

## Remembering Joy Maliekal

Former National Convener of CACL, Joy Maliekal left for his heavenly abode on 8th September 2020. Joy has touched and changed many lives. He was always ready to go out of the way to help people. Always a warm and welcoming host in the office and at home. His love and commitment towards children and marginalized people was exceptional. He was one



Joy Malaikal passed away on 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2020. He was the spirit behind RLHP, Mysuru. Joy was the State and National Convener of CACL-K.

of the strong voices of the urban poor. He played a key role in taking forward the CACL. It is an irreversible loss to the campaign. May his soul rest in peace. On 11th Sept 2020 CACL-Karnataka Chapter organized a virtual meeting "Remembering Joy Maliekal" - to condole the departure of our fellow child rights protagonist. Central Secretariats of CACL had also organized a virtual meeting on 14th September 2020 to pay tributes to Joy Maliekal. All past Conveners and senior members of NCC shared their experiences and prayed for the departed soul. \*\*\*

## Global Petition for

### Children's Right to a Healthy Environment

On 28 October 2020 the #MYPLANETMYRIGHTS Campaign has launched a global petition demanding the recognition of children's right to a healthy environment. This petition will be delivered to the UN Secretary General and the Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child during the General Assembly in September 2021.

Children, young people from around the world and everyone concerned about the environmental crisis are invited to sign and urge others to sign the petition! Especially during global Days of Action on World Children's Day (20 November 2020), Earth Day (22 April 2021), World Environment Day (5 June 2021) and 3 days before the UN General Assembly in September 2021 (in the lead up to the petition delivery). \*\*\*

## Webinar on

### "DEVELOPING ONLINE RESOURCE CENTER ON CHILD LABOUR "

*for total eradication of child labour in all its forms up to the age of 18 years*

#### Highlights of the Webinar

National Advocacy Unit of CACL had organized a webinar on "DEVELOPING ONLINE RESOURCE CENTER ON CHILD LABOUR " on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020. Objective of this webinar was to have discussion about the skills and techniques required for capturing data, success stories and best practices on child labour for initiating/developing state and national level (online) resource center on child labour. This Online 'resource center on child labour' could play a crucial role in preparing the evidence based strategy and double action plans for the complete eradication of child labour in India.

*Speakers in the webinar were as follows: Dr. Helen R Sekar, Senior Fellow and Coordinator of the National Resource Centre on Child Labour - V.V. Giri National Labour Institute-Noida, Dr. Manoj Jatav, Associate Fellow, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute-Noida, Ms. Ritu Mishra-Head-North Regional Office- Terre des hommes-Germany, Mr. Mathews Philip-National Convener- Campaign Against Child Labour & Executive Director -SICHREM Bangalore, Mr. Ashok Kumar, Convener- National Advocacy Unit, Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL) & Executive Director, Dr. A V Baliga Memorial Trust-Delhi.*

59 representative of CACL from 10 states of India (i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh) participated in this webinar.

Webinar started with a welcome note by Mr. Ashok Kumar. In his address Ashok ji welcomed all the speakers and participants individually, including Mrs. Ranjana Ray, Founder Member Secretary of Dr. A V Baliga Memorial Trust. He further shared that we are organizing this webinar because whenever there was any discussion on the elimination of child labour we were lacking verifiable data to draft the strategy or advocacy/action programmes for proper and total eradication of child labour. This webinar will be helpful in generating child labour data at the state & national level, in fact it will be helpful to run robust advocacy actions.

#### Speakers



**Dr. Helen R Sekar**  
Senior Fellow & Coordinator - National Resource Centre on Child Labour  
V.V Giri National Labour Institute - Noida



**Dr. Manoj Jatav**  
Associate Fellow  
V.V. Giri National Labour Institute  
Noida



**Ms. Ritu Mishra**  
Head- North Regional Office  
Terre des hommes-Germany



**Mr. Mathews Philip**  
National Convener- Campaign Against Child Labour & Executive Director -SICHREM  
Bangalore



**Mr. Ashok Kumar**  
Convener- National Advocacy Unit, Campaign Against Child Labour & Executive Director,  
Dr. A V Baliga Memorial Trust-Delhi

Mr. Mathews Philip briefly shared the journey of CACL and then shared the experiences of carrying out Rapid Assessment Survey on child labour. He said that during this rapid assessment survey we felt that we need to refine our data collection skills to capture the concrete ground level evidence so that we can push for favorable policy and attitude change for complete eradication of child labour in India. He said that we are grateful to National Labour Institute specially Dr. Helen Sekar and Dr. Manoj Jatav for taking the session on this crucial theme.

