



From Chairperson's Desk

International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour

Year 2021 is being observed as International Year for the Elimination of Child labour (IYCL). In the year 2019, The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) unanimously adopted a resolution declaring 2021 as the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour. In recent year substantial progress has been achieved towards elimination of child labour. This happens largely because of intense advocacy and national mobilization backed by legislative and practical action. But still there is more than 152 million children are in labour globally. The International Year for the Elimination of Child labour (IYCL) is an opportunity to strengthen the efforts to achieve the global target to end child labour by 2025, agreed as the Sustainable development Goal Target 8.7. The International Year for the Elimination of Child labour (IYCL) was launched by Alliance 8.7 on 21 January 2021, under the banner: Act – Inspire – Scale Up, with a global call for action pledges to end child labour by 2025.

The COVID19 pandemic has made the challenge of eliminating child labour by 2025 even harder. Since the schools are closed, children are at risk of being pushed into child labour due to the COVID19 crisis. Child labour harms children mentally, physically, socially and morally. It interferes with their schooling, preventing them from attending or concentrating. The joint initiative encourages regional, national and organizational stakeholders and individuals to identify concrete actions that they will take by December 2021, to help end child labour. Lets come together and act now for eradication of child labour in all forms, factors & processes.



Ranjan Kumar Mohanty
Chairperson, NACG EVAC India

National Consultation & Convergence Meeting to End Child Sexual Abuse



Two days of National Consultation & Convergence Meeting to End Child Sexual Abuse in India was inaugurated at Puri on 13th March 2021. This was organized by National Action and Coordination Group for Ending Violence Against Children (NACG-EVAC), India, the country level civil society forum of SAEIVAC, an apex body of SAARC in collaboration with World Vision, Germany, WVI & German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung).

The objective of this Consultation was to develop a platform for CSOs and other stakeholders to share the Child Protection challenges and good practices to prevent Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, and also collaborating with various stakeholders to review and firm up the strategy to end Child Sexual Abuse with involvement of all stakeholders related to child protection issue as stated by Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson of NACG EVAC India. Justice DP Chowdhury, Former Judge, Orissa High Court & President, State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission addressed the participating members, and emphasized on the role of Civil Society members to create awareness on rights of the child and the ways in which they can claim it. He also adds that participation of children to voice their needs is the first step to ensure they are empowered and protected.

Dr. Rinchen Chopel, Director General of SAEIVAC, connected through virtual platform said that it is the right time we must start protecting

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

children focusing on issues related to the child sexual abuse mainly during the pandemic. Mr. Mikhael Pradhan, World Vision India said, Child sexual exploitation is a serious issue and its magnitude is high, which demands a concerted effort by all the stakeholders to work together. Mr. Yashwant Jain, Member, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), expressed his deep concern over rising incidents of child sexual abuse. He also highlighted that there is a greater need to reach out to children, school, and community to create awareness on the POCSO Act to help them understand the gravity of the penalty under the Act. Ms. Sandhyabati Pradhan, Chairperson, OSCPCR, shared about the initiatives taken by the government of Odisha and OSCPCR in preventing child sexual abuse and applauded the work of NACG-EVAC India for the cause. Mr Sanjay Mishra, Treasurer of NACG EVAC India gave vote of thanks to all the speakers for their valuable inputs. Among others Ms. Vidya Reddy, Director Tulir, Mr. Barun Pathak, Advocate Supreme Court, Mr. D. Roshan Kumar, Vice-chair, NACG, Dr. Indrani Bhattacharyya, Mr. Parha Das, Plan India, Dr. Abhaya Kumar Mallick, Dy. Director, Elementary Education, Govt. of Odisha, Dr. Anangdev Singh, WVI, Mr. Subrat Kumar Panda, TdH, NL, Ms. Aditi P. Kaur, E.C Member, NACG India also spoke on the occasion.

14th March 2021, the 2nd day of National Consultation & Convergence meeting was held at Puri to end child sexual abuse in India. This was organized by NACG EVAC.

The consultation brought out many challenges as well as recommendations from the stakeholders. Sharing on the incidences of violence against children covering Odisha and Delhi, Mr. Mikhael Pradhan, Head Advocacy, World Vision India said that most of the children are ignorant of child protection related laws to make best use of them for their own protection. Children have reported online abuse and child marriage cases.

Dr. Rashmi Singh, Director WCD, Govt. of Delhi expressed her deep concern on the issue, emphasized on importance of promotion of culture and tolerance on any sort of exploitation on children. She suggested better alignment between different institutions and departments to work jointly in order to ensure application of laws. Holistic approach needs to be adopted to address this serious issue. She also spoke on the violence against children at home that needs safety audit. Senior Police Officer, Mr. Sudhansu Sarangi, IPS, sharing his perspective on the issues said security of child is not exclusive responsibility of police, rather social relationships both within the

family and within the neighborhoods provide a greater safety net to the children. Yashabanti Sreemany, Member West Bengal SCPCR said use of WhatsApp to lodge complain on several exploitation increased the number of cases and the response was quick. She said that the best practice of reaching out to wider audience was possible through capacity building of stakeholders. Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Nidhi Dwivedi, Member of DSCPCR, Delhi said best use of special relief fund, promotion of smile club, coordination between different departments has resulted in a positive impact. Mr. Preetikant Panda, Programme Manager of OSCPS shared the initiatives of the government of Odisha focusing on child abuse prevention, such as full time workforce in child protection system.



