

CHILD HOPE

Newsletter on Child Labour

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From the Director General's Desk

The constitutional provisions and other legislation on children's education, and prohibition of child labour have a significant impact on improving literacy rates and declining magnitude and incidence of child labour in India. Declaration of the Rights of the Child in Principle 9 states that "the child shall be protected against all forms of neglect, cruelty and exploitation. He shall not be the subject of traffic, in any form. The child shall not be admitted to employment before an appropriate minimum age; he shall in no case be caused or permitted to engage in any occupation or employment which would prejudice his health or education, or interfere with his physical, mental or moral development". India has always been proactive in protecting children identifying them as individuals with rights. The Constitution of India in Article 24 prohibits the employment of children in Factories, Mines and other hazardous occupations and directs the States to protect the safety and morals of workers and children.

The theme of the year 2018 for "World Day Against Child Labour (WDAKL)" focuses on the global need to combat child labour employed in hazardous occupations. In addition to improving the safety and health of young workers it necessitates integrated approach to eradicate all forms of child labour. The campaign specifically states that some types of work including mining industry are inherently dangerous and prohibits employing children under the age of 18.

Children who work in illegal mines are reported to be exposed to dust, noise, vibration, toxic gases, high heat and are vulnerable to many incurable diseases because of their involvement in loading and unloading, stone crushing and other activities relating to mining of Iron ore, Limestone, Bauxite, Chromite, Coal, Mica, Sand, Lignite, etc. Since, the mining areas are remotely located and are not static workers and their children often get displaced and these homeless children are forced to drop out of schools. Living in temporary shelters in and around mine sites, school education becomes inaccessible and these children forcibly get into the mining activities along with their parents. They work in humid conditions with poor illumination and ventilation and reside in inhabitable conditions leading to developing chronic diseases at a young age.

The ILO Convention 182 and the related ILO Recommendation 190, provides for an "action-oriented approach" and call for the involvement of a range of social actors in designing and implementing programmes. Government of India has taken measures for effective enforcement of child labour laws by way of establishment of advisory boards, monitoring mechanisms, child protection committees and child labour elimination societies at the national, state, district and sub-district-levels. Further, amendments in the Child Labour Act and the Central Rules formulated subsequently provide guidance for children attending full-time education.

The main sectors in which child labour is employed is more or less directly related to the employment pattern of the working force. With the increasing urbanization, more and more girl children are into domestic work. Though there is a declining trend, the continued wide-spread prevalence of child labour in different forms is a matter of concern. Therefore, in pursuance of the provisions of the laws, more detailed rules have to be framed by each State of the country at the earliest thereby enabling the enforcement officers to secure proper enforcement of the related laws throughout the length and breadth of the country to end child labour and ensure protection and rights to every child of this great country.

Editor-in-Chief
DR. H. SRINIVAS
Director General

Editor
Dr. HELEN R. SEKAR
Senior Fellow

Printed and Published by
V.V. Giri National Labour Institute
Sector-24, Noida-201301
Distt.-Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P., India
Phone : 0120-2411533-34-35
Fax : 0120-2411474, 2411536

Training Programmes / Workshops conducted by the National Resource Centre on Child Labour

The Orientation Programme for Members of Child Labour Monitoring Committees

The Orientation Programme for members of Child Labour monitoring committees was scheduled from 7th to 9th February 2018, with the wide-ranging motive to create public presence for monitoring and tracking of Child Labour. The specific objectives of this programme was to equip the participants skills to operate at the local level and link them at various levels with the government; to equip them with abilities to utilize existing administrative and governance structures for withdrawal, rehabilitation, and enforcement; to impart skills to promote local ownership and decision-making to end employment of children and to expand the community base against labour exploitation of children; and to enable the participants to contribute to the State and Non-state interventions for rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work and economic rehabilitation of their families. The participants of this programme comprised of Labour Department Officers, Labour Inspectors, Volunteer Teachers/ Instructors, Project Directors, Programme Managers and representatives of the NGOs implementing the National Child labour Project (NCLP). This training-workshop was attended by 31 participants from the Districts Jabalpur and Barwani of Madhya Pradesh; District Tirunelveli and Virudhnagar of Tamil Nadu; District Alwar of Rajasthan; District Gondia and Jalna of Maharashtra; District Khammam, Mehabubabad and Bhadradi Kothagudem of Telangana; District

Malda of West Bengal and District Guntur of Andhra Pradesh. This Training Workshop was organized by Dr. Helen R. Sekar, Senior Fellow, VVGnLI who is also the Coordinator of the National Resource Centre on Child Labour.





