

CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHILD LABOUR (CACL)

Strategic Planning Workshop for Eradication Of Child Labour
&
National Co-Ordination Committee (NCC) Meeting



5th September 2019

New Delhi

Strategic planning workshop (for eradication of child Labour) and National Co-Ordination Committee (NCC) Meeting of CACL was organized on 5th Sep 2019 at India Social Institute, New Delhi. In this meeting 38 people participated including 15 state conveners of CACL.

Page | 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Mr. P. Joseph Victor Raj welcomed everyone and said that this meeting was supposed to be organized in the month of June this year but due to some unavoidable reasons we couldn't do so. He asked that if any one has any suggestion on tentative agenda then we can include that point in the agenda and begin the meeting. One suggestion came from participants, which was 'to have discussion on organizing some program on the occasion of UNCRC's 30th anniversary'. Everyone accepted this suggestion, thus the agenda was finalized.

In the beginning of the meeting everyone introduced her/himself and then minutes of the last meeting was shared by Mr. Victor Raj for approval from the house. One suggestion came from Mr. George Chira that FCRA issue should be removed from the minutes, on which everyone agreed and with this change, minutes was approved by NCC.



CACL PERSPECTIVES AND CONCERNS

Mr. Victor requested Mr. George Chira to take the participants through 25 years journey of CACL. Mr. George presented the detailed history of the CACL and also shared a paper titled "**25 years of Campaign Against Child Labour -1992-2019** (written by Paro Chaujar & C J George)" and requested the participants to share if anything is missing in this paper or anything needs to be added in this to make this paper more comprehensive.

Mr. George's sharing was divided in 5 parts. In the 1st part he shared the background i.e. the context in which CACL came into being, in the 2nd part he shared evolution of principles and positions (from the year 1992-1993), in the 3rd part he shared the key milestones in the Campaign: Conventions, democratization and children's participation, in the 4th part he shared about the debates on international interventions and national legislations on child labour and in the 5th part he shared present and future i.e. regrouping and moving forward.

Highlights of Mr. George’s presentation are as follows:

BACKGROUND AND THE CONTEXT IN WHICH CACL CAME INTO BEING: The 1970s and 80s were marked with advocacy and campaigns across the globe, highlighting the need to recognize rights of children as envisaged by the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1959). Back home in India, for the first time ever, a legislation to protect children from economic exploitation was promulgated, albeit half-heartedly. The Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act in 1986 (CLPRA) established 14 as the minimum age of employment for children in (a specified list of) hazardous occupation and processes and provided regulations for the employment of children under 14 in other occupations and processes. By 1992, India ratified the UNCRC, with reservation on Article 32 on child labour, arguing that since India was a poor country and poor families were at risk of starving if their children were not allowed to work, it would not be feasible for India to eliminate child labour immediately.

By the 1980s, there were large number of NGOs, CBOs, trade unions and other social groups who were working for the welfare of child labour. There were different approaches of providing them with education and other social services while they continued to work, removing them from work situation to school situation, helping to improve the working conditions and so on.



Many organizations felt the need to join together and have common perspectives and also create larger impact towards supporting children who have been exploited economically. It is in this context that the Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL) a national network of organizations and individuals committed to complete eradication of child labour in the country was born.

EVOLUTION OF PRINCIPLES AND POSITIONS (INTRODUCTION: 1992-1993) –

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 agreed to work together as a “campaign”, developing common understanding and perspective and implementing the campaigns in their respective areas of operation.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 30th year of the UNCRC, and 27th year of its ratification by India and 27th year of CACL, it has a network in 19 states with 6123 members.

POSITION ON INTERVENTIONS: After long discussions, it was finally agreed that child labour is caused by an interplay of multiple factors and is a result of social and economic structures that prevailed in the country. This then led the group to further explore the most appropriate strategy for combating or ending child labour.

It was agreed that the appropriate approach should be to eradicate child labour by removing the causal factors through decentralized and diverse methods. A position paper by the Campaign, on Alternatives to Child Labour, expounded that the argument in favour of regulating child labour rather than a total ban on child labour stemmed from a misguided and misinformed idea that if children were removed from work, they and their families would be subject to tremendous hardships. The paper contended that the only people who stood to lose from banning child labour were employers who benefitted from exploiting children.

CACL believed that with the meaningful implementation of Right to Education, all children will be in schools compulsorily and therefore no child will be allowed to work.

