

Child Hope



A Quarterly Newsletter on Child Labour

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From Director General's Desk

I feel privileged to write this message for this issue which highlights the efforts undertaken to address the problem of child labour in India. Notwithstanding the laudable provisions in the Constitution and other laws of the land, notwithstanding the political will, commitment and determination of the Government to eliminate child labour, the problem continues to be a challenge in India. Since there is a host of social, economic and cultural factors responsible for creation, continuance and perpetuation of child labour, to eliminate child labour in its entirety, it is important to identify all these factors and draw up a multi-pronged strategy towards such elimination.

National Policy on Child Labour was adopted in 1987 which envisages strict and effective enforcement of child labour related laws, convergence of services for the benefit of the parents of child labour in order to improve their economic conditions and launching of projects in areas of high concentration of child labour. Child labour projects were started on a pilot scale in 1988. The project envisages door to door survey, launching an awareness generation programme to sensitize employers, parents and children, to enable them to perceive and realize the dangers of subjecting children to work at a tender age.

The Institute, through its various training programmes, has been making continuous efforts to sensitize various social partners including the enforcement machinery, Trade Unions, PRIs, Youth Groups, Teachers' Associations and NGOs. Employers' Organizations are another important target group for sensitization on Child Labour. The Products from India, whether they are made by child labour or not, in the eyes of the world, attract non-tariff barriers. Therefore it is important for all social partners and stakeholders including the Employers, Manufacturers and Exporters to work together to eliminate child labour. More and more importance is being given to make aware the rights of children to their childhood, on the very rules and fundamentals on which our Constitution has been founded.

Concern for Children's Right to Free and Compulsory Education is now becoming a public concern in the country. Within a few years from now, nobody in the age of 6 to 14 years would be in exploitative work as child labour. They will be getting educated. If the child is full-time in school, then the child will not be available to do exploitative work.

V. P. Yajurvedi



Child Labour Programmes conducted by National Resource Centre on Child Labour (NRCCL)

Collaborative Workshop with Building and Wood Workers International (BWI)

In collaboration with Building and Wood Workers International (BWI), a **Workshop on Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour through NCLP: Role of Trade Unions** was conducted during October 19-21, 2011. The objective was (i) to understand, share experiences and assess the implementation of NCLP in select districts of Bihar, Punjab, Rajasthan, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh; (ii) to strengthen linkages between key NCLP personnel and

Jodhpur District of Rajasthan and Bhubneshwar District of Odisha, attended the programme. The participants comprised of Officials of Labour Department, Education Department, Coordinators of State Resource Centres on Child Labour, Trade Union Leaders and Officials of Building and Wood Workers International.



the trade unions to effectively address the prevalent child labour and (iii) to explore opportunities for further cooperation in effective implementation of the NCLP. Twenty Participants from Madhubani, Patna, Purnea and Banka Districts of Bihar, Agra and Allahabad Districts of Agra,





Orientation Training Programme on Child Labour for Officials of Labour Department, Government of Jammu & Kashmir was organized during 11 - 14



October 2011. Officials posted in different districts of Jammu and Kashmir namely Kupwara, Poonch, Pulwama, Doda, Reasi, Samba, Badgam, Baramula, Bandipora, Anantnag attended the programme. The objective of the programme was to contextualise and understand the issue of child labour in the contemporary socio-economic scenario, to equip the participants with techniques of effective enforcement of child labour laws and enhance understanding on Supreme Court directions on child labour and to locate obstacles in enforcement of the law and exploring remedial measures.



In Collaboration with Mahatma Gandhi Labour Institute, Ahmedabad, a Capacity Building Programme on Elimination of Child Labour was conducted during 14-16 September, 2011 for the Officers of Social Defence Department, Government of Gujarat. This programme was attended by 30 officials posted in different districts of Gujarat namely Dahod, Gandhi Nagar, Rajpipla, Godhra, Vyara, Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Surat, Jambusar, Amreli, Valsad, Himat Nagar and Jamnagar.



Dr. I. S. Singh, Professor, MGLI and Dr. Helen R. Sekar, Fellow, VVGNNLI were the Course Directors.

