

CACL-Bulletin

Quarterly E-Newsletter of Campaign Against Child Labour

Issues for

News from the states

Oct - Dec 2021

Message from the CACL National Convener

Message from National Advocacy Convener

Mr Mathews Phillips
National Convener - CACL

Mr Ashok Kumar
National Advocacy Convener - CACL

Greetings from CACL National Secretariat!

Dear Friends,
Happy New Year 2022,

Unfortunately, we are seeing the rise of Covid-19 cases, and the third wave of the pandemic is yet to peak. While it is quite frustrating for us to be unable to organize events to further our cause, we must keep in mind how much more exasperating it must be for the children. With each wave, their hopes and dreams are getting snatched further away.

The fifth E-newsletter is with us. 2020 and 2021 were very challenging years for all of us across the country, across the world. We lost many friends, activists, near and dear ones. Our years of work were washed away to some great extent. Millions of children are trapped in labour net due to lack of any protective umbrella for them. However, we never lost our commitment, courage, and spirit. We raised our voices from local to global levels against the heinous crime i.e. child labour. But it was one of the most active years in the history of CACL as well. We could conduct and participate in three major national consultations, over 32 state consultations, the successful 44 days #shramnahishiksha campaign, and many more.

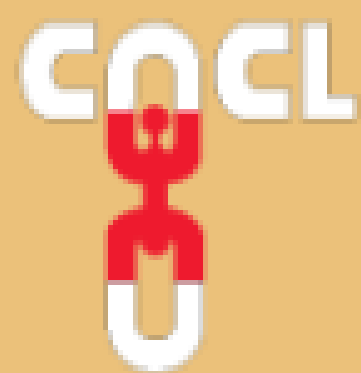
We need to find a way to increase our efforts via online methods because we should not wait for the pandemic to get over. Awareness generation and dissipation of information and statistics about the present situation of Child Labour in India needs to be focused upon. It is the need of the hour that our approaches now include online methods to build stronger stakeholder support. Our goal must now be to have a larger audience for the future offline campaigns and events. The Strategic Planning report 2021 can be consulted to decide the objectives and goals of the virtual and offline events. With regards, Mathews Philip, National Convener - CACL

Above all, the brainstorming on the strategic planning of CACL was a great step towards strengthening the campaign for child labour free India. Six virtual consultations and one two-day physical consultation in Delhi exclusively for strategic planning paved the way for a road map for CACL members. Thanks to Mr George Chira, one of the founders of CACL for such a smooth, sharp, sincere and effective facilitation. We will walk together to fulfil our dream of Child Labour Free India with a mission of Eradication of Child Labour through our major strategy of multiple and coordinated engagements with all stakeholders.

With regards,

In solidarity
Ashok Kumar
Convener, National Advocacy Unit, CACL

Mathews Philip, National Convener - CACL"



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Campaign Against Child Labour Strategic Planning 2021

Introduction:

Campaign against Child Labour is an initiative of Civil Society Organizations, individuals and Institutions and was launched in 1992. A group of about 40 organizations from 13-14 states of the country who have been working on issues related to children's well-being got together to initiate this campaign. This was also in the background of the global climate in favor of recognizing and realizing rights of children as part of the movement towards human rights. The United Nations General Assembly had adopted the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in 1989 and the same was being debated upon across the world. Many countries ratified the convention spontaneously. The convention had categorically prohibited employment and economic exploitation of children through Article 32 of the convention. Government of India also ratified the convention on 10th December 1992 but however maintained a reservation against Article 32 based on a plea that India was a poor country and the prohibition of child labour was not yet possible. CACL members disagreed with this position and continued its movement towards eradication of child labour through a process of coordinated and concerted actions at different levels. Analyzing and understanding the causal factors behind child labour, highlighting strategies to eliminate the causes and eradicate child labour was the mission of the campaign. Over the years the campaign spread to different states at different levels. It reached up to 22 states and a large number of districts.

This was a vibrant campaign marked with intense discussions among the campaign member organizations and also other actors such as trade unions, women's organizations, students' unions, teachers' associations and others. Free, compulsory, quality education was understood and upheld as the alternative to child labour. The campaign reached high momentum during the 90s and the early years of the 21st century. The national conventions and advocacy and campaign by the children themselves who were in work force or had just moved to schools was well appreciated. In 2009 the education was made compulsory for all children until 14 years but this did not satisfy the campaign. It was important to make education free and compulsory for all children until 18 years. Nevertheless, a huge debate on whether the legislation should be accepted as partial fulfillment of the demands and the requirements, continued. Eventually, the campaign joined hands with the Right to Education Forum towards proper implementation and even extension of the legislation to all the children.

However, it appears that certain amount of confusions and fatigue affected the campaign during the 2nd decade of the 21st century.

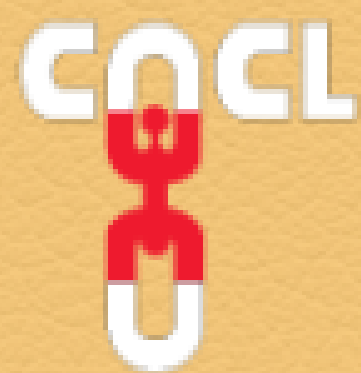
While some of the states continued to be very active and did exemplary work others became stagnant with the older people getting inactive and hardly any new blood coming into the campaign. Efforts to rejuvenate and reactivate the campaigns were made on and off. There was even the feeling that child labour had ceased to be a major issue in the Indian context.