In 25 years since the CACL adopted this position and about 10 years since the Right to Education was granted in India, while there are reports of drop in the numbers of children in labour, most significantly in factory settings where the proportion was in any case low to start with; significant proportion of children continue to work in the unorganized sector, either after school hours or by being irregular at school or, still being deprived of schools—children engaged in agriculture, children of migrants, children on the street and so on. *In terms of legal jurisprudence, CACL's position was that child labour had to be prohibited for all children under the age of 18, in all sectors of employment—hazardous or non-hazardous.*

KEY MILESTONES IN THE CAMPAIGN: CONVENTIONS, DEMOCRATIZATION AND CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION

- First ever convention on child labour (1994)
- *Development of democratic organisation structure: The subsequent years were devoted both to spreading the campaign more and more into the states and also to creating a democratic structure for the campaign. CACL is a bottom up campaign, from the communities to state to central, addressing the public and policy makers, striving to create an environment for the complete eradication of child labour.*

CACL has a National Convener and National Secretariat, it also has state chapters in different states led by State Conveners and State Committees who had all the autonomy to streamline the



campaign within the state, raise resources and organize programmes. In the year 2007 CACL started an advocacy unit at central level. States also at has an advocacy unit. Since beginning Mr. Ashok Kumar is the Convener of National Advocacy Unit of CACL. These structures continue to exist and the General Body was

termed National Coordination Committee which meet every year or once in two years. All the major decisions had to be taken or ratified by this committee including the political positions. CACL has decided that it will always remain a non-registered identity and due to this decision CACL has to be dependent on other organisations for financial expenses.

- Page | 4
- Second national convention and first ever public hearing (1997).
 - Social Audit of 15 Years of Interventions Against Child Labour (2001).
 - Third national convention and public hearing—focus, the girl child (2003)- followed by declaration by girls participating in Nayi Subah (New Dawn)-The National Event on Girl Child Labour (5-7 March 2003 at Mysore, Karnataka).
 - Fourth national convention and public hearing on child labour- by the children, of the children, for the children (2007).
 - National public hearing on the ban on employment of children in domestic sector and dhabas/ hotels/ eateries (2009).
 - Children’s Alternative Reports on the UNCRC (1998-2013): Children’s Alternative Report to the UNCRC, India, 2012 (and updated in 2013.)
 - Fact-finding missions and litigations.
 - Debates on international interventions and national legislations.

PRESENT AND FUTURE: REGROUPING AND MOVING FORWARD

The period of 2009 to 2010, just after the Right to Education Act was promulgated, was spent in intense brainstorming and debates within CACL in different states and also nationally. The campaign had advocated hard for almost two decades for the right to education as a pivotal tool for eradication of child labour in the country. Now that this had been achieved—albeit not entirely, since children in the age group 0-6 and 15-18 were still left without a guarantee to education—the Campaign needed to reflect on its next steps. At this time, the campaign was already active in about 20 states but there was certain fatigue that had cracked into the campaign and this reflected in different discussions.

A section of CACL members mused over the possibilities of CACL merging with the Right to Education forum and entirely devoting the energy to both the implementation and the expansion of the free compulsory education legislations. However, such an approach was not acceptable to the majority of the members and CACL remained an independent entity.....

The Campaign was infused with fresh energy in 2016 after GOI amended the CLPRA with the intention of prohibiting employment of children in all sectors until the age of 14 years, so as to align it with the RTE Act of 2009. However, the amendment was found to be a surreptitious attempt at continuing the bifurcated approach to child labour—while prohibiting child labour in all sectors until the age of 14, the amendment exempted sectors like family based / owned sectors such as traditional art and craft as well as advertising, music and art industries and so on. Through this exemption a significant section of child labour was in effect “legalized”. CACL members were once again mobilised into action to discuss and debate the amendment and to decide on their future course of action.

The National Secretariat now hosted by HOPE in Puducherry has been active at the national level, engaging with parliamentarians, political party leaders and other national fora on child labour. CACL also partnered with TDH Germany on the Time to Talk project that engaged with children to get their perspectives on child labour including the legislation, document the same and place those before the international labour conference of ILO which was to be held in Argentina last year. This too brought together children and activists from different states. This further opened up the possibilities of reviving some of the CACL state chapters in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

At the end of 25 years of the CACL, the campaign seems to be looking ahead and preparing to launch itself for a more active participation and engagement against child labour. A joint campaign has been launched by CACL together with the RTE Forum and ECCD, around common demands for all children in the age group 0-18 years, for their rights to health, education and protection.

As the CACL prepares to take on the challenge of addressing child labour in the current context, it will need to focus on identifying its core focus, deepening its democratic processes—going deeper into the grassroots while staying engaged at the national level, sustaining coherence and continued agreements on positions, specifically related to the amended CLPRA, address the changing context of child labour and financing the core activities of the campaign.

After Mr. George's presentation few questions were asked by the participants which are as follows:

Q. What is the position of CACL on optional protocol 3 of CRC ?

Mr. George said that right from the beginning we opposed optional protocol. He further added that we support individual petitions, but one should do it when all other options gets exhausted.

Q. We suggest that history of the CACL should be documented. It will help to build a perspective.

*Mr. George said that we have already started this process and a draft (titled "**25 years of Campaign Against Child Labour -1992-2019** (written by Paro Chaujar & C J George) is shared with all of you here and we need your valuable comments on it to make this document more comprehensive. You can send your comments on : pchaujar@gmail.com .*

Participants suggested that we should also include following points in this document:

National Audit which we did in 2009, Impact /effectiveness of CACL campaigns /actions on the ground, advocacy campaign targeting political parties (by children and partner organizations), meeting with manifesto



committee of political parties, submission of CACL's and children's demands (for eradication of child labour) to them for incorporation in their election manifesto..