Orientation Programme on Child Labour was conducted during September 20-23, 2011 for NGOs implementing National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) in different parts of the country. Twenty- seven participants attended the programme and they were representing different NGOs which are working on the issue of child labour in the districts of Vadodara and Surat of Gujarat, Vishakhapatnam of Andhra Pradesh, Hazaribagh of Jharkhand, Korba, Bilaspur and Raipur of Chhattisgarh, Kolkata, Hooghly, Krishnanagar, Burdwan, Purba and West Midnapur of West Bengal. The Programme was instrumental in imparting skills of identifying children at work for effective rehabilitation, equipping them with abilities to ensure retention of children in school, developing understanding on the objectives and various aspects of NCLP. This programme has provided an opportunity for the participants to share many successful experiences of their efforts in prevention and elimination of child labour. Dr. Helen R. Sekar was the Course Director.

Training Need Assessment Programme on Child Labour for Factory and Labour Inspectors of Project States ILO-IPEC Project on converging against Child Labour Support for India's Model was conducted on October 17, 2011, at

VVGNNLI, Noida. Officials from Labour Department and Factories Department of the project states of Jharkhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar, Coordinator of State Resource Centre on Child Labour, Uttar Pradesh, and select officials from the ILO attended the programme. The programme was conducted with the objective to enhance



understanding on the situation of working children in the Informal economy, children trafficked for labour and to assess the both cognitive and behavioural needs of Training for effective implementation of Child Labour Laws.





Events of ILO-IPEC-Convergence Child Labour Project Convergence against Child Labour: Support for India's Model

Workshop on State Action Plan for Elimination of Child Labour in Jharkhand

The Government of Jharkhand has moved a step closer towards its commitment to make the state child labour free by drafting the State Action Plan for Elimination of Child Labour. A state level workshop was organized on 24 October 2011, under the Chairpersonship of the Labour Commissioner, Government of Jharkhand, to validate the draft State Action Plan and seek inputs from stakeholders.

Representatives of different Government Departments, Employers' and Workers Organizations, Civil Society Partners, ILO and UNICEF participated in the workshop and provided inputs based on their experience and learnings in dealing with child Labour.



Ranchi, Jharkhand: State Level workshop on State Action Plan

Training of Trainers for Strengthening of Law Enforcement to Combat Child Labour

Capacity building of enforcement officials to strengthen law enforcement to combat

child labour is a key component of the project "Converging against Child Labour: Support for India's Model". In collaboration with the V.V Giri National Labour Institute and the State Governments, Training of Trainers [TOT] Programmes have been organized in Bihar, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh. The main objective of the TOT Programmes was to create a pool of Master Trainers with requisite knowledge and techniques for strengthened enforcement on Child Labour. The ToT Programmes also enabled obtaining State inputs on the training manual, under preparation by the VVGNI.



Shri Vyas Ji, Principal Secretary, Labour Resource Department, Govt. of Bihar, inaugurates the TOT on 7th December 2011 at Patna, Bihar



Participants and Resource Persons with Labour Commissioner, Jharkhand, Ms. Aradhana Patnaik, at Ranchi, Jharkhand on 13th December 2011



Apart from conceptual issues and child labour legislation related matters, the TOT also focused on the Juvenile Justice Act and its implications for child labour and Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, as a means to promote the convergence approach in elimination of child labour. There was effective participation from the State Labour Departments in all the ToT Programmes conducted so far.



Ice-breaking exercise by Dr. Helen R. Sekar, VVGNI at ToT on 21st December 2011 at Indore, M.P.



Resource Persons and Participants of ToT at Indore, Madhya Pradesh



Mr. Vinod Kumar, Labour Commissioner, M.P. interacting with participants of ToT Programme at Indore

Awareness Campaign at Bali Yatra-2011; Cuttack, Odisha

The Centurion Silver City of Cuttack organised the Bali Yatra Utsav -2011" from 10.11.2011 to 16.11.2011. There were visitors from all over the state participating in this mega cultural festival.



The Awareness Generation stall in Bali Yatra 2011 at Cuttack, Odisha

In association with the Cuttack District Administration and Cuttack National Child Labour Society, the Project "Converging Against Child Labour: Support for India's Model" utilized the opportunity to generate mass awareness



on Child Labour. Stalls with banners, posters and an audio visual facility to spread anti-child labour messages were set up. A play on child labour was performed by a local folk (Paala) troop to spread awareness on the issue of child labour.



The Local folk (Paala) troop performing a play on Child Labour at Cuttack, Odisha

Vocational Training Action Programme for Skills Training of Adolescents

A National Consultative Meeting, on the Vocational Training Action Programme operationalized under the Convergence Project, for adolescents (14+) from NCLP schools and vulnerable adolescents (14-17) from families of identified working children; was organized by ILO Country Office for India and MoLE on June 21, 2011. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Sharda Prasad, Director General, Employment and Training, MOLE, Government of India. Speaking at the occasion, Ms. Tine Staermose, Director, ILO DWT for South Asia and Country Office for India said that elimination of child labour requires institutionalizing the action at family level, addressing the financial and emotional needs of the



family. She said that is a need to create a more secure economic condition for the families by concentrating on existing resources and their optimal utilization. She also stressed the need for sensitization of the community and the child labour families. Mr. Sharda Prasad, DGET said that changing mindset of parents is Critical as parents must see the benefit of education and formal skills training for their children.