Orientation Training Programme on Child Labour in Odisha

Orientation Training Programme on Child Labour in Odisha was organized during 26th to 28th February 2018 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha for the Project Directors, Programme Managers of National Child Labour Projects and the District Labour Officers of the Non-NCLP Districts in Odisha. The broad objective of the Training Programme was to impart awareness on a) the newly formulated Guidelines of the National Child Labour Project, b) PeNCIL Portal, and c) the amendments and rules of Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act; to equip with skills for effective enforcement of law; and impart training for facilitating convergence with District Administration and other Stakeholders to address the issue of child labour in Odisha.

Shri Sachin Ramchandra Jadhav IAS, Labour Commissioner, Government of Odisha, addressed the participants and inaugurated this training

programme. Forty-five participants attended this programme from different districts of Odisha namely : Nuapada, Sambalpur, Bargarh, Balangir, Ganjam, Deogarh, Jajpur, Jharsuguda, Angul, Sundargarh, Sonapur, Kandhamal, Nabarangpur, Keonjhar, Nayagarh, Dhenkanal, Balasore, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Rayagada, Cuttack, Gajapati, Kalahandi, Balasore. Dr. Helen R. Sekar, Senior Fellow, VVG NLI, was the Course Director of this Training Programme which was organized by the V. V. Giri National Labour Institute in collaboration with State Labour Institute, Odisha.



Sensitization Programme for Addressing Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation

The Sensitization Programme for addressing Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation was organized during 20th to 22nd March 2018 with the aim of developing competence to combat trafficking for Child Labour. The specific objectives were i) to impart understanding on trafficking that involves children; ii) to provide insight into the initiatives that have been taken to protect children from becoming victims of trafficking and iii) to develop skills for mobilization and building of partnerships for contributing to effective remedial actions and for providing support services for rehabilitation. Forty Four participants have participated in the programme. These participants were Academic Coordinators, District Child Protection Officers, Educational Instructors, Vocational Teachers, Project Directors and Programme Managers of NCLP, District Councillors of PRIs, Technical Specialists, Members of Child Welfare Committees (CWC), and Police Inspectors. The participants were from District Jabalpur of Madhya Pradesh; District Guntur of Andhra Pradesh; Districts Khammam and Kothagudam of Telangana; Districts Beed, Gondia and Amravati of Maharashtra; Districts Hardoi, Allahabad and Mirzapur of Uttar Pradesh; District Coimbatore of Tamil Nadu; Districts Sundergarh and

Gajapati of Odisha; District Raipur of Chhattisgarh and District Guwahati of Assam. Dr. Helen R. Sekar, Senior Fellow, was the Course Director.

Technical Support Provided by NRCCL

Best practices on combating child labour was shared by Dr. Helen R. Sekar, Senior Fellow, VVG NLI, while addressing the Development Professionals, Scholars and Students and those representing Government Institutions, Civil Society, and Training Institutions, in the Mid-term Consultation on “Empowering Adolescent Youth through Life Skill Education” was organized by SADRAG on 17th January 2018 with the objective of sharing the accomplishments, non-accomplishments, best practices, Life Skills Models, Salient findings and learnings imbibed from other stakeholders.

The Gram Pradhans and Members of Panchayati Raj Institutions of Gautam Budh Nagar were informed of the amendments in Child Labour Act by Dr. Helen R. Sekar, Senior Fellow, VVG NLI, in the “Capacity Building Workshop jointly organized by District Administration, Gautam Budh Nagar and Amity Institute of Social Sciences, Amity University, Noida. for” on 12th March 2018. In addition the specific role of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in Prevention, Identification, Rescue and Rehabilitation of Child Labour were also discussed.



