

### From Chairperson's Desk



During this tough time, when the world is working together to capture the spread of coronavirus and its new possible strains, NACG EVAC India and its partners, we are taking every step further to keep our children safe.

Besides the pandemic, children are facing a lot more threats that imagined, from inside and out. Such imagined dangers seem to be everywhere. With increase in use of internet, children can now be seen as unfiltered entities for the dark web users. Besides problems like cyberbullying and online predators, kids also can face the possibility of a physical encounter with the wrong person. This is when we need to step in and remain highly committed to our mission in helping every child in need, care and protection.

A lot of action has to be taken to make sure no child is left behind. This realization has been integral to our thought process. That is why we have all stayed engaged with the community, especially the children.

As we are entering to year 2021, let's hope for a better morrow. Wish everyone happy, safe, healthy, peaceful and a very fruitful year 2021. Once again, thank you all for your continuous support in our endeavours.



Ranjan Kumar Mohanty  
Chairperson, NACG EVAC India

### Social Media Campaign by NACG EVAC India

Social media campaign was undertaken by NACG EVAC, India on preventing Child Marriage and combating other forms of violence against children during COVID-19 post lockdown situation and advocating through children, youths and CSOs for promoting safe and protective environment for children. The campaign also focused on contributing to the implementation of National Plan of Action to prevent child marriage.

NACG EVAC, India has been since then active on all its social media platforms like Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook page. Many awareness content, including videos and posts were developed and posted on a daily basis that attracted more than 6400 followers on our Facebook page. The campaign was able to reach more than 200000 people, more than 150 followers on Twitter and more than 45000 people and 180 followers on Instagram. On LinkedIn, 195 people were connected. It has received more than 1500 impressions on Instagram, and 500 impressions each day on Twitter. People not only followed the handles but also shared the awareness contents and took active part in discussion through comments and messages.

#### Website Development:

A Website of NACG EVAC India is already developed and will be soon launched and shared with its final look. The website basically contains member details, stories of change from different members, and blogs on recent issues along with home page etc.

The social media campaign during this period along with the website design and development was supported by TDH, NL. The website has been developed by a professional group and it will help as comprehensive platform to showcase various activities and achievements of NACG India and its member organisations.

Editorial Board – Aditi P Kaur, D. Roshan Kumar  
& Dr. Indrani Bhattacharya

### Consultation on COVID19 post lockdown situation: Preventing Child Marriage

- A series of webinar was organised on: “COVID-19 post Lockdown Situation: Preventing Child Marriage” in five different regions of India.
- Western Region Webinar was held on: “COVID-19 post Lockdown Situation: Preventing Child Marriage” on 28th October 2020 in cooperation with Child Rights Collective, Gujarat (CRCG) consisting of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa. 30 participants joined in this webinar. Dr. Rinchen Chopel, DG SAIEVAC, Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson NACG EVAC, India, Prof. Leela Visaria, Ms. Divya Mukund, Girls not Bride, Mr. Gautam Chaudhari, Swapath Trust, Emidio A. Desouza and Mr. Mahender Jethmalani, Goa, Mr Rajesh Bhat, Convener, CRCG, Mr. Subrat Kumar Panda, Project Coordinator, Girl’s Advocacy Alliance’ TDH, NL, Ms. Dakshya, Tarun Sena, Shaishav, Bhavnagar and Ms. Parul Seth, CRCG, Bhavnagar, took part and shared their experience with respect to child marriage. Rajesh Bhatt, Convener, Child Rights Collective Gujarat (CRCG) gave vote of thanks
- Eastern Region Webinar was organised on 31st October 2020 in cooperation with Bal Kalyan Sangh (BKS), Jharkhand for the states consisting of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andaman-Nicobar Island & Chhattisgarh. 102 nos. of participants participated in this webinar. Mr Yaswant Jain, Member-NCPCR, New delhi gave the Inaugural address/ Keynote address. Dr. Rinchen Chopel, DG SAIEVAC & Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson NACG EVAC India also spoke on this occasion. Among other Mr D.K Saxena, IFS-Special Secretary WCD GoJ, Ms. Nandita Baruah, Country Head, The Asia Foundation, New Delhi, Mr. Thangaperumal Ponpandi, Country Manager, TDH-NL and Mr Abhijit Nirmal, Advocacy coordinator TATA Trust, New Delhi also participated in the technical session. Some Experience from survivors has been shared by MS. Shivani Kumari, Chairperson, Balmanch, Koderma and Ms.