After this there was some suggestions that CACL should take child marriage as child labour and also include migrant children and child marriage in its campaign.

Page | 6

On this Mr. George said that child marriage can contribute to child labour BUT child marriage is not child labour. If we will assume it then we need to rename our campaign. He suggested that CACL should focus on sector issues.

BRIEF UPDATES FROM THE STATES

This session was facilitated by Mr. Ranjan Mohanty. Mr. Mohanty requested the state coordinators /state representatives to present the highlights of last one year's activity of CACL in their states. Highlights of the State coordinators' /state representatives' presentations are as follows:



1. Andhra Pradesh:

In the last one year we have organized sensitization program for labour department officials and leaders of political parties. We have also organized press meet in Nellore and other coastal areas of AP. Organized CACL core group meeting. During last parliamentary and assembly election we sensitized candidates of all political parties on CLPRA, RTE and common school system. In total we approached 184 candidates of assembly and Lok Sabha. We also met Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy and Mr. Chandrababu Naidu during our campaign, both of them said that if they will come to the power they will certainly take steps to reduce child labour in the state. In our state (and Telangana also) many adolescent students are committing suicide, therefore we took up this issue and organized discussion, debate and workshop on school safety plan and New education policy, in which we have also invited representative of political parties. Congress and left party representative participated in this meeting.(by Mr. Srinivas Rao)

2. Telangana :

Earlier Mr. Srinivas Rao was coordinating the AP and Telangana. Now myself Krishna Reddy is coordinating the Telangana work of CACL. We have organized awareness campaign on child labour related issues in the state and organized a convention also on this issue. Now we have become part of RTE forum. We have had discussion that we should also take up other child rights related issues in CACL like Right to education, stopping child marriage. We have also decided that we will include Child helpline NGOs, other likeminded NGO and individuals in CACL. (by Mr. Krishna Reddy)

3. Karnataka:

Since last 3 year nothing has happened in Karnataka with regard to CACL. Whole CACL was submerged in RTE forum. In this situation ,3 months ago we took charge of coordinating Karnataka CACL. In these three months we have organized consultation on draft new education policy. During Lok Sabha election we facilitated children to prepare their memorandum and helped them to share it with the leaders of political parties. Also contacted likeminded NGOs and included them in CACL to strengthen the network. In Karnataka many NGOs are involved in only rescuing children, without any rehabilitation plan .Everywhere child line NGOs are tackling child labour issue in their own way. Child marriage has become pertinent issue in the state. Malnutrition is also prevalent in many areas of the state, therefore we need to address those issues also through our network, but we have to bring back the focus on child labour under CACL campaign at any cost. (by Mr. Nagasimha G Rao)

4. Odisha:

In Odisha we have formed a new Executive body and a new State convener(Gopal Baba) has also been elected. An office has been now setup in Balasore district. We have organized training program with support from TDH on child labour and now we are planning to strengthen the district units of CACL (by Mr. Hrushikesh Panda)



We are in the process of making a good team in Odisha who can work in activist mode in CACL. For this purpose we have identified 42 activist in 30 districts of Odisha. Major Problem we are facing in Odisha is related to rehabilitation of rescued child labour. Child welfare committee (CWC) is not doing their work properly in many districts with regard to rehabilitation of rescued working children. So we are working with WCD department and CWC also so that rescued children could be rehabilitated properly and such cases are follow-up also .We are working with labour department and government of Odisha to make all the districts child labour free. In Odisha Child Line Colab of 18 districts are now member of CACL, which is our strength .We have developed good rapport with CM's office, WCD department and Department of Labour. Labour department has called us recently to seek our suggestions for addressing child labour issue. Odisha government is now thinking to support some of the CACL members for addressing the issue of child labour properly. We are also working with the labour departments of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Telangana and Andhra for the welfare of adolescent

boys and girls who have migrated from Odisha and are working in the hosiery, brick kiln and construction industry in these states . (By Mr. Sudhir Sabat)

Mr.Ranjan Monahy has suggested here that CACL should prepare a regional action plan to address the issues related to interstate migration of working children and adolescents’.

5. Jharkhand:

Draught and starvation is one of the biggest issue in Jharkhand therefore job related migration is happening on large scale in state. Many children and adolescent are working in the Coal, mica and forest based occupations. According to an estimate 4.25 Lakh children are working in the state. We have divided 24 districts in to 5 zones (on topographical basis) to work on child labour issue and on this basis itself we have made convener and co convener. We have also made 5 regional convener. Now we are in the process of identifying



NGOs to link them with the CACL. We have also organized meeting of the core team of CACL in Jharkhand in the month of August. We are developing rapport with the concerned government departments also so that with their support we can work for the eradication of child labour. In Nov-Dec state assembly election can be announced, therefore we have started the process of organizing 10 FDGs on child labour issue in each zones. This process will be finished by 25th Nov 2019. Based on the outcomes of the FDGs we will prepare a charter of demand and submit it to the major political parties’ manifesto drafting committees and request them to incorporate CACL’s demands in their election manifesto and work on those demands after coming in to the power. We are also planning to make district and block level units of CACL. (by Mr. Ram Lal)

