Children are to be protected from child labour and from other violations of fundamental human rights as the true prosperity of any country comes from fully developing its people who form a country’s greatest resource. Regardless of their place in the socio-economic hierarchy, no family should make its children supplement the family income nor should any child be forced to work in lieu of indebtedness by parents or ancestors.

Child labour comes in the way of ensuring children their rights and it is an obstacle to the overall development of a child. The Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work concern freedom of association and right to collective bargaining, the elimination of forced or compulsory labour, the abolition of child labour, and the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation. Given these four categories of rights are mutually reinforcing, respecting other rights will accelerate elimination of child labour. The ILO Minimum Age Convention No. 138 (1973) requires States to specify in law a Minimum age for admission to employment not less than the age of finishing compulsory education, and which in any case, should not be less than 15 years. The ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention No. 182 (1999) calls for “immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition of the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency.

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights features the Right to Education prominently stating that “Everyone has the right to education”. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory”. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child states that children have the right to be protected from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child’s education, or to be harmful to the child’s health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. It also states that primary education should be compulsory and available free to all and encourages the development of different forms of secondary education available and accessible to every child. The United Nations General Assembly has also adopted two Optional Protocols to the Convention to increase the protection of children from involvement in armed conflicts and from sexual exploitation. Thus, the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the ILO Conventions and other International Instruments relating to children provide an important framework for legislation established by National Governments.

India has been proactive in protecting children and other vulnerable workers for several decades. Over the years, growing awareness of the need to ensure that children receive education and protection has spurred. Besides imparting Training to a range of Social Partners and Stakeholders, several Information and Education (IEC) materials have also been prepared by the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute with the objective to raise awareness and sensitize different Social Actors motivating them to put-forth their persevering efforts to end child labour.
Child Labour Programmes conducted by National Resource Centre on Child Labour (NRCCL)

Training Programme on “Enhancing Competence of Elected Representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions to Tackle Child Labour Practices” was conducted during March 06-08, 2012 for Twenty Eight elected Representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions from all three tiers holding different positions such as Panchayat Union Chairman, Vice Chairman, Panchayat President, Gram Pradhan, Councilor and Members. The participants were drawn from different Districts of Tamil Nadu namely Thottiam, Vellore, Tiruvallur, Virudhanagar, Salem, Dharmapuri and Erode and various Districts of West Bengal namely Purulia, Hooghly and Pashchim Midnapur. The emphasis of this programme was to equip the elected Representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions with required skills and knowledge so that they could contribute towards strengthening the efforts of the National Child Labour Projects to end the practice of employment of children in their respective geographical regions. The training needs of the elected Representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions to address the issue of child labour were also assessed during this Programme based on which the Training Manual for Panchayati Raj Institutions on Child has been developed as a part of the ILO-Convergence project titled “Training Needs Assessment and Developing Training Manuals for Training of Stakeholders”, which the Institute is presently implementing.

One-day Peer Review Consultative Meeting was conducted on 15th June 2012 at the V.V. Giri National labour Institute, NOIDA as part of the ILO Convergence Project. The meeting was organised with the objective to enable a peer review of the Draft Stakeholders’ Manual which has been developed as part of the ILO Convergence Project titled “Training Need Assessment and Developing Training Manuals for training of Stakeholders”. The delegates of the meeting were representatives from all the five Project States i.e., Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Gujarat and their respective Districts, Government of India and Non-project States. The Meeting was inaugurated by Shri V. P. Yajurvedi, Director General, VVGNLI, NOIDA.

Shri V.P. Yajurvedi, Director General, VVGNLI inaugurating the Peer Review Consultative Meeting. Shri Ashok Kumar, SP (Rural), Gautam Budh Nagar is also present on the Dias
A Training Programme for Trainers on Enforcement of child labour laws was held in Bhubaneshwar, Odisha, during 17-19 January 2012 under the pilot initiative “Converging Against Child Labour: Support for India’s Model”. The target group for the training was DLC, Assistant Labour Commissioners, Labour Enforcement Officers, Factories Inspectors from different districts of Odisha. Fifty participants from the Districts Subarnapur, Nayagarh, Jharsuguda, Balasore, Dhenkanal, Bhadrak, Bolangir, Puri, Berhampur, Angul, Sambalpur, Cuttack and Kalahandi of Odisha have participated in the programme.

