

Draft for approval

Strides...

*A documentation of Task Force Committees for Child Right Protection
formed at the Gram Panchayat level in Davanagere taluk of Karnataka,
as part of the Unicef-Norad Child Labour Eradication Project)*

*“Development of children is the way to progress of any village”
(Mahalingappa, former President, Basavanalu Gram Panchayat)*

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Initiatives for Child Protection - 2



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The directors and NGOs involved in the project implementation

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SEEDS	: Sanjeevaiah
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Don Bosco	: Fr. Kuriakose
Dalit Maha Sabha	: D. N. Halesh





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Preface

Child hood is every child right. However the erosion of that right is seen in the widespread practice of child labour. There are many reasons why children work and the socioeconomic factors cannot be discounted. However there are innumerable examples of children from very deprived backgrounds doing well in their lives because they accessed education.

It is well known that motivated parents and communities know and value the long term benefits of education in the overall development of their children. This experience from the GOK-UNICEF initiative on the Elimination of Child Labour in Davangere is one such example.

I am happy that the rich experience of the district in social mobilization, motivation, convergence of departments which has resulted in community based panchayat networks has been documented. I am sure that it will provide valuable insights to all those who have a vision of enlightened and empowered communities - Caring Communities for children.

- Sd -
Michel Saint Lot,
UNICEF representative for
Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.





Felicitation Remarks

Joint effort is need of the hour to eliminate child labour since it has proved to be a detrimental factor to development. If one takes a look at the aspect of protection of child rights in each stage, it is clear that violation of child rights takes place when the child gets into the labour force.

Elected representatives, government officials, voluntary organisations, public at large, employers and workers should jointly put efforts to stop this worst practice. In this backdrop, Department of Labour, Government of Karnataka has been making sincere efforts for child labour elimination in all districts under its State Child Labour Project. Child Labour Special Schools and community based programs have been undertaken since five years in the state under child labour eradication action program. And we have succeeded to some extent.

A pilot project was designed in 2002 by Department of Labour, Government of Karnataka, Unicef Hyderabad and Government of Norway to showcase the workable model to eliminate child labour. Two taluks of Davanagere and Gulbarga districts of the state were chosen for implementation of the project. Now, completing its four eventful years, the project has pioneered a step in eradication of child labour in South India.





A very significant successful process was initiated under the project in Davanagere. 'Task Force Committees for Protection of Child Rights' were formed in Gram Panchayats involving officials, voluntary groups and the public and gradually the Gram Panchayats were handed over the responsibility of education and child labour eradication.

'Strides' is the documentation of this process. This document has proved that 100% child labour elimination was possible with the participation of Gram Panchayats, the local bodies. The entire process has been well documented here.

In the process of child labour eradication, various strategies, methodologies, trainings, awareness programs were conducted by Unicef/Norad Project, District Administration, and Department of Labour in cooperation with Zilla Panchayat, Taluk Panchayat and Gram Panchayats. 'Task Force Committee' was the best successful process among them. Every stage of this process has been documented in this book.

The initiative taken by Unicef Hyderabad with the financial support of Government of Norway to show the state a workable model is indeed commendable. The consistent efforts made by Principal Secretary, Department of Labour who visited and evaluated the project in phases, my colleagues, Deputy Commissioner Mr M B Dyaberi who has been creatively implementing it, Project Coordinator K.Raghavendra Bhat, voluntary organisations and project team are laudable.

This book has been published with a view to replicate the same model to eliminate child labour in all gram panchayats, taluks and districts of the state. I congratulate each of those who worked for this book and wish each 'village' may become free of child labour through the initiative of its Gram Panchayat.

K. S. Manjunath, IAS
Commissioner for Labour
Government of Karnataka
Bangalore.





Felicitation Remarks

Basic education for every child should be ensured for the development of any country. Its timely delivery is the duty of state officials and prudent citizens. Similarly, every gram panchayat has the duty and objective of ensuring primary education for each child of the village below 18 years, for the best interests of village development. Children are the treasures and valuable gifts of society, nation, the village and the parents.

The role of elected representatives, public, officials, parents and society is very critical in ensuring all children fundamental education, protecting them from all forms of exploitation and eliminating child labour.

In this backdrop, Department of Labour, Government of Karnataka, Unicef Hyderabad with the support of Government of Norway designed a project and based on an agreement, it has been implemented in the district with diligence and commitment. Though it was initiated in 2002, the project took shape in 2003. Various strategies, methodologies, dimensions were adopted in the process of project implementation. The successful methodology was the participatory action of departments, community and representatives of local bodies at the village level. Participation of Gram Panchayats is very significant in this stage.





The most successful strategy was the formation of 'Task Force Committee for Protection of Child Rights' at the Gram Panchayat level. 80% child labour eradication was made possible in 40 Gram Panchayats of Davanagere taluk by forming Task Force Committees after the consistent efforts of two years. This document has accounted its entire process.

The role of the departments, district officers, especially Presidents, members of and Secretaries of Zilla Panchayat and Gram Panchayats in my district was very significant. The role played by Non Governmental Organisations of six taluks, District Labour Officer Mr C H Hiregoudar and Chief Executive Officer of ZP, Mr Jithendra Nayak was indeed very important. The Unicef/Norad project coordinator and his team deserve to be lauded. The continuous support of Unicef Hyderabad, Secretary, Commissioner, Joint Labour Commissioner of Labour Department have complemented the whole effort.

This book has tried to provide process details on how to protect child rights and eliminate child labour at the village level. This has shown the way to eliminate the cruel practice like child labour from your village, taluk or district. I hope you would be able to use this as a tool to make your village child labour free.

Mallikarjuna B. Dyaberi, IAS
Deputy Commissioner and Chairman
UNICEF / NORAD Child Labour Eradication Special Project,
Davanagere.





Before move on with Strides

Retention of children in school and prevention of child labour are the vital steps of eradication of child labour. When employer stops employing children, parents stop sending them for work. It obviously equates the economic theory of demand and supply. When this is implemented, children come to school by themselves.

Strides is the documentation of the daring steps taken for child labour eradication by the elected representatives, officials, NGOs at the Gram Panchayat level through Task Force Committees.

Three years ago, Gram Panchayats clearly abstained from their responsibilities of children's education when we visited them. However, today, the local bodies have been taking initiative to ensure education of all its children through its own Committees. It is really a sea change. Efforts have been made to document the hurdles faced in the process and ways and means to bring in effective change.

Journalist-author Mr Satish Chapparika has done laudable work to document the whole process by getting into the villages continuously for a month. The Deputy Commissioner has set precedence in child labour eradication program in the entire state by taking leadership in the project implementation. The role of Secretary, Commissioner, Joint Labour Commissioner of Department of Labour and all district officers is very significant in the success of the project.



The credit of success actually goes to all the NGOs and project coordinator and team who have toiled for its success. Their all positive and negative experiences are models for the next steps. Belaku, SEEDS, Guri, Don Bosco, St. Johns and Dalit Maha Sabha have contributed aplenty. My colleagues, Mr H K Basavaraj and Mr E. Dhananjaya have taken a major role in the project. The role of Dr Mahendra, Coordinator of Unicef/Norad project in Gulbarga in shaping the concept of Task Force Committee was significant in the strides.

This book deals with all adoptive strategies and methodologies at the village and taluk level for elimination of child labour. We will be glad in our efforts if this book is of help to you. If we have succeeded with 70% results in three years in Davanagere, we believe that it is possible by you too.

I hope this book will help you to take initiative to eradicate child labour at the village, taluk and district level. Now, it is at your disposal.

K Raghavendra Bhat
Coordinator
Unicef-Norad Project
Davanagere.

Strides...





First Stride

It is a fact that child labour, primary education and illiteracy are closely inter-linked, in the socio-economic context of our country. The deep-rooted practice of child labour spread in urban and rural areas has forced millions of children of our country to do labour, depriving their basic right to education. They are not in a position even to dream of a better future. Despite huge spending on primary education by the government, the fact that haunts us is that millions of children still remain out of school.

According to 2001 census figures, as many as 12591667 children in the country toil everyday in the labour force. In Karnataka, their number is 822615. This is the official data. However, according to the estimation of international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) actively involved in elimination of child labour for several years, the number of working children in India is 80 million. In Karnataka, it is 2 million.

Let's now forget the disparity in data. However, it is a hard reality that child labour too, like other social problems, has remained a major obstacle in the process of building a healthy society.

Let's see the state of affairs in Davanagere district, for example. The rough estimation of child labour in the district in 2002 was about a little more than 10000. It is important to note that out of them, 4500 children were working in Davanagere taluk alone. The specific reason for this huge magnitude is nothing but the puffed rice units of Davanagere town. About 1200 children were toiling in these units at that point of time. All the units used the mutilated tyres and tubes as fuel, which continuously harmed the local environment. These units have hugely contributed in the making of a disaster by employing children in large number.



In this backdrop, UNICEF and NORAD initiated a project on elimination of child labour in Davanagere taluk in July 2002. The huge magnitude and presence of child labour in one taluk and town was the major criterion to initiate the project in the taluk. In the initial phase of the project, creating awareness among the public that 'employment of children is a punishable offence' itself was a major challenge.

The then Deputy Commissioner of the district Mr K Shivaramu had taken a few solid steps to eliminate child labour. However, noticeable changes were not visible till the project was floated. The elimination of child labour program took shape in July 2002 when the project was initiated. District Administration started responding pro-actively. The NGOs too took up major role in implementation of the project. The first child labour rehabilitation centre came into existence in the taluk in 2003. In the meanwhile, a number of training workshops were conducted for the officials and NGO representatives. The taluk started witnessing several events with a view to eliminating child labour.

In the initial phase of the project, participation of Deputy Commissioner himself in the enforcement drive against child labour ensured the involvement of district administration in the follow up drives. It was a hard time for the project officials in the initial phase, to create awareness about employment of children as a punishable offence. There are instances where villagers chased away the project officials when they tried to rescue child workers.

Now the project has completed three years. During this period, the project has made indelible foot prints in the taluk.

Though it is inappropriate to assess that the project has succeeded 100%, it is definitely appropriate to claim that the project succeeded in convincing the society about the possibility of elimination of child labour. The project has demonstrated the achievement of elimination of child labour if this process is taken up together by the government, voluntary organisations, community and parents. You will find reports of such initiatives in the pages ahead.

More than 1000 children who were employed in puffed rice units of Davanagere town were released during the initial phase of the project. With the support of six NGOs, nine child labour rehabilitation centres were opened at this point of time in the taluk to complement the project activities.

Anyone who visits the rehabilitation centres will, no doubt, feel the care and responsibility the NGOs such as Dalit Maha Sabha, SEEDS, Guri, Don Bosco, St. John's and Belaku have taken to support the Project. The positive support extended by the District Administration and Department of Labour within their limitation has helped the project step into the path of success. It could be





noticed that the complete elimination of child labour in puffed rice units was delayed as the elected representatives lacked the political will. However, it is a significant development to be noted that almost 70% of the total child work force in the units was rescued during 2005-06, thanks to the action taken by the Deputy Commissioner, Mr Mallikarjuna B. Dyaberi.

It is very conspicuous that there are two phases in the course of action of the project if one goes deep into the programs carried out during the past three years. In the first year, the project was successful to take the message to the people about child labour as a curse to the society.

With the constant support of District Administration and Department of Labour, the Project could create awareness on child labour among the public in the taluk. It is evident that general awareness has been generated about employment of children as an offence and such employment will invite punishment.

On the other side, the project was able to re-enrol more than one thousand children who had left school and joined the labour force. All these young minds have now been blooming in the schools, which is a factor to be proud of.

The notable development is that district level rehabilitation program of 9137 children who were toiling in various work sectors was taken up during the past three years of the Project. However, it wasn't an easy job. 382 training workshops were organised during this period with a view to making positive changes in the mindset of stakeholders. 26 mass conventions also were organised. It was really a challenge. The credit of rescuing 510 children from hazardous workplaces of the district by conducting enforcement drives with the support of Department of Labour during the same period goes to the Project. Cases were booked against 86 erring employers under Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and 58 cases were filed under Supreme Court direction. Two cases were booked under Indian Penal Code. Two of the erring employers were punished for imprisonment under CLPR Act. It is significant to note that imprisonment of erring employers under this Act was the maiden step in south India. It is a major achievement of the Project.

After succeeding in creating awareness at the grass root level about the perils of child labour, the Project has now moved to the second phase. It could be a model initiative for the whole country. Considering the context of devolution of powers to the local governments, the revolutionary initiative taken up in the



second phase was the participatory joint action of the local institutions in the elimination process of child labour.

Makkalotsava, month-long festival of child rights, organised in every November during the past four years, has resulted not only in creating awareness about child labour among the public but forming Child Rights Clubs in 22 government schools of the taluk (see annexure 5&6). It is a novel effort in the country to ensure that child representatives take up the responsibility of protecting child rights. Task Force Committees for Protection of Child Rights have been formed in 40 Gram Panchayats and 5 Municipal Wards so far. As a result, it is evident that the number of child labour in these Gram Panchayats has reduced to 20%.



Rays of Hope

9137 children were freed from labour force and enrolled to mainstream education during 2002-2005, as per the data available with Unicef-Norad Child Labour Elimination Project. Based on this figure, it could be assessed that the project with the support of departments could re-enrol 80% of the estimated figure of 10000 child workers of the district. It obviously indicates that the project has succeeded by 80% in meeting the objectives.

Then, what about the remaining 20 percent?

It is not a simple task to put an end to a social evil like child labour. Understanding the mindset of the parents who push their children to work, the owners of shops, hotels, garage and puffed rice factories who employ them, the children who have relished the taste of making an earning is significant here. The project has made significant strides in this respect. The Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police, Labour Officers, Social Welfare Officers, Deputy Directors of Public Instruction who served in the district since 2002 have joined hands with the Project with much enthusiasm.

The Government machinery too gets improved when a model project is implemented. The Unicef-Norad Child Labour Elimination Project has set an example to show that the government machinery in the district preparing to shoulder its social responsibilities. In the initial days, the major challenge for the project coordinator was to bring up a converging mechanism among the departments. Now, it is conspicuous that all the departments have extended their cooperation and support to the project success. The positive stand of government departments played a prominent role in the success of the project.



The major challenge for the Project Coordinator since the inception of the project has been the huge number of 543 puffed rice units of the town. In the survey conducted even before the initiation of the project, it was found that about 1200 children were employed in these units. As a result of continuous efforts during the past three years, the number of child workers has come down to 150.

A few questions like the following may arise at this hour: Who will take the responsibility to rescue these children from workplaces and bring them back to education? What are the reasons for their continued employment in puffed rice units? Has Unicef-Norad project failed to address this issue?

More than one thousand children who were released from the puffed rice units and enrolled to schools are the living examples to answer these questions. The owners of puffed rice units now do hesitate to employ children in their units, thanks to the efforts of the project.

Then why there are still children in puffed rice units? The answer is not simple. There are strong economic reasons for their employment. Lack of political will is another reason. There is a contributory factor to be noted that the law enforcement in the area could not be strengthened.

The death of 13-year-old Tahir Ali at Chigateri General Hospital of Davanagere town on 11th December 2004 is an instance for this. Taahir Ali was employed in a puffed rice unit, owned by Mr. Sharifulla. He fell into the cauldron while working in the unit on 7th December 2004 and suffered serious burn injuries. He was admitted in Chigateri General Hospital where he died. In his dying declaration, the boy told the Taluk Magistrate that he had sustained injuries while working in the puffed rice factory of Sharifulla.

Based on the media reports on Taahir Ali's death, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) took cognizance of the issue suo-moto and issued notices to the Secretary, Department of Labour, Government of Karnataka, and District Labour Officer of Davanagere.

In the midst of all these, the debate on the need of installing modern kilns in polluting puffed rice units gained momentum. This was followed by the visit of Minister of State for Labour to the puffed rice units of the town. During his visit, District Administration was able to convince the Minister of the inseparable linkage between child labour and outdated and polluting kilns in puffed rice units.

Realising the urgent need to modernise the puffed rice units, the Minister announced in a public meeting that a subsidy of Rs.5,000 would be given to each puffed rice unit which came forward to install the modern technology worth Rs.25000. The then deputy commissioner issued an ultimatum to the owners to opt for modernisation, lest all the units would be shut down.





However, constant efforts such as community based programs, trainings and enforcement drive were made in the area to bring in changes in the community. The technology developed by TERI, Pune was introduced in the area. As a result, owners and community members extended their support and cooperation in modernising their units. 20 wood gassifiers were installed in 20 units which helped children to get back to their education and bring down the level of pollution in the area.