Anshu Kumari, Bekobar (Balmanch). Ms Rupa Verma, Chairperson-CWC, Ranchi, Mr Y K Gautam, State Head - ATSEC Bihar, MS Manorama Singh, Member - Human Trafficking Committee, Chatisgarh, Ms. Divya Mukand, Senior Officer for Asia Girls Not Brides, Mr. M Mandal, Chairperson ATSEC south Asia and Mr. Prabhat Kumar, National Manager (Save the Children) India joined as panelist. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mishra, BKS Cum Member Standing Committee (Child Rights and Protection) Niti Aayog, GOI gave the vote of thanks.



- Southern Region Webinar was organised on 5th November 2020 in cooperation with SEEDS Guntur, Andhra Pradesh and HOPE, Puducherry for the States consisting of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Lakshadweep Island and Puducherry. 173 participants joined this webinar. Sri. J. Srinivasa Rao, Chairperson, Telangana State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (TSCPCR) gave the Keynote address. Dr. Rinchen Chopel, DG, SAIEVAC, Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC also present on this webinar. In technical session Ms. Anuradha Vidyasankar, Head, South Regional Resource Centre, CHILDLINE India Foundation, Chennai presented brief overview on the trend. Mr. P. Joseph Victor Raj, Hope, Puducherry, Mr. Nitin Kumar, Asst. Manager – Program, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana, Save the Children, Hyderabad, Mr. Anand B.Lobo, Member (ex), Karnataka SCPCR, Ms. Adv. Parvathi Menon, People’s Council for Social Justice (PCSJ), Kochi, Kerala, Ms. Nancy J Anabel, Country Director, Children Believe, Chennai and Dr. A. Mamatha Raghuvveer, Director, Tharuni, Warangal joined as panelist in this webinar. Mr. D.Roshan Kumar, Vice

Chair & Convener, Working Group on Child Marriage, NACG EVAC India and Mr. Subrat Kumar Panda, Project Coordinator, Girl's Advocacy Alliance' Terre Des Hommes Netherlands also spoke on this occasion. Mr. Ram Mohan NVS, Secretary, HELP; State Convener, Network Against Trafficking & Sexual Exploitation in AP (NATSAP) & Member, NACG EVAC India moved the vote of thanks.

- Northern Region Webinar was organised on 18th November 2020 in cooperation with Childhood Enhancement through Training and Action (CHETNA) for the States consisting of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi, Ladakh, Chandigarh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. 109 participants participated in this webinar. Dr. Rinchen Chopel, DG, SAIEVAC, Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC India, Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Vice Chairperson, NACG EVAC India, Mr. Bal Krishna Goel, Former member of HSCPCR, Ms. Jaya Singh, Member of Uttarpradesh SCPCR, Ms. Aditi P. Kaur, Dr. Rouf Mohi-ud-din Mallick, Koshish NGO, J & K, Ms. Sumitra Shirma, PC, PAPN, Himachal Pradesh, Ms. Maadhavi, Aabhas, Mr. Brijmohan, SAARD, Mr. Dharamveer Yadev, Mr. Rajeev Seth were spoke on this webinar.



- North Eastern Region Webinar was organised on 30th November 2020 in cooperation with NEDAN Foundation. The Webinar was moderated by Dr. Digambar Narzary, Chairperson, NEDAN Foundation for the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. 45 participants attended this webinar. Mr. Surendra Kumar, IGP CID Head Quarter, Assam police gave the keynote address. Dr.

Rinchen Chopel, DG, SAIEVAC, Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC India, Mr. Subrat Kumar Panda, project Coordinator, Girl's Advocacy Alliance, Terre Des Hommes, Netherland, Mr. Thangaperumal Ponpandi, Country Manager, Terre Des Hommes, Netherlands were present in this webinar.