From Jharkhand adolescent girls and boys are migrating/trafficked on large scale to different states(like Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, U.P...) to work as domestic help and are being treated and/or exploited at their workplace very badly. Many placement agencies in Jharkhand are indulged in this act and making money out of it. To check this process Jharkhand Government has made a law (Jharkhand Private Placement Agencies and Domestic Workers (Regulation) Act-2016) but this Act is not being implemented properly. As a result these illegal placement agencies are flourishing day by day and adolescent girls and boys are trafficked without any fear of law. I suggest that CACL should address this issue also. (by Dr. Vasavi Kiro)

Tamil**Nadu:**

CACL was inactive since last 23 years in the state .In the month of July (23rd July) we organized a general body meeting of CACL and elected the state convener and co convener of the Tamil Nadu CACL. Myself was elected as convener in July GB meeting. Now we are trying to reactivate the CACL. During last parliamentary election and assembly by polls (April-May 2019) we have prepared manifesto and shared it with major political parties. Congress and DMK has incorporated some of our



demands to their election manifesto. Our major demands are: amend CLPRA and make it for the children up to the age of 18 years and amend RTE Act and make it for the children up to the age of 18 years. We have initiated discussion on the new education policy and started compiling our recommendation for sharing it with the MHRD-GOI .In the month of Dec 2019 we are planning to organize a joint meeting of CACL and RTE Forum on the issue of child labour and education. We are also pressurizing the Govt of TN to prepare a guideline for the welfare of textile mill workers so that adolescent & young people working in these factories are not being exploited. (by Mr. Rajan)

6. Uttarakhand(UK):

We have organized 2 advocacy campaigns one with labour department and another with women and child development department (WCD) on child labour laws . We have organized joint campaign with RTE forum and engaged with labour and education department for proper implantation of CLPRA and RTE Act. Now we are in the process of restructuring the CACL unit in UK. On 3rd Sep 2019 we have organized general body meeting in which 18 member from seven districts of UK took part. In the GB we decided that we will establish district units in all the 13 districts of UK. We have also decided that during panchayat (village government) election we will meet all the candidates and seek their support to make UK child labour free. (by Mr. Raghu Tiwari)



7. Kerala:

We took charge in the Feb 2019 and organized a state level consultation on child labour with support from BB Andolan. We have translated the proposed New Education Policy (NEP) in Malayalam and initiated discussion on it with NGOs and all other stakeholders. We will share our suggestions on NEP with MHRD at the earliest. In Kerala there are large number of migrant laborers are working and many of them are adolescent also. These migrant laborers are from Bengal, Odisha, Bihar and some of them are from



Nepal also. Many tribal people and adolescents are also working there in various sectors. These migrant laborers are called Guest Laborers in Kerala but their situation are not good. Children of migrant laborers are not even allowed to take admission in the government schools, because people think that they are Bangladeshi. We should file a PIL in this regard. (by Mr.C K)

8. Bihar:

I will present my views on two levels . 1st will be government's role and 2nd will be CACL's role in addressing child labour . Government's Role: on 12th June 2018 (world day against child labour) Bihar government said that by 12th June 2019 they will make 51 blocks of 13 districts child labour free. Bihar government has organized many meetings for this purpose but this target has not been achieved so far. Due to general election (April-May



2019) whole focus got shifted to election process and no one actually cared for this target. On CACL front: In Dec 2017 with support from UNICEF a network called 'Collective Coalition for Human Trafficking –CCHT' was formed. CACL was also part of that network. All the participating NGOs have taken the responsibility of one district. CACL took the responsibility of Munger district and started working there on the trafficking issue. We organized a consultation in that district on the human trafficking issue. RTE

Forum and CACL has jointly organized signature campaign in the state of Bihar. We have participated in the rape free India campaign organized in collaboration with Kailash Satyarthi Foundation. On new education policy we organized a state level consultation jointly with RTE forum. We have also started the formation of block level child protection committee in many districts of Bihar. (by Mr. Navesh Kumar Singh)

9. **Uttar Pradesh:**

We organized Chintan Baithak (contemplation meeting) with all the partner organizations . Then organized AGM and elected state and district convener of CACL. We organized State consultation on child labour and prepared state plan of action for child labour free U.P. We also organized a poster campaign on child labour focusing on eateries, sweet shops and roadside restaurants/dhabas so that people don't buy eatables/sweets from such shops/dhabas where children are employed. We named this campaign as fare food campaign. During last parliamentary election we prepared a 10 points oath letter for abolition of child labour and got it signed by the people from every district of eastern U.P. We have also contributed in the development of Child labour rescue and rehabilitation protocol prepared by NCPCR. (by Mr. Bhanuja S Lal)