One can draw two aspects from this episode. Firstly, there would not have been a single child working in puffed rice units had the government taken strict action against those responsible for the death of Taahir Ali. Instead of releasing compensation of one lakh rupees to parents of the victim from the State Treasury, the government could have forced the owner to bear it. Such an action could have worked as a deterrent among the unit owners. The soft approach of government helped the owner get relieved from economic and social burden.

Secondly, this opportunity could have been used to modernise all the units that have continuously been polluting the town since long time. Vote bank politics and lack of political will supersede the whole episode. If the local MLA allows the District Administration to take legal action, both issues of child labour and pollution would be completely resolved.

This is tip of an iceberg. As one goes deep into the issue, another shocking social dimension is unfolded. It is nothing but the apathy of parents about their children. They strongly believe that children should work and earn for home. Efforts to change their mindset go in vain. There are several instances to substantiate it. This is one of the faces of child labour in urban area.

It is clear that the community consciousness is missing in urban area. Cities create rifts in human relationships and teach only profit and loss accounts. However, on the contrary, rural environment is community based.

In this scenario of contradictions, strategies to eliminate child labour need to be devised separately for the rural and urban areas. Strict enforcement of law is the best way to solve child labour menace in urban area where the community approach cannot work. However, it does not mean that Unicef-Norad Project has failed to achieve its objectives in Davanagere town. Project could not succeed at the expected level as the local leaders continuously resorted to vote bank politics. If they had joined hands with political will to end child labour, complete elimination of child labour would have been a reality in Davanagere town.

What will be the result if the responsibility of eliminating child labour in the rural area is taken up by the community? Such details are there in the pages ahead.



Second Stride

Second stride is the most effective and significant phase of UNICEF-NORAD child labour elimination project. The significance of this phase is the formation of 'Task Force Committees for Child Rights Protection' in all the Gram Panchayats, town panchayats and Wards of Davanagere taluk. (See the circular by Deputy Commissioner)

The achievements in Davanagere town have set an example of the scope and possibility if a planned project aligned with strict law enforcement and effective use of government machinery works to end child labour. It is a fact that the issue of child labour is significantly high in rural areas too. However, the urban oriented approach with the support of strict enforcement does not help to deal with the problem in rural areas.

In the second phase of the Project, it was conspicuous that active participation of local communities would certainly make a difference in eliminating problems like child labour in rural areas. In the context of

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Dvg dist/Unicef-Norad/No.370-2004-05
Date : 13-09-2004

Sub. : Formation of Task Force Committee for Child Rights at the Gram Panchayat level –reg.

This is to bring into your notice that various activities on child labour eradication have been taken place under the Unicef-Norad Project in association with District Administration. This has succeeded to some extent and about 60% children have been brought to the mainstream. The role played by in this success was very critical.

Now the project has to the last phase, and it is imperative to take up the responsibility of child rights and child labour eradication by the local community, elected representatives and local bodies. Therefore, district administration and Unicef-Norad Project have planned to form Task Force Committee for Child Rights in each Gram Panchayat. It has been hereby directed to form the Committee involving local GP, government school, SDMC, Anganwadi workers, Literacy Preraks, youth organisation and women's Self Help Groups.





devolution of powers, local bodies like Gram Panchayats have been empowered to take decision on local issues. Gram Panchayat has begun functioning as local government. The GPs have been provided with plenty of financial resources too. In this context, how about assigning them the responsibility of social health management? As an answer to this question, Task Force Committees have come into existence.

The goal of this novel initiative is to make GPs and Wards completely free of child labour. It is simultaneously aimed at ensuring quality education in the schools of respective GPs and Wards. It is assumed that if all children below 14 years are in schools, the practice of child labour disappears forever. With this point of view, 12-point agenda has been placed before the newly formed Committees.

In the process of forming Committees, the Non Government Organisations which have joined the project namely Guri, Dalit Maha Sabha, SEEDS, St.Johns, Belaku and Don Bosco will extend their cooperation.

Therefore, it is hereby directed to form the Committees in your Panchayat with 25 members, with the help of the above mentioned organisations within December 2004 and submit the list of members to DC office and Zilla Panchayat office.

Deputy Commissioner and Chairman
Unicef-Norad Project, D.C. Office,
Davanagere.



12 - Point Agenda :

1. To organise activities and programmes with a view to making the Gram Panchayats or Wards totally child labour-free.
2. To ensure that all children aged below 14-years are retained in schools.
3. To ensure that no child drops out of the school till class X and take action for it.
4. To motivate all School Development and Monitoring Committees (SDMCs) work efficiently. To ensure that the committees hold meetings once in every month to discuss and resolve the problems pertaining to schools.
5. To conduct discussions on child labour of the area in General Body meeting, Gram Sabha (Village Assembly) and Ward Sabha meetings. To take appropriate action Idren from work situations. To make entries about such action in the Minutes Book.
6. To put up a wall-writing on child rights in every school to make children aware of their rights.
7. To form Child Rights Clubs (CRCs) in every school after three months of regular work about the concept and hold all school activities under the banner of CRC.
8. To ensure that all curricular and extra-curricular activities in schools are child-centric. To facilitate that children's opinion is is respected and well-taken.
9. To see that the schools will have all basic infrastructure.
10. To persuade people's representatives of Gram Panchayat and Wards to provide the benefits of development schemes which are at the GP and ward level, to the families of child workers.
11. Evaluation of the activities shall be carried out once in three months and the evaluation report shall be sent to the District Administration and Zilla Panchayat (ZP).
12. To identify the school drop-outs in the jurisdiction and make their parents and employers aware of child labour with a view to bring the children back to school. To take legal action on employers and parents if attempts to change their hearts do not yield any positive result.



Ways of forming committees:

1. Each Task Force Committee shall consist of 18 to 25 members such as GP President, Secretary, 2 GP members, 2 SDMC members from local schools, 4 members of Women Self Help Groups (SHGs), one Prerak of Continuing Education Programme, one Anganwadi worker and an employee of Primary Health Centre.
2. Meetings shall be held separately with various groups and organisations before selecting the members of the Committee. The size and strength of the committee shall be decided during the meetings. The President and Secretary of the GP shall function in the Committee with similar designations.

Functions of Committee:

1. To get ratification by the GP.
2. To make entry regarding the ratification in the Minutes Book of the Committee.
3. To get signature of President, Secretary and all other members of the Committee in the Minutes Book and send its copies to the Deputy Commissioner, Chief Executive Officer of ZP and Executive Officer of TP.
4. To record the proceedings and resolutions of meeting held every month in the Minutes Book and

No.ZPDvg/Adm.3/CR/61:2005-06
Date : 31-18-2005

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Executive officers
Taluk Panchayat,
Davanagere / Harihar / Jagalur /
Harappanahalli / Honnali / Channagiri

Sub : formation of Task Force
Committee on Child Rights –reg.
Ref : Government letter : Gra.
Aapa61 Grapasa2005 dated 16.8.2005.

With reference to the above government order, labour investigation officer/ assistant labour investigation officer have come under Zilla Panchayat and they have to eradicate child labour. according to this, each gram panchayat has to be declared totally child labour-free. All children below 14 years have to be sent to school. Gram Panchayats have to be active to release the children from labour and enroll them to school. Therefore, it is hereby directed to all Gram Panchayats to form Committees, conduct meetings and send the proceedings to DC office and CEO of Zilla Panchayat office. Therefore, every Gram Panchayat Secretary, President and Vice

send its copies to the above-said officials.

5. All correspondences shall be made through the Secretary and President of the Committee. The custodian of Minutes Book and related records shall be GP Secretary and all of them shall be kept at GP office only.
6. Tahsildar shall coordinate the process by holding periodical taluk level review meeting of the Committees to assess the progress and chalk out action plan.

Based on the above lines, Committees have come into existence in 34 GPs of Davanagere taluk and 5 Wards of City Corporation. The Committees have become a reality after the continuous efforts carried out by Field Workers of six NGOs working to put an end to child labour. Meanwhile, training programmes were conducted for the members of the Committees at three

levels where they could understand the rights and privileges of children as guaranteed in the Constitution of India and provisions of Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act of 1986.

Ten GPs and two Wards were chosen to study the activities and assess the progress made by the Committees. During a month-long exercise, members of 12 Committees were interviewed. The GPs are Kaidale, Tolahunase, Basavanalu, Hulikatte, Doddabathi, Matti, Malalakere, Nerlige, Aluru and Anaji. The Wards are No.1 and No.20 of Davanagere City Corporation. Presidents, Secretaries and members of GPs, SDMC members, teachers, SHG members, youth association members, Preraks, Anganwadi workers, parents of child workers and rehabilitated children and a few employers were spoken to in person to understand the new mechanism.

President has to give information with regard to it. The circular on Task Force Committee on Child Rights is enclosed herewith.

Yours sincerely
(Jithendra Nayak)
Chief Executive Officer,
Zilla Panchayat, Davanagere.

Copies to :

1. Manager, Taluk Panchayat, Davanagere / Harihar / Jagalur / Harappanahalli / Honnali / Channagiri for giving information in special meetings of Secretary, President and Vice President on the basis of the circular.
2. District Labour Officer, Davanagere for information and it has been requested to provide 500 copies of handbook on 'Task Force Committee formation and its activities'.



Best Practices

10 GPs and two Wards were visited during the field study, as mentioned earlier. Some of the gamut of information gathered during the interaction with the members of the anti-child labour and children's rights protection committees, only interesting and significant are recorded in this section. Many sincere efforts to bring the children back to school were visible during the visit to 10 GPs and two Municipal Wards. If some were individual efforts, others were of the whole community. Such attempts are mentioned here under the name of respective GPs.

Kaidale GP

A. K. Nagarathamma, President of Kiadale Gram Panchayat, sitting in her chamber, says, "persuading parents to send their children to schools is not a challenge if all the Committee members act together". She admits that GP has a social responsibility under the Panchayat Raj system and believes that it is possible to bring about significant changes through these Committees. "But", she feels, "constant guidance is required to carry out activities by the Committees".

By default, Nagarathamma is the President of the newly formed Committee. She, a maiden member of Kaidale GP, became President of GP on reservation quota. After her Pre-University Course, she was in her matrimonial home doing the routine domestic chores. She has never had a past of active and creative involvement in social issues. Nagarathamma tried to learn and understand the issues now. Her husband, a high school teacher, is beside her in the posture of a guide.

S D M C member K O Mallikarjunappa spoke on the issue of child labour sitting in the GP Hall. He says, "Child labour was rampant in our GP five years ago. It has come down now. It still exists due to poverty".

According to him, formation of Committee in the GP has greatly strengthened the efforts to end child labour. "Because", he adds, "all these years, only a handful of literate villagers were concerned about primary education and sending children to school. The illiterates never bothered about it. None did even try to dream it as each one of them was afraid of inviting wrath of fellow villagers. As the responsibility of liberating children had been assigned to the GP, it was now possible to adopt a community approach towards solving the problem". He asserts, "Now, we are all one in ensuring better future for our children".

J H Harish of Rajiv Gandhi Yuvak Sangha who is a member of the Committee opines, "the Committee should be constantly supported and activated to meet its goals". "Otherwise", he says, "the enthusiasm seen now may disappear gradually and the programme might lose its focus". He is of the strong opinion that the committee should continue for at least for a period of ten years. "Either NGOs or any government department should be assigned the responsibility of supervising the committee", he adds.

TALUK PANCHAYAT OFFICE,
DAVANAGERE

No.TP.GP.CR 3:05-06

Date : 18-07-2005

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION

Sub. : Extending cooperation to Child Labour Eradication-reg.

Ref. : Letter of Coordinator of Unicef-Norad Project, DC office, Davanagere, No. Dvg Dist. : Unicef 464:2005-06 dated: 11.07.2005.

With reference to the above subject, all Presidents, Vice Presidents, members and Secretaries of 40 Gram Panchayats of the Taluk shall eradicate child labour and identify child labour in their respective villages. It is your duty to counsel the parents of economically poor and backward classes to ensure their children in school. This is a major development work in your Gram Panchayat. In this regard, the following issues such as 1) rights and duties of child labour, 2) child labour eradication and 3) formation of Task Force Committee on Child Rights to be discussed in Gram /Ward Sabha and Gram Panchayat meeting and committee to be formed. It is noted that its proceedings be sent to DC office and this office. Gram Panchayat Secretary is sought to form



“Extreme poverty is the real reason for the continued prevalence of child labour,” says U M Shivamurthy, another member who serves as the SDMC President of Kaidale Higher Primary School. “Realising this, we the members of SDMC and teachers extend our help to the poor children in schools by adopting them academically. Despite our efforts, some parents have forcibly taken away the adopted children and put them back to work”, he points out.

the Committee and conduct its meetings immediately. Your individual attention is required to implement this project effectively in the villages.

Executive Officer
Taluk Panchayat, Davanagere.

To
President/Secretary
Gram Panchayat,
Davanagere Taluk

65-year-old Nagarathamma is a philanthropist living in the GP. She is a member of Malleshwari Mahila Swasahaya Sangha, a self-help group. She has been helping poor children with school fees and necessary stationery for many years. She says on behalf of the Sangha, “We are willing to do whatever necessary to ensure children's education in our GP. We are also into tracing drop-out children”. “But”, she sets a condition, “the committee should be able to persuade the parents and employers to send all children to school”.

13-year-old Kariyappa was working as a bonded labour for Prasanna Kumar in Kaidale village. Prasanna Kumar had paid Rs.4,000 in advance to the boy's parents, a few months ago. After coming to know about it, some members of the committee met Prasannakumar and warned him of the legal consequences for employing the child. Though he did take it casually, the visit of members made him change. He admits, “I did not take it seriously when they met me. Gradually, I felt that it was not wise to antagonise the village elders. Also, I began to realise that I was doing something illegal. Scared of the penalty as high as Rs.20,000 for the offence, I let the boy go free”.

He claimed that Kariyappa's parents pleaded with him to employ the boy in lieu of the money they had taken to marry off their daughter. “I also wanted someone to look after my livestock. But, now I decided not to employ the child anymore. I am not worrying about the money I paid to the parents. I have now only one cattle in my house”, he said.

These instances show the level of awareness gaining ground in the area. However, the complete eradication of child labour still remains a challenge.

55-year-old A K Ningappa, a resident of the village has seven children including one son and six daughters. With a persistent desire to have a male

issue, his wife had to give birth to six daughters, all of whom are aged below 10 years. Ningappa and his wife are wage labourers. Unable to bear the financial burden, they decided to send 10-year-old Deepa and 9-year-old Gangamma to work in a farm. During the visit to the village, both Deepa (wearing sweater) and Gangamma (wearing white scarf) were seen spraying pesticides in a farm belonged to a schoolteacher. The children were doing the job without any safety measures. A paltry sum of Rs.30 is all that they get for a day's labour.

Ningappa laments, "What could I do sir? I like to send my children to school. They go to school when there is no work. How can we survive if

they are sent to school everyday?"

H Manjunath, Headmaster of Giriypura Government Higher Primary School for the past six years and a member of the Committee, asserts, "Formation of Committee in the Gram Panchayat has really helped in creating awareness among the public on child labour issue".

K.Keshava Rao, Assistant Teacher of Kaidale Government Higher Primary School, feels that supervision over the Committee mechanism is an important component. Says he,"the committee may become defunct in six

months or so if it is unconditionally attached to the GP. Constant supervision and guidance are required to ensure an effective and long standing Committee".

22 kilometres away from Davangere town, Kaidale Gram Panchayat has 22 villages in its jurisdiction with a population of



DAVANAGERE ZILL PANCHAYAT
KAILYALA GAM PANCHAYAT OFFICE
Davangare Taluk, Davangere
District.

No. GP.02/2005-06

Date : 20-09-2005

MEETING NOTICE

You are invited to attend without fail a follow up meeting of Task Force Committee for Child Rights under the presidium of Gram Panchayat President Ms Nagaratamma at the Gram Panchayat Hall, Kaidale at 10.30 a.m. on 26-9-2005.

Secretary
Kaidale Gram Panchayat
Davangere Taluk.



6000. Now, Kaidale has something to be proud of. After formation of the Committee, 20 toiling children of the area were fortunate enough to get rehabilitated. 15 of them have joined school. Kaidale Gram Panchayat is now child labour-free and the committee hopes to retain the same status forever. The Committee members promised that continuous efforts would be carried out to retain their GP free of child labour.

Tolahunase GP :

Tolahunase GP which covers Tolahunase, Pamenahalli and Chattobanahalli villages is 12 km away from Davangere town. Four primary schools, four higher primary schools and one high school fall under the jurisdiction of the GP which has a total population of 4,200.

The Committee formed in Tolahunase Gram Panchayat is one of the best four active Committees in the taluk. 30-year-old T. Venkatesh is President of the



GP and the Committee. He affirms that it is the duty of the Gram Panchayat to ensure enrolment of its children between 6 and 14 years. "The eradication of child labour should be made a responsibility of the GP after the initial five years of supervision", he suggests.