The 2016 legislation which on the one hand prohibited all forms of child labour until the age of 14 years but gave legal sanction to family-based employment of children and also children in certain professions like music, movies etc. was a new trigger. CACL got active in highlighting the potential negative impact of such self-defeating legislation. As this continued there were also new sectors of child labour that were being noticed like the mining sector (mica mining) and home-based industries like garment industries. Then there came the COVID 19 pandemic causing a national lockdown including all schools and education institutions, shops, markets, all employment sectors. The impact of the pandemic and the lockdown was so large that it caused tremendous difficulties for the daily wage earners, migrants, self-employed, and economically weaker sections. Hundreds of thousands of migrants were stranded, on their way back home and many lives including those of working children were lost. As the schools were closed, children were idle, many did not have any access to digital education and a large number had to enter into employment to support their families. Suddenly child labour was becoming a hot issue again together with education. CACL got into debate and action to ensure that children were supported and prevented from returning to the workforce. As the situation was rapidly changing, CACL leadership and the national coordination committee felt the need for a new debate and policy orientation. Thus the idea of strategic planning came up and the campaign secretariat requested the undersigned to facilitate such strategic planning.

The Process:

The process of the strategic planning started with an announcement of the plan to all the National Coordination Committee members who were invited to join. Initially, the sessions were to be conducted online through zoom discussions and eventually it was to be finalized in a physical meeting. First of all, a SWOT analysis and a survey on child labour including its causes and possible ways of eradication were conducted. The State Conveners and active colleagues responded to these surveys and the summary of the state-level discussions or individual positions were submitted.

On the basis of this extensive discussion on the vision, mission and possible approaches to the mission were held and positions were recorded, on the basis of consensus.



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continue....**

Campaign Against Child Labour Strategic Planning 2021

These discussions led to an understanding and visualization of a situation 'free of child labour' and the necessary conditions required for this. The Campaign activities will be organized by the CACL members at different levels. The Central Secretariat and National Advocacy Unit will focus on National and regional level programmes while the State conveners and other member organizations will spearhead the movement in their respective locations. These were highlighted and was formulated as the outcomes to be arrived at through multiple actions at different levels. The findings and summary of the discussions are present in a PowerPoint format and is attached to this note.

The Concluding discussions:-

After six online discussions which lasted between 1.5 – 2 hours, a final two days debate was organized in Delhi to finalize the campaign Strategic Goals. All the arrived positions were reviewed and the necessary conditions for eradication of child labour were further debated upon.

New aspects such as the impact of climate change, COVID 19 pandemic and consequences were brought in Specific causes including legislations on social well-being, access to PDS and urban space, came up during the debate. These were incorporated.

The necessary conditions for a situation of child labour free India were further formulated as outcomes and a result chain was prepared using the Result Based Management methodology. This was explained and debated upon.

The overall preconditions were a set of 7 outcomes though the ideal situation would have been to reduced these 7 outcomes into 3-5 as the strategic goals, the same was not possible. Despite long discussions, it was not possible to find an agreement to exclude any of the outcomes from the high priority. So finally the discussion was concluded by leaving this decision to the state or regional units of the campaign depending on their situations. At the national level, all seven outcomes will remain as equal priorities. Actions can be organized according to the current situation and needs in different locations.

Similarly the discussion on priority sector also was inconclusive. It was observed that such prioritization needs to be done state or region wise rather than nationwide.

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JAN SEWA PARISHAD HAZARIBAG - Jharkhand

Case story of the child labour

Name: - Aakash Kumar

Age: - 4 years

Father's: - late lalchand Kumar

Mother's: - Sunita Devi

Address: - Vill- Sonpura, Po-sandh, Ps- Bdkagawan, Dist- Hazaribag

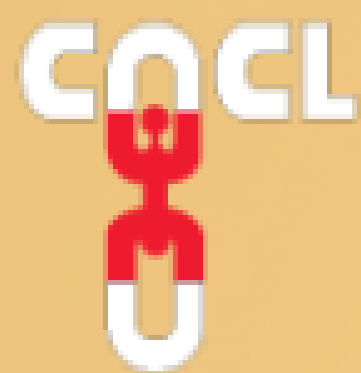
Aakash Kumar's father had died due to pandemic Covid 19, after the death of his father problems related to his education and upbringing arose with the child.

After getting the information JSP/CACL team Barkagawn reached the child house and became aware of this problem and informed his other family member as well as villagers about the Sponsorship scheme run by the social welfare department, Government of India and after getting the documents related to it, submitted the form to the district child welfare officer to link it with the scheme.

At present, the child is getting only Rs. 2000/- per month. By going to the child's house from time to time, interrogating the child and his mother and getting information about his current status.

At present, Akash Kumar is studying in the Anganwadi Center of his own village, as well as inquiring with the villagers; it was found that due to the assistance amount, now the child is getting better ambience and food.

In order to further improvement in the condition of children, JSP/CACL has also given more information about other schemes run by the government and suggested them to join these schemes from time to time.



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Online meet on Chartered Demand and Action Plan

In context of Jharkhand State

Overview of the Meeting

On 22nd November, 2021 a meeting was conducted online in Jharkhand State, This meeting was basically organized to implement the Chartered Demand of Child Labour children and Action Plan in all the 5 Regions (South Chhotanagpur, North Chhotanagpur, Kolhan, Palamu and Santhal Parganas) of Jharkhand state. In this meeting, 22 participants attended and gave their valuable time.

Initiation

The meeting was initiated by the State Convener of CACL, Jharkhand Mr. Ramlal Prasad. He welcomed all the participants such as National Advocacy Convener, National Advocacy Coordinator, TDH Head, Regional Convener of Jharkhand and CSOs Representatives. He discussed the last meeting in a brief firstly and he came to the points to be covered in the meeting briefed about some issues according to the objectives of Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL). He focused on the prior progresses such as, 4 child labour children were represented from Jan Sewa Parishad at National level on Child Labour Day 2021, where their case study was shared. The scenario of Jharkhand State regarding child labour were also discussed including information about the regions in Jharkhand state, implementation team and implementing strategy. After that he drawn a kind attention on the agenda to be discussed in the meeting. He addressed some points to be covered and to be implemented further, the points are as follows:

- Ø How to rectify and overcome the issue of child labour?
- Ø Raising awareness to parents against child labour.
- Ø Dialogue and discussion with child labour employers at the regional level in Jharkhand.
- Ø Involvement of government officials/departments in advocating child labour issue.