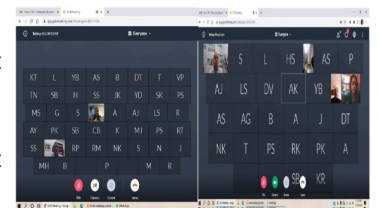
Ms. Ritu Mishra in her address shared that CACL should robustly capture its more than 25 years experiences and expertise in the field of child labour eradication. This will help in consolidating and taking forward the campaign (CACL). Evidence generation and its analysis is crucial for any campaign for policy advocacy and at this front CACL is lacking somewhere I feel. On many occasions especially while working with other campaign we felt that CACL don't had sufficient data to support their stand. In this context this webinar can be instrumental in setting up state and national level child labour resource center which would ultimately provide solid ground for CACL's advocacy efforts for complete eradication of child labour. It would also help CACL's lobbying and advocacy with parliamentarians for policy change on child labour issue.

### Session on 'Resource Centre On Child Labour: Planning, Establishing & Managing' - by Dr. Helen Sekar

Dr. Helen Sekar in her session congratulated CACL for organizing the webinar on such a crucial issue, which according to her is normally undermined by the people in action. This is also important in present context where COVID 19 related lockdown and economic situations are forcing families to send their children to labour force for family's sustenance. Her presentation was based on following themes: Why Resource Centre on Child Labour, Aims & Objectives of Resource Centre on Child Labour, How to Establish A Child Labour Information & Documentation System. She also spoke about the ways and methods to Create Directories, Publish Digital Periodical, Develop Network on Child Labour and Create Web Resources. She also shared the report " State of Child Workers in India: Mapping Trends", which has district wise child labour data for strategizing

### Session on 'How To Capture Data, Success Stories & Best Practices For The Resource Center On Child Labour Practical Techniques And Tips' - by Dr. Manoj Jatav

Dr. Manoj Jatav in his session spoke about availability of child labour data, credibility of child labour (CL) data and gap in the child labour data in our country. He further added that we don't have robust data on child labour in our country. Census data which we have is 10 years old and that is also aggregated one. If we don't have current and updated data then how can we plan a strategy to eradicate child labour? We need to conduct separate survey on child labour to get reliable data on CL. ILO is also thinking on this line. We need to conduct macro and micro level studies to develop a robust child labour info system.



GPS based systems can also be used to get real-time data on CL. He shared some of the innovative existing real time data capturing systems used in the country. These methods are not related to capture child labour but these methods can be used to collect real-time data on child labour too.

There was a brief question-answer session which was facilitated by Mr. Ashok Kumar. It was observed that there is no state and district wise comprehensive data on child labour which covers all the relevant aspects (like gender, education, family income, unemployment among parents health etc, therefore it is very crucial to generate reliable data for any kind of policy advocacy on CL. At the end of the webinar Mr. K K Tripathy thanked everyone & hoped that CACL will start working in this direction so that an 'ONLINE RESOURCE CENTER ON CHILD LABOUR' could be developed at state & national level which could provide crucial support in policy advocacy and actions for the total eradication of child labour in India.

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## CACL National Coordination Committee Meeting - Highlights

CACL National Coordination Committee Meeting (online) was held on 29<sup>th</sup> Aug 2020 to discuss following points:

1. Priority/Core areas for the possible collaboration with Save the Children to strengthen the campaign.
2. Possible collaboration with CRY and TISS on a proposed study on 'child labour focusing on children engaged in family enterprises' in selected states.
3. 'Signature Campaign for supporting the children impacted by Covid 19 pandemic'-Signatures to be submitted to PM of India.

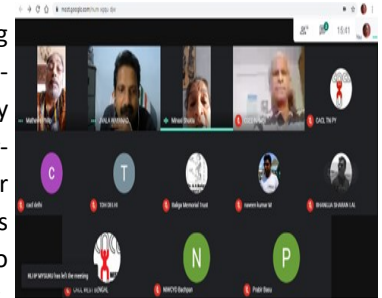
While welcoming everyone, Mr. Mathews Philip (National Convener) said that in the month of June – July 2020 we had online meetings with 11 states units of CACL. In those meetings we discussed issues like-challenges in online education, non-availability of to Mid-day meal and its impact on children's health, increasing number of child marriages due to covid 19 lockdown situations, situation of children of migrant families who have no other option than begging in some states during lockdown situations (like Tamil Nadu), issues related to labour laws dilution and its effect on children. Many state chapters have also conducted Rapid Assessment Survey on the 'impact of covid 19 pandemic related lockdown on child labour'. So far we have received Rapid assessment survey reports from four states –U.P, M.P, Maharashtra and West Bengal, rest other state reports are yet to be received. He informed that Mr. P Joseph Victor Raj has offered to compile the state reports to make it a national report but for that we need to give him all the state reports before the extended deadline.