Employers National Workshop on Skills and Child Labour, 31 August – 1 September 2011 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu

There is a strong focus on the skill development amongst the youth in the country. In this context, as a part of its support under the Decent Work Country Programme for India, the ILO organized a national workshop during 31st August 2011 to 1st September 2011 for awareness raising and capacity building on skills development for Employers' Organizations to effectively influence policy or policy implementation. Partnering with the Convergence Project, the second day of the workshop focused on the role of employers in elimination of child labour, with special focus on skills.



Events from National Child Labour Project Districts

The 62nd Republic Day of India was celebrated with most pomp and grandeur at Bolpur Sub-Division of Birbhum on 26th January 2011. All the Govt. Departments of Bolpur Sub-Division including several Voluntary Organisations of this region have participated in the March-Past with different theme and message. A tableau was staged on the theme “**Child Labour**” presenting the message for elimination of child labour and ensuring education for every child.

Further, a short drama was also performed by the Instructors and students of NCLP Special School, to make the general public aware particularly the parents of Child Labour. Through the background speech at the tableau, a question was asked to the viewers whether those who hire children for work would ever allow their own children to do the same work. On the whole, the tableau demonstration on the problem of Child Labour was successful in disseminating the message of combating child labour.

Glimpse of Tableau staged by NCLP Special Schools Students and Teachers of Bolpur District, West Bengal on the theme 'Child Labour'





NCLP Special School Children at Vocational Training in Chhattisgarh



Awareness Generation Rally Conducted by students of NCLP Special Schools in Chattisgarh



Vocational Training – Candle Making



Awareness Generation Rally Conducted by students of NCLP Special Schools in Chattisgarh



Vocational Training - Bamboo work



Vocational Training - Preparing Chalk Pieces



Special School Children of NCLP, Korba, Chhattisgarh participating in Annual sports Day



Student of Special School NCLP, Korba, Chhattisgarh participating in High Jump in Annual Sports Day



Annual Sports Conducted by N.C.L.P. Korba for generating awareness about Child labor. Annual Sports function inaugurated by Mr. Ashok Kumar Agrawal, District Collector and Chairman of NCLP



Mr. Raj Pal Singh Tyagi, Collector and Chairman felicitating NCLP Special School Children mainstreamed into Formal Schools



Student Mainstreamed from NCLP Special School receiving cheque of Stipend amount from Mr. S.R. Kurrey, Deputy Collector, Sitamani, Chhattisgarh



Members of Shruti Mahila Mandal with Team of Doctors visiting NCLP Special School in Sitamani, Chhattisgarh



Health Check-up in progress in NCLP Special School in Korba, Chhattisgarh



Mainstreaming Special School Children: Success Stories of National Child Labour Project, Koraput, Odisha

With the help of District Welfare Officer and District Inspector of Schools 4,875 children have so far been mainstreamed by the NCLP, Koraput, from the Special Schools to Formal Schools. Teachers of NCLP School and the Field Officers have been playing a vital role in the mainstreaming process. The parents of NCLP students are being suitably counseled to ensure that the children attend School regularly. After their mainstreaming to the formal School system Teachers of concerned NCLP School try their best to keep in touch with the Ex-NCLP students and their parents and encourage them to pursue higher studies from them atime to time. Over 100 students have passed the HSC (Class 10th) examination and continuing in their higher studies in different colleges. Some of re in Government Services.



Vocational Training (Tailoring) in progress at NCLP School, Koraput

NCLP Achievers

Basanti Kuldip, Student mainstreamed from NCLP School, Sunabeda

Basanti Kuldip, ex-student of NCLP school, Sunabeda passed class-V during 2002 and joined in the Residential Govt. High School, Balda under Nandapur Block and studied up to class-X. She has completed her graduation successfully from Women's College, Sunabeda. Basanti is the eldest daughter in her family of seven members. Prior to her enrolment in NCLP School, she was a child labour and was going to work along with her grandmother. Her parents are daily wagers. She says, "It was a dream for me to think of education. At that time Sri Bhagu Khilo, NCLP School Teacher approached my parents to enroll me in the newly opened NCLP School. Though my parents were reluctant to send me to school initially, but after having motivated by the Field Officer of NCLP, they finally agreed. Today, I am very much thankful to NCLP because of which I could reach this level and now I am realizing the value of education. In future I wish to be a Teacher and teach children withdrawn from work."