Discussion Panel

After that, the discussion panel was opened, Mr. Pravin Sinha, CWC, Koderma shared some issues and ideas such as:

- Ø There is a lot of difficulty in adjusting the children when the drop-out children are re-enrolled in the school because there is a difference between their age and their classes.
- Ø There should be a system of vocational training for the children of 14 to 18 years, so that in the future, the said child can secure his future.
- Ø Counselling of parents of child labour children is mandatory and should also be done.

In this row, Mr. Sanjeev Bhagat, Regional Convener, Santhal Pargana also shared his ideologies are such as:

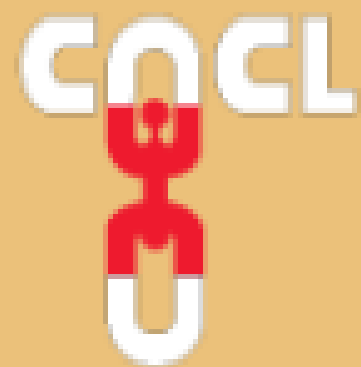
- Ø There is a need to focus on the action plan by compiling the issues from various regions.
 - Ø To identify children who are doing child labour after school closure due to the ongoing pandemic Covid-19.
 - Ø CACL aims at spreading and convergence with govt. It is necessary to have officials, so that the advocacy of child labour can be done.
 - Ø To figure out field data before the next physical meeting, which in consequence will be reliable to implement for advocacy.
- Furtherly in this panel, some issues, conclusions and ideologies were also discussed by the dignitaries present in the meeting were Satish Karn, Secretary of Lok Prerna, Md. Ashraf, Mr. Indramani Sahu, Secretary of Samarpan. The major points were discussed in this meeting are as follows:
- Ø Counselling with the child labour children according to their interest in education.
 - Ø To ensure the alternate livelihood of child labour.
 - Ø Improvement of the facility in Government schools and Anganwadi centre.
 - Ø The questionnaire should be prepared on the basis of prior chartered plan. And this is necessary to prepare the questionnaire in simple and local language for better understanding.

The session was followed by Md. Javed, National Advocacy Coordinator, CACL for the coverage of several important points on Strategic planning for Regional level consultation and discussion in Jharkhand state. He said that there are total of five regions in the Jharkhand state namely North Chotanagpur, South Chotanagpur, Palamu, Santhal and Kolhan region, which is a very large area. That is why these five regions have been divided into three parts for implementation in lesser timeline. he divisions of five regions of Jharkhand state are as follows:-

1. South Chhotanagpur & Kolhan Regions: Under this regional meeting, 8 districts would be covered- Lohardaga, Ranchi, Gumla, Khunti, Simdega, West Singhbhum, East Singhbhum and Saraikela Kharsawan.
2. Palamu and North Chhotanagpur Regions: Under this regional meeting, 10 districts would be covered- Garhwa, Palamu, Latehar, Ramgarh, Bokaro, Dhanbad, Hazaribag, Giridih, Koderma and Chatra.
3. Santhal Pargana: In this region, the rest 6 districts will be covered for regional meetings.

Objectives:

- Ø To discuss child labour issues at a local level during regional consultation sessions.
- Ø Impact of Covid-19 on child labour in Mica mining and other forms of child labour in their respective locations for the purpose of exchanging ideas, if necessary.



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Ø Child labour issues will be resolved, and an action plan will be prepared for state-level consultation in order to make Jharkhand a child labour-free state.

And after this he shared the strategic plan according to the issues in respective regions of Jharkhand state.

Consolidation :-

In this panel, the dignitaries concluded while compiling the said meeting in last. Mr. Ramlal Prasad, State Convener, CACL Jharkhand added some points while concluding the meeting such as the questionnaire for counseling should be in a simple and local language, it's a good thought to divide five regions of Jharkhand into three parts which will be fast implementation in resultant. At last, he added, the objectives of CACL can be achieved through advocacies with the collaboration of government officials, where the Childline program can play a vital role in this implementation.

So, it is necessary to make sure for the involvement of Childline in CACL objectives. While observing comments in this row, the representative of TDH Mr. Rohit Rakshit said that more columns should be added in the strategic planning format such as; types of stakeholders in terms of regions, participation of CSOs in regional consultation and identification of issues.

After this successful meet, all the participants decided to conduct a physical meeting in future as soon as possible, till then the essential data can be compiled and to be represented in that meeting. And lastly, the State convener of Jharkhand voted of thanks to all the participants for making this meeting successful.

Madhya Pradesh : Treat Child Labour also as pandemic; says experts in regional consultation held on 11 December at Bhopal Madhya Pradesh

Covid Induced risks, recent issues of migratory population and challenges of unorganised sector pushed us to rethink on the inputs and investments to support the communities. These discussions and processes are also relevant in the context of Sustainable development goals agenda to be achieved till 2030. The source-destination connect of such challenges needs a collective strategic planning and way forwards. With these core issues of discussion, a regional consultation is planned in central region of India including the states of Bihar, Jharkhand & Uttar Pradesh. A one-day regional consultation was organised at Bhopal School of Social Sciences auditorium in Bhopal Madhya Pradesh.

Representatives of ILO, UNICEF, V. V. Giri National Institute for Labour studies, Terre Des Hommes, Save the children CACL network partners including Child Advisory committee members represented in consultation and shared their concerns and learnings as well as demands during the consultation to eradicate child labour. The day 11 December is also witnessed when India signed the UNCRC treaty in 1992.