Events of National Child Labour Projects from different parts of the Country

NCLP District, Burdwan (West Bengal)



NCLP District, Darjeeling (West Bengal)



NCLP District, Tiruppur



At the behest of the K.S. Palanisamy, District Collector & Chairperson, NCLP Tiruppur, Pension order Issued to 61 year-old construction worker at her home who is now disabled

NCLP District, Dharmapuri (Tamil Nadu)



NCLP District, Guntur (Andhra Pradesh)



NCLP District, Praganas (West Bengal)



NCLP District, Raichur (Karnataka)



Child and adolescent labour awareness programme inaugurated on 20-02-2018 by Dr. Bagadi Goutham, Deputy Commissioner & Chairperson NCLP, Raichur

NCLP District, Krishna (Andhra Pradesh)





NCLP District, Ludhiana (Punjab)



NCLP District, Khammam (Telangana)





Where children are meant to learn, not to earn

M Rafi Ahmed

Coimbatore, Dec 31:

Children are meant to learn, not to earn. Yes, this has been the mantra for National Child Labour Project (NCLP), a initiative of Central government to eliminate all forms of child labour through identifying, rescuing and rehabilitating. Meet D V Vijay Kumar, Project Director, NCLP,

Coimbatore and Tirupur districts, who alongwith his dedicated team of field staff, is straining his nerves to eradicate this obnoxious practice of child labour through series of raids at units engaging children under 14. And the sole objective of NCLP is to mainstream them in formal schooling besides honing their skills in different vocations. In a quick rewind, he narrated the

road he had travelled starting from Arivoli Eyyakkam to coordinator for women's development project and finally landed in NCLP to become what he is now. "Really it's challenging for me to identify children, who were mostly from North India, working in different units across the district.

They were not only rescued, but were put in special schools to make them continue their education," he said. Now that there are about 765 children all under 14 spread across 30 NCLP special training centres in Assam, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Bihar, Odissa, Uttar Pradesh and a few from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

In most of the cases, poverty stricken parents from backward areas force their wards to work thereby depriving them the right to education. Thanks to Central government in initiating the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) scheme wayback in 1988 to rehabilitate working children in 12

child labour endemic districts of the country, Effective implementation at district level across 22 States helped curb this menace to some extent. As of now, there are 271 NCLP special training centres. Words cannot express the amount of joy NCLP project director had after seeing three of them armed with BE degree while 49 were graduates in arts and science stream while not

to speak of larvae, who became teachers after their teacher training course. The list goes on with another three obtaining ITI certificate, five with diploma in polytechnic colleges and five girls completing their nursing course. In all humbleness, he credited his field officers K Nambirajan and Biju Alex, who behind this success saga.

Kovai, Tirupur districts NCLP's success saga

child labour endemic districts of the country, Effective implementation at district level across 22 States helped curb this menace to some extent. As of now, there are 271 NCLP special training centres. Words cannot express the amount of joy NCLP project director had after seeing three of them armed with BE degree while 49 were graduates in arts and science stream while not

NCLP District, Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu)





DHARMAPURI

ALMANAC TODAY

Saturday 03:51 • Year - Jarnath • Pongal - The Raj • Pongal - Kattu
 Padi • Telli - Sheshi 03:25 • Vata • Nalabata (Dag) - Vichala 03:23 •
 Wane • Kudu Kudu - Tala • Sri-Sudra Shastri • Bahukalam: 03:00 am to 03:30 am
 • Vengayatan: 03:30 am to 03:50 am • Bahukalam: 03:30 am to 03:50 am



MIN 23°C MAX 36°C
 FORECAST: Partly cloudy sky

03

DHARMAPURI

SATURDAY 18.03.2017

newindianexpress.com

From a dropout to an entrepreneur, the tale of an ex-child labourer

SRIKANTH DHASARATHY
 @Dharmapuri

THIS 21-year-old youth, C Muthuraj of Neruppur village near Pennagaram has the tag of an entrepreneur now. His journey to become one is what fairy tales are made of. From being rescued as a bonded labourer to rehabilitation to become part of mainstream education to being a drop out, Muthuraj got by with a lot of will power and a little help along the way.