The training objectives were sensitization on the issue of child labour, its concept, nature, magnitude of Child Labour in Odisha, Pre & Post Inspection Action, Juvenile Justice Act and its Implications for child labour, RTE Act as a mechanism for Combating Child Labour, Effective Enforcement of Child Labour Laws, Implementation of Various schemes through Convergence, Experience Sharing and Problem Identification, Protocol on Prevention, Rescue, Repatriation and Rehabilitation of Trafficked and Migrant Child Labour. The training was facilitated by Dr. Helen R. Sekar and Dr. Onkar Sharma from VVGNLI.

Training of Trainers programme for strengthening of law enforcement system on Child Labour during February 23-24, 2012 was conducted in Mahatma Gandhi Labour Institute (MGLI), Ahmedabad as a part of ILO Convergence Project. Imparting training to Enforcement Officials on strengthening child labour enforcement using the Training Manual developed by the Institute is one of the major objectives of the programme. Thirty one participants from the districts Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot and Gandhinagar of Gujarat participated in the programme. Deputy Labour Commissioners, Assistant Labour Commissioners, NCLP Project Directors, Inspector and Assistant Directors. The training was facilitated by Dr. Helen R. Sekar, VVGNLI was the Course Director.
Training of Government Officials on Child Labour Elimination

The Training of Stakeholders (Government Officials) on elimination of child labour was organized under the pilot initiative “Converging against Child Labour: Support for India’s Model” on March 2-3, 2012 at Hotel Capitol Hill, Ranchi, Jharkhand. The workshop was inaugurated by the Principal Secretary, Department of Labour, Employment & Training, Jharkhand.

The Training objectives were sensitization on the issue of child labour, its forms and magnitude, awareness generation on the legislations, constitutional provisions and international conventions and recommendations related to child labour and rights, Issues of trafficking in Jharkhand, RTE Act as a mechanism for combating Child Labour, provisions for working children with special focus on the Integrated Child Protection Scheme, roles of different Government Departments and its officials to take up in rescue and rehabilitation of such children. Most importantly the workshop invited suggestions on the problems faced in rescue and rehabilitation of Child Labour and planning for counteracting this issue through convergence with different Government Departments of the State.

Initiatives under the International Labour Organization supported Convergence Model Project

The ILO convergence model project was launched in January 2010 in Jharkhand. It is the first large project with a child labour focus in Jharkhand. The initiative has led to raising the profile of child labour in the development agenda of the State and to further strengthening of Convergence of different departments on the issue of child labour and strengthening convergence between the field and the state. This pilot project is being implemented with a family focus at the district level at Ranchi and Sahebganj. Under the ILO Convergence Model Project, a State Resource Cell has been constituted at the State-level which is functioning under the supervision of Labour Commissioner and is enabling coordinating action and linkages between stakeholders at state level and streamlining district level activities thereby enabling both horizontal and vertical linkages.
Events from National Child Labour Project
Jharkhand State Labour Department Initiatives against child labour

The Department of Labour, Employment and Training, Jharkhand besides undertaking enforcement of Child Labour laws and other related Acts, is running National Child Labour Project (NCLP) special schools in nine districts and providing non-formal education, supplementary nutrition, health check-ups and monthly stipend of Rs. 150/- to working children. Awareness campaigns and workshops in collaboration with civil society, NGOs and corporates are undertaken from time to time. The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, Child Labour Commission and Jharkhand Building Construction and Other Workers Welfare Board are working towards welfare of the labour force as well as implementing child labour focussed programmes.

The state Child Labour Commission carries out sensitization on the issue of child labour through media. Audio-visual clippings are aired on All India Radio, FM radio, Doordarshan and private channels like ETV, Sahara TV and Mahua TV. Appeals as well as other informative news items are published in renowned newspapers regularly. The commission also runs Toll free Child Helpline number (18003456526) to improve access to information on working children and to undertake appropriate action against offending employers.

Ten District level sensitization workshops are being organized on child labour across the State. These workshops are attended by representatives from different Government Departments, NGOs and PRIs.