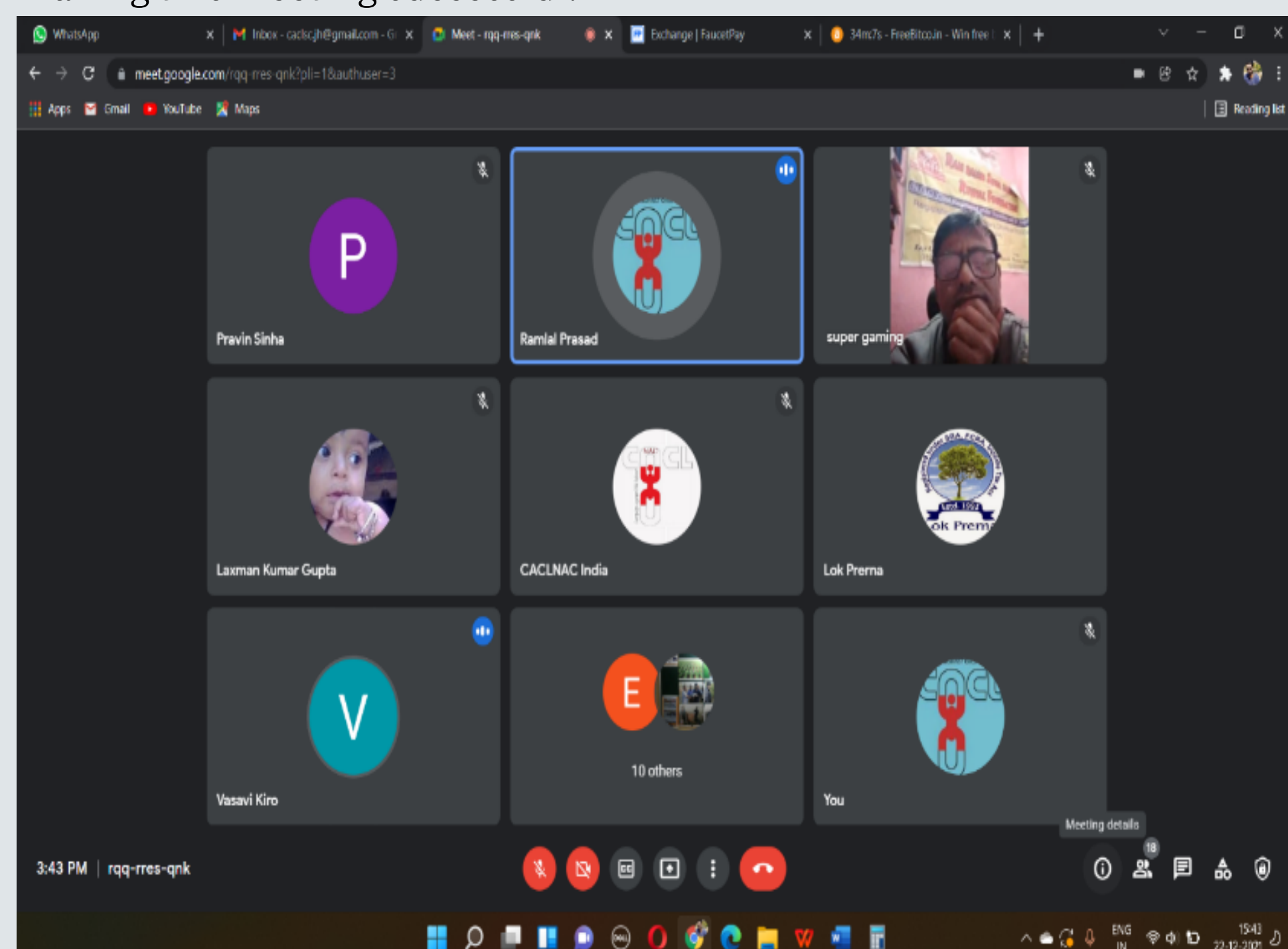
Mr. Ashok Jha from National Advocacy Unit -CACL addressed the consultation with the sharing of CACL experiences and reports on the rise of child labour issues during the pandemic. Children advisory committees shared their concerns that if the Government is able to achieve the 100-crore vaccination target in a year than why the issue of child labour is not taken on the priority. It shows lack of willingness from the Government side. Riyaz from CAC Bihar said that "Everyone is observing the child labour problem but giving no responses on the issue".

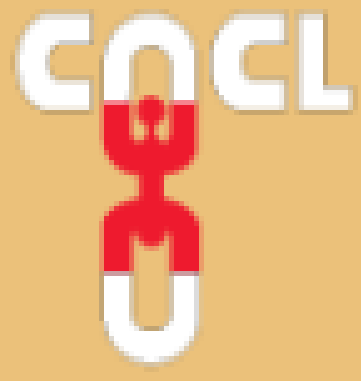
Mr. Lolichen, child protection specialist UNICEF Madhya Pradesh office said that counselling support is needed to develop the shock resistance capacity of children as well as communities during this crucial time. Volunteers are developed to help the children and communities in the state.

Dr. Helen Sekar from VV Giri National institute for Labour studies shared the progress of last five years after the amendments in the child labour law.

She said that the day is having a historic importance when children are sharing their views on the child labour issues.

Mr. Omprakash arya and Mr. Pradeep Nair from Save the children, Dr. Ashish Bharti from Rajya Siksha Kendra MP, Ms. Sharmili Basu and Mr. Rohit Rakshit from TDH, Mr. Shivnarayn & Mr. Mayank from Labour Department Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Rutwik Gandhe from BSSS college and Mr. Subodh from Niti Aayog also addressed the participants during the consultation.