Kamal Lochan Pujari, Student mainstreamed from NCLP School, Boipariguda

Due to acute poverty I started working when I was seven years old. The NCLP school teachers contacted my father and requested him to enrol me in the NCLP School. I passed Class-V from the NCLP School, Boipariguda in 1999 and mainstreamed into Ashram School, Kianga, from where I passed Class-X and then I passed +2 and B.A. from the Sahid Laxman Nayak College, Boipariguda. I also do painting/writing sign boards and banners and computer job works to support my further studies. I have an ambition to become a Teacher in future.





Tracking Ex-Students of NCLP, Koraput, Odisha: A Glimpse

Sl.	Name of Ex-NCLP Student	NCLP School/Session	HSC (10 th) Passed/High School	Present Status
01	Arsada Gouri and Arsada Santoshi	Neelavadi, 1996-99	Govt. Kanya Ashram, Neelavadi	Passed +2 Arts, Women's College, Rayagada
02	Giridhara Khora & Melaka Ramachandra	Neelavadi, 1996-99	Govt. Boys High School, Bandhugam	Passed +2 Science, Kumbhariput College
03	Eswar Paraja	Kundura, 1999-02	SASN High School, Kundra	Passed +2 Arts, Kundra College, Kundra
04	Arjun Khila, Adu Khilo, Basant Kuladip and Baijyanti Kuldip	Sunabeda, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Sunabeda	Passed +2 Arts, DAV College, Koraput
05	Babula Kuldip	Sunabeda, 1999-02	Govt. Ashram High School, Sunki	Passed +2 Commerce, Auranatics College, Sunabeda
06	Chakra Khila	Sunabeda, 1999-02	Govt. Ashram High School, Sunki	Passed ITI, Govt. ITI, Ambaguda
07	Khaga Khila, Surendra Khila	Sunabeda, 1999-02	Govt. Ashram High School, Sunki	Passed +2 Arts, Semiliguda College
08	Ramita Khila	Sunabeda, 1999-02	Govt. Ashram High School, Subai	Passed +2 Arts Auranatics College, Sunabeda
09	Basanti Kuldip	Sunabeda, 1999-02	Govt. Ashram High School, Balda	Passed +2 Arts Women's College, Sunabeda
10	Jharana Khosla	Dashmantpur, 1996-99	Govt. High School, Dashmantpur	Passed +2 Arts Pvt. College, Dashmantpur
11	Samaru Mandingi	Narayanpatna, 1996-99	Govt. High School, Narayanpatna	Passed +2 Arts Pvt. College, Naranpatna
12	Kamal Lochan Pujari	Boipariguda, 1996-99	Govt. High School, Boipariguda	Passed +3 Arts, SLN College, Boipariguda
13	Rita Paika and Brundabati Mohanty	Nandapur, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Nandapur	Self-employed
14	Giridhar Hantal	Nandapur, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Nandapur	Working in Indian Army
15	Lalita Pradhani	Nandapur, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Nandapur	Teacher, NCLP School, Nandapur
16	Balunkeswar Khosla	Umuri, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Ambaguda	Passed +2 Science V.D College, Jeypore
17	Anita Muduli	Lamataput, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Lamataput	Passed +2 Arts Lamataput College, Lamataput
18	Bhubaneswari Panika	Kotpad, 1999-02	Govt. Girls High School, Kotpad	Passed +2 Arts Kotpad College, Kotpad
19	Surendra Sundi & Santosh Prepeka	Laxmipur, 1996-99	Govt. High School, Laxmipur	Passed +2 Arts Laxmipur College, Laxmipur
20	Sahadeva Paraja	Chindri, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Koraput	Passed +2 Arts DAV College, Koraput
21	Sobha Paraja Umuri	Umuri, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Ekamba	Passed +2 Arts Women's College, Jeypore
22	Raju Takri	Jeypore, 1996-99	Municipal High School, Jeypore	Passed +2 Arts V. D. College, Jeypore
23	Bhubnesh Guntha, Mosa Podal, Rajesh Podal and Rashmita Mandi	Pukali, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Pukali	Studying +2 Arts, Pottangi College, Pottangi
24	Rabi Hontal	Pukali, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Pukali	Studying +2 Science, Auranatics College, Sunabeda
25	Alisha Palmal	Pukali, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Pukali	Studying +2 Arts, DAV College, Koraput
26	Priyadarshini Khora	Pukali, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Pukali	Studying +2 Science, Auranatics College, Sunabeda
27	Subash Banka	Pottangi, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Pottangi	Studying +2 Arts, Pottangi College, Pottangi
28	Deva Khora	Pottangi, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Pottangi	Govt. Service, Special Police Officer (SPO), Pottangi
29	Narasingha Khorta	Pukali, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Pukali	Govt. Service, Special Police Officer (SPO), Pottangi
30	Debaki Khilo	Ghataguda, 2002-05	Govt. Girls High School, Subai	Studying +2 Arts, Women's College, Sunabeda
31	Thakur Kuldip	Ghataguda, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Sunki	Studying +2 Arts, Semiliguda College, Semiliguda
32	Hari Khilo	Ghataguda, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Champi	Studying +2 Arts, Semiliguda College, Semiliguda
33	Phulanti Kuldip and Padmini Khora	Ghataguda, 2002-05	Govt. Girls High School, Subai	Studying +2 Arts, Women's College, Sunabeda
34	Swapna Chetty, Sukanti Kuldip	Sunabeda, 1999-02	ADAVG High School, Sunabeda	Studying +3 Arts, Women's College, Sunabeda
35	Jambu Naik, Sabitri Bhotra & Iswari Pujari	Bondaguda, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Kotpad	Studying +2 Arts, Kotpad College, Kotpad
36	B. Shanti	Kotpad, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Kotpad	Self-employed
37	Dama Pujari	Boipariguda, 1999-02	Govt. High School, Dolpur	Govt. Service, Special Police Officer (SPO), Koraput
38	Dasrath Jani	Khoraguda, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Lima	Studying +2 Arts, SLN College, Boipariguda
39	Kabita Badanayak, Sumitra Khilo, Susanti Khora Dalimbo Khoda, Sankar Hontal and Chandrasen Sisa	Lamataput, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Lamataput	Studying +2 Arts, BR Ambedkar College, Lamataput
40	Basanti Khora	Lamataput, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Lamataput	Self-employed
41	Kusha Nayak	B. Suku, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Podagada	Studying +2 Science, DAV College, Koraput
42	Jharana Khosla	Dasmantpur 1996-99	Govt. High School, Dashmantpur	Passed +2 Arts, RKA College, Koraput
43	Rama Kumbhar	Dasmantpur 1996-99	Govt. High School, Dashmantpur	Self-employed
44	Munendra Sarabu	Basuguda, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Kotpad	Studying +2 Science, Junior Science College, Borigumma
45	Jitendra Randhari	Basuguda, 2002-05	Govt. High School, Kotpad	Studying +2 Arts, Kotpad College, Kotpad
46	Raju Takri, Muna Takri, Demanth Takri and Pramila	Jeypore, 1996-99	Govt. High School, Jeypore	Passed +2 Arts, V. D. College, Jeypore