The Labour Department is also implementing a pilot initiative on child labour which is supported by the International Labour Organization (ILO), New Delhi.
**National Child Labour Project, Raipur, Chattisgarh: Convergence Experience**

- **Convergence with Labour Department**
  The Chattisgarh Building and Construction Welfare Board sponsored Uniform, School Bags, Shoes, Socks, Tie, Belt and Identity Card to all the 5042 students of NCLP Special Schools.

- **Convergence with Health Department**
  Health Department organized Dental Check-Up Camp for the NCLP Special Schools. Besides the Teachers were trained by the Health Department to carry out primary check-up of the eyes of the Special School children.

- **Convergence with Union Bank of India**
  Union Bank of India has provided Sewing Machines to 28 NCLP Special Schools in the District for imparting Vocational Training to the Children.

- **Convergence with Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industries**
  Chhattisgarh Chamber of Commerce and Industries has provided “Dona Pattal” machine for vocational training.

- **Convergence with Indane and Hindustan Petroleum, Ltd.**
  Indane and Hindustan Petroleum have sponsored Cooking Gas connection (Cylinder, Burner and Regulator) to 10 NCLP Special Schools.

- **Convergence with NGOS**
  Seminars and Awareness-generation programmes have been organized pooling in the efforts of different NGOs.

- **Convergence with Chhattisgarh Labor Welfare Board**
  Chhattisgarh Labor Welfare Board provided Note Books to 500 NCLP Special Schools children.

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Exhibition of material made by NCLP Special School Children as a part of their vocational Training in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

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Awareness Generation Rally conducted by Project Society Raipur, Chhattisgarh

Children & Teachers are taking “Oath to eliminate child labour” in Raipur, Chhattisgarh
Bihar Diwas Celebration during 22-24 March, 2012

Nukkad Natak on the issue of child labour by a Theatre Group

Debate Competition on the topic “Should children be allowed to work?”

On 29th April, 2012, a meeting of all the NGOs was conducted to discuss the proper implementation of State Action Plan and how NGOs can contribute in the same

On the occasion of National Anti Child Labour Day on 30th April, 2012, abhiyan song “Le Mashale Chal pade hai log mere Gaon ke” was played and oath was also taken not to employ children by lighting candle
बाल भ्रमियों से काम लेने वाले सावधान!

14 वर्ष से कम उम्र के बच्चों से काम लेना दयामौली है।

- 20,000/- कर्मचारी हूड़गांव
- भूमि के साथ तर्क देने या शिक्षा का साधन
- इक्स येलो मार्गोन महावीर महावीर से संबंधित 20,000/- कर्मचारियों की शिक्षा ईमानदारी में बढ़ाने के लिए

छुट्टी श्रावण से

शापद के अनुसार स्थानीय प्रशासन का बच्चों को मिलने में अपमान सहोदर है।

- 20,000/- कर्मचारी हूड़गांव
- भूमि के साथ तर्क देने या शिक्षा का साधन
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Conclusions of the study

“Children’s working hours, school enrolment and human capital accumulation: Evidence from Pakistan and Nicaragua”

By
Furio Camillo Rosati & Mariacristina Rossi

“The literature on child labour has to some extent neglected to analyse the determinants of the hours worked by the children. The attention has been mainly devoted to the household decision to send the children to school and/or to work. The duration of the working day is, however, important to assess the impact of work on the human capital accumulation and on the child’s health. Starting from a simple theoretical framework, we have derived and estimated a simultaneous equation system for estimating the household’s decision relative to the school enrolment and to the hours worked by their children. The results show the importance of taking into account the simultaneity of the decision about schooling and hours worked in order to assess the importance and the role played by different explanatory variables. We have seen that the number of hours worked also depends on the (endogenous) decision whether or not to let the child attend school. The effects of the variables on the hours worked then depend also on the change they induce in the probability that a child is sent to school. In fact we have seen, that this latter “indirect” effects often dominates the direct one.