K C Shivamurthy, who has been serving as Secretary of GP in Tolahunase for the past four years, says, "people here are well aware of child labour".

Then, why was the Committee formed? To the question, he replies, "it doesn't mean that there is no problem here. Since child labour is a deep rooted social evil, committee was needed. Therefore it has been formed."

"The issue of child labour is discussed in every general meeting and is recorded in the Minutes Book. This exercise has greatly increased the social responsibility of the GP secretary", he said.

Lohith, a youth who was a child worker, suggests, "rehabilitated child workers should be made eligible for reservation in jobs".

Manjanaik, former SDMC President of Tolahunase Higher Primary School, former Taluk Panchayat member and currently a member of Gram

Panchayat, has been involved in eliminating child labour for the past several years. He recollects an incident that took place in 2001, “Ramanaik and his wife



The Task Force Committee formed a year ago in Basavanalu GP is the most active one in the taluk.

The committee in this GP is very structured. Every member works with great devotion in achieving the objective. During our visit to the GP, Shambhulinga, a youth member of the committee made a candid revelation that bonded child workers were hired by Basavanthappa, Dyamappa, K N Shivamurthy, P.Onkarappa, G.S.Nagaraj and Veeupakshappa, the landlords in neighbouring Lingadahalli village. "Among them, Dyamappa is former GP president while Onkarappa is former SDMC president. The children originally hail from Gulenal Tanda (settlement) of Hagaribommanahalli taluk. All of them are in the age group of 8 and 12 years. Each child is paid Rs.2000 a year," he gave details.

This sparked a debate among the members of the Committee for about half an hour. They came to a conclusion that it was the duty of the committee to rescue the children and rehabilitate them since child rights violation had been taking place in this GP. Origin of children is not an issue at all, committee said.

On the very next day, a few members of the Committee met the landlords and persuaded them. All the children were freed from the clutches of labour.

The inspiration of the Committee is its former president and sitting member Mahalingappa, a dynamic person who has studied class VIII. He says, "development of children is the way to progress of any village." He adds, "now, attention is given to children after the Committee was formed. This initiative has increased the responsibility of GP. The committee should exist as long as the GP does."

Mahalingappa has a clear view about supervision of the Committee. "The GP secretary should be completely responsible for the committee. Like road construction and water supply, protection of child rights too should be one of the top priorities of GP. I don't think the system will work well if it is brought directly under the control of Government. Therefore, a long-term plan has to be drawn wherein NGOs would be able to supervise the committee activities for a span of ten years".

K T Shekharappa, a Committee member and SDMC president of Basavanalu Government Higher Primary School feels that the problem cannot be solved if a committee is formed. "Every parent should show more responsibility about their children's future. The committee has to sensitise the parents", he said.

Two cases of children were presented before them. Both cases show the negligence of parents and stubbornness of the children. Jayamma, cook of



Basavanalu School is eager to send her daughter Malibai to school. But, Malibai is a regular dop-out. The case is similar with R Venkatesh, son of Rudrappa and Savithramma.

Committee members decided to summon parents in the next meeting and persuade both the children to continue their school. They also decided to resolve their hardships to the maximum extent possible and chalk out a strategy to mainstream both the children during the next meeting.

40 child workers were rescued and rehabilitated in Basavanalu GP during the initial stage of the Project. Five of them were directly enrolled to schools.

Hulikatte GP :

Hulikatte GP is a cluster of Hulikatte and Kereyagalhalli villages with a population of 4500. It is 25 kilometers away from Davanagere town. The GP has one primary school, two higher primary schools and one High School.

The Task Force Committee formed in April 2005 is under tremendous pressure of internal politics. Based on the reservation system in the GP, Thippeswamy who belongs to Scheduled Caste has been elected as GP president. Obviously, he is the president of Task Force Committee too. (See a model of agenda for the Committee)

“We have decided to cut the ration in public distribution system (PDS) centres to those who do not send their children to school. Chikkappa of our village had sent his son Veerappa to work. We took a stern action of denial of ration to him. As a result, he agreed to admit the boy in the school immediately. Now, Veerappa is pursuing studies in school”, Thippeswamy said.

Chikkappa and his son Veerappa who were present there nodded for whatever Thippeswamy said about them.



“I was forced by my own father to earn by working. I used to graze cattle from 10 in the morning to six in the evening. Father had taken loan from my employer. As per the suggestion of the GP president, my father agreed to send me to the school. I joined student hostel in Hadadi. I will





never abandon school no matter what the difficulties”, said the 13-year-old Veerappa.

Meanwhile, his poor father Chikkappa urged for some help from the GP to compensate the hardships he was facing to retain his son in school.

Another significant development that came to our notice was the level of awareness about the rights and privileges of the children among the members of women self-help groups. Manjula of Basaveshwara Mahila Swasahaya Sangha said, “two children of our colony, Ranjitha and Shilpa were roaming around without attending the school. Their parents, Halappa and Sakamma who are daily wage labourers could not take care for their children. We met and persuaded them to ensure retention of their children in school. Now, both Ranjitha and Shilpa are regular in a school”. (See the model agenda enclosed)

B. Manjappa, SDMC president of Government Higher Primary School in Hulikatte, observed that at least 10 children in the Panchayat drop out of school regularly. “I can give solid proof for this. But, the school teachers are giving false information about the number of drop outs”, he complained. The Committee decided to address the issue immediately.

Doddabathi GP :

TASK FORCE COMMITTEE ON CHILD RIGHTS

Gram Panchayat Office, Hulikatte
Davanagere Taluk.

MEETING NOTICE

A meeting of Task Force Committee on Child Rights has been called at the GP office under the presidium of President Mr Thippeswamy at 11.00 a.m. on 12-12-2005. All the noble members are requested to attend the meeting.

Agenda

1. Prayer
2. Welcome
3. Presiding over by President, GP
4. Presentation of report of the last meeting and impact of the decisions
5. Information on children who have dropped out of school, by members
6. Information on child labour in the GP jurisdiction, by GP members
7. Discussion on canceling the government facilities and ration card for those who have not sent their children to school.
8. Are there regular meetings of SDMC ; and its impact – an analysis
9. Basic infrastructure in schools - discussion
10. Teachers' behaviour and effective teaching
11. Any other, with the permission of the chair.

vote of thanks





Doddabathi Panchayat is seven kilometres away from Davanagere town which is a cluster of villages like Doddabathi, Halebathi and Neelanahalli with a total population of 22000. There are two primary schools, three higher primary schools and two high schools in the GP.

The GP President S.Siddalingappa and Vice-President B.K.Prakash are very clear about child labour elimination and enforcement law. Both of them get along together on various issues. They have a strong faith on the Committee leading the GP free of child labour. The GP has initiated a few steps towards eradication of child labour. The Committee members conducted a door-to-door survey in Halebathi village to find out working children.

“Strict instructions have been given to all the 26 members of our GP. Each member has a responsibility of ensuring his/her area child labour-free and retaining all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years in school”, said Siddalingappa.

He recollects a joint action, “One B V Nagaraj was running a hotel near the national highway at Doddabathi. We came to know that a child was employed in his hotel. We summoned Nagaraj and gave him a deadline with a warning that his hotel license would be cancelled if he continued to employ children. He released the child in the given time”.

When the hotel owner Nagaraj was contacted, he admitted that he had employed a child. “I never knew that it was an offence. I understood it well about it when the GP members summoned and warned me. I would have been penalised for Rs.20000 for employment of child if caught. I sent the boy home immediately”, he said.

There are instances like this. It is clear that GP has taken a strong stand against child labour.



A c c o r d i n g t o





Siddalingappa, GP President, the complete responsibility of the Committee should be entrusted with GP Secretary. The problem can be solved only if Secretary takes keen interest in this, he says.

Doddabathi GP Secretary Amarappa Ganganagowdar says, "I am prepared to shoulder this responsibility if government issues an order to this effect".

"Are other Secretaries too prepared to take up this new responsibility?," we posed a question.

It all depends on the attitude of persons. However, one cannot abdicate of this responsibility if a little bit of concern has remained in us about the salary we draw. Here in our GP, child labour is discussed as an agenda in every meeting. I make it sure that it is included in the agenda".

Sushilamma, Prerak in Continuing Education Programme (CEP), makes a suggestion. "Committee members require more number of trainings in dealing with child labour. Awareness among the public has to be made about the objectives and functions of the committee. Jatha and door-to-door visit should be organised to publicise the importance of education", she said.

Endorsing her views, K R Manjunath, a member of Amabedkar Yuvak Sangha added, "there are a few people in our village who have

My commitment to education and protection of children and child labour eradication
"We with children"

I, Dasappa, President of Mathi Gram Panchayat, as an elected representative hereby affirm my commitment to child labour eradication.

I shall not make children of my family child labourers. I will ensure them going to school regularly. Moreover, I shall not employ any child below 14 years in my house.

I shall sincerely put efforts to retain all children below 14 years of my village/Gram Panchayat in the school and ensure them retain in school till 10th standard.

I shall support and strengthen the activities of Task Force Committee formed at Gram Panchayat level for child protection. I shall incorporate this issue an agenda in Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat meetings and make the village/GP child labour-free in 6 months, by providing educational facilities to children.

Date : 28-7-2005
Venue : Rotary Balabhavan,
Davanagere.

sd/

We, with Children Program
Guri Samsthe, Davanagere
China-Banna Child Labour Residential
Bridge School, Doddabathi.



employed children on bandage. Our Sangha will be able to counsel and rescue those children if Committee members come along”.

An interesting incident had taken place just a few days before our visit to Doddabathi.

Seven boys who had run away from a Children's Home in Bangalore somehow reached near Doddabathi. All of them were begging for food. Moving from house to house, they came to Thippamma's house. She is a member of Milan Star Mahila Swasahaya Sangha.



She could make out something happened wrong with the children. She gave them enough food and managed to bring two of the boys to the child labour special school run by Guri at Doddabathi. When Guri volunteers counselled the children, a shocking story unfolded.

They were making about Rs.15,000 a month by carrying out petty crimes during their stay in the children's home. One boy had assumed the role of their gang leader. The gang used to rob lone pedestrians during night. Three of them hailed from Davanagere, two from Bangalore, while each of the remaining two belonged to Mysore and Tamil Nadu.

The boy of Mysore who was an inmate of Children's Home in Bangalore gave the details of gang robbery. The Project officials intervened in the matter and succeeded in sending all the seven children back to their homes.

It was the effort of an ordinary but alert woman like Thippamma who helped the children back home. “We don't know anything about the committee but know that no child should remain out of the school”, she said. This episode is a pointer to the crucial role the women's groups could play in succeeding the objectives of the Committee. (See the pledge taken by GP members)

So far, 27 children have been liberated from labour and 60 children have been sent back to the schools in Doddabathi GP. A total of 9 children have been directly enrolled to schools. The Committee has the to now see that 24 migrant child labourers get rehabilitated.



Matti GP:

The Panchayat which covers Matti, Huvinamadu, Gonivada Camp, Matti Camp and Thimmapura Camp is 15 km away from Davangere town.

In this Task Force Committee, there are some members who have great concern about child education. However, one has to wait and see how far their personal concerns will help the committee activities to bring in results.

The committee members of Matti GP have clear stance about child labour. The committee does not hold its meeting in GP office, as happens in other GPs. It holds its meetings regularly in villages on rotation basis. This is a unique example of decentralisation within decentralisation.

U Hanumanthappa, a lawyer by profession and local farmer is a member of the committee.

He says, “we admit that there are still 5 to 10 out-of school children who have become child workers. It is our responsibility to bring all of them back to school. We keep making sincere efforts in this direction. Formation of committee has made the job easier. Earlier, we faced embarrassment of employers and parents of child labour whenever we raised the issue here. However, now, we all move together to fight the issue”. (See the sworn-in statement of 430 Committee members confirming their commitment to child rights protection).

Retired teacher and committee member K B Hanumantppa feels that the problem of child labour could easily be solved if the community act together. “However, we should ask a question to ourselves: are we really making honest efforts”, he said.

We met Manjula, who is an active member of Rajarajeshwari Mahila Swasahaya Sangha which has grown strong enough to get contract works of GP. She affirms, “I never knew anything about the problem until I became a member of committee”. Now I keep an eye on the children whether they go to school or not. We will persuade the employers and parents against child labour and bring the children to school.”



Malalkere GP:

Malalkere Panchayat is 25 kilometres away from Davanagere town. It is a



Anaji GP is a cluster of Anaji, Mellekatte, Gollarahalli, Giriyaपुरा and Gandhinagar villages with a total population of 6,780. There are three primary schools, two higher primary schools and one high school in the GP.

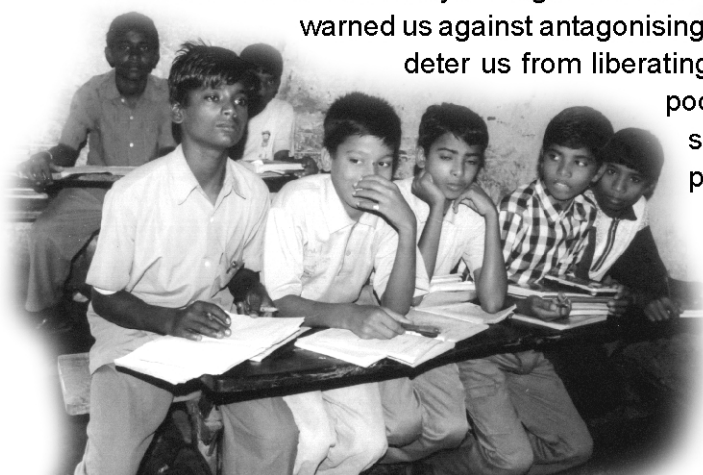
It was striking to note that women members of the Committee in Anaji Gram Panchayat are more concerned about child labour. GP President and Committee President M.C. Padmavathi who has completed her pre-university, says, “we have strictly instructed the fair price shops to stop supply of ration to those parents who send their children to work. The decision has yielded positive results”. (see the Meeting Minutes of Gram Panchayat)

“GP should be given more powers to take action against those employ children. Initially, we try to counsel parents and employers. If no change is visible, we will resort to legal actions. In such context, we need support of department officials”, says GP Vice-President M Parasappa.

Like in the other parts of the taluk, people of Anaji migrate to work in coffee estates. In such situations, they discontinue their children's education and take them along. Children who drop out of school for one to three months lose interest in studies and gradually become child labourers. How do we solve this problem?, asks Gowramma, Prerak in the centre of Continuing Education Programme (CEP).

Gita, mother of two children, who was present there, said, “I had my both children- Ranganath and Shwetha to graze sheep. Gowramma forced me to enrol them to school”. Others who were present over there endorsed it.

R Gangamma shared the experience of a joint action. “A girl child named Shoba was working bonded labour in an influential family. We, the members of Sri Renukamba Swasahaya Sangha rescued the child. The villagers warned us against antagonising the employer. It did not deter us from liberating and rehabilitating the poor child. She is now in school”, she said with pride.



So far, 20 children have been rescued from work situations in the GP jurisdiction and 10 have been directly enrolled to schools. 58 children

are back to schools. 20 children are still away from schools.

ANAJI GRAM PANCHAYAT OFFICE,
DAVANAGER TALUK,
DAVANAGERE DISTRICT

No.1/2005-06 Date : 28-7-2005

**TASK FORCE COMMITTEE FOR
CHILD RIGHTS**

Proceedings of the meeting held under the presidium of GP President Ms.M.C.Padmavathi at GP office at 10.30 a.m. on 28.7.2005.

1. Read the proceedings of previous meeting and ratify it: proceedings of previous meeting were read and ratified.
2. Read the agenda and record it: agenda was read and recorded.
3. Aims and objectives of Committee: The main objectives of the Committee are to re-enroll the children below 14 years, visit the schools, and identify the children who are out of school. In Gandhinagar, Channappa, S/o Chinnappa was a school drop out. When his family was told of canceling the ration, the boy started coming to school.
4. Background of child labour: Child labour was discussed in the meeting in detail. The support mechanism has to be thought of after collecting background of the family. It was decided that if the parents were homeless, they could be accommodated in the women's home till the child attained 14 years of age.



5. School visit: it was discussed. Since none has taken it up, all the members shall visit the schools and collect information about children who are out of school. Children should be encouraged to go to school. It was decided that committee members should visit schools within 15th.
6. Giving attendance for those who are absent in school: This issue was discussed and decided that attendance should not be given even for a Member's child who does not attend school. It was unanimously decided that this issue should be examined.
7. Training for committee members: it was unanimously decided that training should be given to all members on how to collect information.
8. Conducting meeting every month: It was unanimously decided that meeting shall be called within 15th of every month.
9. Putting up Committee's name board: It was decided that a decision shall be taken in the next meeting with regard to putting up Committee's name board and wall writing on child labour.