In 2006, as an eleven-year-old, Muthuraj discontinued school to join his parents at Kangeyam in

Tiruppur where they were working as bonded labourers at a stone quarry. "My father tried to admit me in a school there, but I was scared to go to school in a new place and started working along with my parents," Muthuraj recalled.

In due course, their parents lost their jobs and had to return back to their village in Dharmapuri district. Muthuraj was identified by the task force of the district administration under the National Child Labour Project (NCLP).

Muthuraj continued his studies while undergoing rehabilita-



Collector K Vivekanandan congratulating C Muthuraj at the collectorate | EXPRESS

tion until class 8. He was drafted into the mainstream after that and he went onto finish SSLC.

"However, he dropped out after that and begin to take up work again. So, though, it is not in our mandate as the boy was over 14 years then, we went out of our way to aid Muthuraj," M Saravanan, Project Director, NCLP, Dharmapuri told Express.

He was drafted into an Industrial training institute after counselling. According to NCLP Project Director M Saravanan, they usually encourage higher education, but gambled with Muthuraj's case after bearing

him out. Muthuraj recalled that his father Chinnamuthu was working as a tractor driver and he, by assisting him during work picked on the intricacies and developed a liking for it. "I convinced myself that this is my arena of expertise and my aim at that time was to own a tractor," Muthuraj said. After completing his ITI course, Muthuraj, with the help of District administration finished a basic computer training course at Madurai and after a series of rejections was shortlisted as a beneficiary under the NCLP scheme.

Muthuraj is now the proprie-

tor of an agro hiring centre worth ₹26 lakh with subsidised loans facilitated by the NCLP project. District Collector K Vivekanandan on Tuesday met the entrepreneur, a former child labourer and inaugurated his venture.

"Lot of rescued children have went on to pursue professional courses such as Medicine and Engineering. But, helping one become an entrepreneur gives us immense pleasure," NCLP Project Director M Saravanan said.

Muthuraj, if not an epitome of success, is at least a welcome victory of the National Child Labour Protection scheme.

Sat, 18 March 2017
 newspaper.newindianexpress.com/c/17646315

NCLP Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

CHILD LABOUR-PROHIBITED & PUNISHABLE

The Schedule in Part A to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 contained 13 Occupations, namely, (1) Transport of Passengers, goods or mails by railways; (2) Cinder Picking, clearing of ash pit or building operation in the railway premises; (3) Work in catering establishment at a railway station, involving the movement of a vendor or any other employee of the establishment from one platform to another or in or out of a moving train; (4) Work relating to the construction of a railway station or with any other work where such work is done in close proximity to or between the railway lines; (5) A port authority within the limits of any port; (6) Work relating to selling of crackers and fireworks in shops with temporary licences; (7) Abattoir / Slaughter House; (8) Automobile workshop and garages; (9) Foundries; (10) Handling of toxic or inflammable substances or explosives; (11) Handloom and power-loom industry; (12) Mines (underground and under water) and collieries; and (13) Plastic units and fibre glass workshops. In addition to this, there are at present 57 Processes included in Part B to the Schedule of the said Act, in which engagement of children is prohibited.

Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India issued a Notification dated 10th July, 2006 including two new 'Occupations'. According to this, employment of children as domestic workers or servants, in dhabas (road-side eateries), restaurants, hotels, motels, tea-shops, resorts and other recreational centres has become 'hazardous' and hence 'prohibited' in terms of the said Act. This engaging children in the Occupations as stated above will be liable to fine upto Rupees Twenty Thousand, or imprisonment one year or with both.

Let us pledge not to rob children or their childhood

By Courtesy of Burdwan Zilla Sishu Labour Department
 Sramik Kalyan Parishad, Burdwan. Government of West Bengal

குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர் கில்லாத கோவை மாவட்டத்தை உருவாக்குவோம்!

14 வயதிற்குட்பட்ட குழந்தைகளை எந்தவித பணிகளிலும் ஈடுபடுத்தக் கூடாது.
18 வயதுக்கு உட்பட்ட வளர் இளம் பருவத்தினரை அபாயகரமான தொழில்களில் ஈடுபடுத்தக் கூடாது.