Moreover, the structure of the model we have estimated allow us to compute not only the “full” marginal effects described above, but also the marginal effects conditional on the latent variable indicating the “propensity” of the household to send the child to work or not. These marginal effects are very different among the two “groups” and show that policy action can have a different impact depending on whether the child is likely to be sent to work or not. Finally, we have obtained consistent estimate of the effects of hours of work on human capital accumulation by regressing our indicator on school achievement on the hours of work predicted by our model and on other variables.

The results of the estimates, based on an indicator of whether the child has fallen back during her course of study, indicates that the amount of hours worked are an important determinant of school achievements beyond the fact that the child participates in economic activities. These effects are far from negligible, as a few hours of work per day increases the probability of falling back in the course of study of about 10 per cent. Hours of work have an effect that is not increasing; if anything the first hours of work have a larger impact on school achievements than the successive ones. This indicates that the assumption often made that a few hours of work only have negligible effects on human capital accumulation is not supported by the evidence, at least in the case of Pakistan and Nicaragua. A different issue is whether the changes induced in school achievements are “large”. This has implications in terms of policy interventions. If the loss due to child work is not large in terms of human capital accumulation, then school enrolment rather than child work itself should be targeted (at least as far as the effect of child labour on human capital accumulation is concerned). More evidence and the use of a larger set of indicators are necessary to deal with such an issue.”

Source: World Bank Document

www-wds.worldbank.org/.../438610WP0Box321 humanCapital01PUB...
Convergence against Child Labour: Efforts of Odisha Labour Department

- Labour Department, Government of Odisha organised a State-level meeting on 27th April, 2012, at Bhubaneswar with the objective of reviewing the information flow among 17 convergence departments working on elimination of child labour through the established system of reporting and analysing mechanisms.

- State Resource Cell (SRC), Odisha organised a public meeting at Bhubaneswar on the World Day Against Child Labour. More than 350 participants were drawn to the meeting representing the government, trade unions, NGOs, civil society, NCLP Society and Special Schools. Different dignitaries addressed the audience on the issues of child labour and elaborated the strategies and programmes for eradication of child labour. Audience also interacted with the dignitaries on the issues of child labour in the state of Odisha.

A special bulletin named “Sishu Sampada” was released by the Chief Guest. The bulletin contains statistical data on child labour and other related information.

A massive signature campaign also took place where public in large number have participated

A “PALA” was organized by the NCLP School children and teachers who through a traditional folk dance depicted the values of education and the vices of child labour

A “Pala” was organized by the NCLP School children and teachers who through a traditional folk dance depicted the values of education and the vices of child labour
Observance of World Day Against Child Labour in Kalahandi District

A Rally of 300 persons including students from NCLP Special schools and formal schools of the locality was inaugurated by Sri Dukhishyam Sethi, District Magistrate and Collector, Kalhandi. The rally moved with banners, placards and slogans against the child labour.

Experience sharing by Kumari Pravasini Dhangadamajhi, reading in Class-IV. She was earlier a non school going child and was taking care of her siblings in the family when her parents were working in construction sites. After the intervention of ILO Convergence project, she was admitted into school.

A Seminar was also organised with different topics namely “Understanding basic concepts of Child Labour and Different Rights”, “Role of Human Rights and Social Justice in eradicating Child Labour”, “Problems of child labour in Odisha, Dimensions, Determinants and Policies (with special reference to Kalahandi)” and “Human Rights and Social Justice-Lets end Child Labour”. Resource persons dealt on various aspects of the issue.
**Success Stories of National Child Labour Project**

**NCLP Special School, Chutia**

It was reported that almost all the children in this NCLP Special School are neatly clothed in proper school uniform and clean irrespective of their hailing from very poor background. This was possible because of the efforts taken by the NCLP Special School Teachers in educating parents on the importance of good habits and hygiene at every Parents-Teachers meetings held every Saturday. Children are also motivated and talked to on the importance of hygiene and cleanliness. This has resulted in the needed behavioral change. Parents are also happy to see their children voluntarily keeping themselves clean and taking care in dressing themselves up tidily.