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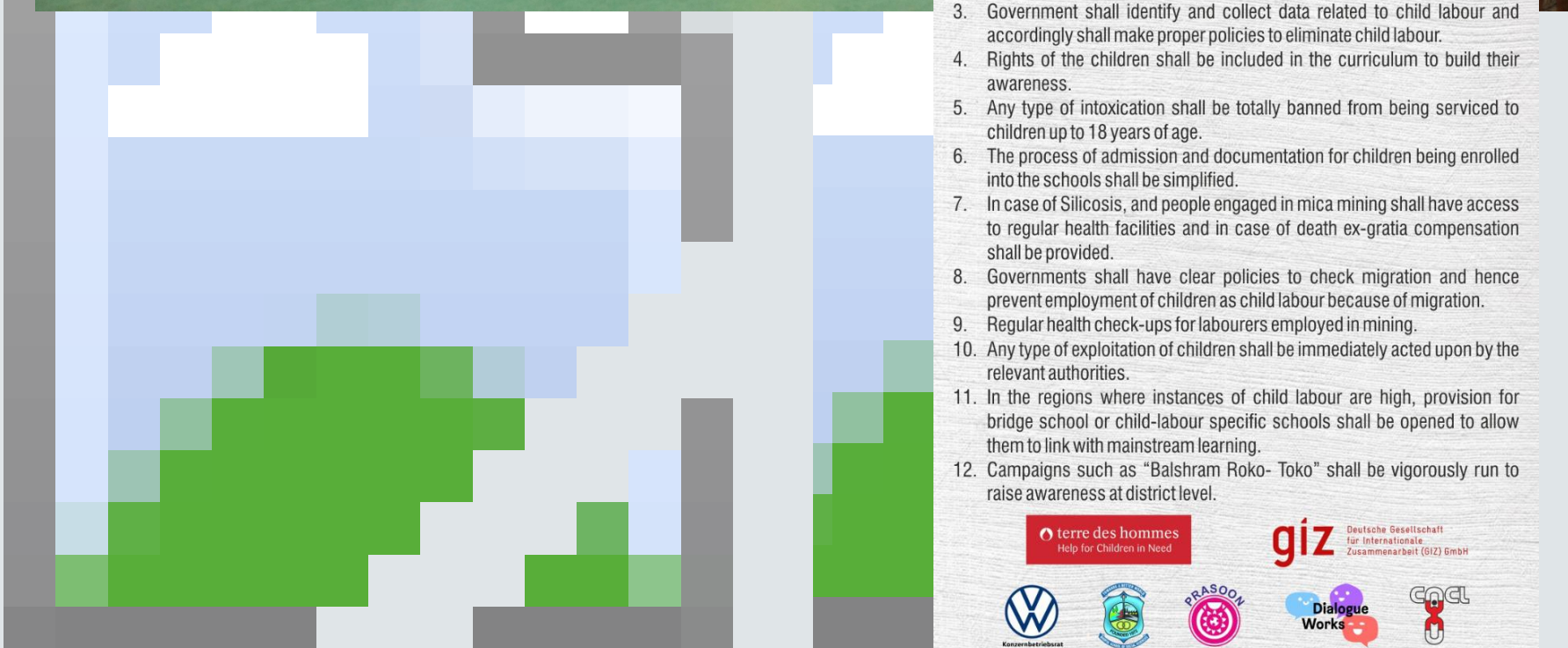
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The children advisory committees from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar & Jharkhand shared their charter of demands during the consultation which was further taken up by Ms. Bansari Nag, Project Manager, ILO Delhi. She said to take these demands further at suitable forums for giving the children voices a suitable resort.

The regional consultation is witnessed by 112 network partners from 10 districts of Madhya Pradesh and CAC members. The vote of thanks for consultation is given by Mr. Mayank Dixit from Labour department.



Maharashtra :- Publication of Manifesto of Children's Demands for Pune Municipal Election 2022 *

Pune: On the occasion of World Child Rights Day (November 20), children living in various slums of Pune city released a manifesto of demands expected from aspiring candidates for the post of corporator in the Pune Municipal Corporation elections. The manifesto was released by the children of 'Balhak Kriti Samiti' at Patrakar Bhavan on Saturday.

On November 20, 1989, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The UNCRC clarifies who the children are, what their rights are, and what responsibilities the respective governments in the participating countries have to fulfil. The concept of the agreement is that all these rights are interrelated and each of these rights is of equal importance and no one can deprive children of these rights. According to the agreement, November 20 is observed as World Children's Day.

The Action for the Rights of the Child (ARC) was established 30 years ago as a platform for child rights organizations and activists to follow up with the government at the local level for the implementation of UNCRC in India. Since then, the 'Child Rights Action Committee' has been working on all issues like education, protection, participation of children in Pune, as well as child labour and child marriage.

Under the initiative of the Child Rights Action Committee, a campaign for the manifesto of children is being implemented. The manifesto includes 22 demands on children's education, health, recreation, and protection. 100 children from Pune city have participated in the process of making a manifesto.

The children have made a list of their demands through direct participation and discussion. The Child Rights Action Committee will try to take these demands to the political parties and aspiring candidates as well as the general public before the planned elections.

(We are attaching a copy of the manifesto.)

Contact the following number for more information. Thanks!

Yours sincerely,

Child Rights Action Committee (ARC), Pune.

9011029110/9822401246 .

बालकांच्या मागण्यांचा जाहीरनामा

पुणे महानगरपालिका निवडणूक २०२२

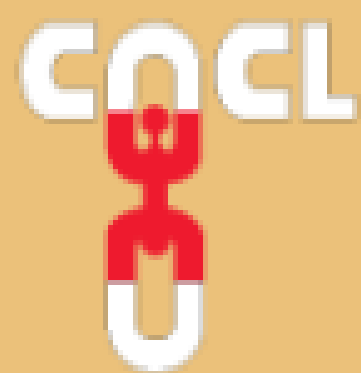
- २४ तास शुद्ध पिण्याचे पाणी मिळाले पाहिजेत.
- अद्यावत सुविधांचा २४ तास उपलब्ध असेल असा मोफत दबाखाना असावा. वस्तीपातळीवर २४ तास मोफत अंभुलस व फिरता दबाखान्याची सोय असावी.
- ओला व सुका कचरा तसेच सर्व प्रकारच्या कचऱ्याची, रस्त्यावर मुख्यमूळी पडणाऱ्या प्राण्यांची वेळच्या वेळेत योग्य विल्हेवाट लावली पाहिजे.
- शौचालयांची संख्या, स्वच्छता कर्मचाऱ्यांची संख्या वाढवावी. शौचालय व चेंबर्स वेळोवेळी साफ करावे.
- मुलांसाठी योगशाळा, व्यायामशाळा, नाट्यगृहे व मनोरंजन केंद्रे उभारावीत.
- मुलांचे मानसिक आरोग्य चांगले राहण्यासाठी वस्तीपातळीवर समुपदेशन केंद्रे उभारावीत. प्रत्येक हॉस्पिटलमध्ये मोफत समुपदेशक व मानसोपचार तज्ञ असावेत.
- शाळेमध्ये सर्वांना चांगल्या प्रतीचा पोषक आहार मिळावा. शुद्ध पिण्याच्या पाण्याची सोय असावी.
- प्रत्येक शाळेत व वस्तीमध्ये इलर्निंगची (कम्युनिटी एज्युकेशन सेंटर) सुविधा असावी.
- इयत्ता बारावी पर्यंत सर्व मुलांना मोफत व गुणवत्तापूर्ण शिक्षण तसेच मोफत पाठ्यपुस्तके व गणवेश मिळावा.
- धरापासून शाळेचे अंतर जास्त असेल तर विद्यार्थ्यांना शाळेत जाण्यासाठी सायकल किंवा इतर कोणत्याही सार्वजनिक वाहतुकीच्या सेवा मोफत उपलब्ध करून घ्याव्यात.
- शाळा भरण्याच्या व सुटण्याच्या वेळी ट्रॉफिक कंट्रोल टीम असावी.
- शाळेमध्ये सुसज्ज क्रीडांगण असावे. मुलींसाठी शाळेमध्ये कराटे प्रशिक्षण घ्यावे. मुलांना क्रीडा स्पर्धांच्या अधिकाधिक संधी उपलब्ध व्हाव्यात.