10. **Haryana:**

We organized a state level NGOs meeting on child labour issue in which representatives from 30 child rights NGOs participated. This meeting was supported by a corporate house called Good Weaves. We want to take our campaign to the Faridabad, Yamuna Nagar, Gurgaon and Panipat districts, where highest number of children and adolescents are working, but due to resource crunch we are unable to expand our campaign in these districts. In Panipat anyhow we have managed to influence the garment factories so that they don't employ child labour(directly or indirectly).(by Mr.Kumar Ranbir, on behalf of Haryana state convener)

11. **Maharashtra:**

Presently CACL is active in 6 districts of Maharashtra, but we want to take it to all the 36 districts of the state. We are working in close coordination with RTE Forum, many people/NGOs are common in both the networks. I am also actually from RTE form. During last parliamentary election we did manifesto campaign in 6 districts and met sitting MPs and candidates of all major political parties and shared our manifesto. We have released our manifesto through media also. On the proposed New Education Policy we have already shared our feedback to MHRD in the August (2019) end. We have filed an RTI on the status of implementation of CLPRA (especially to get child labour rescue and rehabilitation data).We got the response from labour department and now we are analyzing the data and will let you know once he analysis is done. We have also organized a post card campaign on RTE and Child labour. 400 postcards have already been sent to chief minister of Maharashtra. We have conducted a video campaign through social media titled - 'why we don't want the children to labour'. It was a 45 days campaign and it successfully influenced the minds of many people and encouraged them to work for the eradication of child labour in their individual capacity.

(by Mr. Manish Shroff)

12. Madhya Pradesh:

On 12th June 2018 CACL was reconstituted in the M P. After that we are consolidating and expanding CACL. During parliamentary election we consulted 3500 children and prepared the children's manifesto which was shared with 55 sitting member of parliaments and with a large number of election candidates also. We organized 2 state and 5 regional consultations on child labour and mobilized SCPCR in this process to support our cause. We have also initiated 2 fellowship, one is for conducting village level small studies regarding cultural labour trends and another one is to study ICPS issues(for labour or protection issues) . (by Mr. Rajesh Bhargava)

13. Delhi:

We have formed working committee of CACL in Delhi. Our plan is to identify one nodal organization in each district who can take forward CACL in that district. In some of the districts nodal organization has already been identified and in some districts it is in the process. We had organized one day sports event in which children from 9 NGOs participated. We are planning to conduct a study on the status of implementation of 3 years of CLPRA (2016). Through RTE forum we got to know that in the last 3 years 3 to 4 lakhs children were dropped out from the government schools of Delhi. If this data is correct then these 3-4 lakhs children would be potential child labour, therefore we are analyzing this data very carefully and will let you know the outcome of the analysis as soon as it gets completed. (by Mr. Yogesh Kumar)

14. West Bengal:

West Bengal (WB) CACL was dormant since last few years. From March 2019 with support from Caritas we are trying to rejuvenate CACL. We are mobilizing old partners of CACL and partner organizations of TDH. Very soon we would be able to start our activities/actions to increase our visibility in the WB. Now our main focus is:

- to find out whether 2016 CLPRA is being implemented properly in the state and all the designated officials under CLPRA are working properly or not?
- to study family enterprise situation. We will meet the labour secretary of WB with the outcome of the study (data) and see that what can be done in this regard to protect children's rights.
- to organize public hearing with the children/adolescent working in tea gardens of WB regarding implementation of CLPRA-2016 and RTE.
- to facilitate children to prepare a shadow report on occasion of 30th anniversary of UNCRC (with support from CARITAS India).This report will be shared with the UNCRC committee. (by Mr. Prabir Basu)

BRIEF REPORTS FROM NATIONAL CONVENER AND ADVOCACY UNIT CONVENER

Brief report from National Convener: Mr. Victor shared a brief report as National Convener of CACL. He said that under his convener ship CACL has done following activities/campaigns:
-Joint election campaign during recent parliamentary elections(April-May 2019)

- Consultation on National Education policy
- Played a key role in rejuvenating the state units of CACL
- 17 state units of CACL have been rejuvenated / established . I visited 15 states units (except Haryana and Gujarat) and contributed to this rejuvenation/formation process of CACL state units.
- Participated in many state consultation which were held on the draft new education policy (Hyderabad, Puducherry ...)