**NLCP Special School, Guddri**

Twelve years old **Armaan Khan** had dropped out of school long back. He does not remember when he last went to school. His family migrated to **Ranchi** and he started working in his 18-year old brother’s butcher shop at Khunti. His father owns a small Medical Shop. His family felt that this was the “best option” for him as he would get to learn and be a part of the family business. However his life changed when he was enrolled in the nearby NCLP Special School at Guddri Mohalla. Armaan says that he would be mainstreamed into the Formal School once he is able to come to the educational-level of a 12 year old school going child. He wants to get in to “service” and to support his family after completion of his studies. He pledges to motivate all his friends who have dropped out or have never attended school to pursue their studies. He is determined to attend the Special School regularly and to continue his studies besides pursuing his hobby i.e. Singing.

**Mohammad Tabrez**

studies at NCLP Special School, Gudri Mohalla, Ranchi. He lives in the vicinity of the School with his mother and three brothers and 5 sisters. He is the youngest of all siblings. His sisters study Urdu and do household chores. Tabrez used to work at “Roopashree Hall” where he did Nickel polishing for three years. He says that he has to acquire some skills so that he can earn money as he needs to support his family because his father had died long back. He added that his mother works as a Domestic-Help and if she could be trained in some employable skill like sewing he would be able to continue further studies. The Instructor at the NCLP Special School, Gudri Mohalla, has determined to help the children of the Special School to achieve basic education and to mainstream them into Formal education system. She uses innovative methods to teach the children through music, poems and physical training in a playful environment. She feels that these children were deprived of education in the past but now she wants to see them complete at least matriculation and would motivate them to continue higher education and would strive to help them acquire other technical skills.
Dropped out from class 3rd Rohit Namdeo was a child labour supplementing the family income when the staff of NCLP Damoh, Madhya Pradesh located him and enrolled in NCLP Special School, Hatta, Distt.-Damoh, Madhya Pradesh. He studied in the Special School for a period two and a half years and was mainstreamed into Government Middle School, Bajaria Board, in Class 6 and continued till Class 8. At the time of mainstreaming, Rohit received a Stipend of Rs. 1500 from the NCLP Project Society for pursuing his studies. Later on he took admission in Class 9 in Government New High School and he appeared for 10th Standard High School Certificate Board Examination in current year (2011-12) and scored 85% marks. On 12th June 2012 in a function “International Day Against Child Labour” Rohit was felicitated for his achievement in the Board Examination. He is grateful to the National Child Labour Project for its timely intervention and support.

Krishna Malkai hails from a very poor family living in a slum deprived of basic needs and amenities. His parents are seasonal laborers with uncertainty of income. Krishna had to supplement his parents’ earning by working in a fan-manufacturing company. He was identified by the NCLP staff who had enrolled him in the Bridge School. Though poor, distraught and dejected Krishna had the courage, determination and resilience in abundance. He has great passion to get educated and do well in life. Despite resistance from home he continued attending NCLP Bridge School and was mainstreamed into a Formal School and passed in Class X exams. It was at this time the CHORD team offered him Vocational Junior college education in computer science along with MPC. Two years of diligence and hard work fetched him 79.8% Marks in the final exams. Besides being good at studies he exudes confidence in all that he does. Currently he is trying to get into Polytechnic and is doing all that he can do accomplish his dream. Through his hard work Krishna could overcome poverty, inequality, neglect and oppression. He is driven by passion, determination and confidence to overcome all barriers. Krishna truly believes in what Winston Churchill said “success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.” He is thankful to NCLP, Ranga reddy District, Andra Pradesh for rescuing him from child labour and shaping his career.

Venkatesh was only two years old when he lost his mother due to snakebite. His father abandoned him and married someone. When he was only seven years of age, his father committed suicide. These tragic conditions traumatized Venkatesh leaving him completely devastated and distraught. Living in Grandmother’s care, he always longed for his parents’ love. It was around this time the NCLP Field Officers located him and enrolled him in NCLP Bridge School at Suraram Colony, Rangareddy District, Andhra Pradesh. Liked by the NCLP Special School Teachers, Venkatesh was obedient and studied well. He is provided with food, education and health care facilities in the NCLP Special School. But for the timely rescue and help from the National Child Labour Project, Venkatesh’s life would have ended up as yet another child labour deprived of the opportunities and denied of the rights of childhood. Because of the NCLP, Venkatesh has found and regained his invaluable childhood which he was about to lose due to tragic circumstances. He is extremely grateful to National Child Labour Project, Ranga reddy District, Andra Pradesh for making him what is today and enabling him to dream for a bright future.
NCLP in Ranga Reddy District, Andhra Pradesh organizes District-level cultural programs on the occasion of Republic and Independence Day celebrations. The NCLP uses such events to encourage people to end child labour