- २३) शाळेमध्ये मुलींसाठी स्वच्छ व स्वतंत्र शौचालय पाहिजे.
- २४) शाळेमध्ये प्रत्येक विषयासाठी स्वतंत्र प्रभावी शिक्षक तसेच पिटी, संगणक, कार्यानुभव यांसाठी स्वतंत्र शिक्षक असावेत. संगणक, कार्यानुभव, प्रयोगशाळा यासाठी स्वतंत्र खोल्या असाव्यात.
- २५) शाळेमध्ये सुरक्षित भौतिक सुविधा असाव्यात. शाळेची इमारत पक्की असावी. इमारतीचे दरवर्षी ऑडीट करावे.
- २६) टिकटिकाणी बाल सुरक्षा जनजागृती केंद्र असेल पाहिजे. यामध्ये बालविवाह प्रतिबंध, बालमजुरी मुक्तता व बाल लैंगिक अत्याचार प्रतिबंध कार्यक्रम राबवावेत.
- २७) बालकांच्या सुरक्षिततेच्या हेल्पलाईन सर्व टिकाणी उपलब्ध कराव्यात.
- २८) बालकांच्या सुरक्षिततेच्या दृष्टीकोनातून शाळा व वस्तीच्या परिसरामध्ये सीसीटीव्ही कॅमेरे बसवावेत.
- २९) वस्तीमधील दारुची दुकाने बंद करावीत.
- २०) १८ वर्षांखालील मुलांना काम (बालमजुरी) करायला लागू नये.
- २१) वस्तीमध्ये गाणे नृत्य व कला यांचे वर्ग असावेत व स्पर्धा चेतल्या जाव्यात.
- २२) रस्त्यावरील/बिचर मुलांचे सामाजिक व शैक्षणिक पुनर्वसन करावे.

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Maharashtra state :-

A 2 days' workshop was held by Maharashtra state chapter of Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL) in Aurangabad supported by Terre Des Hommes, Germany (TDH) and Marathwada Gramin Vikas Sanstha (MGVS). A total of 35 participants across 15 districts of Maharashtra came together to understand CACL and collectively plan the upcoming strategies of the network.

Ms. Alicia Tauro, State Convenor of Maharashtra (CACL) welcomed all the participants and Quickly briefed them about the flow of the workshop and the objectives of the workshop. Further, the workshop proceeded as all the participants introduced themselves briefly.

Further, Mr. Manish Shroff from New Vision and Baal Hakka Kruti Samiti - Action for Rights of the Child (ARC) briefed the participants about the history of CACL. In his sharing, he also highlighted the National Audit in Delhi and the Children Alternative Report that was sent to the United Nations in 2018. This report was written by children out of their experiences with respect to the child labour and other constraints. Manish also shared that another process is about to be initiated in 2022. Mr. Mandar from TDH (terre des hommes) briefed the participants about the CLPRA. He

covered the following points in his sharing about CLPRA

- Vision
- Understanding the stakeholders in this process
- Effective action plan as a solution to this issue

As per the schedule, day 02 of the workshop was reserved for the Planning and Action plan of

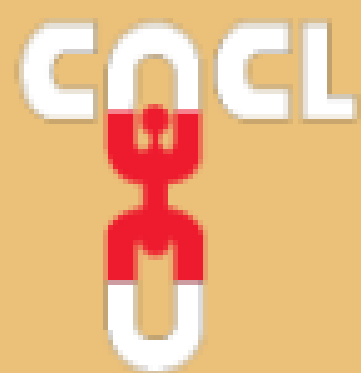
CACL for the upcoming year. National CACL has concluded 7 points as necessary conditions to guarantee the eradication of child labour and CACL Maharashtra would choose one specific area for action. Followed by the discussion a panel discussion was arranged to understand the role of government and other stakeholders in the complete eradication of child labour.

- Deputy Commissioner of Labour Department (Aurangabad Division)
- CWC Chairperson (Aurangabad and Jalna)

Above mentioned joined the workshop as panellists. The panel discussion proceeded as a few question was asked and the following are the points shared by the panellists shared while answering these questions:

- The PENCIL portal should be used widely by all the stakeholders to help understand the magnitude of the issue.
- Understand about various grants/budget and ways to avail it to use it for tackling the issue.
- creatively experiment and come up with innovative solutions to combat the issue.





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Uttar Pradesh :- From Manav Sansadhan Evam Mahila Vikas Sansthan . Activity conducted with the children

Child Protection from the perspective of children

Children of child rights groups in 10 villages of Jamalpur block of Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh is working to make other children aware of child protection. This group has about 191 members (F-98M-93). Along with this, there are 40 such children of this group who are members of the Child Protection Child Forum. These members have been trained to provide information on child protection. In which children have been told about "**what to do and what not to do**" through the Ludo game.