பிறப்பின் கருளுக்கு ரூ.20,000 முதல் ரூ.50,000 வரை அபராதம் அல்லது மூன்று ஆண்டுகள் வரை சிறை தண்டனை விதிக்கப்படும்.

உங்கள் மகனின் குழந்தைகளை எவ்விதும் வேலக்கு அளித்தால் தீராத, தானக்கு தரக்கூடிய!

மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர் / தலைவர்
தேசிய குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர் திட்டம்
 NCLP ஆட்சியர் இயற்கை
 சமூக - 64108, தொலைபேசி - 0422 - 2305445
 அலைக்கலை: nclpcbe@gmail.com



'Catch them young, watch them grow'

M Rafi Ahmed

Refresher camp for NCLP special teachers

Coimbatore, Jan 23:

It's encouraging to see teachers at NCLP special training centers taking it as a challenge to identify the innate talents of children from different states and bringing the best out of them, observed K Chithralekha, Assistant Director (Programmes), Coimbatore station of All India Radio. Addressing the valedictory of three day refresher camp for National Child Labour Project (NCLP) special training centre teachers from Coimbatore and Tirupur district at CD Foundation at Podanur Chettipalayam in the outskirts of the city, she said that it's a real service in shaping and moulding children, who were denied the right to education and praised the dedication and determination of teachers in making them pursue collegiate studies, which she said is an achievement in their life. Referring to Mahatma Gandhi's grandson Arun Gandhi writing in his blog titled 'Gems in Garbage' about rescuing abandoned babies in Mumbai and his spouse Sunanda bringing them up by offering education thereby making them reach dizzy heights, she said that undoubtedly the children are 'Gems' found in waste (workplaces) and

added that the teachers need all commendation for finetuning them to make them scale new heights. Noteworthy to mention that NCLP Special Training Centres offers bridge education, vocational training, mid-day meal, stipend, health care and recreation to children with the ultimate objective of preparing them to be mainstreamed into the formal system of education. Earlier, T Jothimani, Assistant Professor, Psychology department, PSG College of Arts and Science (PSGCAS) in her power point presentation spoke about the child's psychology and behaviour. She gave useful tips to special training centre teachers on how to handle children from other states where language is a barrier. Trinity Mirror scribe M Rafi Ahmed urged the teachers to identify their talents and motivate them to improvise further through experts in their line of interest. Academics is important, so also is extra curricular activities and creativity of the children, he said adding that teachers had a greater role to play in encouraging them to show their prowess thru' different activities.

He further sought the teachers to make reading a habit and books give abundant knowledge so that they can inculcate good habits through moral stories. Also, he appealed to teachers to browse thru' newspapers to know what is happening across the globe so that they can inform the children about interesting news or events. It is interesting to learn from teacher Pankajam from Special training centre, Thondamuthur that all the children at the centre were from Assam and they evinced interest to learn Tamil. Not only they could understand Tamil, majority of them were able to converse in Tamil. Meanwhile, teacher Blessy from special training centre, Tirupur Golden Nagar said that the refresher camp gave lots of inputs about teaching methodology besides getting hands on training on activity based learning module.

Teacher training organisation faculty members C J Christol Jaya and Nagarathiman besides Government College of Education for women principal C M Umadevi detailed about how to impart education to the children while Art of Living Kannadasan taught

the children on yoga and Dr Ganansoundari Jayanth Kumar spoke on good values and time management. A cooperation meeting with community members was held at JJ Nagar under the leadership of Chettipalayam panchayat former president Shanmugham. Later, Inspector of Police (Abduction prevention wing) Paul Alexander and head constable Ravichandran gave away prizes to children who won in games. Kalveerampalayam panchayat union middle school headmistress P S Mahalakshmi gave activity based learning module to teachers by demonstrating them on how to convert waste materials as useful items. As many as 60 teachers from special training centre were part of the refresher camp. K Arul, Additional Director, Industrial Safety and Health inaugurated the camp for special training centre teachers and field staff while NCLP Project Director D V Vijay Kumar briefed about the objective of the camp. Field officer Nambirajan welcomed and Programme Manager Biju Alex proposed a vote of thanks.