Signature of members
Secretary/President
Anaji Gram Panchayat,
Davanagere Taluk





For Stronger Stride

Davanagere Zilla Panchayat has decided to form Task Force Committees in all Gram Panchayats, after seeing the success achieved by the Committees in 40 Gram Panchayats of the taluk. Chief Executive Officer of ZP, Mr Jithendra Nayak has issued an order to the Executive Officers of six taluks to this effect.

Says Mr Jithendra Nayak: "it has come to my notice that the Committees formed at the Gram Panchayat level have been working extremely well. Government is spending millions of rupees through Sarva Siksha Abhiyan with a view to take the primary education to new heights. In this context, if Gram Panchayats are able to implement effective management of primary education, what else do we need?"

"Child labour disappears automatically if the management of primary education is implemented effectively. Therefore, my intention is to have Committees in all Gram Panchayats of our district", he reaffirms.

Perhaps, Zilla Panchayat would not have decided to take this initiative, had the committees not achieved positive results. This can be said because, the government has not allotted any huge amount for formation of committees. Obviously, there is no question of any tender, kick-backs, commission... Only commitment and self-satisfaction are the driving forces here.

Mr.Hiregowdar, District Labour Officer of Davanagere opines, "it is a revolutionaly step. The decision of Zilla Panchayat is definitely a welcome step as it is maiden initiative for the country. Our department is always supportive for this move".

Is the formation of Task Force Committees in all the 240 GPs a step to remove child labour? Will Davanagere district become child labour-free within the scheduled timeframe? Is it possible to retain all children below 14 years in schools? These questions may emerge obviously. The simple answer to these questions is `No'. The reason being child labour is not only a social issue but an economic problem too.

In this context, it can be said that the committees have been making sincere efforts. NGOs play a role of motivators and facilitators. Here the community starts thinking and talking about their children at home and village. They raise questions and try to find answers. There is no room for any monetary gain here.

In such case, it can be said that this would be an achievable model for all GPs of the country. It does not mean that problem can be solved by issuing an order to all the secretaries of GPs in the country.

In Davanagere taluk, it took about one year and a half to form these committees in 40 GPs. The officials of district administration, Unicef-Norad Project and field workers of NGOs have worked hard, organised a number of training programmes, before forming committees.

Despite all these efforts made, it did not yield cent percent results. The Committees have not been systematically formed in some GPs while they are not active to the expected level in some GPs. Among the 10 GPs visited, six of them were extraordinarily active, while other two were moderately active. Though the remaining two GPs are not active, a few members have been showing commitment to the cause.

However, one could see that the project as a whole has produced 80% positive results. The people in every nook and corner of the taluk have realised the fact that child labour is a curse. Even the families which found their children a labour force have now begun to send them to schools.

In the initial phase of the project, the people of Kurki had chased away the officials of the Project and Department of Labour when the latter had gone to rescue child workers in the GP. Now, the situation has changed considerably and the same people who revolted against the officials have now been conducting meetings for elimination of child labour. Interestingly, the Task Force Committee of Kurki GP has turned to be one of the most active ones in the taluk.

The coordination among the community, government departments and NGOs has proved to be crucial to formation and success of the committees. It is





not possible to find a solution for a social problem if only one of these stakeholders is active. There are examples of one or two of them being very active in a number of projects. However, it is heartening to see that all the stakeholders do play their role in coordination. This has undoubtedly led them to achieve success.

The process of Committees has attracted people from other parts of the state. Officials, elected representatives, NGO staff and others from Bangalore, Mysore, Dakshina Kannada, Karnool, Hyderabad and other places have visited the committees in Davangere taluk. They have studied its formation, management etc. It indicates the quantum of popularity the committees have attained.

Based on the above experience, the following are a few suggestions to be adhered to if this process is extended to other parts of the state or country:

1. It is important to take extra care during the formation of committees. It should be made clear to the community that the committee is apolitical and the work is honorary. All members should be convinced of the importance of commitment to the cause.
2. It should be ensured that all villages in the GP are represented in the committee. Though the maximum number of members has been fixed, it can be relaxed to accommodate more members, if situation demands so.
3. Experience and commitment of field workers are crucial factors during the formation of Committees. Formation for the sake of it will harm its very purpose.
4. Women Self Help Groups (SHGs) and their members play an important role in the Committee. Therefore, they should be placed in the Committee. It is possible to bring in more results if the Committee is able to maintain a close relationship with all women SHGs in the GP.
5. Systematic training on the project should be imparted to officials of Departments of Revenue, Public Instruction, Social Welfare and Police, and NGOs and its field workers.
6. The Committee members also should be imparted such training.
7. Members of Parliament, Legislative Assembly, Zilla Panchayat and Taluk Panchayat should be sensitised about the functions and objectives of committees. However, they should not be allowed to intervene in the powers of the committee.



8. After the formation, the committees should be regularly monitored. As per the aim of the project, the responsibility of supervising the committees will be handed over to the Taluk Executive Officers. However, if the government is unable to monitor the committees, the responsibility could be given to local NGOs.
9. During the study, a number of people opined that the committee should exist as long as GP exists. However, Committee is necessary only till the community becomes aware of the evil. In this backdrop, it would be feasible for the government to formulate a five-year plan at the state level. Government spends a lot of funds to end child labour under National Child Labour Eradication Project (NCLP) and State Child Labour Eradication Project (SCLP). A portion of its funds could be used for formation of Task Force Committees in all GPs in the country. This has an effect of two birds at one stone: ensuring elementary education for all children and obviously eliminating child labour.





When Rajalakshmi became Club member....

“It's my school. It is our duty to keep the school environment neat and clean. That's what I do now”. We wouldn't have raised our eyebrows if it was said by a knowledgeable youth. But it was 12 year-old Rajalakshmi who said it.

She is 6th standard student in government Higher primary school at Belavanoor. Rajalakshmi is also President of 'Child Rights Club' formed in Government Schools under the UNicef Child Labour Eradication Project.

Belavanoor HPS stands elegant in the village with a spacious play ground surrounded by trees. However, after school hours, it was taken over by cattle herds, and naughty and unemployed youth who played cricket. Children always wanted to question it whenever they came across with it. But, they stepped back with another question, 'who will listen to children'. On a fine day, as usual, cattle herds moved into the school campus. Rajalakshmi could not bear it. She immediately warned those who were taking care of the animals, of the destruction of upcoming plants in the campus and requested them to take the cattle back. But, they didn't listen to her voice and asked her where she got the courage from to interfere in this matter. Rajalakshmi, then boldly replied, 'we never knew that we have the rights to question. After the formation of Child Rights Clubs in school, we understood all this. She later approached the elders of the village and requested them to protect the plants in the school campus.

Though elders teased her and sent her back, she did not lose her enthusiasm. She informed her brother, a shop keeper about the issue. He suggested to put fencing around the plants. Not satisfied by his suggestion, Rajalakshmi along with her friends Shruti, Nanda and Priyanka, went to Gram Panchayat. She brought the GP members to the school and managed to chase the cattle herds out of school campus and thus protected the plants. By seeing her commitment and zeal, GP members promised a compound wall for the school. They expressed surprise about the commitment and interest of the children on school and its environment and commended the role of Child Rights Club. SDMC President Dhanya Kumar is happy about the work done by Rajalakshmi. She says, “we don't have any work as long as Rajalakshmi continues there”.

She was not satisfied even if a gate is erected to the school compound to protect the plants. She retorted: 'Gate will solve the problem of cattle herds. But, what can we do about the boys who play cricket? They jump inside the compound and stamp on the plants. Tiles are broken by them. They should be counseled and shifted from here”.

Other children too are inspired by Rajalakshmi's zeal and commitment in keeping their school neat and clean. This obviously indicates the success of CR Club. It is notable in the context where even educated citizens are not aware that government property is public property. The case study of Rajalakshmi is a pointer for the civil society which usually ignores children's voices.





ANNEXURES



Government of Karnataka, Davanagere District
Unicef / Norad Child Labour Eradication Project,
Deputy Commissioner's office, P.B.Road, Davanagere - 577 002.
Phone : 08192-256459

Dvg dist/Unicef-Norad/No.389-2004-05

Date : 09-11-2004

Topic of wall writing in Gram Panchayat premises

Issued by : District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, Department of Labour,
Unicef-Norad Child Labour Eradication Project, Davanagere.

**Employment of children is a punishable offence
Role of Gram Panchayat, SDMC, Schools and the
public in elimination of child labour**

1. Make the Gram Panchayat completely child labour-free.
2. Ensure all children of its jurisdiction below 14 years retaining in the school.
3. Ensure that children continue in school till 10th standard.
4. Form Child Rights Clubs in all schools and ensure them functioning.
5. Discuss child labour and bonded labour in each gram sabha, release the children from work and enroll them in school.
6. Discuss child rights in schools and ensure the teaching methodology and extracurricular activities are child friendly.
7. Ensure the development projects are reached to deserving beneficiaries and child labour families.
8. Ensure sufficient rooms, furniture, library, play ground, toilets, learning materials,
9. Form Task Force Committee at the Panchayat level and ensure the above aspects being implemented.

It is requested that all the above points be written on the walls of Gram Panchayat in paint.

Sd/-
District Labour Officer
Davanagere District,
Davanagere.

Sd/-
Coordinator
Unicef-Norad Project
Davanagere.

To

Presidents and Secretaries



KNOW ABOUT CHILD LABOUR

WRONG X	RIGHT ✓
1. Persons in the age group of 1-14 years are children.	1. All persons below 18 years are children.
2. Child labour is a welfare issue	2. Child labour is a social issue detrimental to development.
3. Children are small. Rights are not applicable to them.	3. Child rights are human rights.
4. Today's children; citizens of tomorrow.	4. Today's children are today's citizens.
5. Child labour for family benefits or due to drought or other problems is not wrong.	5. Employment of children is punishable offence.
6. Children's issue does not apply to us and Panchayat.	6. It is the duty of every citizen/Panchayat to ensure all children below 18 years their rights including childhood, love, education and protection.
7. Poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and population are the reasons of child labour.	7. Child labour is the reason for poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and population growth.
8. Our family is managed by child labour.	8. No family has improved by child labour.
9. Poverty has reduced as children are sent to work.	9. Poverty grows if children are sent to work.
10. We are free to use our children for work within home or outside.	10. Our children too shall not be sent to work till they complete 14 years.



Read the following and put tick mark
whichever you feel correct.
(for Gram Panchayats, NGOs / CBOs and us)

1. No light in school. Electric connection is required.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Land belonging to school has to be registered. The land records have to be given to school.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. All the children above 6 years within the jurisdiction of Gram Panchayat should be retained in school.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. There is no drinking water for children. A water tank has to be built.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5. The waste dump in front of the school is a menace. It has to be shifted from there.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6. School's land is being used as public land. Responsibility has to be taken to give it back to school.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. School needs more rooms. It has to be brought to the notice of Taluk Panchayat and got approval for it.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8. There is no compound wall in school. It has to be built.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
9. There is no toilet in school. It has to be built.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
10. Uniform and text books have not yet been supplied. It has to be brought to the notice of Taluk Panchayat and get it done.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
11. Weeds have grown in the school playground which has become unusable. It has to be cleaned.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
12. One wall and roof of the school has fallen. It has to be repaired.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
13. Periodical Health check up of children has to be done.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



Not to be	To be
1. Children are sent to work	1. Children shall be sent to school regularly.
2. Only boys should go to school	2. Boys and girls should go to school.
3. Children are burdened with domestic labour	3. Children shall be provided with opportunities to read and play.
4. Sponsored projects are misused	4. Sponsored projects should reach all children.
5. School premises are used for vested interests	5. School premises should be used only for school activities.
6. Teachers make mistakes	6. Such mistakes should be corrected immediately and quality education should be given.
7. Teachers are used for other work of the village	7. Build up an environment where teachers and children do not have problems.
8. Individual decisions	8. Take decisions in meetings after discussion.
9. Shortage of teachers and rooms in school	9. Make the school better by providing basic infrastructure.
10. misuse of school funds	10. School funds should be used only for school development.

Published by :
District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, Department of Labour,
Unicef/ Norad Child Labour Eradication Project,
Deputy Commissioner's office, P. B. Road, Raitha Bhavan, Davanagere- 577 002.
Phone: 08192-256459, 237332, 256626

Government of Karnataka
Department of Public Instruction
Deputy Director's Office, Davanagere District.

Date : 27-07-2005

- Sub : Formation of 'Child Rights Clubs' in government higher primary schools –reg.
Ref: As per direction of Deputy Commissioner given in the meeting presided over by him in his office on 22-07-2005.

Your efforts are indeed praiseworthy in making Davanagere district child labour-free with 100% retention. Since the school children have a significant role in making the village child labour-free, awareness has to be generated among them on child rights, elimination of child labour, and retention of children. In this context, Deputy Commissioner has directed to form 'Child Rights Clubs' in each HPS and High School and Unicef/Norad Project has taken the responsibility of forming the Clubs. NGO representatives will be visiting to your school in this regard. It is directed that all kinds of cooperation and suitable facilities be extended to them for the formation of C R Club in your school and later submitted its detailed report to DC's office and this office. The NGOs will give the details of how to form the Club.

It is directed that all the heads and teachers of the school participate in the meetings of Task Force Committee for Protection of Child Rights formed in the respective Gram Panchayats. It is also directed that cooperation be extended to teachers of Child Labour special school who will visit your school for follow up of rehabilitated children and conduct training and meetings on child rights for school children. The NGOs which implement this activity are the following: Dalit Maha Sabha, Spoorthi, Nesara, Chacha Nehru (TKH), Ashwini Mahila Sangha, Masoom Beedi Workers' Sangha, Don Bosco, Ganapthi Vidya Samsthe, MARS, SEEDS, Guri, St.John's and Belaku.

Thanking you,

Sd/-
Deputy Director
Department of Public Instruction
Davanagere District.



CHILD RIGHTS CLUB
(By the children, for the children, of the children)

Annexure - 6

It was decided to form Child Rights Clubs in all government and private HPS and High Schools with a view to make Davanagere Taluk's each school and its environment child friendly. In this backdrop, Child Rights Club program was launched on 5th July 2005.

Deputy Director of Public Instruction, based on the direction of Deputy Commissioner, implemented the program. Department of Education, Unicef-Norad Project, Belaku, Guri, SEEDS, St.John's, Don Bosco and Dalit Maha Sabha were the major partners of Club formation.

On the one side, Task Force Committee for Protection of Child Rights have been working at the Gram Panchayat level. Complementing to this work, Child Rights Clubs are being formed with an objective of effecting change in school and community.

As per the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution of India, the following rights are inborn rights of children.

Love and affection, childhood, trust, protection, care, health, education, entertainment, participation, opinion making, nutritious food, housing, play, opportunity, happiness are the rights of each child.

There are four major rights out of 54 articles of Convention on the Rights of the Child declared by United Nations in 1989 and ratified by India on 11th December 1992.

1. Right to Life
2. Right to Protection
3. Right to Opportunity and Development
4. Right to Participation

The basic objective of the Club is to make a platform for the children to make a voice on the issues related to them. The precedence is nothing but the way wherein adults decide on children's issues. However, children should be able to find out solutions to their own problems and their school. Then only an appropriate way out is possible. That is the inspiration behind this initiative.

The Club is formed involving with the respective school's children, teachers and SDMC members. The methodology to form the Club, its duties, objectives and activities are as follows:

Methodology to form Club :

1. Initially, awareness has to be generated among the school and community stakeholders and need of Child Rights Club has to be felt. Once they are aware of the fact that it is beneficial for children and community, it can be formed.
2. During the formation of the Club, a meeting of all children should be called. It should be formed in their presence.



3. One boy and a girl from each class should be members of the Club. 15 children should be allowed to be members. The other members could be Head of the respective school and two teachers, SDMC President and two members. A maximum number of 21-25 members can be accommodated in the Club.
4. Out of 15 children, four have to be selected as directors by the children.
5. Teachers and SDMC members are only honorary members. The responsibility of conducting meetings rests with student members.
6. Minutes Book of its meetings should be with the office of the School Head. However, the minutes should be written by children and it should carry signatures of all the members.
7. The general body of the Club should be conducted thrice in a year. All children, teachers, SDMC members, parents should have opportunity to participate in it. Report and an action plan have to be presented in the meeting.
8. The members of the Club have to meet once in every month and assess the programs of the month and plan for the next month.
9. Conduct at least one creative program in a month.