National Policy on Child Labour – 1987

I. Introduction

- 1.1 The Constitution of India, both in the Directive Principles of State Policy and as a part of the Fundamental Rights, has laid down that the State shall direct its policy towards securing that health and strength of workers, men and women, and the tender age of children are not abused, and that citizens are not forced by economic necessity to enter vocations unsuited to their age or strength, and that children, particularly, are given opportunities and facilities to develop, in a healthy manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity. Childhood and youth are to be protected against exploitation, and no child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment.
- 1.2 The National Policy for children Resolution, adopted in August 1974, further developed the above ideas and set out a policy framework and measures aimed at providing adequate services for children. These were to form a prominent part of the nation's plan for development of human resources. Free and compulsory education for all children upto the age of 14, provisions of health and nutritional programmes and services, providing alternative forms of education for children unable to take full advantage of formal school education for whatever reasons – and measures for protecting children against neglect, cruelty and exploitation form part of the National Policy for Children. The Policy also provides, as one of its objectives, that no child under the age of 14 years shall be permitted to be engaged in hazardous occupations or to be made to undertake heavy work.
- 1.3 The Committee on Child Labour (Gurupadaswamy Committee) which submitted its report in December 1979, examined the problems of child labour in detail. India employs or occupies, to ensure that the work is regulated in accordance with Part III of the CLA 86. Where it is necessary for State Governments to make rules under CLA 86 or under any other legislation so as to protect the interest of child labour, they will be so requested to undertake reviews and frame rules as necessary. The Railway administration, major ports and Central and State Government departments in charge of oil-fields and mines will also similarly be asked to review the situation arising from the enactment of CLA 86, so as to ensure that children are not employed in other occupations or employments, that the provisions set out for their health and safety, for the maintenance of registers, and for regulating the period and hours of work or overtime or of weekly holidays and days of rest are enforced in all establishments.