Brief reports from National Advocacy Unit Convener: Mr. Ashok Kumar shared a brief report as national Advocacy Convener of CACL. He said that under his convener ship CACL has done following major advocacy actions:

- National Social Audit – CACL – CACT
- Addressing the issues of Right to Education at different platforms through National level alliance and NGO partners – National Council for protection of Child Rights, Right to Education Forum.
- Filing PIL on the issue of 25% reservation for weaker section.
- Sensitization program for Media people.
- Representing CACL at different levels and in different workshops.
- Meeting with Members of Parliament for raising the issue of child labour.
- Supporting CACL Central secretariat on all activities organized in Delhi.
- Advocacy program: the cruel truth of notification – banning child labour in hospitality and domestic sectors.
- National Public Hearing, 30 April 2010
- Meeting with NGOs on Arya Anathalaya Case – a campaign for safer institution – All NGOs and networks at one platform.
- National Consultation on Child labour and CLPRA 2016 29th– 30th April 2017
- Collaboration with Networks – The Great Initiative – Exclusive Effort of NAU-CACL (Campaign Against Child Labour, National RTE Forum, ARECD, APPR)
- Launch of National Campaign on Extension of RTE and Abolition of Child Labour
- National Council & Roundtable Advocacy Meeting with Parliamentarians (17 and 19 December 2018, New Delhi
- Strengthening State Chapters of CACL.
- Liaison with Govt. officials and National/International institutions (Department of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India, ILO,V V Giri Institute, UNICEF,NCPCR,SCPCR)



Suggested way forward - We need to conduct an authentic fact based study/survey on Child Labour, Mobilization of resources – Potential donors could be – TDH-Germany India Program, CRY, CARITAS India, Strategic Planning for eradication of child labor, National and regional consultations on child labor issues.

At the end of his presentation Mr. Ashok said that collaboration was always our aim/objective but our objective was not to merge with any network instead it was to work in collaboration with other players to achieve greater/better results at grassroots level for the protection of children's rights . At many places now a days CACL convener and RTE Forum convener are same person/organization, whereas it should not be the case. As CACL convener we should not lose our focus and identity. Mr. Ashok concluded by saying that during his tenure he extremely felt the need to have a research wing of CACL to support their stand /advocacy actions, therefore I suggest that we must have our own research wing to guide and back our actions.

ELECTION OF NEW NATIONAL CONVENER AND NEW ADVOCACY CONVENER

Mr. Victor Raj initiated this session by thanking all the CACL members and resource organizations for supporting him during the last years as CACL National Convener. He said that now the time has come to elect new national convener of CACL and New Convener of National Advocacy Unit of CACL. Mr. Victor Raj has requested Mr. Prabir Basu to facilitate the election process.

Mr. Prabir Basu requested the participants to volunteer for these two roles, but after some time when no one volunteered, then participants were requested to propose the suitable name/s for the role of National Convener first, then for the role of Convener of National Advocacy Unit.

Election of National Convener:

In this process two names were proposed by the participants for the role of National Convener. Those two names were:

1. Mr. Mathews Philips (South India Cell for Human Rights Education and Monitoring-Bangalore)
2. Mr. Ashok Kumar (Dr. A B Baliga Trust-Delhi)

After discussion it was decided that National convener will be elected by voting. Mr. Prabir Basu and



Mr. George Chira were requested to be the returning officer. Returning officers made it clear that there will be one vote per state (for state convener/state representative), one vote each for both the candidates and one vote for former convening organizations/Ex NCs who are present here in this meeting. Keeping this criteria in mind total number of voters were 22.

Page | 15 Returning officers gave a piece of paper with their signature to all the voters (mentioned below) and instructed them to write the name of one candidate of their choice, clearly on the given paper, without cutting (otherwise their vote will be cancelled). Thus voting was conducted and then votes were counted by returning officers.

After the counting **Mr. Mathews Philip was declared elected as the National Convener of the CACL for the next term.**

Names of the voters and voting details are given below:

Election- National Convener					
	Name of the States	Name of Voters	Mr. Mathew Philip	Mr. Ashok Kumar	Total
1	Uttarpradesh	Mr. Bhanuja			
2	Maharashtra	Mr. Manish	1	0	
3	Madhyapradesh	Mr. Rajiv	1		
4	Tamilnadu	Mr. Rajan	1		
5	Karnataka	Mr. Nagsimha		1	
6	Jharkhand	Mr. Ramlal	1	1	
7	Haryana	Mr. Ranbir	1	1	
8	Delhi	Mr. yogesh		1	
9	Bihar	Mr. Navlesh		1	
10	Andhrapradesh	Mr. Srinivasan			
11	Kerala	Mr. Dinesh	1		
12	Telangana	Mr. Krishna reddy	1		
13	Odisha	Mr. Hrishikesh	1	1	
14	West Bengal	Mr. Parbir Basu	1		
15	Uttarakhand	Mr. Raghu	1	1	
16	TDH	Mr. Reji	1		
17	EX. NC	Mr. Ranjan	1		
18	EX. NC	Mr. Victor	1		
19	EX. NC	Ms. Sarasvati	14	8	22
20	EX. NC	Ms. Alecia			
21	Mathew Philip	Candidate			
22	Mr. Ashok	Candidate			

After the election process was over, Mr. Prabir Basu requested both the candidates to say few words.

Mr. Ashok Kumar thanked all the voters and returning officers and said that it was a very healthy democratic process and I respect voter's mandate.

Mr. Mathews Philip thanked all the voters for electing him as National Convener of CACL. He also thanked the returning officers for conducting very smooth and fare election process. He promised that he will provide all the cooperation and support to the state units of CACL. He said that - 'we will do things together'. He further added that CACLs objective is our constitution. I will respect the autonomy of all the state units. He concluded his speech by suggesting and requesting Mr. Ashok Kumar to be the New Convener of National Advocacy Unit of CACL.