During the concluding session, Dr. Rinchen Chopel, Director General of SAIEVAC said that it is an effort of NACG EVAC India to converge and collaborate with relevant suggestions and recommendations from civil society organisations, ministries, commissions, departments, CSOs and other key stakeholders to come out with strategies in preventing CSAE. He also suggested that child sexual abuse can be prevented in a collaborative effort.



Ms. Anuradha Mohanty, Executive Director of PECUC gave vote of thanks to all the speakers for their valuable inputs. Among others Mr. Mikhael Pradhan, WVI, Ms. Zeba Khan, Mitali Mohanty,

Yashabanti Sreemani, Member WBSCPCR, Ms. Nidhi Dwivedi, Member DCPCR, Ms. Dibyaa Saswati, Member OSCPCR, Mr. Preetikant Panda, OSCPS, Ms. Kasturi Mohapatra, Former Chairperson OSCPCR, Mr. S. Kannayiram, National Law University of Odisha, Mohammad Salam Khan, Senior Consultant POCSO, DCPCR, Delhi, Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Treasurer NACG EVAC India, Mr. Roop Sudesh Vimal, Chairperson, CWC Delhi, Mr. Ashok Kumar Jha, Convenor CACL, and Mr. Pramod Kishore Acharya, National Law University Odisha spoke on the occasion.

NACG EVAC India National Board Meeting



The board meeting of NACG EVAC, India was held on 15th March 2021 at Puri, Odisha. NACG EVAC India has decided to start a country wide massive campaign for combating Child Sexual Abuse in India. The National Board which met here on third as a follow up of National Consultation and Convergence meeting to end child sexual abuse in India, discussed various recommendations and suggestions and came out with a strategy for various activities for the campaign. NACG EVAC India National Board members from 17 states participated in the meeting. Shri Priyank Kanoongo, Chairperson, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, graced the meeting with his presence to take cognizance of various issues faced by children across the country. Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC India presided over the meeting. Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Vice Chair Person, NACG EVAC India introduced the aims and objectives of the NACG EVAC India in ending violence against children.

Mr. Kanoongo officially released the NACG EVAC India Charter in the National Board meeting. Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty said that the Charter of NACG EVAC India is first of its kind amongst the NACGs of SAIEVAC member countries.



Various suggestions and recommendations that elicited out of these two days consultations were presented to the Chair, NCPCR, for e.g., formation of village level Child Protection Committees, violation of rights of migrant children, addressing the issue of tribal customary practices, child labour issues & exploitation of children in Brick kiln industries.

Shri Priyank Kanungo took cognizance of all issues and assured the Commission's support to address these issues and demanded support of the NACG EVAC India as well. Shri Kanungo mentioned about the initiatives taken by the Commission to conduct social audits in 7000 children care institutions. He also mentioned the significant initiative taken by the Commission for the digitalization of CCI monitoring and inspection data that will be uploaded in the Monitoring App for Seamless Inspections (MASI) App for monitoring and compliance of CCIs with JJ Act, 2015 and JJ Rules. He also highlighted the POSCO cases in the country.

Mr. Sanjay Mishra, Treasurer NACG EVAC India, emphasized that collaboration with NACG EVAC India at state level, as well as collaboration between NACG EVAC India and NCPCR will pave a way to a stronger partnership model to end violence against children in India.

Launching of NACG EVAC India Website



National Action & Coordination Group for Ending Violence Against Children (NACG EVAC) India, the country level civil society forum of South Asia Initiative to end Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC) has launched its website on Virtual Platform.

The website has been inaugurated by Dr. Rinchen Chopel, Director General, South Asia Initiatives to End Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC), an apex body of SAARC. While inaugurating the website Dr. Rinchen expressed that COVID-19 pandemic has made the children more vulnerable. Governments, civil society organizations and other partners in development, all need to work together to prevent all forms of violence on children in all settings.

Other dignitaries like Thangaperumal Popandi, Country Manager, India, TdH NL, Mikhael Kumar Pradhan, Head Advocacy, World Vision India and Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC India, Prakash Rath, Convenor, Odisha Chapter, Sanjay Gupta, Vice-Chairperson, NACG EVAC India from Delhi, Sanjay Mishra, Treasurer, NACG India from Ranchi, Manabendra Mandal, NACG India Executive committee member from West Bengal spoke on the occasion and NACG EVAC India National Board members along with many CSOs of Odisha participated in the launching ceremony. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson NACG EVAC India presided over the meeting

State Level CSO Consultation on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