- 2.3 Government will also bring forward legislation to delete the provision contained in the Minimum Wages Act allowing different wages to be fixed for children, adolescents and adults. In other words, children will have to be paid the same as adults. This will remove the economic incentive to employ child labour on lower wages. For enforcing other protective legislation like the Payment of Wages Act, the Equal Remuneration Act, etc., it will be ensured that child labour is not discriminated against as compared to adult labour. The Central and State inspection machinery will be geared up for this purpose.

III. Focussing of General Development Programmes for Benefitting Child Labour

- 3.1 National development programmes exist with very wide coverage in areas of education, health, nutrition, integrated child development and the anti-poverty group of programmes. In order to have an impact on child labour, it will be necessary for the implementing agencies particularly under the State Governments to focus on these programmes and bring convergence so as to deliver maximum benefit to child labour, wherever possible. Some areas where such focusing could be possible are set out below:
- 3.2 **Education:** The National Policy on Education, 1986 (NPE) sets the target of all children who attain the age of 11 years by 1990 having had five years of schooling, or its equivalent, through a non-formal system of education. 4, 90, 000 Non-Formal Education (NFE) Centres are proposed to be opened, which will supplement the formal education system. Since the Central feature of the implementation of the strategy for non-formal education is based on micro-level and area specific and population specific planning, NFE Centres for child labour will be set up with the involvement of voluntary agencies and Panchayati Raj institutions which are capable of running Non-Formal Education Centres wherever possible to cater to child labour who, after work or during holidays, can attend the NFE Centres. Special attention will be given to attracting and retaining girls from among working children to NFE Centres. Part-time courses and vocational courses will also be catered to at these centres. Such Non-Formal Education Centres for child labour would aim to educate children upto class V level, with arrangements for continuance of non-formal education upto class VIII level, wherever possible. Where it is possible to organize such NFE centres for child labour, all the special features figuring in the Programme of Action of the NPE will be provided.
- 3.3 For child labour belonging to disadvantaged classes like SC/ST families, details of schemes of incentives/assistance to indigent SC/ST families who have to put their children to wage/quasi-wage employment will be worked out in consultation



with State Governments. For such children who come from families engaged in occupations like scavenging, flying and tanning, scholarships will be extended, with constant microplanning, to ensure that SC/ST child labour enrolled in non-formal education centres successfully complete the course of non-formal education upto class VIII. These are as per the specific provisions laid down in the Programme of Action of the NPE.

- 3.4 Micro-planning for non-formal education centres will have to be undertaken for child labour, especially for those belonging to such disadvantaged sections of the society as SC/ST, or in areas of known concentration of such disadvantaged groups of families.
- 3.5 In urban areas also, especially in urban slums, non-formal education programmes by both the State Governments and by voluntary agencies will be promoted, including the organization of extra-curricular activities, diversity in learning activity and with a provisions of games and sports and related equipment, plays and skits, excursions, etc.
- 3.6 The projects of voluntary agencies will be entertained for a period of 3-4 years, whether for urban or for rural areas, and while the initial proposals would be required to be sent to the State Governments, at subsequent stages, the voluntary agencies will directly approach centres. The Ministry of Labour may also arrange for micro-level planning for NFE centres for benefiting child labour, and recommend these to the department of Education.
- 3.7 NREP/RLEGP funds would be used on a priority basis for creating the infrastructure for non-formal education centres catering to child labour the overall coordination and direction of the local district level development authorities.
- 3.8 For continuing education of child labour who have been enrolled and successfully completed their period of non-formal education, efforts would be made to link the non-formal educational institutions with the open schools, or with the formal educational system, so as to enable them to continue their education. The non-formal education programmes would also be linked with the Shramik Vidyapeeths, scheme of Public Libraries, Jana Shiksha Nilayams and vocational technical course of a wide variety would be provided where required for, among others, working children who come from the non-formal stream.
- 3.9 **Health:** Health is a State subject, and the programmes of medical inspection of children have been assigned to the States. The progress among the various States is uneven. A few States have good health programmes but many other States do not. In those States where there exists a school health service programme, many, and in some States even all, primary school-going children in the rural areas have been covered under the scheme for regular

examinations. But those children who do not join school because of being at work would obviously not be covered by such school health programmes (where they exist). The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will address the State Governments, recommending that intensive medical inspection of children be taken up in those areas where child labour is prevalent. The State Governments will have to be persuaded to extend the coverage of the school health services programme to child labour. Since this is an area essentially under the State sector, a continuing dialogue, effort and persuasion with the State Governments will have to be maintained so that all children, irrespective of whether they are in primary school, or at work, are covered by regular health inspection and treatment/referral services. It should be by regular health inspection and treatment/referral services. It should be possible to arrange for some health screening at NFE centres for child labour.