In the panel discussion Mr. Miguel Das Queah, UTAH, Ms. Debasmita Ghosh, HRLN, Guwahati, Mr. Sunil Mao, HRLN, Arunachal Pradesh & Ms. Shannan Massar, Faith Foundation Shillong participated and shared their view and opinion. Dr. Digambar Narzary, NEDAN Foundation moved the vote of thanks.

*(The compiled recommendations of the Regional Webinars / Consultations shall be published in the next issue)*

### **National Youth Convention of Young Change makers to prevent child marriage**



National Youth Convention was organised on COVID-19 post Lockdown Situation: Preventing Child Marriage on 28th November 2020 on virtual platform by NACG EVAC India in Collaboration with TDH, NL. The convention was attended by around 220 mostly young change makers from different parts of the country. The Convention addressed significant issues about involvement of young changemakers in preventing child marriage in india.

Speaking on the occasion Dr. Rinchen Chopel, Director General of South Asian Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) stressed on youth involvement bringing critical changes in this fight of preventing child marriage. Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC, India, chaired the inaugural

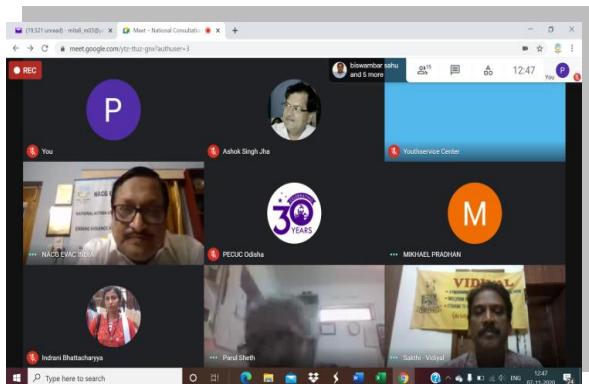


session. Mr. Asim Amitabh Dash, Member, Odisha Human Rights Commission in his keynote address emphasized on youth involvement for preventing this social evil of child marriage.

Amongst other Mr. Subrat Kumar Panda, Project Coordinator, Girl's Advocacy Alliance, Terre Des Hommes, Netherland, Mr. Thangaperumal Ponpandi, Country Manager, Terre Des Hommes, NL, Mr .D. Roshan Kumar, Vice Chairperson, NACG EVAC India, Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Vice- Chairperson, NACG EVAC India, Mr Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Treasurer, NACG EVAC, INDIA, Mr. Varun Pathak, Advocate, Supreme court, Ms Razia Ismail, Head, IACR, New Delhi, Mr. Mikhael Pradhan, Head Advocacy, World Vision India and Mr. Vikram Srivastav, Advocate & Founder, Independent Thought spoke and shared their views. Vote of thanks moved by Ms. Aditi P. Kaur, National Executive Committee Member & Thematic Head, Child Participation, NACG EVAC India.

### CRC@30 Celebration by SAIEVAC – Children's Nomination Process

#### Consultation workshop on child participation



A consultation workshop on child participation was organized on 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020. Dr. Rinchen Chopel, DG SAIEVAC discussed about SAIEVAC's Strategy on Child Participation, Celebration of 2020 CRC Day: Introduction of the event, concept & proposed programme. 22 participants from 19 NACG member organisations from different states joined in this

workshop for finalizing the process of nomination of children from different member states and date for national children's meet action plan, which were developed by the child participation thematic group.

#### National Children Meet

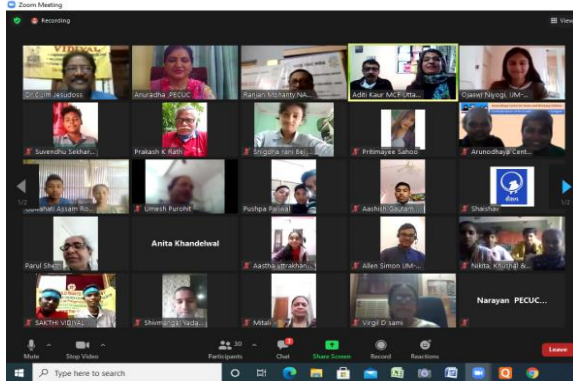
A National Children Meet was organised on virtual platform on 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020. It was organised by NACG EVAC, India. 50 participants from 22 organisations of 12 states participated in this programme. This programme was organised to select 10 children who will represent India in CRC 2020 celebration of SAIEVAC.