Decision on 1<sup>st</sup> point: details of the possible collaboration was shared with the members by Ashok ji .Everyone felt that CACL should definitely collaborate with Save the Children to further the campaign. After a detailed discussion 9 Priority/Core areas were decided for the possible collaboration with the Save.

Decision on 2<sup>nd</sup> point: All the members felt that CACL must participate in this study because it will help to understand the issues and concerns of children helping family and/or are engaged in family enterprises. Suggestions came to extend this study to others states too and increase the sample size.

Decision on 3<sup>rd</sup> point: Everyone said that we must participate in this campaign and help to collect signatures as many as possible.

At the end of the meeting it was discussed and decided that CACL Advocacy unit will bring out a quarterly E newsletter, and for this purpose all the states chapters will have to share activity highlights, reports, photographs etc on regular basis. A draft layout of the E newsletter was also shared the members in this regard. Names which were suggested for the Editorial Board of the E Newsletter are as follows: Mr. Mathews Philip, Mr. Ashok Kumar, Mr. P Joseph Victor Raj, Mr. Prabir Basu, Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Mr. C Nambi and Mr. I Srinivas Rao.



A brief discussion was also held to develop CACL Members' Directory and in this regard a members' Info form was shared with all. 18 people participated in this meeting from 12 States (i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Delhi , Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Puducherry ,Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal ).\*\*\*

**CAMPL** CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHILD LABOUR  
TAMIL NADU & PONDICHERRY

A PLATFORM TO KNOW THE ONE AMONG US  
**UNACCOUNTED,  
INVISIBLE MIGRANT CHILDREN  
DEPRIVED OF THEIR RIGHTS**  
A STUDY ON THE CONDITIONS OF  
MIGRANT CHILDREN IN TAMIL NADU

*Virtual togetherness towards Safe Migration*  
Join us on 2nd December from 10.30 a.m.

Register your Participation before 30th  
November

Please click on the following link to register : -  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfXdxYhE8wklzSEgluOg9xs0aoAtESdGMyo0uYbvrOem6UKzQ/viewform>



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## LISTEN ! CHILDREN SPEAK

\*\*\*Children's Voices from the states \*\*\*

### Youth For Ecological Sustainability

"Youth for Ecological Sustainability (YES)" is a national level youth network where we have members from all over the country, together we are working towards our ecological rights !!!

#### An appeal

Dear all,

We the Children have not caused the worldwide environmental destruction, but they suffer especially from its consequences. In order to give children today and tomorrow a future worth living, we are launching today the international campaign #MY-PLANETMYRIGHTS". We demand: The right of children to a healthy environment must



be realized worldwide! Please sign our petition now and share it. Thank you (Source: <https://www.facebook.com/103376474644752/posts/198198845162514/>)

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### #MYPLANETMYRIGHTS": Children's Voices from states:

**Uttar Pradesh :** On the occasion of International Children's Day , Uttar Pradesh youth network launched campaign for Bio Diversity park. They invited PRI and school principal to lay foundation of the same. Youth planted different plants to herbs and medicine and also shared it's benefits with community. On this they have also launched Bio Diversity Parks in different districts of Uttar Pradesh .



**Rajasthan:** Children and Youth in Alwar , Rajasthan observed International Children's Day by making small kitchen garden and Bio Diversity Garden in their home.



**Delhi :** Children and Youth in Delhi observed International Children's Day by sharing about their rights and also trained them in washing hands and using sanitizer.



**#Delhi Denies Diwali dhamaka, No Crackers No Pataka ::** Keeping in mind the Covid 19 pandemic and highest level of air pollution in Delhi and National Capital Region , children and youth associated with Dr. A. V Baliga Memorial Trust and Ankur had requested everyone to not to burn crackers on Diwali, Chattr Puja and Guru Govind Singh Jayanti.



**Uttarakhand:** Uttarakhand Youth Network observed Global Action Month by cleaning of water sources in their area as well as has taken small actions to sensitize people about environment protection in Himalayan region.