- 3.10 **Nutrition:** Department of Women and Child Development have an on-going programme for women and children i.e., Integrated Child Development Services which is approved on the basis of proposals by the State Government and non-governmental organizations. While it will not be possible to earmark funds specifically for child labour, proposals from State Governments/non-governmental organizations and voluntary agencies in child labour areas will be funded on a priority basis and, if necessary, the rules could be relaxed to consider proposals from the organizations to be set up for taking up welfare measures for child labour also.
- 3.11 **Anti-poverty programmes:** IRDP/NREP/RLEGP etc. funds are meant for poverty-alleviation programmes on the basis of criteria which have been laid down for the States to follow. Included in the coverage of the entire gamut of anti-poverty programmes are families which have child labour and, to the that such families with incidence of child labour fall within the selection criteria for endowment of income-generating assets (i.e. IRDP) or for wage employment (NREP/RLEGP) they would be benefited by the on-going programmes which have a large corpus of funds allocated to them in the 7th Plan. To the extent, therefore, that the poorest families are often forced to send their children to work for wage/quasi-wage employment, they would be getting assistance to raise themselves above the poverty line and this, in conjunction with the non-formal education centres being opened in rural areas, slum areas etc., will go a long way towards tackling one of the basis causes of children being put to work i.e., poverty.

IV. Project – Based Plan of Action

- 4.1 It is known that there are specific sectors of employment where the incidence of child labour is high, such as:
 1. Match industry in Sivakasi, Tamilnadu.



2. Diamond polishing industry in Surat, Gujarat.
 3. Gem cutting and polishing industry in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
 4. Glass industry in Ferozabad, Uttar Pradesh.
 5. Brassware industry in Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh.
 6. Handmade carpet industry in Mirzapur-Bhadohi in Uttar Pradesh.
 7. Lock-making industry in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh.
 8. Handmade carpet industry in Jammu & Kashmir.
 9. State industry in Mandsaur in Madhya Pradesh.
 10. State industry in Markapur in Andhra Pradesh.
- 4.2 The Child workers involved in the above mentioned sectors of employment and geographical areas deserve priority attention because either the employment processes in which they work are prohibited under the Factories Act, or the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act of the work is such that it is likely to affect the child's well-being, particularly health and education.
- 4.3 In each of the 10 "project areas", the strategy will be to evolve a package comprising of the following elements:-
1. Stepping up the enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, the Factories Act and the Mines Act.
 2. Coverage of families of child under the income/employment generating programmes under the overall aegis of anti-poverty programmes.
 3. Where there is a concentration of SC/ST families with child labour, a concentration of special component and Tribal sub-plans by the State Governments in each project area.
 4. Formal/non-formal education of all child labour engaged in hazardous employment, and of as many child workers as possible as may be in non-hazardous employments. Also, a stepped up programme of adult education (including non-formal education) of the working children.
 5. Coordinating the activities of different Department/ Ministries of the Central Government and State Governments to benefit child labour.
 6. Setting up of special schools for child workers together with provision of vocational education/training in such special schools, supplementary nutrition, a stipend to the children taken out from prohibited employments, and health care for all children attending such special schools.
- 4.4 For this purpose, i.e., (6) the infrastructure will have to be created, and wherever the infrastructure run by the Departments of Education, Health, etc. like Shramik Vidyapeeth exists, they will be suitably modified and utilized. Stipend will not be paid to children who are working in non-hazardous non-prohibited employments. The non-formal education/formal educational institutions in the project area will function on flexible hour basis after working hours, during holidays etc., as may be

convenient. They will cover the range of special features on non-formal education set out in the Programme of Action of the NPE.