Objectives :

1. To understand child rights as enshrined in the Constitution of India and UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and create awareness about it among the community members.
2. To ensure all school activities are undertaken through C R Club.
3. To see that every child completes tenth standard in the respective school.
4. To raise voice against child labour and work for its elimination.
5. To plan programs based on the local needs aiming at the overall development of all children below 18 years.

Activities :

1. Conducting awareness programs on child rights through film screenings, music programs, competitions, public meetings, street plays, children's meetings, cultural programs etc.
2. Apart from child rights, discussing the school activities and making open opinions. Making presentation on the quality of education in the school and thereby putting pressure for quality change.
3. Making wall writings and posters on child rights in school and other parts of the village by children.
4. Protecting the interests of each child in the respective area.

Only those who learn deserve to teach



“Employment of children below 14 years is punishable offence”

“Children need nothing but love, childhood, protection and education”

Call for awareness

The life of child workers is inhuman. Mind it, child workers are living like slaves in this independent, developing country. This society has not only earned the benefits of children's labour, but tore their dreams apart as well. Moreover, there are a number of cases of atrocities on children by employers. All these abuses have to be opposed. It is the duty of all of us, the government and society to protect childhood and provide them education.

Who is child labour ?

All children below 14 years who are out of school are child labourers. It is generally believed that child labourers are the children below 14 years who are away from school and get involved in any activity which harms their intellectual, mental, physical, social and linguistic development and deprives of their fundamental rights. They work in various sectors like puffed rice, farms, garage, hotel, beedi rolling, agarbathi making, construction, brick, agriculture etc. Their employment like this is a punishable offence.

Why are children employed ?

Less wage, more profit. They are devoted to work. Unlimited number of working hours is the advantage. They don't question anything. They don't protest or gherao any one. They never ask for bonus. They work as they are told. Therefore, children are preferred in work sectors.

What are the reasons of child labour ?

Direct answer : poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and population.

However, these are not direct reasons of child labour. instead, child labour is the reason for these social issues. Child labour has not saved any family, but pushed further into poverty.

The actual reasons of child labour are migration, neglect of parents, public apathy, non-cooperation for systematic education, social apathy, non-implementation of minimum wages and lack of law enforcement.

Beware of the following :

1. Employment of children in any hazardous sector is prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. The erring employers will be punished with a fine of Rs.10000 and three years of imprisonment.



2. Employment of children below 14 years in hazardous sectors is prohibited as per the Supreme Court order in 1996. The erring employer will be punished with a fine of Rs.20000.
3. The Karnataka High Court, in its order in 1997, has prohibited employment of children below 12 years in all sectors.
4. Karnataka Shops and Establishment Act, 1961 has prohibited employment of children in shops and establishments.

Do you know ?

1. Everyone has right to life under Article 21 of Constitution of India.
2. Every child in the age group of 6-14 years has fundamental right to education under Article 21A. (from March 2003)
3. Parents shall not use children to run the families under Article 34 of the Constitution.
4. According to UNCRC 1989, ratified by India in 1992, every child has rights to survival, protection, development and participation.
5. Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act 1976 has abolished bonded labour of children or adults.

What can you do for child labour elimination ?

1. Don't employ children or don't send any child to work.
2. Youth and village leaders can prevent children from depriving of education. If you come across any child in the street, or involved in rag picking or child labour, please make arrangements for their rehabilitation or inform the below-given address.
3. All parents should ensure that their children go to school every day with dignity like other children do.
4. Employers should directly or indirectly encourage education of all other children, like they do for their own children.
5. Politicians should not ignore children for the simple reason that they don't belong to vote banks.
6. Condemn all violence and abuse on children.
7. Ensure retention of all children below 18 years in school.
8. Publicise child rights, laws, importance of education in your area and motivate all children to go to school.
9. Voice your concern against child labour with its victims.





Role of Gram Panchayat

Ensure retention of all children below 18 years in the school and make the Gram Panchayat child labour-free.

Role of school / SDMC

Ensure that no child drops out of school. Form child rights clubs in each school and make child labour-free village and child friendly school.

Role of women and Self Help Groups

1. Ensure your child go to school regularly.
2. Don't send your children to work at any cost.
3. Motivate every member of your Sangha to send her child to school.

If any Sangha member does not send her child to school, take action to cancel her membership. Oppose child labour.



List of the CRPC's at the
Grama Panchayath's Davangere Taluk.

Sl. No.	Name of GP / Number of Ward	Number of Members	Date of Committee Formation
1	Kanagondanahalli	16	13.01.2004
2	Lokikere	16	03.01.2005
3	Mayagonda	19	13.12.2004
4	Bethuru	21	11.03.2005
5	Mathi	15	04.02.2005
6	Aluru	21	04.02.2005
7	Kukkuvada	13	25.01.2005
8	Hadadi	17	09.12.2004
9	Mudahadadi	18	27.12.2004
10	Doddabathi	18	10.12.2004
11	Kadlebalu	16	27.12.2004
12	Honnuru	14	29.12.2004
13	Kurki	15	10.11.2004
14	Kaidale	15	15.01.2005
15	Basavanalu	15	10.10.2004
16	Tolahunase	15	23.12.2004
17	Athigere	18	16.04.2005
18	Kadajji	20	21.04.2005
19	Anaji	12	26.04.2005
20	Sreeramanagondanahalli	18	18.04.2005
21	Gudal	17	21.01.2005



Sl. No.	Name of GP / Number of Ward	Number of Members	Date of Committee Formation
22	Kandanakovi	18	31.01.2005
23	Hemmanabethuru	13	25.05.2005
24	Anagodu	17	26.07.2005
25	Kakkaragolla	14	29.07.2005
26	Belavanooru	15	03.08.2005
27	Aavaragolla	17	23.06.2005
28	Baada	17	25.08.2005
29	Nerligi	16	20.08.2005
30	Malalkere	17	23.08.2005
31	Kodaganooru	18	29.08.2005
32	Igooru	18	28.09.2005
33	Kandagallu	15	06.04.2005
34	Hulikatte	17	04.04.2005
35	Huchavvanahalli	23	16.02.2006
36	Anaberu	19	21.04.2006
37	Hebbala	31	15.09.2006
38	Gopanal	31	23.09.2006
39	Ward-1 K.K. Colony	17	16.04.2005
40	Ward-20 Gandhinagar	22	18.04.2005
41	Ward-18 Beedi Layout	21	13.05.2005
42	Ward-17 Azadnagar	22	22.08.2005
43	Ward-15 Vaddarakere	20	28.09.2005



Details about the rehabilitated child workers and out of school children from 2002-03 to 2005-06.
(through Unicef-Norad Project, SCLP and DoE)

Year	Unicef-Norad Project RBC and DBC (Davanagere Taluk)			Direct mainstreaming to school by Unicef Project (Davanagere Taluk)			SCLP (4 Taluks)			Enrolled by DoE (Davanagere District)			Total children rehabilitated in 4 years		Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	
2002-03	209	70	279	50	44	94	392	157	549	1052	500	1552	1703	771	2474
2003-04	602	260	862	96	64	160	320	143	463	616	434	1050	1634	901	2535
2004-05	556	291	847	30	45	75	383	131	514	515	300	815	1484	767	2251
2005-06	246	54	300	35	27	62	414	201	615	462	438	900	1157	720	1877
2006-07	197	54	251	45	26	71	425	209	634	NA	NA	NA	667	289	956
Total	1880	729	2539	256	206	462	1934	841	2775	2337	1380	4317	6645	3448	10093

Water conservation- Water is precious  Everyone's responsibility Use it judiciously 

GRAM PANCHAYAT OFFICE –KURKI
Davanagere Taluk, Davanagere District.

No.1/2006-07 Dated 04.06.2006 Date : 04.06.2006

FIRST PHASE MEETING NOTICE OF GRAM SABHA/WARD

This is to inform all villagers of Kurki Gram Panchayat that Ward/Gram Sabha has been called under the chairmanship of Mr M G Basavarajappa, President, Kurki GP to prepare various schmes of Kurki GP for the year 2006-07. Asst. Executive Engineer, Karnataka Water and Sewerage Board, Davanagere who is the nodal officer, will be present in the meeting. All the department officials, ZP, TP and GP members, villagers are requested to participate in large number and make it a success. The meeting schedule is as follows :

Meeting venue and time

Sl No.	Date	Name of village	Venue	Time
1	14.07.2006	Kukri Ward- 1	Sri Durgamma Temple premises, Kurki.	11.00 am.
2	14.07.2006	Kurki Ward-2 / Gram Sabha	Open auditorium, Kurki.	12.00 am to 2.00 pm.
3	14.07.2006	Bullapura	Sri Kenchamma Temple Premises	2.30 pm
4	15.07.2006	Chikkathogaleri	Sri Basaveshwara Temple premises	11.00 am.
5	15.07.2006	Hirethogaleri	Sri Anjaneyaswami Temple premises	12.30 noon
6	15.07.2006	Hanumanahalli	Govt LPS premises	2.30 pm

GRAM SABHA AGENDA

1. Child labour elimination and enrollment of children to school.
2. Preparation of civil works for the year 2006-07 under NREG.
3. Total sanitation campaign
4. Presentation by officials on various schemes lany other, with permission of the chair.

M G Basavarajappa B H Rajappa Asst. Exe. Engineer Anand N. G.
President Vice President Nodal Officer Secretary
GP, Kurki. GP, Kurki. KWSB, Davanagere. GP, Kurki.

And all members of Gram Panchayat and villagers



UNICEF-NORAD SPECIAL CHILD LABOUR ERADICATION PROJECT, Davanagere Taluk
Program details

Sl. No.	Name of NGO and address	Place of activity	Wards of activity	GPs where Education Fund established	Schools with CR Clubs	Total No. of RBCs	Staff details
01	Chinna-Banna Child Labour Rehabilitation School, Guri Samsithe, Malashettyhalli, NH-4, Dvg. Phone:573504	Kadlabalu, Doodabathi, Honnuru, Hecadi, Mudahadadi, Kanagondanahalli, Kukkuvada.	19, 23, 3, 8 and 9	Doodabathi, Mudahadadi, Matti	8 schools	01	1 Coordinator, 3 teachers, 1 cook, 3 field workers, 2 volunteers
02	Seeds Samsithe, Shamanur Road, N.H.-4, Davangere - 577 004. Ph. : 263467	Kalkiragolla, Avaragolla, Kadajji, Hulikatte, Basavanal, gudal, Kandanakovi, Kandagal.	24, 25, 26, 27 & 33	Hulikatte, Basavanal	8 schools	-	1 Coordinator, 2 Field workers 2 Volunteers
03	Vimochana Child Labour Rehabilitation School, Saint John's Convent, Vidyannagar, 5th Stage, 5th Cross, Davangere. Ph. : 2636983	Nerlige, Gopanal, Shyagale, Huchchavaranahalli, Malakere, Meyakonda.	1, 2, 28, 29 and 33	Nerlige, Huchchavaranahalli Malakere.	8 schools	01	1 Coordinator, 3 Teachers 1 Cook, 2 Field workers 2 Volunteers
04	Sadhana Child Labour Rehabilitation School, D.M.S. Samsithe, Vidyannagar, Last Bus Stop, Near N. H. - 4, Davangere - 05. Ph. : 570733	Belavanur, Tolahunse, Kurki, Kaidale, Attigere, Bada, Shiramgondanahalli, Lokikere.	4, 5, 6, 7 and 35	Kurki Kaidale	8 schools	01	1 Coordinator, 5 Teachers 1 Cook, 2 Field workers 2 Volunteers
05	Inchara Child Labour Rehabilitation School, Belaku Samsithe, Near Anjaneya Cotton Mill, Tolahunse Road, Davangere. Ph. : 250265	---	10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 20	--	8 schools	02	1 Coordinator, 5 Teachers 1 Cook, 4 Field workers 2 Volunteers
06	Suprabha Child Labour Special Residential School, Don Bosco Society, S. M. Krishna Nagar, Kondajji Road, Davangere. Ph. : 230674	Alur, Igur, Anaji, Hemmanabetur, Bethur, Anagodu, Hebbal, Anaberu.	21, 22, 30, 31 and 32	Alur, Anaji	8 schools	01	1 Coordinator, 3 Teachers 1 Cook, 2 Field workers 2 Volunteers
Total	6 NGOs	40 GPs	35 Wards	12 GPs	48 Schools	5 RBCs and 1 BBC	55+9=64 staff 22 SCLP, 42 Unicef

* The process of establishing Children's Education Fund in 12 GPs of Davanagere taluk. The Zilla Panchayat and Taluk Panchayat has already sent circular to this effect to transfer Rs.10000/- from Class-I to Children's Education Fund and deposit the money in the name of Task Force Committee. District Administration and Unicef-Norad Project has planned to contribute Rs.5000/- to this Fund. The sum total of this fund shall be used only for the education of school drop out, child labour and children of poor families.

Some achievements of UNICEF-NORAD Special Child Labour Project
during the past three years

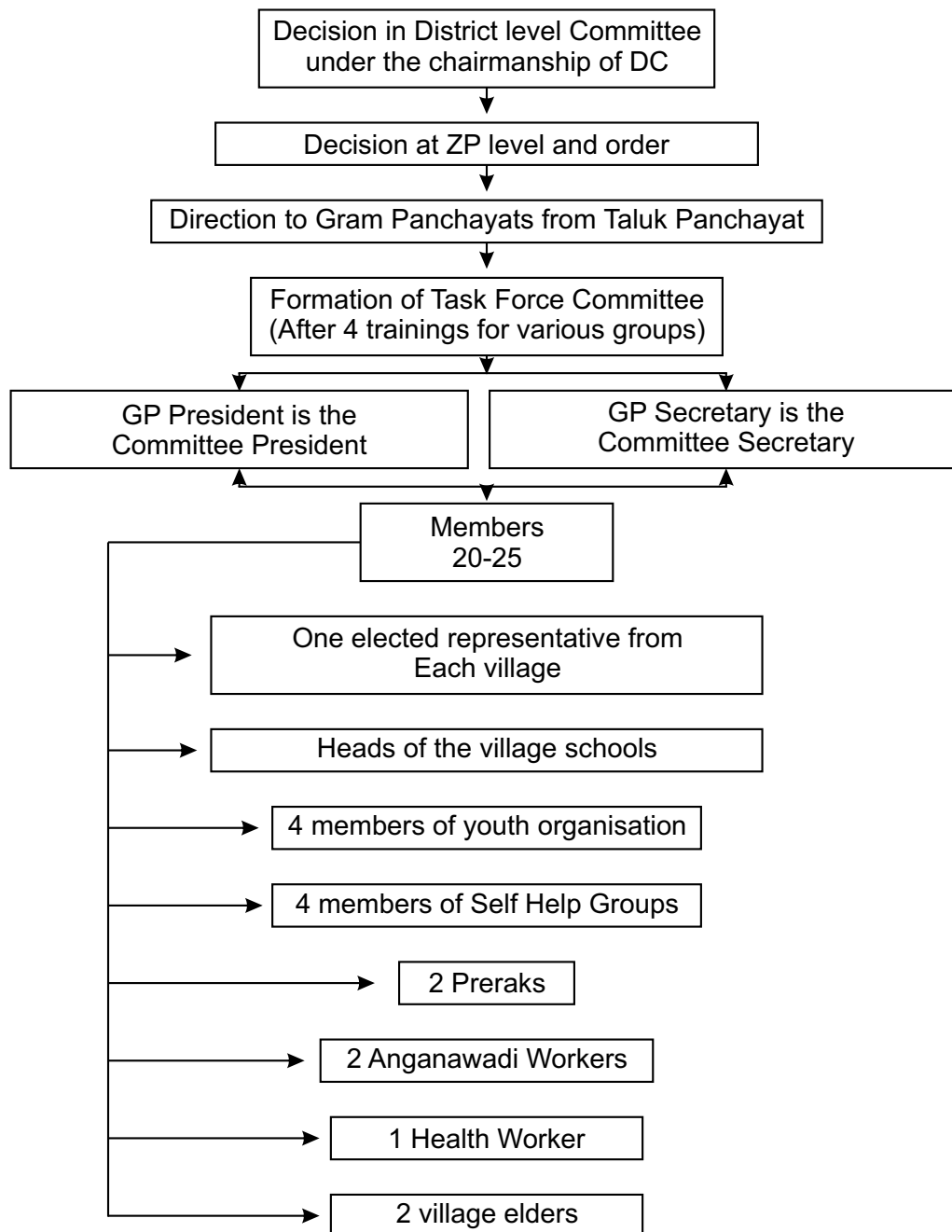
Details of trainings and programs	Total
Children mainstreamed after rehabilitation	9137
Trainings at GP level	362
Trainings for Anganwadi workers and school teachers	298
Trainings for SDMC and others	202
Task Force Committee formation	45 (40 GPs +5 Wards)
Trainings for SHGs	278
District level trainings	24
Trainings for employers	19
Trainings for youth	89
Trainings for officials	15
Meetings of District Committee	23
Trainings for Task Force Committee at taluk level	18
Raid	454
Sticker and posters	7000
Kalajatha program annually	115 performances
5 types of stickers (each sticker-5000 copies)	25000
Rescued child workers through raids	186
District level public functions	28
Rehabilitated children from Puffed rice units	260
Direct enrolment to schools from Puffed rice units	320
Total number of children mainstreamed from puffed rice units	580
Number of cases against employers (Taluk)	116
Total number of cases in district	147
Punishment to employers	02
Fine of Rs.10000 imposed under CLPRA	08 (Rs.80000/-)
Fine of Rs.20000 imposed (as per SC order 1996)	58
Fine recovery from employers	Rs.1,20,000
Club formation in govt. schools	48
Support to child labour families from various departments	126
Installation of upgraded technology in puffed rice units	21
Dassera Camp (for child labourers)	6 camps annually; 3000 children
Summer camp (2005-06)	5 camps; 350 children.