Election of New Convener of National Advocacy Unit of CACL:

On Mr. Mathews suggestion and request (to be the New Convener of National Advocacy Unit of CACL), Mr. Ashok Kumar said that if all the voters and everyone present here is agree on this proposal then I will happily accept this proposal.

Everyone present there including voters accepted this suggestion (of Mr. Mathews) and thus Mr. Ashok Kumar was unanimously elected as the New Convener of National Advocacy Unit of CACL for the next term.

After the election process was over, Mr. Victor Raj welcomed Mr. Mathews Philip and handed over the soft copies of all the documents which he had as the National Convener & National secretariat of CACL. Mr. Victor Raj then announced that from now onwards:



1. Mr. Mathew Philip will be the National Convener of CACL and South India Cell for Human Rights Education and Monitoring-SICHREM – Bangalore, will be National secretariat of the CACL.

2. Mr. Ashok Kumar will be the Convener of National Advocacy Unit of CACL and Dr. A B Baliga Trust-Delhi, will be the National Advocacy Secretariat of CACL.

CARITAS INDIA IN ERADICATION OF CHILD LABOUR

Mr. Rajesh Upadhyay from Caritas India said that Caritas India is associated fully with West Bengal chapter of CACL, and we would like to get ourselves

associated gradually with other state chapters of CACL to address the issues related to child labour (like north eastern states, Bihar..). Mr. Rajesh shared that in West Bengal, Caritas India has recently conducted a study on the status of child labour and such studies can be conducted in other states too in collaboration with interested states units of CACL. He thanked Mr. Prabir Basu for helping Caritas India team to orient and conduct this study. Copies of the study report was also shared with the participants. He further said that we will find some common ground to work together with CACL on child labour issues.



STRATEGIES FOR ERADICATION OF CHILD LABOUR

It was an open session in which participants gave their suggestions to make CACL a more active, visible and vibrant network so that it can play a major role in the eradication of child labour in the country. Major suggestions from the participants are as follows:

Mr. Ashok Ghosh (TDH Suisse): I feel that there should be link between National and state strategy. Time line should be prepared and followed up. Data generation and analysis should be there as priority in CACL.

Ms. Ritu Mishra: We are in the process of observing the 30th anniversary of UNCRC. On 18th, 19th & 20th Nov 2019 a national meeting of children will be organized in Delhi. On the last day of the meeting a public hearing will also be organized at IIC. For this program 2 children will be invited from each state. HAQ CRC will prepare a report which will be released and sent to the CRC



Committee. We will organize a skype call between Reji, Askok and Bharti Ali and Mathew to discuss and finalize the plan for UNCRC's 30th anniversary program.

Mr. Reji PE (TDH Germany): Haq has approached us to be part of this process at state and National level. If we all are agree a then we can be part of this process. On this proposal everyone agreed.

Page | 18

Mr. Raghu Tiwari (Uttrakhand)-We should take the Child labour issue at International level also to put pressure on GOI so that our objective to make CLPRA up to age of 18 years can be achieved.

Mr.Mathews Philip: We should organize a 2 days extensive workshop (in Feb or March 2020) with the state representatives of CACL on child labour issue to discuss intensely and plan: 1- the strategy to energize and rejuvenate CACL and 2. to chalk out a national strategy and plan of action for CACL .

Ms. Lokesh Sharma (CEC): Child labour cannot be seen and addressed in isolation. We should understand this issue holistically (in political, social, economic, cultural perspective) and then address it appropriately by linking it with other community development programs.

Ms. Alicia (Yuva): We should involve and ensure children's vices in our visioning exercise.

VOTE OF THANKS

Meeting concluded with the vote of thanks by Mr. Reji PE. He thanked all the participants for making this meeting more participative and productive. He thanked the outgoing National Convener Mr. Victor Raj for reviving and revitalizing state chapters of and CACL. He also thanked the newly elected National Convener Mr. Mathew Philip and newly elected Convener of National Advocacy Unit Mr. Ashok Kumar for their support and cooperation.



Report prepared by: Krishna Kumar Tripathy, Consultant-Child Rights and Child Safeguarding, New Delhi

**Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL)
Strategic Planning Workshop for Eradication of Child Labour
& National Co-ordination Committee (NCC) Meeting**