- 4.5 In order to enable intensive coverage in the Project areas of the anti-poverty group of programmes, the health programmes analogous to the school health programs run by the State Governments, the special nutrition programme, and for the setting up of special schools, providing vocational education and training arrangements and for providing stipend to the children taken out from hazardous employments, it will be necessary to provide for additionality for funds over and above the funds that exist in the respective programmes administered under the Plan, whether by the Central or by State Governments. The additionality of funds required will be channeled through the Ministry of Labour which will be the nodal Ministry for the child labour projects.
- 4.6 In the first phase of the special project areas approach, it is proposed to cover upto 30, 000 child labour. Each project will be carefully drawn up in consultation with the State Governments and Central Ministries concerned, to ensure proper coverage and inter-meshing of programmes administered by the Central and State Governments under the overall coordinating agency of the Ministry of Labour. The Ministry of Labour will be the nodal agency for drawing up a project report in respect of each project area and for providing the additionality of funds that may be required for the total coverage envisaged in each project area.

V. Organisation for Implementing the Child Labour Projects

There will be a Chief Executive Officer in charge of each project area who will work under the general supervision and direction of the administrative head of the district wherein the project is situated. There will be a Child Labour Project Board, with the Collector as its Chairman on which will be represented the district educational, health, and nutrition authorities, as also representatives of voluntary agencies/Panchayati Raj institutions who are active in the District in the area of Child Labour. This will ensure coordination of all inputs of the various departments executing plan and non-plan schemes in the project area, so as to enable the focusing for the benefit of child labour/their families, and also to allocate the additionality of funds made available to each project by the Ministry of Labour.

VI. Monitoring of Projects

The working of the child labour projects will be monitored by a high-powered Committee of the Central Government with representatives of the Ministries/ Departments of Labour, Education, Health, Rural Development, Women and Child Development and the State Governments where child labour projects are being implemented, namely Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. The Committee will meet as often as necessary to ensure the smooth working of the projects.



Events on Child Labour at Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India

Review Meeting with State Representatives and Project Directors of National Child Labour Project to review the NCLP Scheme, Functions of Project Societies and Special Schools were conducted during 2nd August 2011 to 18th October 2011 for the States of Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Bihar, West Bengal, Jammu & Kashmir, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and for the North Eastern States.

Status of Select mainstreamed Students of NCLP, Dharmapuri District, Tamilnadu (2011-12)

Course	Boys	Girls	Total
Pursuing			
MBBS	1		1
Ph.D.	1		1
B.Tech	1		1
B.E.	4		4
M.Sc. M.Ed.	1		1
B.Ed.	1	1	2
Graduation	36	26	62
D.T. ed.	2	2	4
ITI	4		4
Diploma	18	6	24
Total	69	35	104



Children of NCLP Special Schools, Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu, performing at Ethiraj Women's College in Chennai on Children's Day



Audience watching performance of NCLP Special School Children on Children's Day

NCLP Special School Children in News for Preventing Child Marriage

Purulia girls who fought child marriage to meet President

Shiv Sahay Singh

KOLKATA: Five teenage girls from West Bengal's Purulia district, who had resisted child marriage and inspired other girls to oppose the practice, will be guests of President Pratibha Devisingh Patil at the Rastrapati Bhavan on Wednesday.

Mukti Majhi (16), Sangeeta Bauri (15), Bina Kalindi (15), Afsana Khatun (16) and Sunita Mondal (16), who hail from different parts of the district, have reached the capital with their parents and district officials and impatiently await to meet the President.

Sangeeta from Labdha village in Purulia I block and her father Bibhuti Bauri, a rickshaw puller, have reached New Delhi, said that she had stopped five child marriages in her village.

"In our locality, girls are married off at an early age. My parents also wanted to marry me off but I resisted for two years before I was able to convince them that I wanted to study. The practice of child marriage might have become more unpopular but it has certainly not stopped in our area," Sangeeta told *The Hindu* over telephone.

With the setting up of schools under the National Child Labour Project in the district in 2008 to encourage the children employed as labour to attend schools, girls are becoming increasingly assertive and have begun saying 'no' to early marriage at the intervention of their teachers.

"There have been 62 cases where child marriages have been prevented only through the NCLP schools," Avanindra Singh, District Magistrate

of Purulia, said, pointing out that the young girls have become "messengers of social change" and inspired many other girls, not only in Purulia but also in other districts of the State, to desist from marriage at their age.

"The meeting with the President is to encourage the girls who have stood up against child marriage," Rashtrapati Bhavan spokesperson Archana Dutta told *The Hindu*.

On May 14, 2009, the President met three girls who had taken up the cause against child marriage. Of the three, Afsana Khatun and Sunita Mondal are also attending the event.

Pointing out that the effort had a "cascading effect," Ms. Dutta said the Rastrapati Bhavan was in touch with the district administration on the progress made by these girls.