Get a ladder-

- Ø Child's birth certificate
- Ø Attend regular school
- Ø Complaining to parents when things go wrong
- Ø Knowing 1098 ChildLine
- Ø Protest against child marriage
- Ø Photoshoot protest
- Ø Helping children in trouble
- Ø Stay away from drugs

The snake will get -

- Ø Leave school to work
- Ø Working with parents
- Ø Leave home without telling
- Ø Quarrel and abuse
- Ø Migration under the age of 18
- Ø Drug abuse
- Ø Watching dirty videos and pictures
- Ø Marry under the age of 18
- Ø Go with someone you don't know

Children of the trained Child Forum hold meetings with other children in their 10 villages, in which the topic of child protection is discussed. in which children can easily participate. And keep your word. The kids then make games with these 4 kids and when it comes to tricks they explain these issues in detail.



Activities are done by **Leads Organization** with the children - Between October -December 2021.

- Formation of CAC and linkages to time to talk and 15 children were participated in between on 02.12.2021 to 04.12.2021 Vasundhara Garden, Koderma.

- Orientation meeting with VLCPC members in 15 villages of Tisri, Koderma and Gawan block from 17th to 23rd November 2021.

- Introduction and Importance of VLCPC
- Constitution of VLCPC
- Formation Process of VLCPC
- Rights, Roles and Responsibilities
- VLCPC as an extension to block, district, state child protection mechanism.

- Enrolment campaign

- Enrolment campaign was held from 1st week of October 21.
- Enrolment campaign was organised in all 15 schools
- 217 children from the first phase of bridge classes have enrolled themselves in the formal education system.

District Awareness Rally

- Rally started from Dhawajadhari, Koderma to Deputy Commissioner office on 28th November 2021.
- Children raise their voice for the quality education, child labour etc.
- More than 75 youth and children from Koderma and Giridih participated.

Global Action Month

- Celebrated whole November as cleanliness drive, plantation, knowledge sharing, drawing competition, Quiz competition etc.
- Celebrated Mega Cleanliness Drive on 28th November 2021 at Koderma were more than 100 participants from 3 organization came to clean the Dhawajadhari temple.
- It was inaugurated by Mr. Bhagirath Sahu and Praveen Kumar Sinha

IEC activities

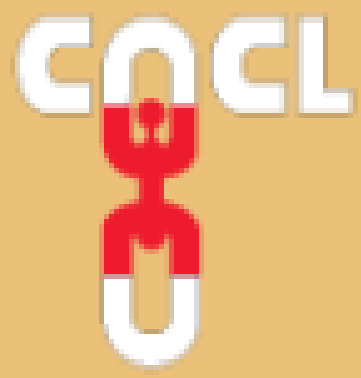
- Wall writing – Right to education, Services of Aganwadi Centers, Child Protection, MGNREGA, Consequences of Child Labour, Government Schemes
- Posters and Pamphlets – Issues and their solutions of Children, RTE act, Child Rights and Consequences of Child Labour

Staff orientation and capacity building

- As per suggestion of Koel Ma'am all field facilitators are reoriented.

Global Conference on Child Labor Pre Consultation

- Amit from LEADS and Sachin from Koderma participated and express his views on the situation of child labour in Jharkhand on 8th December 2021.



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Sonia

Continue ..Snaps of LEADS .

An agent of change



Meet Sonia Kumari (name changed), an eleven-year-old girl from Balbali village in Giridih district of Jharkhand.

Her district is one of the most backward districts of Jharkhand.

She was involved in collecting mica, commonly referred to as 'dhibra', and was one amongst the

thousands of children who were engaged in the worst forms of child labour.



She had no interest in studies and helped her parents in collecting mica scraps as to support her family. She also took care of her three younger siblings.

She had no interest in studies and helped her parents in collecting mica scraps as to support her family. She also took care of her three younger siblings.

A bridge class center was opened in her village where a local teacher was appointed to provide educational support to more than 30 children.

Her parents were sensitized by the project staff so that they can send Sonia to the center.



Along with her friends, Sonia started coming to the bridge classes regularly instead of working in the mica mines.



Sonia story ...Continue...





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Suniti

A story of joy

Sonia story ...Continue...

She became a regular student in the bridge classes and has been actively pursuing her studies.

She was enrolled back to schools.



Meet the always smiling Suniti (name changed) from Koderma district in Jharkhand. Her district was once known as the mica capital of India but the enactment of the Forest Act imposed restrictions on mining in forest areas. Mica production soon evolved into a black market, where thousands of children like Suniti work under exploitative conditions and several harmful conditions to support their families. Indeed, she can hide a lot of pain in her smile



As part of the children's group in her village, she started actively voicing the concerns faced by children in her community



She had lost her interest in education and had stopped going to schools, which were also closed during the pandemic.

Her regular life involved going to the mines with her family to collect mica scraps.

After sensitizing her family, she started coming to the bridge classes.

As an agent of change, she continues to inspire others with her journey....

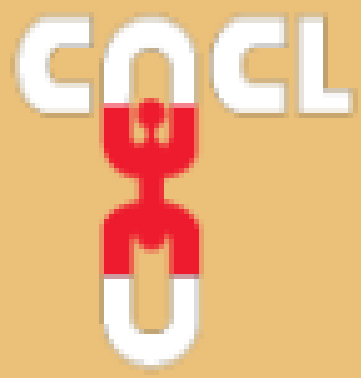


Along with her friends, she started coming to the bridge classes regularly.

Here, she also got an opportunity to play many sports and also took part in several activities.



Suniti story ...Continue...



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Suniti story Continue...

She loves being a part of all the activities in the bridge classes.

She is a very active member in the children's groups formed in her village.



She aspires to become a teacher and has started sharing her learning in class.

She was a very shy and quiet girl during the initial months.

Now, she has been actively participating in all the activities along with voicing her concerns.