5th September 2019 - Indian Social Institute, New Delhi

Tentative Schedule

Time	Agenda	Responsibility
9.30 – 10 am	Registration	
10 – 10.15 am	Welcome and introduction Minutes of last NCC	Mr. P. Joseph Victor Raj
10.15 – 10.40 am	CACL perspectives and concerns	Mr. George Chira
10.40 – 11 am	Caritas India in Eradication of Child Labour	Fr. Paul / Fr. Jolly ED / Asst ED, Caritas India
11 -11.30 am	Tea break	
11.30 am – 1 pm	Brief updates from the states – 5 minutes each	Mr. Ranjan Mohanty
1 – 2 pm	Lunch	
2 – 2.30 pm	Updates from the states continued...	Mr. Ranjan Mohanty
2.30 – 3 pm	Brief reports from convener and advocacy unit convener	Mr. P. Joseph Victor Raj & Mr. Ashok Kumar
3 – 4 pm	Election of new National Convener & new Advocacy Convener	Mr. Prabir Basu
4 – 4.30 pm	Tea break	
4.30 – 5.30 pm	Strategies for Eradication of Child Labour	Mr. Reji PE, TdH GIP Mr. Ashish Ghosh, TdH Suisse Mr. Rajesh, Caritas India

Annexure Two:

List of Participants

Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL)

**Strategic Planning Workshop for Eradication of Child Labour
and
National Co-ordination Committee (NCC) Meeting**



5th September 2019

Indian Social Institute, New Delhi

Name of the Participant	Organisation and State	Mobile Number & Mail ID	Signature
① BHANUJA SHARAN LAL	MSEMVS, Uttar Pradesh	9936831941 bhanuja-msvs@hmail.com	
② RAMLAL PRASAD	JAN SEWA PARISHAD (JSP) HAZARIBAG, JHARKHAND.	9431140659, 9002088124 jshindia.org@gmail.com	
③ Dr. VASAVI KIRO	TORANG TRUST	9431103047 torang2005@gmail.com	
④ B. KRISHNA REDDY	DREAM SOCIETY Telangana	9963358570 dreamadb@gmail.com	
⑤ Salim	TOH, Delhi	tdhnro@gmail.com	
⑥ Anwar	Dr. A.V. Baliga Memorial Trust	9873179081 baligatrust23@gmail.com	
⑦ ASHISH GHOSH	TDA SUISSE	4831287408 a.ghosh@terredeshommesuisse.ch	
⑧ Raghav Tewari	CNCL Uttarakhand	9112092426	
⑨ N. RAJENDRAPRASAD	CACL TN2PY, Tamilnadu	8903020574 prasadrajend@gmail.com	
⑩ PRABIR BASU	CACL, WEST BENGAL	933192847 prabir55@gmail.com	
⑪ I. SRINIVASA RAO	CACL - AP	4885307263 cjs1990@cis.in	

Supported by: Caritas India

	Name of the Participant	Organisation and State	Mobile Number & Mail ID	Signature
12	K K Tripathy	Independent consultant	9868666095	K K Tripathy
13	NAGASIMHA S HAV	CRT - Karnataka	9880477198	Nagasimha S HAV
14	P L REDD	Fosse des Amis de la Paix	9845322905	P L Redd
15	C NAMBOI	C S I O Tirunelveli	9443724075	C Namboi
16	Bitu	TDH - Delhi	9958394913	Bitu
17	Jaypal Mandave	Tdh, Pune	9869058355	Jaypal Mandave
18	(Joseph Victor K)	CACL	9456694438	Joseph Victor K
19	Ashok Kumar	CACL, Advocacy Unit	9299902688 cacladvocacy@gmail.com	Ashok Kumar
20	Kumar Ranbir	CACL - Haryana (Advoc)	9810555400 kranbirregulation@gmail.com	Kumar Ranbir
21	Ravindra Nair	TDH - Delhi	lknair@gmail.com	Ravindra Nair
22	Koel Chaudhary	TDH	983720267	Koel Chaudhary
23	E. J. George	Consultant - Tdh	9822063476	E. J. George
24	SUNIL JAGAT	CACL, Odisha	9438406565 9726170933	Sunil Jagat
25	Ramesh Choudhary	CACL, Odisha	993201213	Ramesh Choudhary
26	Hemant Pandey	Co-ordinator CACL Odisha	9402053696	Hemant Pandey

	Name of the Participant	Organisation and State	Mobile Number & Mail ID	Signature
27	Sarawati	Director, RLHP Karnataka	7022252030 rlhpintervita@gmail.com	Sarawati
28	C. K. DINGAN	DIRECTOR JVAKD Karpette Nara, Wayanad Kerala	9562921099 jvalewayned@gmail.com	
29	Nandish Kr. Singh	CACL, Bihar	9431880674/9115319566 caclbihar@gmail.com	
30	Rajeev Bhargava	NIWCYD, MP	9425839787 Caritasniwcyd@gmail.com	
31	Manish Shroff	CACL-Maharashtra	9226104518 caclmaharashtra@gmail.com	
32	Ms. Lalitha	CEL - Delhi	8587956746 lalitha@cel-india.org	
33	Yogesh Kumar	CACL, Delhi	afango@gmail.com cacldelhi@gmail.com	
34	Rafesh Upadhyay	CARITAS DELHI - 110014	9717941918	
35	Lee Marquon	NCDHR, Delhi	9718498755	
36	Anita Tannu	YUVA, Mah (Mumbai)	9892459833	
37	Mathews Philip	SICHRM, Bangalore	9845001338	
38	Sehri P	Advocate, Chennai	94464566010	