Dr. Rinchen Chopel, Director General SAIEVAC joined this Children's Meet as Chief Guest and gave a brief idea about the upcoming South Asia Regional CRC Day 2020 celebration.



Ms. Aditi P Kaur of MCF, Uttarakhand welcomed the participants and shared the purpose of this National Children Meet. Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson NACG EVAC, India inaugurated the children consultation.

For the selection process, the children were grouped region wise into 5 groups: North, North East, East, West and South. Ms. Aditi P Kaur, Mountain Children Foundation, Mr. Prakash Rath, Open Learning System, Ms. Anuradha Mohanty Mohanty, PECUC, Mr. C. Jim Jesudoss, Sakthi Vidiyal and Ms Parul Seth, Shaishav, Shanti Hooper, WVI facilitated the process.

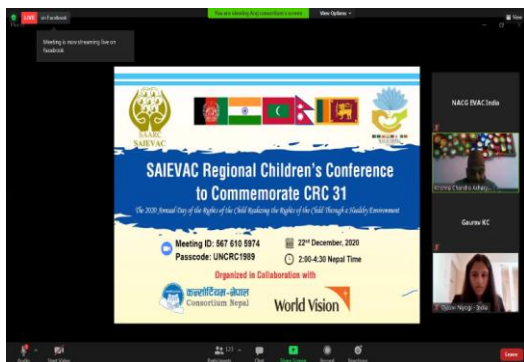


Children discussed the impact of UNCRC on their lives and elected 12 representatives for participation in SAIEVAC CRC@30 celebration. The elected representatives are – Ojaswi Niyogi, IJM, Kolkata, Priyaranjan, OLS, Odisha, Ningamachan Mohanty, PASDO, Manipur and Hiyamoni Ramchiany, WVI, Assam. Himanshi, Independent Thought, UP and Ashish, MCF, Uttarakhand, G. Muthu Lakshmi, Sakthi Vidiyal, Tamilnadu, P. Madhan Anunodhaya Centre, Tamil Nadu, Shivmangal Yadav, WVI Maharashtra and Nikita from Shaishav, Gujarat, Sameer, from Ashadeep Foundation, Delhi and Hasnuhena Parveen, Contact Base, West Bengal.

The elected child representatives participated in the South Asia Regional CRC Day 2020 celebration.

The elected representatives again met on 20<sup>th</sup> December and nominated Ojaswi Niyogi and P. Madhan to give statements in SAIEVAC’s CRC @30 celebration on behalf of the children of India.

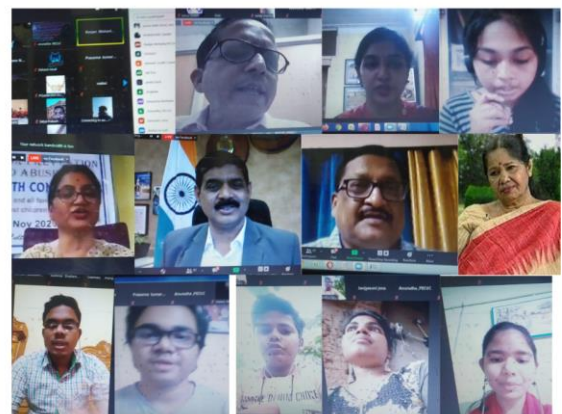
**CRC@30 Celebration by SAIEVAC:**



SAIEVAC CRC @30 celebration was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2020. Ms. Ojaswi Niyogi and Mr. P. Madhan spoke and gave their statements on behalf of child representatives of India. Dr. Rinchen Chopel, DG SAIEVAC, facilitated the South Regional Children’s Convention. Many eminent dignitaries from Government, NACG, SSCG, NGOs, Statutory bodies of different SAARC countries joined this convention.

**News from States**

**State Level Youth Convention for ending abuse, exploitation, and all forms of violence and torture against children**



19<sup>th</sup> November was observed as the “World day for prevention of child abuse” all over the world with the theme “SDG – Target 16.2 - End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children by 2030 – leaving no one behind” for the year 2020. To mark the occasion a “State Level Youth Convention for ending Abuse, Exploitation and all form of Violence & Torture against children” was organized on virtual platform by People’s Cultural Centre (PECUC). Mr. Satyajit Mohanty, IPS, DG Fire Services was the Chief Guest of the convention. Addressing the convention, Mr. Mohanty said “COVID19 has created a very stressful situation for children.