In her journey, she continues to inspire others to join her.

She wants to spread the smile to hundreds of children in her community.

She thanks everyone for bringing back the joy in her life.

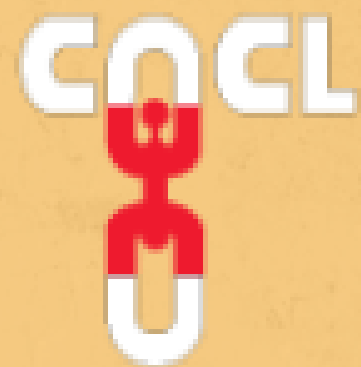


Along with all her friends,

she believes that Education is a fundamental right for everyone and all should be entitled to it.



Suniti story ...Continue...



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Article on child labour From National Advocacy Coordinator -CACL (By Mr. Javed Choudhary)

Since children are the greatest gift for humanity by God and hold the future of a country or region. Children are the most vulnerable groups of our society they deserve extreme care by protecting them from all kinds of exploitations and giving them the best environment.

As per the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, as adopted by United Nation on 10th December 1948, human rights are the moral principle of each human that are regularly protected by each state, they are commonly understood and inalienable or absolute in other words "to which a person including children as well is inherently entitled simply because she or he is a human being" and which are "inherent in all human beings", regardless of their age, ethnic origin, location, language, religion, ethnicity, or any other status They are applicable everywhere and at every time in the sense of being universal. The United Nations General Assembly had adopted the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in 1989 and the same was being discussed across the world on child rights. Many countries ratified the convention freely.

The convention had definitely prohibited employment and economic exploitation of children through Article 32 says Governments must protect children from economic exploitation and work that is dangerous or might harm their health, development, or education. Governments must set a minimum age for children to work and ensure that work conditions are safe and appropriate. However, age uncertainty is still in our Indian context that under CLPRA, 2016 "Child" is defined as any person below the age of 14, but as per the JJ Act 2000 "A person who has not completed the age of 18yrs considered as a child" also the discussion is going on the 16yrs of the age of a child in our country to be done few cases.

However critical poverty is the main cause of child labour throughout the world as well in our country. But there are few more actors who played a vital role and are responsible for child labour, society, parents, government, low wages, unemployment, poor standard of living, deep social prejudices and backwardness are directly responsible for child labour in our country by using the child in their different perspectives. Because a child does not aware of the determination of his age and he/ she is not able to give consent to the child labour and the child has been used for the child labour by them with their interest only .

As the recent changes have been made by the government in JJ Act 2021 which is under a process and to be implemented in the coming months where the maximum cognizable offences (means an offence in which a police officer has the authority to make an arrest without a warrant and to start an investigation with or without the permission of a court) have been converted into that the non-cognizable offence (which Police can neither register the FIR nor can investigate or effect arrest without the express permission or directions from the court are known as Non-cognizable offences) which is not at all a good sign of the sensitivity of government towards children. However as we all know that it is not an easy task to lodge an FIR in current situation of the child labour cases so , after the recent changes we can imagine the situation of the administration towards the children .

Based on the current changes or amendments of the Act which is almost formed to be implemented in our country Child labour is a serious challenge and concern for the perfect future of children in our country, a variety of industries such as carpet making, food services, clothing making, bangles making, use of children in mining , children engaged in agriculture work, selling cigarettes and other relevant on the streets, brick lines, engaged in the factories and other forms of the production houses in our country, Children are also at risk of child trafficking which forces them to do bad things like sexual exploitation and child pornography etc.

Impact of COVID-19 on child labour

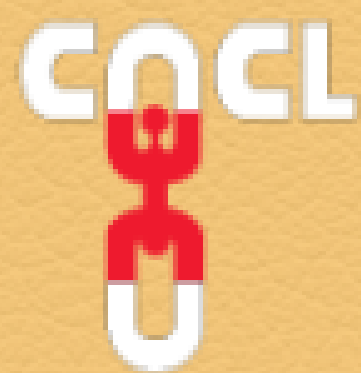
Since the COVID-19 has impacted everyone in all aspects of the life cycle but in this manner, children are the ones who were severely impacted and fall into extreme vulnerability especially those who have been lost their parents left alone at risk and being targeted by everyone especially traffickers to get the cheapest child labours in different types of labour to work.

As the COVID-19 is continuously is still remain sustained past two years and the schools are closed ultimately it has affected each child socially, mentally, emotionally and educational system as it has been transferred online so those children are not able to access the online system and left alone at risk and they are in most vulnerable condition to be targeted by the everyone for child labour or being used for child labour in a different kind of child labour in our country .

The trend of child labour quite changed in this pandemic by the traffickers and other as the numbers of trains, especially locals are reduced by the government due to the COVID-19 pandemic so the traffickers are using the A.C coaches, luxury buses in the trafficking of children in deferent types of child labour and coming with the consent of their parents as well as claiming their siblings or relatives. Through the trafficker are using a different strategy to use of children in the labour work because the pandemic has badly impacted each of us especially vulnerable communities where they are considering their children should also be part and support their economic growth rather than engaging them into the education.

The conclusion of this note on child labour in India is that the country should make sure the strict implementation of the existing laws and take necessary steps to stop child labour in India by making them accountable for who are responsible to implement the laws and schemes. It is reducing the literacy rate of the country. A child who is not going to school for education cannot do much to make his future better as well for our country. People should aware of the importance of education in our life. Some COVID-19 specific plans/policies should be designed and implemented across the country by the central government as long term instead of state-wise as the few state governments are taking temporary initiatives.

Eventually, we need to say "no child labour at any cost" of the excuses that we use to accept in terms of poverty.



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Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL)

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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 mobilized 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 collectivize 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 organized 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.

CACL emerged as a self-association of different NGOs, and as this dossier on the journey of CACL 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 GoI to Article 32 of the UNCRC, on the CLPRA 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 31st year of the UN CRC, and 28th year of its ratification by India and 28th year of CACL, it has a network in 17 states with 6123 members. ***

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