

ABOUT US

Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL): More than Three-Decade Commitment to Eradicating Child Labour in India

Established in 1992—the year India ratified the UNCRC—CACL is a nationwide network of organizations and individuals committed to ending child labour in India.

For over three decades, CACL has led advocacy, research, and policy action, influencing systemic change and strengthening child rights. With active state chapters across India, it drives localized interventions while uniting voices for a common cause.

Evolving with time yet rooted in its mission, CACL continues to inspire collaboration, innovation, and action—towards a nation where every child is free to learn, grow, and thrive.

CACL'S POSITION

CACL's position aligns with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), the Indian National Policy for Children, 2013, and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, all of which define a child as a person who has not yet completed the age of 18 years.

Child labour is defined by CACL as any kind of work (including practice of hereditary work) harmful to children's growth and development, education, health, leisure, rest and well-being.

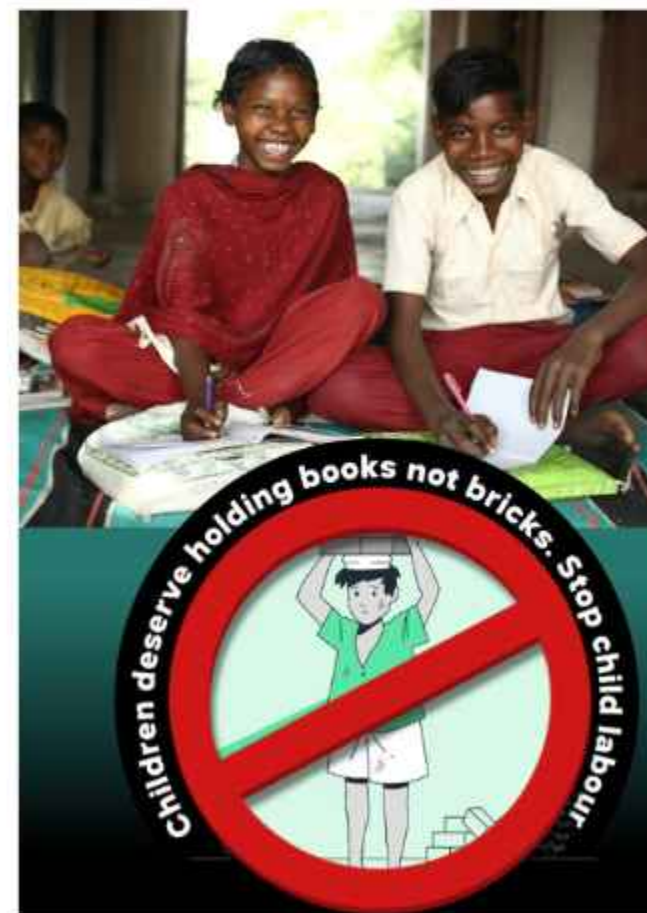


OUR VISION Child Labour Free India OUR MISSION Total eradication of child labour Objectives

- To eradicate all forms of child labour up to 18 years
- Making state accountable and responsive for child rights protection and promotion
- Adequate legislation in tune with UNCRC is in place and enforced
- Create opportunities for girl children in every sphere / more positive space for girl children in society;
- Improved access and quality education equitably for all children
- Reassuring the childhood for all children upto 18 years of age



CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHILD LABOUR FOR A CHILD LABOUR FREE INDIA



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CACL believes that every child out of school is a child labour or potential child labour. It hopes that the enforcement of free, compulsory, quality and equitable education for all children up to 18 years of age is a prerequisite for the eradication of child labour. The campaign aims at the immediate eradication of child labour.

OUR STRATEGY



Multiple and coordinated engagement with concerned stakeholders.



Fostering collective action and



Suggesting suitable alternatives to government/policymakers for a child labour free India.

PRESENCE

- CACL has active presence in various states across the country.
- 6000+ members
- The National Secretariat is operational from Delhi.
- CACL State Chapters are active from their respective headquarters.



CACL ADVOCATES FOR :

- **Uniform definition of 'child'** in all laws, schemes, and programs — every person below 18 years of age should be considered a "child".
- **Effective implementation** of Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act (CLPRA), Right to Education Act (RTE), Juvenile Justice Act (JJ Act) and all such policies, schemes, and programs.
- **Adequate and equal wages** must be provided to all adults **above 18 years** so that **no child is sent to work to earn** for the family.
- Build a **discrimination-free society**, where every child can live their childhood joyfully and with dignity.
- Ensure **honest compliance with India's international commitments**, such as UNCRC, ILO Conventions 138 and 182, and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8.7, which calls for the elimination of all forms of child labour.
- **Create a space and environment for children** where they can enjoy their childhood. Instead of criminalizing child labourers, they should be reintegrated into mainstream society with dignity.

NON-NEGOTIABLES AT CACL:

1. Any person, who is less than 18 years old, is a child.
2. Child labour includes children prematurely leading adult lives, working with or without wages, under conditions damaging to their physical, social, emotional and spiritual development, denying them their basic rights to education, health and development.
3. CACL is against all manifestations of children working in any sector, occupation or processes including the formal and non-formal, organized and un-organised, within or outside the family.
4. Any child out of school is a child labour.



**QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL
NO CHILD LABOUR AT ALL**

CACL National Secretariat

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