Training Sessions on Converging against Child Labour





ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE FOR ADDRESSING CHILD LABOUR

*Aamir Khan**

Marriage is recognized as the legal or formal bond in a personal relationship of two people promising to be lifelong partners. All over the world, the wedding ceremony is a memorable moment and a ritual of festivity in one's life. The marriage custom is also theologically considered noble and ethical. The act of child marriage is not a gratifying celebration but abuse of childhood which impedes physical and psychological development of the children and also compromises their future opportunities of education, employment, in violation of the rights of children. The age criteria for marriage differs from country to country. Marriage should be considered when the persons are physically and psychologically compatible to carry out the responsibilities of married life.

According to UNICEF Forum on Marriage and the rights of women and girls 2001, the term is referred to both formal and informal union in which a girl of less than eighteen years of age lives with a partner.¹ As per the Special Marriage Act, 1954 and Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 "child" is male or female person who has not completed the age of twenty-one years and eighteen years respectively.² The age for marriage is also discussed in various other enactments namely the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955; Muslim Law; The Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872; Child Marriage Restrain Act, 1929 etc.³

Some of the research studies have located a number of factors relating to child marriage. In some cases parents fix the marriage of their child to a person with higher economic and social status with the belief that it would provide their child a higher economic status. Due to poverty, unemployment, lack of educational infrastructure, cultural and

religious factors, superstitious beliefs, pressure from relatives and peer groups children are forced to get married at their tender age. In vulnerable sections of the society where girl children are considered as a burden, they get their very young daughters married supposing that the responsibility of protecting their minor daughter will be on her husband and the new family. Child marriage incidence is more in the geographical regions where there is unsafe social environment for girl children with prevalence of child abuse and molestation.

Statistics on the incidence of child marriage reflects grievous picture in most of the developing countries. However, in India, there is a declining trend with the Census 2011 showing that between 2001 and 2011 the marriage of boys below twenty one years of age has declined from 9.64% in 2001 to 2.54% in 2011. The decline is very negligible in case of early marriage among girls below 18 years of age. The Census 2011 reported the incidence as 2.44% and it was 2.51% as per the Census 2001⁴.

According to the study by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), 70 districts spread over 13 states of the country namely Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bengal, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh⁵ have reported "high incidence" marriages of persons who were below the legally prescribed minimum age for marriage at the time of their marriage. Both in the states of Haryana and Rajasthan higher number of child marriages were reported in a large number of districts. There were cases of child marriages reported to have been solemnised when the couple were under the age of ten.⁶

* Former Project Staff, NRCCL

¹ J. Garima, Bisen. Vikram, Singh. S.K., J. Piyush, Early Marriage of Girls as a Barrier to their Education, *International Journal of Advanced Engineering Technology*, E-ISSN 0976-3945

² Situational Analysis of Child Marriages in Assam, Human Rights Law Network, November 2015, <http://www.hrln.org/hrln/images/stories/pdf/FF-report-child-marriage.pdf>

³ Ibid,

⁴ Vivek. Vipul, Child Marriages, Especially Of Girls- Rise in Urban India, Decline In Rural, *India Spend*, June 9, 2017 <http://www.indiaspend.com/cover-story/child-marriages-especially-of-girls-rise-in-urban-india-decline-in-rural-36069>

⁵ Ibid,

⁶ Ibid,

The early marriage not only impedes the holistic development of the children involved but also impedes the socio-economic development of the nation as it comes in the way of realization of the objectives of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),⁷ such as improvement in basic education standard, reduction of poverty, combating HIV/AIDS and controlling of maternal mortality rate.