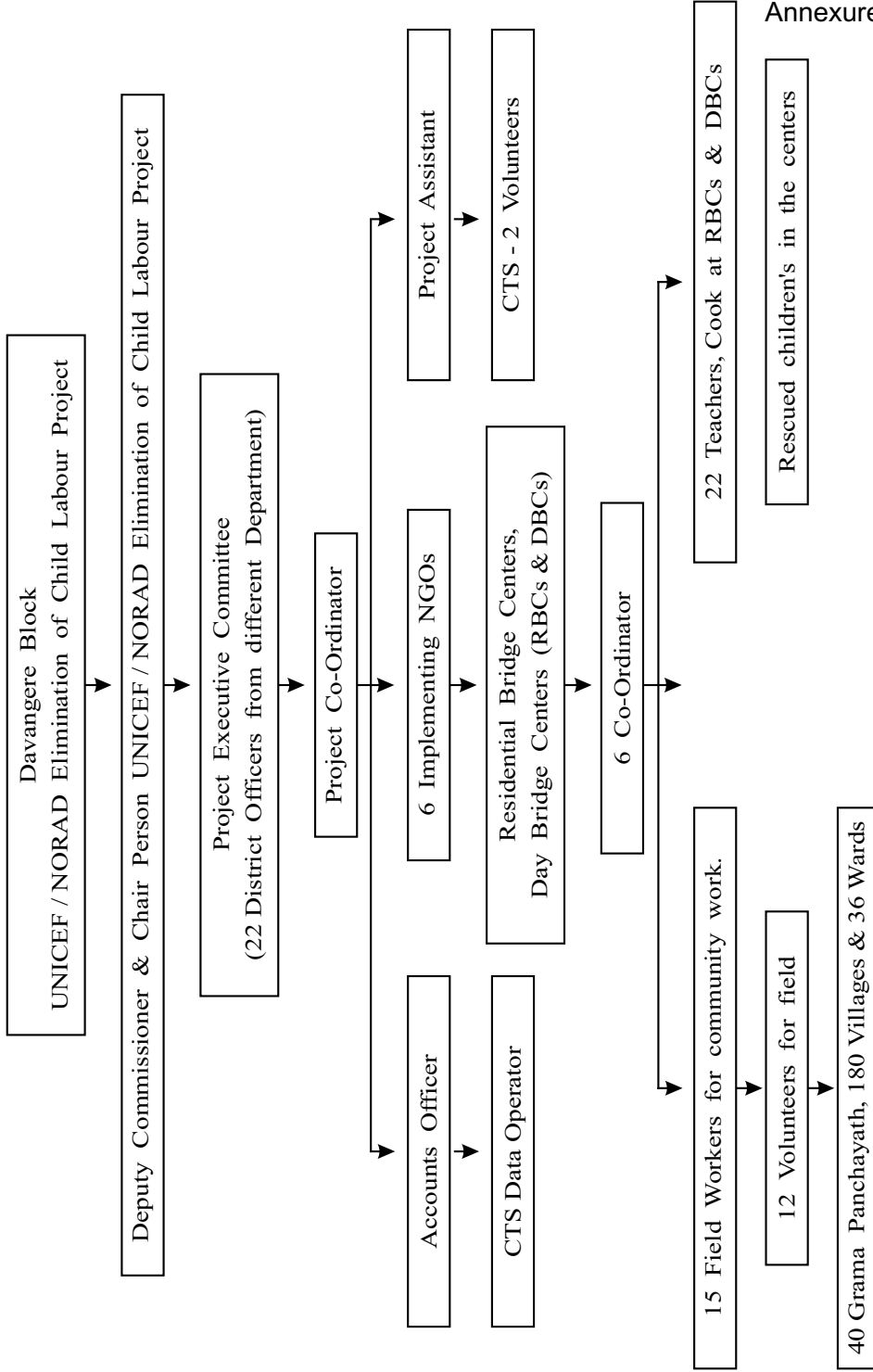
STRUCTURE

Annexure - 13

Methodology of formation of Task Force Committee for Protection of Child Rights



STRUCTURE



Annexure - 14

Note : CTS - Child Track System
RBC - Residential Bridge Centre
DBC - Day Bridge Centre



Ministry, Govt of Karnataka, MS Building, Bangalore.

No. : gra.aa.pa.367 gra.pam.aa.2006

Date : 18.09.2006

Subject : organizing 'Children's Gram Sabha' on child rights in the
month of November every year –reg.

Central Government has expressed its willingness to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child of United Nations by ratifying it in 1992. The role of local bodies like Gram Panchayats assumes great importance in implementing the rights of survival, protection, development and participation. Gram Panchayats, by conducting Gram Sabhas, have the grave responsibility to discuss and make the villagers aware of the status of children, their development and constitutional rights. Therefore, government has taken decision to observe Child Rights Week from 13th to 30th November every year and conduct gram sabha one day in this week on child rights involving villagers, parents, various department officials and children. It is directed that the following issues too shall be discussed in Gram Sabha:

1. Providing nutritious food for the healthy development of children
2. Forming scientifically play-learn system for the intellectual development of children,
3. Enrolling all children in the age group of 3-6 years in anganwadi centres and later in school,
4. Creating awareness on bonded labour and child labour in agriculture sector,
5. Protection and care of girl children.

Above-mentioned agenda apart, discussion should take place about the schemes implemented by government for children in order to enable the villagers and parents learn more. Arrangements have to be made to ensure the participation of children, parents, anganwadi workers, Supervisors of DWCD, Health workers, school teachers, police officials, SDMC members and representatives of NGOs.

All Gram Panchayats should prepare a mechanism to consolidate data of children and other related information within its jurisdiction. It is directed that all Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Panchayats take special interest in conducting special Gram Sabhas of children. It is also directed that reports be submitted with regard to it.

(K. S. Shamsundar)
Under Secretary of Government
Dept of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj

To

1. All Chief Executive Officers
2. All Taluk Panchayat Executive officers
3. Personal Secretary of Minister for RDPR for information
4. Principal Secretary and Personal Secretary of Secretary of DRDPR.

All CEOs are responsible to conduct Gram Sabhas and send this circular to all the concerned Gram Panchayats. It is directed that a program schedule be prepared and sent it to Government through ZP.



Department of Labour, Government of Karnataka,
Office of the Commissioner, Karmik Bhavan, Bannerghat road, Bangalore-29.

No.ECL/CR-43/06-07

Date : 30.08.2006

Subject : Sectors of domestic work, hotel, dhaba, tea shops have been considered to be hazardous sectors –reg.

Ref : 1. Central Government order No.S.O.1029(E) dated:10.07.06
2. Government letter No.L.D.63 CLC 2006 dated 10.08.2006

The Government has issued order (S.O.1029 (E)) dated on 10.07.2006, incorporating the following two sectors in the list of 13 occupations in Schedule Part A under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. This order will come into effect from 10.10.2006 in the whole of India, as per reference letter-2.

(14) Employment of children as domestic workers or servants

(15) Employment of children in Dhabas (roadside eateries), Restaurants, Hotels, Motels, Tea Shops, Resorts, Spas or other recreational centres.

Therefore, it is directed that the prohibition of employment of children in domestic work, hotel, dhabas and tea shops has come into effect from 10.10.2006 under section 3 of CLPR Act, 1986, all Asst Labour Commissioners, District Labour Officers, Senior Labour Inspectors, Labour Inspectors and Project Directors of District Child Labour Societies should publicise it in media, conduct meeting of prominent NGOs and take suitable action and report it to this office within 30-09-2006. Copy of the Central Government Order is enclosed herewith.

Sd/-

To Commissioner for Labour
All officials of the department for suitable action,
All Deputy Commissioners for information and for publicity through district societies

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(Child Labour Section)
NOTIFICATION

New Delhi , the 10th July 2006

S.O.1029(E) – In excess of the powers conferred by Section 4 of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 (61 of 1986), the Central Government hereby gives three months notice of its intention to add the following occupations in the Schedule to the said Act, namely:-

In the Schedule to the said Act, in part A, under the heading "occupations", after item (13) and the entry relating thereto, the following items and entries shall be added, namely- "(14) Employment of children as domestic workers or servants; (15) Employment of children in dhabas (roadside eateries), restaurants, hotels, motels, tea-shops, resorts, spas or other recreational centres".

(F.No.S-27012/3/97-CL)
S.K.Srivastava, Jt.Secy



Press Clippings

Child labour eradication: D'gere sets an example

Buoyed by the success of Child Rights' Protection Committees in 30 odd GPs, the Davangere ZP has now decided to extend the scheme to all the 230 GPs.

FROM SATISH CHAPPARIKE
DH News Service

DAVANGERE: In a significant move aimed at eradicating child labour in rural sector, Davangere Zilla Panchayat has decided to set up "Child Rights' Protection Committees" in all the 230 Gram Panchayats under its purview.

The decision comes in the wake of the success of such committees in 33 Gram Panchayats of Davangere Taluk set up with the help of Unicef and Norad on pilot basis recently.

In fact, if the plan fructifies, Davangere will earn the distinction of being the first ZP in the country to establish Child Rights Committees in all the

Gram Panchayats.

As a first step towards accomplishing the task, the CEO of the ZP Jitendra Naik has directed all the six Chief Executive Officers of the Taluk Panchayat to take measures to set up Child Rights Protection Committees.

At a time when the child labour eradication efforts are increasingly becoming urban centric, the experiment made by the Davangere ZP is seen as a radical move to eliminate the menace in the rural areas. The move has been welcomed by a number of Child Rights activists including Vasudev Sharma.

Hailing the decision, he told *Deccan Herald* that the move is an important milestone in the history of the child labour eradication movement in the country.

Figures

According to official estimates, the number of child

labours in the country is 1.25 crore.

However, according to various voluntary organisations, involved in child labour eradication drives, it is more than 6 crore.

Similarly the official sources put the number of child labours in Karnataka at 1.6 lakh, while the unofficial figure exceeds 8 lakh.

"As the concentration of child labours is more (70%) in the rural segment, it is very essential to draw a strategy exclusively aimed at rural child labour. If the rights of the child in rural areas are protected, the rate of migration to the urban centres would automatically come down," says Mr Sharma.

However, adding a word of caution, Mr Sharma says, the success of such schemes entirely depends on the sincerity and commitment of the members of Child Rights' Protection Committees.



GP members rescue three child labourers

The rescued children are willing to help locate many of their peers who are working as labourers in several households.

DH NEWS SERVICE

DAVANGERE: While there is still a very little realisation of what all the roles the Panchayat bodies could play at the village level, Hiremegalageri Gram Panchayat in Harapanahalli taluk has done what other Panchayat bodies in the State might not have even imagined.

Three boys who were working as bonded labourers for the past many years have been rescued by the Hiremegalageri Gram Panchayat. Mahantesh (16), Lokesh (14) and Sunil (10) are the three boys who were freed from the clutches of two landlords on Monday night.

All the three rescued boys who have been temporarily lodged in Dalit Maha Sabha (DMS) special child labour school here are eager to return to schools.

It is for the first time in the State that a Gram Panchayat has played an active role in res-

cuing child labourers from their employers.

In fact, it is the Unicef-Norad Child Labour Pilot Project which is behind the rare effort made by the Panchayat. Hiremegalageri (GP) is one of a few selected GPs in the district where the Unicef-Norad Child Labour Project has formed a committee to fight against child labour and for the protection of children's rights in rural areas on an experimental basis.

It is part of a long-term plan to rope in Panchayat bodies for the complete elimination of child labour menace in the society.

Recently, a special workshop was held for the members of the anti-child labour and children rights' protection committees formed in selected GPs. The members of Hiremegalageri GP started preparing a list of children working as labourers in villages coming under their jurisdiction, soon after returning from the workshop.

Shockingly, a full-scale survey conducted in association with the Unicef-Norad and

Don Bosco Child Labour School revealed the presence of a minimum of 100 child labourers in the GP jurisdiction.

"We were told a fortnight ago that the government people would come to free us. But they never turned up on that day. Otherwise, all the 12 of us could have joined the school together", said Mahantesh, who has worked as a bonded labour for the last seven years.

Now, only three among them have been rescued. They are willing to help locate their peers who are still working as child labourers in many households.

Thousands of children working as bonded labourers in rural areas could be liberated only if the all Panchayats followed the foot-steps of Hiremegalageri GP, said Unicef-Norad Project coordinator K Raghavendra Bhat.

Only time could tell if the panchayat bodies which are growing stronger with day will take up this challenge and work for the eradication of child labour scourge in the society.



Children's Rights Clubs in D'gere schools by December

The 20-member student clubs will function independently. Teachers, parents and SDMC members will only act as facilitators.

DH NEWS SERVICE

DAVANGERE: In a few months from now, children in many Government schools in the district will don the role of administrators. They will decide how the national festivals should be observed and what are the requirements of their schools. They will be raising their voice against the system whenever their rights are threatened.

For the first time in the State, several government schools in Davangere district will have Children's Rights Clubs (CRCs) in place by the month of December.

The novel initiative taken by the Unicef-Norad Child Labour Project has been approved by the district administration.

At a meeting of the Unicef-Norad Child Labour Project, Education Department and Labour Department on Friday, the Deputy Commissioner M B Dyaberi instructed the Deputy Director for Public Instruction (DDPI) to issue a circular to the headmasters of select government schools in the district regarding the formation of CRCs.

As the first step, it has been decided to form Children's Rights Clubs in 20 select government higher primary schools in Davangere taluk and in five schools in the remaining five taluks- Harihar, Jagalur, Harapanahalli, Hon-

nali and Chemmagiri.

What are CRCs?

They are an exclusive club of the students with an objective of making the schools children-friendly. Each CRC will have 20 student-members including four directors. The executive committee of the club holds meeting regularly and study the incidents of violation of children's rights in the schools. They interact with the local bodies, especially Gram Panchayats (GPs), and try to sensitise the people's representatives about children's rights, child labour menace, measures need for the improvement of schools, etc.

Six elders including the headmaster, an assistant teacher, two school development and management com-

mittee (SDMC) members, and, two representatives of the parents will act as mere facilitators for the CRCs.

"The idea is to create a sense of community among the children and those supervising the schools", said Unicef-Norad Child Labour Project coordinator K Raghavendra Bhat. The CRCs are not to be taken lightly. They will have their own letterheads and the issues raised by them will get due weightage, he said.

The student-members of the CRCs will be made knowledgeable about issues like the rights of the children and working of the GPs before the clubs become operational. Already, activities aimed at selecting the members of CRCs have been started in six schools in Davangere taluk.

Children's Education Fund available in all panchayats

DH News Service

DAVANGERE: A proposal for setting up Children's Education Fund in all Gram Panchayats in Davangere taluk has been submitted to the Zilla Panchayat, said Deputy Commissioner M B Dyaberi.

During a review meeting on the progress achieved under the State Child Labour Project, and UNICEF-NORAD Child Labour Elimination Project on Wednesday, he said the Zilla Panchayat (ZP) could set up Children's Education Fund (CEF) in every Gram Panchayat (GP) in Davangere taluk as a pilot scheme to ensure that no child remained away from the school because of poverty.

ZP would contribute Rs 10,000 and Rs 5,000 would be

provided by UNICEF-NORAD Child Labour Elimination Project towards the CEF. The City Municipality Council (CMC) would also be asked to set up CEF in all wards to solve child labour problem in city limits, the DC said.

UNICEF-NORAD Project co-ordinator Raghavendra Bhat told the meeting that 443 rescued children had been enrolled in five special child labour schools in Davangere taluk. Among them, 340 children were regularly attending classes. More than 2,000 children rescued from child labour situations had been enrolled in mainstream schools and their academic progress was being closely monitored. Among them, 80 percent children obtained 'B' grade, 12 percent scored

'A' grade and the remaining children passed on to the next class by obtaining 'C' grade in the examinations, he explained.