Around 150 crores of children have been affected by it.” Among others Mr. Pradeep Kumar Biswal, IAS (Retd), Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Secretary PECUC & Chairperson of NACG EVAC, Dr. Minakhi Panda, Chairmen, PECUC, and Ms. Anuradha Mohanty spoke on this occasion. Speakers emphasized to stop all forms of child abuse, exploitation and violence and for this a coordinated action was suggested by all. Youth Panelists- Sushree Shailani Suman, Chief Editor, ResearchEdit, Stuti Ranjan Pradhan, President, ECOSAVERS Youth Network, Milonee Mishra, Core team Member, State level Children’s Forum, Yash Mohanty, Student, St. Xaviers, High School, Suvendu Kumar Das, President, State Level Children’s Forum & Sasmita Munda, Core Team Member, Ecosavers Youth Network also shared their views and opinions in this Convention amongst other youths. A large number of youths from different districts of Odisha participated in this convention.

### Stories of Change

#### **Education – as a tool of poverty eradication**

Jaga Munda lives with his parents, Babuli and Manjari Munda and two other siblings in Banamahuldiha village, Odisha. His parents work as daily wage earners having very unstable income and it was very difficult on their part to manage their family with the paltry amount they earned. Because of poverty his parents sent him to other villages to work as Bagal (looking after cattle) when he was studying in class 6<sup>th</sup>. He became a drop out and left school to work and earn to add a little to his parent’s income.

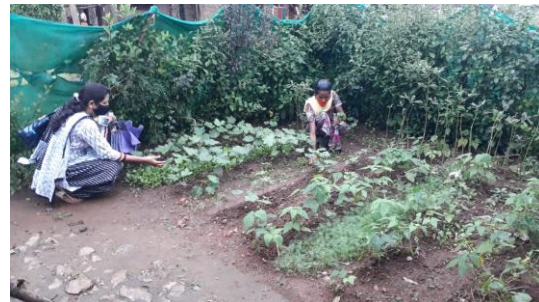
Child Club members of PECUC took up this issue at Child Club meeting. The Ward Member along with Child Club members went to Jaga’s house and convinced the family to bring Jaga back to his village and put him in the school. His parents agreed and Jaga returned to his village leaving the work in the neighbouring village. On return, he joined Child Club in his village and continued his study in school. Now he is happy

to attend the school and pursue his studies. PECUC believes that education is the vehicle to help poor families come out of poverty. It aims to equip children with literacy and skills that can enable them to gain employment and bring financial relief to their families.

#### **Gardening Addresses Pandemic Anxiety**

Seventeen-year-old Kamala\* is excited. The seeds sown by her have now blossomed into fresh spinach and fenugreek. It is her moment of pride. Kamala is a victim of child marriage. Early marriage takes a toll on a girl’s health, her education is affected and in some cases she is a victim of domestic and sexual abuse. Girls like Kamala are part of an extremely vulnerable and marginalized section of society whose issues are not usually given attention to. The Covid-19 pandemic affects such segments more than the rest. Terre des Hommes Netherlands, Initiatives for Married Adolescent Girls Empowerment (IMAGE) in India constantly strives to provide a better life for early married girls. The project works in vulnerable districts of Karnataka where the prevalence of child marriage is very high.

As part of the COVID-19 relief and rehabilitation, one activity was to train these girls in kitchen gardening. A total of 165 girls from 18 villages were provided with vegetable seeds and taught how to plant them in their backyard. This activity kept the girls engaged and proved to be a great stress buster addressing the anxiety and other psychosocial issues arising out of the pandemic which exacerbates their existing vulnerability. The activity also had a dual benefit as it provided the girls’ families with a free and sufficient supply of nutritious organic vegetables for consumption, the purchase of which would have caused an economic strain due to the loss of livelihoods.