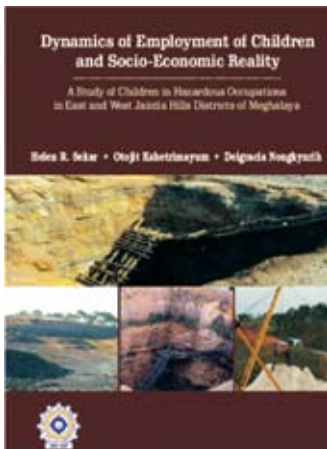
Strategic planning is required to prevent child marriages. The efforts of the Government need to be supported by the NGOs, Corporates and the community and society at large. Communities where there is a high incidence of child marriage

should be made aware of the adverse impact and immediate and long-term consequences on their physical and psychological development. Systematic efforts should be made for making the social environment safe for children's growth and development particularly for girl children. Different sections of the society should be vigilant so that they could dissuade parents and others from getting their children married before the legal minimum age and should come forward to provide support to those who are assigned with the responsibility of enforcement and implementation of related policies and legislation.

⁷ J. Garima, Bisen. Vikram, Singh. S.K., J. Piyush, Early Marriage of Girls as a Barrier to their Education, *International Journal of Advanced Engineering Technology*, E-ISSN 0976-3945



Recent Publications of the VVGNI on the issue of Child Labour



The publication “Dynamics of Employment of Children and Socio-Economic Reality: A Study of Children in Hazardous Occupation in West and East Jaintia Hills Districts of Meghalaya” is an outcome of the research project commissioned by the Ministry of Labour and Employment,

Government of India, and Department of Labour and Employment, Government of Meghalaya, to the V. V. Giri National Labour Institute. This study examined the prevalence of child labour in 100 villages of East and West Jaintia Hills Districts of Meghalaya where coal mining was predominant. The selection of these 100 villages was based on the Vulnerability Mapping Survey in 6168 villages

across the 11 districts in the state of Meghalaya and this mapping was an attempt to locate the prevalence of occupations and processes prohibited for children under the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986. A total of 22,191 households were covered in the study with a total population of 1,32,636 and the coverage extended to the households, workplace, labour camps and coalmine sites/depots. Labour force participation across the surveyed villages was recorded at 36.79 percent of the total population. This study will definitely contribute in understanding the prevalence of child labour and the dynamics of employment in the areas where coal mining is predominant, particularly in North Eastern states of India. It will also help in guiding policy makers, planners, social scientists, researchers and all those who are working in the area of child labour. This publication was released by Shri Santosh Gangwar, Hon’ble Union Minister of Labour & Employment.