They have also celebrated International Children Day and Global action in Uttarakhand, signed the offline petition and raised voice for their rights.



**Madhya Pradesh :** Children and youth have launched a campaign in Bhopal named #AbNahiTohKab to protect the environment . Under this initiative children and young people from Bhopal campaigned for keeping their city and

## LISTEN ! CHILDREN SPEAK

\*\*\*Children's Voices from the states \*\*\*

and lakesides clean and plastic free by cleaning it themselves too. (#AbNahiTohKab , Niwcyd - Bachpan)

Under this Campaign #Ab-NahiTohKab children and young people had a discussion with the Swachhta warriors of Bhopal on 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020, they(Swachhta warriors) said that we should separate our garbage separately and not throw the garbage here and there, it hurts them as well as a lot of damage to our environment . Let us we all pledge together that we will manage and dispose off our waste properly. Because #Ab-NahiTohKab.#MyPlanetMyRight .#swacchbhopal . #madhyapradesh youthnetwork . @muskaanbhopal, Niwcyd - Bachpan .



**Tamilnadu:** Youth and children from Karur , TN, India raise awareness on Environmental child rights.



**West Bengal:** Children and Young people in kolkata started the campaign to protect the environment .They have also organised a campaign to keep the Ganga Ghats clean and Plastic free.



#pahchanfoundation #MyPlanetMyRights #InsanTeriGangamaily  
#WestBengalYouthNetwork #YouthforEcologicalSustainability  
#internationalcampaign #childrenrights #healthyenvironment  
#onlinepetition #1millionsignature

**Karnataka:** As a part of the #MyPlanetMyRights campaign, nearly 50 children of the Government Primary School, Kolar Karnataka observed World Children's Day by signing the My Planet - My Rights petition, holding village level rallies and submission of demands for a proper water management system in the villages to the Panchayat President. Students also distributed Spirulina Chikkies to malnourished children in the village to mark their right to healthy life. \*\*\*



## Nationwide Signature Campaign Demanding Monthly Direct Cash Assistance

In the month of August and September 2020 a 'Nationwide Signature Campaign' was organized by Tamil Nadu and Puducherry CACL unit 'demanding monthly direct cash assistance of Rs. 6000 for The Covid 19 Pandemic Lockdown affected families. People's Signatures were collected from many state units of CACL for submitting it to The Prime Minister of India along with the demands .\*\*



## Child Labour in News

### Parents in debt, out of work, school kids in city forced into child labour

**DELHI** Updated: Nov 16, 2020, 04:03 IST, **Fareeha Iftikhar**, Hindustan Times, New Delhi  
Prolonged closure of schools and job loss due to the lockdown enforced to curb the spread of the coronavirus disease ( Covid-19) has pushed a lot of students from the economically weaker section into child labour, NGOs working for child rights and attendance data from online classes suggest. **For full report please click on the following link:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/closure-of-schools-job-loss-push-ews-students-into-child-labour/story-sehFYAYuDSGHSJR6bRpN.html>

### Child labourers go back to work as special schools lie defunct

**Coimbatore:** About two years ago, 13-year-old Asha (name changed), a resident of Bargur in Anthiyur taluk of Erode district, was working as a farmhand at one of the sugarcane plantations in a nearby locality for a daily wage of Rs 200. Her family was in desperate need of an additional hand to boost their income. **For full report please click on the following link:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/coimbatore/child-labourers-go-back-to-work-as-special-schools-lie-defunct/articleshow/78989199.cms>



**LOST CHILDHOOD**

- Child labour is a global problem that requires a global solution.
- With the COVID-19 pandemic, we face the risk of reverting years of progress.
- ILO and UNICEF decided to look into the ways the crisis is affecting child labour.
- The number of children in child labour has declined by 94 million since 2000, the rate of reduction slowed by two-thirds in recent years.
- "COVID-19 is very likely to lead to an increase in child labour and previous experiences in public health emergencies have indicated that there is a heightened risk of children being victims of violence, abuse and exploitation, and that includes child labour", said Soledad Herrera, Chief of Child Protection, UNICEF (India)
- In 2011 the national census of India found the total no. of child labourers, aged 5-14, to be 81.28 million, out of the total of 259.64 million children in that age group.
- India has a federal form of government, and labour being a subject in the Concurrent List, both the Central and state governments can and have legislated on child labour. **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO REPORTS)**

**BEST COUNTRIES FOR RAISING KIDS**

1. Denmark	7. Switzerland	14. France
2. Sweden	8. New Zealand	15. Spain
3. Norway	9. Australia	16. Italy
4. Canada	10. Austria	17. Portugal
5. Netherlands	11. United Kingdom	18. United States
6. Finland	12. Luxembourg	19. Japan
	13. Germany	20. Poland

**TIME TO ACT**

World Day against Child Labour - 18th November

Child Labour will threaten and COVID-19 will threaten the world's children. We must act now to protect them from the worst of both worlds.