“The gardening activity has helped reduce our stress during the pandemic. We feel confident now that we can produce our own food. We are happy to have learnt a new skill”, says Kamala. The girls now plant the seeds of their empowerment, turning a crisis period into an opportune endeavor.

### Child Protection Workforce Capacity Building to End Child Sexual Abuse in India

“Child Protection Workforce Capacity Building to End Child Sexual Abuse in India” is a continuing programme with support from World Vision Germany, World Vision India and German Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) and during this quarter various activities has been undertaken in state of Odisha and Delhi following the guidelines of Governments.

- In Odisha, 270 Village Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPCs) have been formed covering 2715 members from different field like, people’s representatives, frontline health workers & ICDS workers. 1107 VLCPC members were trained on management and coordination roles VLCPC, its functions, monitoring, reporting and legal compliances pertaining to CSAE and their accountability.



Block Level Stakeholder’s Convergence meeting at Ganjam, Odisha

940 Children were trained on CSAE, child rights, advocacy and respective support mechanisms in both the states, Delhi and Odisha. 868 frontline ICDS & public health workers (ANM, AWW & ASHA workers) were trained on prevention and protection of children

against CSAE. 430 School teachers were trained on CSA, Life Skill Education, POCSO & JJ Act and Child Protection systems in schools across Delhi and Odisha.

- In Delhi 42 nos. of Police / SJPOs were oriented through virtual platform on laws, policies, SoP compliances, monitoring and accountability for CSAE. 250 nos. of Block level stakeholders and CP Service Providers were oriented on implementation of the POCSO Act and JJ Act to facilitate wider collaboration and convergence among them for effective implementation of policies and laws for protection of children in Delhi and Odisha.



Children participating in a training program at Delhi



Teachers taking oath in training programme at Odisha

### State Level Children’s Consultation on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in Odisha and Delhi

- A State Level Children’s Consultation on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation was organised on 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 at Panthanivas, Bhubaneswar. 51 adolescents (30 girls & boys 21) from 7 districts of Odisha

participated in this consultation. The key objective of the event is to provide space to the children and encourage them to participate and express their views/concerns, being active citizens of the country. Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Secretary, PECUC, Ms. Anuradha Mohanty, Executive Director, PECUC, Ms. Madhumita Dash, Senior Consultant UNICEF, Mr. Manoj Tripaty, Senior Consultant, Dr. Mitali Mohanty took different sessions in this consultation.



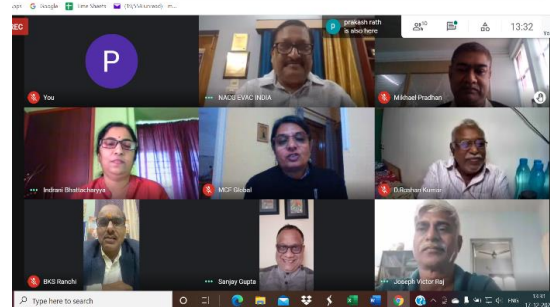
- A state level consultation held in Delhi on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of December. 107 children participated from all over the district of Delhi. In this consultation 9 children (72 children in total) were gathered at a place in their district individually and remaining 35 children of 3 districts united at a center place arranged. Each district then united virtually with all the facilities to make the communication smooth. Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC India, also spoke to children in this occasion. Mr. Ashok Kumar from A.V. Baliga memorial trust oriented the children about UNCRC and Sustainable Development goals and how UNCRC and SDG are working against CSAE.



Children were briefed about life-skills and the children prepared scorecard in which they talk about issues related to child protection and CSA. A manifesto was prepared to share with government stakeholders on behalf of the children participated during this consultation.

### NACG EVAC India, National Executive Committee Meeting

NACG EVAC India National EC Meeting was held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC India. Mr. D. Roshan Kumar, Vice Chair, SEEDS; Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Vice Chair, CHETNA; Mr. Sanjay K Mishra, BKS; Ms. Aditi P Kaur, MCF; Ms. Indrani Bhattacharya, CINI; Mr. Prakash Rath. OLS; Mr. Mikhael Pradhan, WVI; Mr. P Josheph Victor Raj, HOPE and Mr. Manabendranath Mandal, SLARTC participated in the discussion. Dr. Rinchen Chopel, DG, SAIEVAC addressed the meeting.



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