State of Child Workers in India

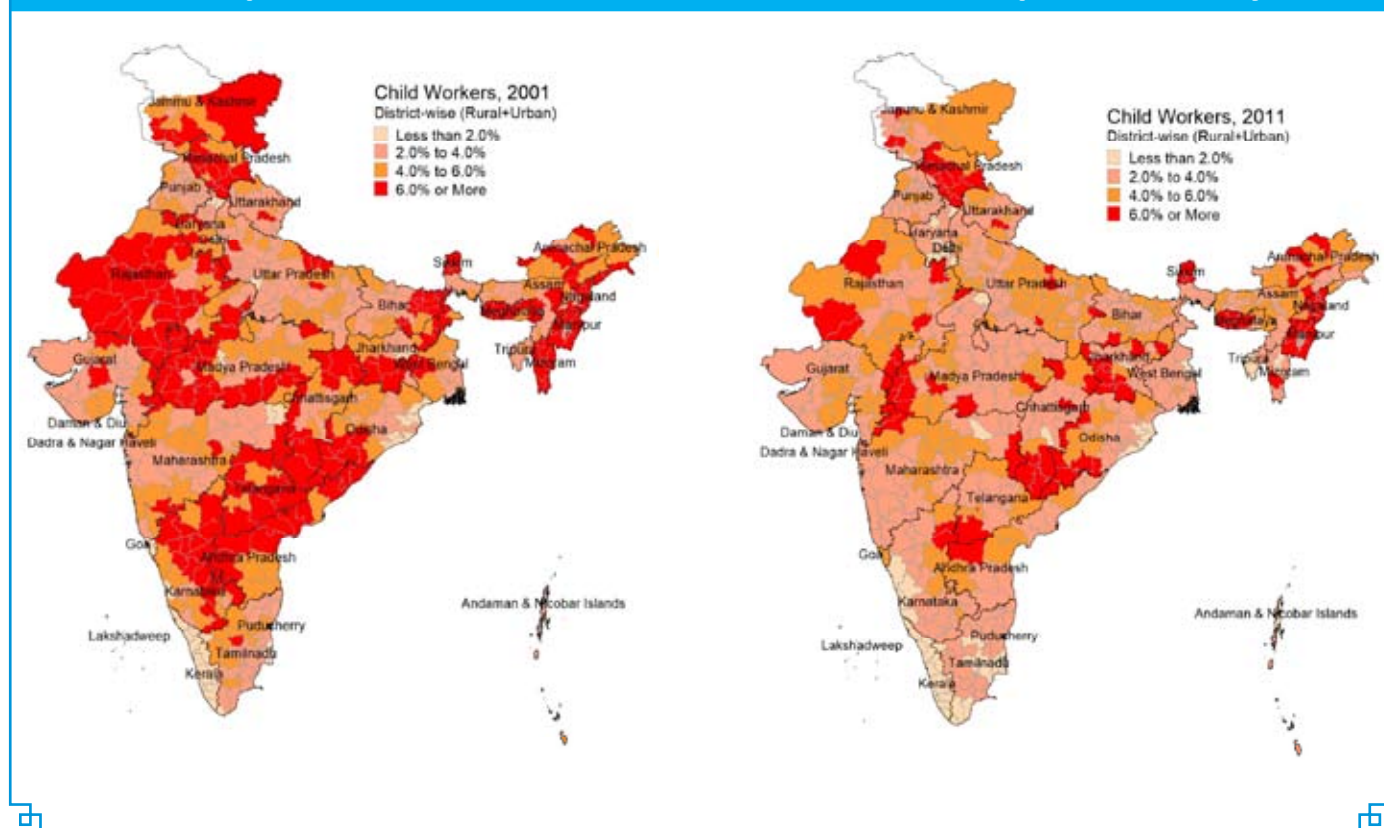


This publication is the outcome of the study conducted by Dr. Ellina Samantroy, Dr. Helen R. Sekar and Shri Sanjib Pradhan as a part of the VVGNI and UNICEF collaborative venture. Apart from analysing census data, the study which is primarily based on data collected from Census 2001 and 2011, also used other sources

such as data from the various survey rounds of the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). Data from Census 2001 and 2011 revealed a decline in the magnitude of child labour, with the decline being more visible in rural areas. The study aimed to highlight the incidence and

magnitude of child labour across the states and at the district-level in both rural and urban areas of India. It aims to provide a systematic analysis of district-level information so that a micro-picture evolves for understanding the problem of child labour. The study has identified the major hotspots of child labour in India, the main reasons for their existence and consequences thereof, in order to create awareness about the problem. It focuses on girl children who are withdrawn from school and are contributing in household responsibilities through paid and unpaid work. Finally, the study has tried to provide some policy recommendations for the elimination of child labour. The study proves to be a valuable asset in guiding planners, policymakers, social scientists, researchers, trade unions, and civil society organisations in taking up initiatives for the elimination of child labour. It contributes immensely in informing policymakers and helping them design targeted policies for the amelioration of this problem.

Glimpse of the Child Labour Trends in India as per the Study



Events on Child Labour at the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India

The first meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Child and Adolescent Labour (CAB), was held on 17th January 2018 at Shram Shakti Bhavan, Ministry of Labour and Employment, New Delhi. Several important matters on prevention of Child Labour were discussed in this meeting including: i) the measures for effective enforcement of Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986; ii) Awareness generation strategies for outreach of Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour (PENCL) portal; iii) Identification of welfare schemes

and to devise a mechanism to converge Central Government Schemes or State Government Schemes for the socio economic development of the families of Child and Adolescent Labour; iv) devising mechanism (vocational and skill training) for enhancing employability of adolescent rescued labour to facilitate their transition towards safe employment; v) facilitating constitution of District Task Force as provided in the Central Rules as amended on 2nd June 2017. This meeting was chaired by Shri Santosh Gangwar, Hon'ble Union Minister of Labour & Employment.



'Child Hope' released by Shri Santosh Gangwar, Hon'ble Union Minister of Labour & Employment on 30th January, 2018