Child labour is a global problem that requires a global solution. With the COVID-19 pandemic, we face the risk of reverting years of progress. ILO and UNICEF decided to look into the ways the crisis is affecting child labour. The number of children in child labour has declined by 94 million since 2000, the rate of reduction slowed by two-thirds in recent years. "COVID-19 is very likely to lead to an increase in child labour and previous experiences in public health emergencies have indicated that there is a heightened risk of children being victims of violence, abuse and exploitation, and that includes child labour", said Soledad Herrera, Chief of Child Protection, UNICEF (India). In 2011 the national census of India found the total no. of child labourers, aged 5-14, to be 81.28 million, out of the total of 259.64 million children in that age group. India has a federal form of government, and labour being a subject in the Concurrent List, both the Central and state governments can and have legislated on child labour. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO REPORTS)



**COVID'S HIDDEN THREAT**

**TO MOST COUNTRIES FOR CHILD LABOUR**

COVID-19 has been a global pandemic that has affected millions of people. It has caused economic hardship and job loss, leading to an increase in child labour. Child labour is a global problem that requires a global solution. With the COVID-19 pandemic, we face the risk of reverting years of progress. ILO and UNICEF decided to look into the ways the crisis is affecting child labour. The number of children in child labour has declined by 94 million since 2000, the rate of reduction slowed by two-thirds in recent years. "COVID-19 is very likely to lead to an increase in child labour and previous experiences in public health emergencies have indicated that there is a heightened risk of children being victims of violence, abuse and exploitation, and that includes child labour", said Soledad Herrera, Chief of Child Protection, UNICEF (India). In 2011 the national census of India found the total no. of child labourers, aged 5-14, to be 81.28 million, out of the total of 259.64 million children in that age group. India has a federal form of government, and labour being a subject in the Concurrent List, both the Central and state governments can and have legislated on child labour. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO REPORTS)

## Campaign Against Child Labour (CAACL)

The process of formation of a campaign to address child labour began in 1992, when like-minded groups including Mumbai-based YUVA, Pune-based terre des hommes Germany – India Programme (tdh) and Action for the Rights of the Child (ARC such as TDH (Germany), came together to launch a campaign for the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the Government of India. They mobilised a group of about 40 NGOs from 12 states who were working to promote children’s rights and specifically to address child labour to come together in October 1992 with a view to collectivise and broaden the perspectives for combating child labour. They agreed to work together as a “campaign”, developing common understanding and perspective and implementing the campaigns in their respective areas of operation. Under the initiative of, initial meetings were organised for brainstorming and debating on different aspects of child labour, its causes, its effects on children and society at large, the different approaches adopted so far against child labour, the legislative framework and the international conventions.

CAACL emerged as a self-association of different NGOs, and as this dossier on the journey of CAACL will elucidate, the Campaign has been and remains dynamic and live in the way in which it has discussed and debated different perspectives, positions and contexts as they arose—from the initial debates and discussions on the reservation of Gol to Article 32 of the UNCRC, on the CLPA and its various amendments until the most recent one in 2016, the bill and subsequent legislation on the right to free and compulsory education in India in 2009.

With an initial membership of 40 NGOs from 12 states, the Campaign expanded to include individuals, academicians, other institutions, trade unions, women’s organisations and even students’ and teachers’ organisations to be part of it and also to cooperate and collaborate at different levels. In the 31<sup>st</sup> year of the UN CRC, and 28<sup>th</sup> year of its ratification by India and 28<sup>th</sup> year of CAACL, it has a network in 19 states with 6123 members. \*\*\*

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**CAACL E Newsletter Editorial Board:** Mr. Mathews Philip , Mr. Ashok Kumar, Mr. P Joseph Victor Raj, Mr. Prabir Basu, Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Mr. C Nambi and Mr. I Srinivas Rao .

Please send write-ups & photographs for the e newsletter to National Advocacy Coordinator at [nac.cacl@gmail.com](mailto:nac.cacl@gmail.com)