Children of NCLP Spl Schools Ranga Reddy District performing District Level Cultural Programme on the Occasion of Republic Day Celebrations on 26-01-2012


Sri. V. Seshadri I.A.S., Dist. Collector, Ranga Reddy Dist. Visited the NCLP - Special School and interacting with Children in March-2012
चूड़ियाँ

शोक से पहली जाती हैं चूड़ियाँ।
चूड़ियाँ की कहानी बताती ये चूड़ियाँ।

रेत के ढेर से पिघले कॉच की चूड़ियाँ।
बेलन पर पुमाई गयी ये चूड़ियाँ।

सघाई, जुडाई से गोल बनी ये चूड़ियाँ।
पिसकर तराशी गयी ये चूड़ियाँ।

सोने चाँदी से संबारी गयी ये चूड़ियाँ।
रंग बिरंगी, खानकरी बुनाई ये चूड़ियाँ।

गोपी कलाई में हरी भरी चूड़ियाँ।
“सुहाग का प्रतीक” बनी ये चूड़ियाँ।

किस कीमत पर बनी ये चूड़ियाँ।
असलियत नहीं बनाने करती ये चूड़ियाँ।

कैसी बनी इतनी मन–भावने ये चूड़ियाँ।
शोधण की दासता नहीं बताती ये चूड़ियाँ।

हजारों बच्चों का बचपन छीनती ये चूड़ियाँ।
ढी० पी०, दमा के रास्ते काल का ग्रास बनाती ये
चूड़ियाँ।

सघाई, जुडाई में आँखों की रोशनी को छीनती, ये
चमकदार चूड़ियाँ।
बच्चों के जीवन को बदरंग करती, ये संगीत चूड़ियाँ।

असल में बच्चों के जीवन के लिए खिलवाड़ को छिपाती हैं, ये
चूड़ियाँ।
तब ही तो सुहाग छिनते ही सबसे पहले तोड़ी जाती हैं ये
चूड़ियाँ।

“है सुन्दर, लेकिन निरंजनी हैं ये चूड़ियाँ”

— वू० पी० लिंड
उप श्रम अभयार्य, उत्तर प्रदेश
Events on Child Labour at Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India

- The meeting of the Central Monitoring Committee on Child Labour was held on 11th January, 2012 under the chairmanship of Secretary (Labour and Employment)

- The meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Child Labour was conducted on 20th January 2012 under the chairmanship of Honourable Union Minister of Labour and Employment

Mr. Jethi, Director, Mole inspecting NCLP Special School in Bangalore (Rural).

Other States to follow Andhra Pradesh’s example to tackle child labour, says NCPCR

Pavithra S. Rangan

HYDERABAD: Andhra Pradesh being one of the few States to implement the Minimum Wages (MW) Act to discourage child labour, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has sought its execution plan for replication in other States.

The Labour Department has, over the past 15 years, awarded penalty of Rs. 5 crore to employers of 35,000 children from the State under the MW Act. “The prime reason for employing child labour is that children can be paid dismal wages, as against adults who demand a prescribed minimum wage,” says R. Ravi Bhushan Rao, Joint Commissioner of Labour.

“The MW Act empowers authorities to impose penalties up to 10 times the difference between the wage paid and the minimum wage, as compensation to the child. We have enforced the act vigorously to discourage child labour,” he explained. Heavy compensation is awarded under the Act to discourage the employment of child labour.

The Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation (CLPR) Act does not fully prohibit the employment of children across all occupations.

Cases under the MW Act are tried in ‘open courts’ to further discourage people from employing child labour. “Such methods of handling child labour cases under the Act have been very successful and are unique to the State,” officials said.

While the 2001 census reveals Andhra Pradesh as the second largest employer of child labourers in the country with over 13.63 lakh employed children, labour officials claimed that this figure has come down a great deal with interventions like implementation of MW Act and that this will be reflected in the yet to be released 2011 census.