Task force

Task forces for elimination of child labour problem had been formed in 36 GPs in the taluk. Among them, 14 GPs had become child-labour free panchayats. Children's rights clubs had been formed in 22 schools with the help of the Education Department. Similar clubs would be formed in all schools in the district if the experiment succeeded, Raghavendra Bhat said.

He said workshops on Juvenile Justice Act (JJ Act) had been held at district and taluk levels for the owners of bar and restaurants, hotels and hostel wardens. He

requested the Backward Communities and Minorities (BCM) Department and the Social Welfare Department to give priority to the rescued child labourers in admissions for the students hostels run by them.

DC Dyaberi said excise contractors had come forward to offer sponsorship for the rehabilitation of 10 rescued child labourers.

He instructed the Health and Family Welfare Department to see that the doctors in nearby health centres visited child labour residential schools once in every fortnight. SP B Shivkumar, District Labour Officer C H Hiregowdar, DySP Ravinarayan, AC Dr C G Betasuramutt, other officials and representatives of voluntary organisations participated in the meeting.

Deccan Herald, April 20, 2006

Set up Children Education Fund in GPs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

Davanagere, April 19: District administration has sent proposal to Zilla Panchayat for setting up Children Education Fund at each Gram Panchayat in Davanagere taluk to help poor children to attend schools, said Deputy Commissioner M B Dyaberi.

Addressing a review meeting of District Child Labour Planning Organisation UNICEF, NOREAD projects here on Wednesday, he said the main purpose of setting up of Children Education Fund was that child should not skip education due to po-

verty in rural areas.

In each GP this fund will be set up with Rs 10,000 from ZP and Rs 5000 from UNICEF as their contributions. Similar fund will be set up at each municipal ward in City Municipal limits, Dyaberi said.

In five Child Labourers Schools under UNICEF-NOREAD scheme at Davanagere taluk 443 children were enrolled. Totally 340 children attend classes. Out of them 80 percent students passed in 'B' grade, 12 percent in 'A' grade and others in 'C' grade, said UNICEF NOREAD convenor Raghavendra Bhat.

TASK FORCE: In 36 GPs task force was formed to eradicate Child Labourer Scheme, among them 14 GPs were declared Child Labour Free villages, Bhat said and added in 22 schools children rights clubs set up, if it become successful, it will be extended to entire district.

The excise contractors have come forward to sponsor 10 child labourer schools. Health Department was asked to send doctors to visit child labourer schools for health check-up once in every fortnight.

SP Shivkumar, DySP Ravinarayan and others were present.

Indian Express, April 20, 2006



ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಮೊದಲ ಮಹತ್ತರ ಹೆಜ್ಜೆ

ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಗ್ರಾಪಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಸಮಿತಿ

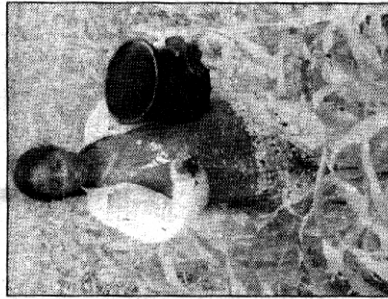
ಸತೀಶ್ ಚಿವ್ವ ರಿಶೆ

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಾರ್ತೆ

ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ: ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಗ್ರವಾಗಿ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಎಳೆಯ ಜೀವಿಗಳ ಸಾಂವಿಧಾನಿಕ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾಪಾಡುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಎಲ್ಲ 230 ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಯಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿಯನ್ನು ರಚಿಸುವ ಮಹತ್ಕರ ನಿರ್ಧಾರವನ್ನು ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯಿ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಹೀಗೆ ಒಂದು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಎಲ್ಲ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸುವ ಯತ್ನ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಇದು ಮೊದಲನೇ ಬಾರಿ.

ಸದ್ಯ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ 33 ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯುನಿಸ್ಟ್ರ್-ನೋರಾತ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನದ ಫಲದಿಂದ ಪ್ರಾಯೋಗಿಕವಾಗಿ ಅಸ್ತಿತ್ವಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿರುವ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳ ಯಶಸ್ಸನ್ನು ಕಂಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯಿ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಜಿತೇಂದ್ರ ನಾಯಕ್, ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯನ್ನು ವಿವರಿಸುವ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಈ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮೊದಲ ಹೆಜ್ಜೆಯುಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅವರು ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಆರೂ



ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಮುಖ...ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಕೈದಾಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಲೆಗೆ ಗೈರು ಕಾರ್ಕಾರಿ, ಮೆಕ್ಯೆಜೋಳದ ಹೊಲಕ್ಕೆ ಗೊಬ್ಬರ ಹಾಕುತ್ತಿರುವ ಬಾಲಕ.

ನಗರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವುದು. ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮವಾಗಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣೆಯಾದರ ತಾನೇ, ತಾನಾಗಿ ನಗರ ಪ್ರದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ವಲಸೆ ಹೋಗುವ ಅಪ್ರಾಪ್ತ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇಳಿಮುಖವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಮೂಲದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಈ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗೆ ಪರಿವಾಣ ಹಾಕುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ರಚಿಸುವ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಐತಿಹಾಸಿಕ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ಶರ್ಮ.

"ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಸಂಘಟಿತರಾಗಿ ಅವರ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿದರೆ ಯಶಸ್ವಿ ಕಟ್ಟು ಬುತ್ತಿ ಕೆವಲ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಮಾತ್ರವಲ್ಲ; ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ, ಹೆಣ್ಣುಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿ, ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಾಗಣೆ-ಮಾರಾಟ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿ, ಮುಂತಾದ ವಿಷಯಗಳತ್ತ ಕೂಡ ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳು ಗಮನ ಹರಿಸಬೇಕು" ಎಂದು ದೊರವಾಣಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 'ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ'ಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

"ಮೊದಲಿಗೆ ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಿದರೆ ಸಾಲದು. ಸಮಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತವಾದ ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯ ಉಸ್ತುವಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಅಧಿಕೃತವಾಗಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ವಹಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಹಾಗಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಯಶಸ್ಸನ್ನು ಕಾಣಬಹುದು" ಎಂಬ ಎಚ್ಚರಿಕೆ ಮಾತುಗಳನ್ನು ಅವರು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ನಿವಾರಣೆಗೆ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳ ಸಹಭಾಗಿತ್ವ



ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಪರಿಹರಿಸಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಸಹಕಾರ ನೀಡಬೇಕು, ಈ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ, ಡಿ. 9 - ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಯನ್ನೂ ಸಹ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯದ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ರಕ್ಷಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಒಂದು ಭಾಗ ಎಂದು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನಾ ಕಾರ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ನಿವಾರಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಹ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಮುಖ್ಯದಳದ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಕಾರ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ. ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸಮಸಮಾಜ, ಜನಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಸದಸ್ಯರು, ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳು ಭಾಗಿ ಸಹಕಾರ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕವಾಗಿ, ಶಾಲಾಪದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಯೋಜನೆಯಿಂದ ಯೋಜನೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಮತ್ತೆ ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ವಲಾಂಕಿತರಾದ ಯೋಜನೆ ಕಾರ್ಯದಿಂದ ಅನಗಮನೀ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳು, ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸಾಕ್ಷರತಾ ಪ್ರೇರಣೆ, ಯುವಕ ಸಂಘ, ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳು, ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಮೂಲ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಸದಸ್ಯರನ್ನೂ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆಗಮನ 12 ಜನರ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚನೆ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಲು ಮಾತನಾಡು ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಡಳಿತ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿದೆ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮತ್ತು ಯೂನಿ ಯುನಿವರ್ಸ್ ನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಸೆಂಟರ್ ಯೋಜನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನಾ ವಿಶೇಷ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಕಳೆದ ಎರಡು ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮೀಳ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನೆಯ ತೀವ್ರಣೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಕ್ತ ಗ್ರಾಮ ವರ್ಷದೊಳಗೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಕನ್ನಡ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾತನಾಡುವ ಯುವನಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕರತವು ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಈ ಯೋಜನೆ ರೂಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಮುಖ್ಯದಳದಲ್ಲೂ, ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಕೈ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ತೋರಿಸಿ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಸಂಘದ ಸುಪ್ರಸಂಗವನ್ನು ದಾಖಲೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚನೆ ಕುರಿತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಥಾನದ ದುರ್ಗು, ಆಡಳಿತ ಮೇಯಿಸುವ ಗುರು ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಪ್ಪಳಗಿರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾತನಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ನಿರೋಧಕ ಮುನಿಸಿಪಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಯದ ನಿರೋಧಕ ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಕೈ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನಾ ವಿಶೇಷ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ

ಕಲೆ ವಿಧಾನ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಆಕರ್ಷಿಸುವಂತಹ ಸಂಯುಕ್ತ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನೆಯ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳ ಒಂದು ಭಾಗವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ರಚಿಸಿದ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಒಂದು ಚಕ್ರ ಗಳು ಈ ಯೋಜನೆ ಎರಡು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಗುಳು ಮತ್ತು ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳೇ, ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಾ ಗುವ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕರತವು ಮೂಲಕ ಉದ್ಯಮ ಸಹಕಾರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಗಳು ಈ ಯೋಜನೆ ಎರಡು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿ ಗಿದೆ.

ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮೂಲಕ ಉದ್ಯಮ ಸಹಕಾರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಗಳು ಈ ಯೋಜನೆ ಎರಡು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿ ಗಿದೆ.

ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಕೈ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ತೋರಿಸಿ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಸಂಘದ ಸುಪ್ರಸಂಗವನ್ನು ದಾಖಲೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚನೆ ಕುರಿತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಥಾನದ ದುರ್ಗು, ಆಡಳಿತ ಮೇಯಿಸುವ ಗುರು ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಪ್ಪಳಗಿರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾತನಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ನಿರೋಧಕ ಮುನಿಸಿಪಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಯದ ನಿರೋಧಕ ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಕೈ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನಾ ವಿಶೇಷ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ

'ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ರಹಿತ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳು'

ವಿಶೇಷ ವರದಿ

ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ, ಜೂ. 17 - ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಂದಲೇ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಇದು ಹಿಂದಿನ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಬೇಲೂರು ಘೋಷಣೆಯ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅಂಶ. ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ನೀಡಿರುವ ಈ ಪರಮಾಧಿಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಅಪ್ಪರಗಳು ಇನ್ನೂ ನಿಂತಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯ್ದು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಇದು ಒಲವಂತ ವಾಗಿ ನೀಡಿದ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಎಂದರೂ ತಪ್ಪಲ್ಲ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿವಾರಣೆ ಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಯೂನಿಸ್ಕೋ ನೊರಾಡ್ ಈಗ ನಗರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಿಂದ ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳತ್ತ ನೋಟ ಹರಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಕೃಷಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ದುಡಿಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಶಾಲೆಗೆ ಕರೆತರುವ ದಿನಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳನ್ನು ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ.

'ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಮುಕ್ತ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ' ಖ್ಯಾತಿಗೆ ಪಾತ್ರರಾಗಲು ಈಗ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿವಾರಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಯೂನಿಸ್ಕೋ ನೊರಾಡ್ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಈಗ ಕೃಷಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿನ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರನ್ನು ಮತ್ತೆಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳತ್ತ ಕರೆತರುವ ದಿನಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯೋನ್ಮುಖವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ 25 ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಸಮಿತಿಯನ್ನು ರಚನೆ ಮಾಡಿದೆ.

ತಮ್ಮ ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರು ಇದ್ದಾರೆ ಎನ್ನುವುದೇ ಒಂದು ಕಳಂಕ. ಈ ಕಳಂಕ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗೆ ಇರಬಾರದು ಎಂದು ಮನವೊಲಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಶಾಲೆಯತ್ತ ಕರೆತರುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನವೇ ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶ.

ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ 25 ಗ್ರಾಮ

ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು 14 ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳು ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಈ ದಿನಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಕ್ರಿಯವಾಗಿವೆ. ಪ್ರತಿಶತ 80ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಸಾಧನೆ ಮಾಡಿವೆ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 200ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕೃಷಿಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿನ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರು ಈಗ ಹೊಲದ ದಾರಿ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಶಾಲೆಯ ದಾರಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂದಿಗೂ ಸಹ ಕೃಷಿ ದನಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾಯುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಕೃಷಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯೇ ಅಧಿಕ. ಓಣಿಗಿ ಇಂತಹ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಶಾಲೆಗೆ ಕರೆತರುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನವನ್ನು ಯೂನಿಸ್ಕೋ ನೊರಾಡ್ ಆರಂಭಿಸಿದೆ.

ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕನಗೊಂಡನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಲೋಕೇಶೆರೆ, ಮಾಯಕೊಂಡೆ, ಬೇತೂರು, ಮತ್ತಿ, ಆಲೂರು, ಹದಡಿ, ಮುದಪದಡಿ, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಾತಿ, ಕಡ್ಡೆಬಾಳು, ಹೊನ್ನೂರು, ಕುರ್ಕಿ, ಕೈದಾಳ್, ಬಸವನ ಹಾಳ್, ತೋಳಹೂಣಿ, ಅತ್ತಿಗೆರೆ, ಕಾಡಪ್ಪಿ, ಅಣಬೆ, ರಾಮಗೊಂಡನಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳು ಅಸ್ತಿತ್ವಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿವೆ.

ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕತೆ ನಿವಾರಣೆಗೆ ಕಾಯ್ದುಗಳಿವೆ. ಆದರೂ ಸಹ ಮನಪರಿವರ್ತನೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಗುರಿ ಸಾಧನೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿ ಎನ್ನುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಕ್ರಿಯವಾಗಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಸಮಿತಿಗೆ 18ರಿಂದ 22 ಸದಸ್ಯರನ್ನು ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು, ಮೂವರು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಸದಸ್ಯರು, ನಾಲ್ವರು ಶಾಲಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮೇಲುಸ್ಥಾನ ಸಮಿತಿ ಸದಸ್ಯರು, ಸಾಕ್ಷರತಾ ಪ್ರೇರಕರು, ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತೆಯರು, ಯುವಕ ಯುವತಿ ಸಂಘಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ನಾಲ್ವರು ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರನ್ನು ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗೆ ಆಯ್ದು ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರ

ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ತಮ್ಮ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾತ್ರ ಕುರಿತು ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಪ್ರತಿ ತಿಂಗಳಿಗೊಮ್ಮೆ ಅಥವಾ ಎರಡು ಬಾರಿ ಸಭೆ ಸೇರಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿನ ಕೃಷಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ದುಡಿಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರನ್ನು ಗುರ್ತಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಅವರ ಪೋಷಕರನ್ನು ಕರೆದು ತಿಳಿವಳಿಕೆ ನೀಡಿ ಮನವೊಲಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಕೃಷಿ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ದುಡಿಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಶಾಲೆಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.

ಪ್ರಸಕ್ತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ವರ್ಷ ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ರಚಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶ ಹೊಂದಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಘರ್ಷ ಪಾಗಿ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕತೆಯನ್ನು ನಿವಾರಣೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಆರಂಭವಾಗಿದೆ.

ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ 180 ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಸಹ ಇಂತಹ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ರಚನೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶ ಹೊಂದಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ದಿಸಂಬರ್ ಅಂತ್ಯದ ವೇಳೆಗೆ 40 ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಡೆ ರಚಿಸುವ ಗುರಿ ಹೊಂದಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕಡ್ಡೆಬಾಳು, ದೊಡ್ಡಬಾತಿ, ಹನ್ನೂರು, ಹದಡಿ, ಮುದಪದಡಿ, ಕನಕನಗೊಂಡನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಗುರಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯು 73 ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರನ್ನು ಸೀಡ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಕೈದಿಗೊಳ್ಳಿ, ಕಾಡಪ್ಪಿ, ಪಾಲಿಕಟ್ಟೆ, ಬಸವನ ಹಾಳ್, ಕಂದನಕೋವಿ, ಗುಡಾಳ್ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಂದಗಲ್ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಿಂದ 40 ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರನ್ನು ಗುರ್ತಿಸಿ ಶಾಲೆಗೆ ದಾಖಲು ಮಾಡಿದೆ.

ದಲಿತ ಮಹಾ ಸಭಾ ಸ್ವಯಂ ಸೇವಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಬೆಳವನೂರು, ತೋಳಹೂಣಿ, ಕುರ್ಕಿ, ಕೈದಾಳ್, ಅತ್ತಿಗೆರೆ ಶಿರಮಗೊಂಡನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಲೋಕೇಶೆರೆ ಬಾಡ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೆ ಡಾನ್ ಬಾಸ್ಕೋ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಆಲೂರು, ಎಗೂರು, ಅಣಬೆ, ಹೆಮ್ಮನಬೇತೂರು, ಬೇತೂರು, ಅನಗೋಡು, ಹೆಬ್ಬಾಳ್ ಮತ್ತು ಅಣಬೆ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಶಾಲೆಗೆ ದಾಖಲು ಮಾಡಿದೆ.



ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಗ್ರಾ. ಪಂ. ನಿಧಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ

ವರ್ಗೇ, ಮಾ. 14- ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಆಯ್ಕೆ 12 ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪತ್ತು ಸಾವಿರ ರೂ. ನಿಧಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಯೋಜನೆ ರೂಪಿಸಲು ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದು ಎಂದು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಜಿತೇಂದ್ರ ನಾಯಕ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಯೋಜನೆ ನೋರಾಡ್ ಯೋಜನೆ, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಸಹಾಯದಿಂದ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಮೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಜಿತೇಂದ್ರ ನಾಯಕ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಈ ಯೋಜನೆ ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾದರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಗೂ ಸಹ ವಿವರಣೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು. ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯಿಂದ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಥಿ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಹಾಯಕವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರು.



ಯೋಜನೆ ನೋರಾಡ್ ಯೋಜನೆ, ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಸಹಾಯದಿಂದ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಮೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಜಿತೇಂದ್ರ ನಾಯಕ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳ ಯೋಜನೆ ರಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣಕ್ಕೆ ಮೀಸಲಿರುವ ಶೇ. 18ರ ಹಣ ಅರ್ಥವಾಗಿ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣಕ್ಕೆ ಸದ್ಭಾವನೆಗಳನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಅನೇಕ ತಾಲೂಕುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತವಾಗಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಬಂದಿರುವುದು.

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಸಹಾಯದಿಂದ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಮೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಜಿತೇಂದ್ರ ನಾಯಕ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಶೇ.16 ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನಾಗಿ ಪರಿವರ್ತಿಸಬೇಕು, ನಿಮ್ಮ ಮಕ್ಕಳಂತೆ ಪ್ರೀತಿ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸದಿಂದ ಕಾರ್ಯಿಸಿ. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ವಾತಾವರಣ ಕೂಡಾ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಪ್ರಗತಿ ಮೇಲೆ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೀರುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ಅವರು ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿದ್ದ ಯೋಜನೆ ನೋರಾಡ್ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಸಂಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಕೆ. ರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರ ಭಟ್ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ನಿಲಯಪಾಲಕರು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಮನ್ನಣೆ ನೀಡಿದರೆ ಅವರು ವಿಶಾಸ ಹೊಂದಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಎಸ್.ಸಿ. ಮತ್ತಿಪ್ಪಳ್ಳಿ, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಟಾಟಾಶಿ ವನ್, ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಸಿ.ಎಚ್. ಹಿರೇಗೌಡ್, ತಾಲೂಕು ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ರಾಜಶೇಖರ್, ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಗಂಗಾಧರಯ್ಯ, ಯೋಜನೆ ಲೆಕ್ಕಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಎಚ್.ಕೆ. ಬಸವರಾಜ್ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಯೋಜನೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಜಿತೇಂದ್ರ ನಾಯಕ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

Samyuktha Karnataka, March 15, 2006

ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನೆಗೆ ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಯೋಜನೆ

ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ, ನ. 28- ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕ್ರಿಯಾತ್ಮಕವಾಗಿರುವ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತವು ಈಗ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಆ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಪಿಡುಗನ್ನು ತೊಡೆದು ಹಾಕಲು ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಯೋಜನೆಯೊಂದನ್ನು ಹಾಕಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ.

ಸದ್ಯ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ 40 ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯ್ತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಿ, ಆ ಮೂಲಕ ಆಯಾ ಪಂಚಾಯ್ತಿಗಳ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನೆಗೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತ ಮತ್ತು ಯುನಿಸೆಫ್-ನೊರಾಡ್ ವಿಶೇಷ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆಯವರು ಪಣತೊಟ್ಟು ನಿಂತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ನೂತನ ಯೋಜನೆಯನ್ನು ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಎಲ್ಲ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯ್ತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇದರ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ನಿರ್ಣಯಗಳನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದು. ನಂತರ ಆಯಾ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯ್ತಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಿ ಅವರನ್ನು ಮತ್ತೆ ಶಾಲೆಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಿ, ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಹಿನಿಗೆ ತರುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶವನ್ನು ಇಟ್ಟುಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಯುನಿಸೆಫ್-ನೊರಾಡ್ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಸಂಚಾಲಕ

ಬಂದ ಯುನಿಸೆಫ್-ನೊರಾಡ್ ವಿಶೇಷ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಇದುವರೆಗೆ ಸುಮಾರು 3000ಕ್ಕಿಂತಲೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರನ್ನು ದುಡಿಮೆಯ ಜಗತ್ತಿನಿಂದ ಹೊರ ಕರೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಬಂದು 676 ವಿವಿಧ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ದೊರಕುವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಳೆದ 14 ದಿನಗಳ ಕಾಲ ನಡೆದ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 20,000 ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅವರ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳು ಏನು ಎನ್ನುವುದನ್ನು ಮನನ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಚಿಂತೆ: ಈ ನಡುವೆ ಪ್ರಾಯೋಗಿಕವಾಗಿ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಡೂವರೆ ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ಬಂದ ಯುನಿಸೆಫ್-ನೊರಾಡ್ ವಿಶೇಷ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆಯು 2005ರ ಜೂನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊನೆಗೊಳ್ಳಲಿದೆ. ಅನಂತರ ಏನು? ಎನ್ನುವ ಆತಂಕ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಡಳಿತವನ್ನು ಕಾಡಲಾರಂಭಿಸಿದೆ. ಏಕೆಂದರೆ ಮಂಡಕ್ಕೆ ಭಟ್ಟಿ, ಮನೆಗೆಲಸ, ಕೂಲಿ ಜಗತ್ತುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನರಳುತ್ತಿರುವ ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪಾರವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಯುನಿಸೆಫ್-ನೊರಾಡ್ ಯೋಜನೆ ನಿಂತು ಹೋದರೆ, ಮುಂದೆ ಈ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಪಿಡುಗನ್ನು ತೊಡೆಯುವ ಯತ್ನದಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಥಿಕ ಬೆಂಬಲ ಎಲ್ಲಿದೆ ಪಡೆಯುವುದು? ಎಂಬ ಚಿಂತೆ ಹುಟ್ಟಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ.



ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ

ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನ ಮಾಡುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದ ಹಲವು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳು ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾರಿಯಲ್ಲಿವೆ. ಆದರೂ ಈ ಆಮಾನವೀಯ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಾಶವಾಗುವ ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು ಕಾಣುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಒಂದು ಕಾರಣವಾದರೆ ಮೊತ್ತೊಂದು ಕಾರಣ ಆಡಳಿತಾರೂಢರಲ್ಲಿ ಇಚ್ಛಾಶಕ್ತಿ ಇಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು. ಈ ನಿರಾಶೆಯ ವಾತಾವರಣದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ತಾಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಹಮ್ಮಿ ಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದ ಯೂನಿಸೆಫ್-ನೋರೋಡ್ ಸಹಯೋಗದ ಯೋಜನೆ ಯೊಂದು ಆಶಾಭಾವನೆ ಹುಟ್ಟಿಸಿದೆ. ಬಾಲಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಮಟ್ಟದಿಂದ ಜಾರಿ ಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಬದಲು ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯ್ತಿ ಮಟ್ಟದಿಂದ ಜಾರಿಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಈ ಯೋಜನೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಫಲದಾಯಕವಾಗಿದೆ. ಶಾಲಾಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಿ ಅವರನ್ನು ಮತ್ತೆ ಶಾಲೆಗೆ ಕರೆತರುವ ಮತ್ತು ಅವರಿಗೆ ಆಗತ್ಯವಾದ ಒತ್ತಾಸೆಯನ್ನು ನೀಡುವ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯ್ತಿ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಗಮನಾರ್ಹ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಕಂಡುಬಂದಿದೆ. ಈ ಪ್ರಯೋಗ ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಇತರ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೂ ಈ ಯೋಜನೆ ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಸಂತೋಷದ ವಿಚಾರ. ಇಂಥ ಪ್ರಯೋಗಗಳು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಎಲ್ಲ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯ್ತಿಗೂ ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಿದರೆ ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯನ್ನು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗಾದರೂ ನಿವಾರಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯ.

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಂಟು ಲಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಮಂದಿ ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರಿದ್ದಾರೆಂದು ಒಂದು ಅಂದಾಜು. ಆದರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಕೊಡುವ ಅಂಕಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 40 ಸಾವಿರ. ಈ ಷೇಕಿ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಮತ್ತು ಕೃಷಿಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯೇ ಹೆಚ್ಚು. ಅವರು ಇಡೀ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಭಾಗವಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಒಟ್ಟಾರೆ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಸುಧಾರಿಸದ ಹೊರತು ಈ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ನಿವಾರಣೆಯಾಗದು.

ಭಾರತದ ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಿದೆ. ಹದಿನಾಲ್ಕು ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಯಾವುದೇ ಆಪಾಯಕಾರಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವಂತಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ ಸತತವಾಗಿ ಈ ನಿರ್ದೇಶನವನ್ನು ಉಲ್ಲಂಘಿಸುತ್ತ ಬರಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ವರ್ಷಾಂತ್ಯದೊಳಗೆ ಆಪಾಯಕಾರಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿ ಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಎಲ್ಲ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನೂ ಅಲ್ಲಿಂದ ವಿಮುಕ್ತಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ಮತ್ತು 2007ರ ವೇಳೆಗೆ ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯನ್ನೇ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಸುಪ್ರೀಂ ಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾನವ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಆಯೋಗ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ. ಈ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ನಿರಾಶಾದಾಯಕವಾಗಿದೆ. ಜನರ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಸುಧಾರಿಸಲು ಹಾಕಿ ಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳು ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಜಾರಿಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲವಾದ್ದರಿಂದ ಬಾಲ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಹಿಂದೆ ಬಿದ್ದಿದೆ. ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಹಳ್ಳಿ ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತರಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದರೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಧಾರಣೆ ತರಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯ.

Prajavani, November, Monday 29, 2004





PHOTO SECTION





Deputy Commissioner Mr M S Ravishankar felicitating Presidents of Gram Panchayat where Task Force Committees were initially formed.



Deputy Commissioner Mr Mallikarjuna B. Dyaberi addressing the gathering in a workshop on 'government schemes' for members of Gram Panchayats and Self Help Groups held at Davanagere.



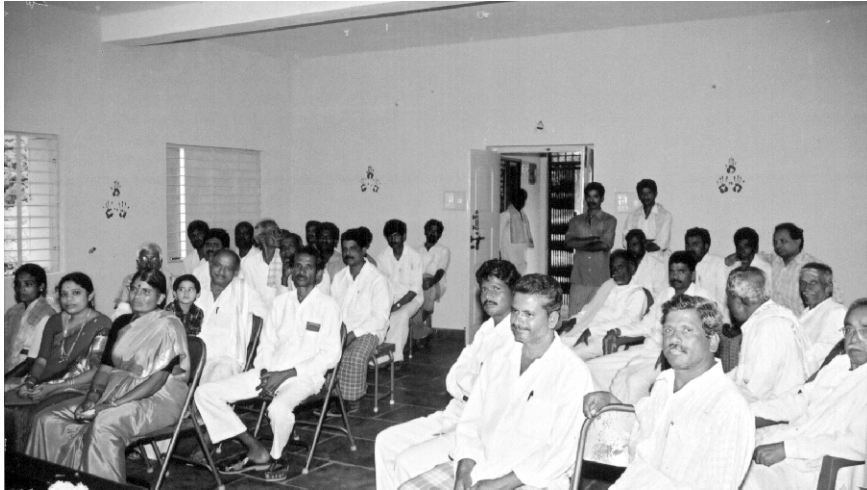


Deputy Commissioner Mr Mallikarjuna B.Dyaberi inaugurating Child Rights Clubs in government schools.



Second phase training for members and Secretaries of GPs in progress.





A partial view of the members of Task Force Committee for Protection of Child Rights in Anaji Gram Panchayat.



Members of GP Task Force Committee at Ele bethuru.





Wall writing on the role of Gram Panchayat members in GP premises.



A training session in progress for the members of Self Help Groups at the GP level.



MLA Mr Shamanuru Shivashankarappa felicitating the rehabilitated child labourers at Davanagere.



Mr Alok Kumar, Superintendent of Police addressing owners and workers of Puffed rice units in a public meeting.





Deputy Commissioner Mr Mallikarjuna B. Dyaberi inaugurating the upgraded technology installed in puffed rice unit to prevent air pollution.



Children rescued from puffed rice units.



Rehabilitated children in a child friendly special school.



Children with their own creations of masks.



WARNING

Employees of Central and State governments shall not employ
children below 14 years in any sector
Ministry of Government of Karnataka, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore.

No. DPAR3 NRC 97

Date : 11.11.1997

Case

With an objective to bring changes in Karnataka Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1996, as per Section (2) of Karnataka State Civil Services Notification, 1978 (4 of Karnataka Notification 1990) the draft rules have been officially published No.DPAR3 SRC 97 dated 21-07-1997 in section 2 (c) (1) of IVth part of Karnataka Gazette official publication dated 25-09-1997, are invited from those individuals who might have consequential effect from this may file their objections/ suggestions within 30 days of this publication.

The above-mentioned Gazette was made available for public scrutiny since 25.09.1997.

State Government has not received any objection or suggestion with regard to the draft rules from anyone. Therefore, Government of Karnataka has formulated the following rules, by enforcing the powers conferred with section 3 (1) and 8 Karnataka Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1978 (14 of Karnataka Notification), such as :

Rules

1. Title and beginning: This Act is called Karnataka Civil Services (Conduct) (Amendment) Act 1997.
(2) This will come into effect from the date of publication in official gazette.
2. Insertion of new rule 29A: This rule shall be inserted after rule 29 of Karnataka Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1996, such as: 29A employment of children: (1) Government employees shall not employ children below 14 years in domestic work.
3. Violation of sub rule (1) will attract the offence of bad conduct for which punishments will be given to government employees as per sub rules from (5) to (8) of Rule 8 of Karnataka Civil Services (classification control and appeals) Rules 1957.

Based on the order of and in the name of Governor, Karnataka state

K. L. Jayaram
Under Secretary of Government,
Personnel and Administrative reforms services Rules

Ministry of Government of Karnataka, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore.

No. LD 39 PRS 2005

Date : 02.12.2005

Sub : Taking disciplinary action against those government employees who have employed children below 14 year for domestic work, under Rule 29A of Karnataka Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1996 –reg.

Ref : Government Notification No.DPAR3 SRC 97 dated 11.11.1997

Government has inserted new rule 29A after amending the Karnataka Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1996 through the referred notification. According to this, government employees are prohibited to employ children below 14 years for domestic work.

As per this, action could be initiated against those government employees who have violated this rule, punishments could be pronounced to government employees after conducting trial as per Rule 8 (V) to (VII) of Karnataka Civil Services (classification control and appeals) Rules 1957. In such cases, the respective Tribunals may conduct trials against such employees and initiate suitable disciplinary action against them.

However, Government has taken notice of instances of some government employees who have employed children below 14 years for domestic work by violating the said rules. Government has also noticed that the concerned officers have not taken any action despite rules have empowered them to identify and punish such employees.

Therefore, it is hereby directed to all Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries of Government Ministry and Heads of Departments to take disciplinary action as per the said rules against the employees who have employed children below 14 years for domestic work.

(B. K. Das)
Chief Secretary
Government of Karnataka

To

- 1) all additional chief secretaries / principal secretaries/ secretaries
- 2) all heads of departments
- 3) office copy/ additional copies