State level Civil Society Organizations' Consultation on Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation has been organized by PECUC in collaboration with NACG EVAC India on 29th January 2021 at Panthanivas, Bhubaneswar. The Consultation was inaugurated by Dr. Rinchen Chopel, Director General SAIEVAC, virtually and Mr. Thangaperumal Popandi, Country Manager, India, Tdh Netherland, Mr. Mikhael Kumar Pradhan, Head Advocacy, World Vision India from Delhi, Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Vice-Chairperson, NACG EVAC India from Delhi, Mr. Sanjay Mishra, Treasurer, NACG India from Ranchi, Mr. Manabendra Mandal, NACG India Executive committee members from different States joined the inaugural session. Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC India, has chaired the session. Mr. Mohanty congratulated all the partners for taking forward the entire process and supporting the National cause in

preventing child sexual abuse. The state convener Mr. Prakash Rath, NACG India Chapter also gave emphasis on addressing the issue of Child Abuse and awareness at each stakeholder levels.



Honorable Guest Mrs. Kasturi Mohapatra, Former Chairperson, OSCPCR in her inaugural speech shows her concern with regard to CSA during COVID pandemic and lockdown situation, which has shaken the entire world. The inaugural session was followed by open discussion and group discussion and presentation on Baseline findings, Sustainable Development Goals, Child Protection Scenario in India and Odisha and Advocacy Strategy Plan. Ms. Anuradha Mohanty, Executive Director, PECUC briefed the whole day process at the concluding session.

Chief Guest, Ms. Sandhyabati Pradhan, Chairperson, OSCPCR, showed her concern regarding rise of child abuse cases in India. She gave importance on the moral responsibility of all working in different areas like govt., civil society, schools and private sector to be vigilant in reporting the cases and creating awareness. Shri Dharanidhar Nanda, OAS, Joint Secretary, Department of W&CD Mission Shakti, Govt. of Odisha showed his concern regarding the condition of child exploitation in India and Odisha. The system at District, State and Panchayat level needs to be more active and focused regarding reporting of CSA.



Dr. Abhay Kumar Mallick, Deputy Director, Elementary Education, Govt. of Odisha emphasized on reducing child sexual abuse and bringing awareness in school level. Mr. Harihar Nayak, Former Member, OSCPCR empathized on the awareness building on the CSA & Laws among the service providers. Shri Prakash Ku. Rath, State Convenor, NACG, Odisha spoke about the role of civil society and how to advocate issues with different government agencies. Formally, Vote of Thanks was rendered by Dr. Anangdev Singh, Technical Expert, World Vision India.

Delhi Consultation with CSOs on Combating Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation



Delhi State level Consultation with CSOs on Combating Child sexual abuse and exploitation

Delhi State-level consultation on “Combating Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation” was organized on 11th Feb, 2021 at Indian International Centre, Delhi. To discuss various child related issues, different strategies to combat CSA, challenges in law enforcement, suggestions and recommendations for key stakeholders. NACG EVAC India took initiative along with CSOs/NGOs to mitigate the child protection issues.



Sharing of ideas and experience was done in presence of child rights' experts namely Ms. Nidhi Dwivedi DCPCR member, Ms. Jothi Rathe, DCPCR Advisor, Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson NACG EVAC India & PECUC Secretary, Mr. Sanjay Mishra, Treasurer, NACG EVAC India & Member NitiAyog Standing Committee for child protection, Mr. Sanjay Gupta, Vice-chairperson NACG EVAC India, Director CHETNA, Mr. Mikhael Pradhan, Exec. Com. Member NACG EVAC India & Advocacy Head WVI, Ms. Sonal Kapoor, Director Protsahan India Foundation, Mr. Shashank Shekhar, Advocate Supreme Court, and Ms. Razia Ismail, Director, IACR graced the occasion.

Delhi State Consultation on Convergence and Coordination amongst Stakeholders at Delhi



Delhi state level Consultation on Convergence and Coordination of Stakeholders was organized at India International Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi to deliberate on ending Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation and ending all forms of violence against children in Delhi. 92 delegates representing the Government of NCT of Delhi, Department of Women and Child Development, the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) and CSOs participated in the consultation, comprising of CWC members, District Child Protection Officers (DCPOs), Superintendent and welfare officers from CCIs, Protection officers and Civil Society Organisation members.

The consultation was organized by People's Cultural Centre, Bhubaneswar, Odisha in collaboration with National Action and Coordination Group for Ending Violence Against Children (NACG-EVAC) India with support of Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD), Delhi. The other partners in the event were World Vision India, World Vision Germany, German Federal Government in partnership with ABHAS, AV. Baliga Memorial Trust, Asha Deep Foundation & Society for Participatory Integrated development (SPID-Society), New Delhi.

Addressing the inaugural session, Dr. Rashmi Singh IAS, Special Secretary cum Director (Social Welfare) and Director, Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of NCT Delhi voiced that through collective ownership and shared accountability proper care and protection can be provided to children against sexual violence.



Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, National Action and Coordination Group for Ending violence against children (NACG- EVAC-India), highlighted about the aims and objectives of NACG EVAC India CSO Network. The NACG EVAC India brings together the NGOs networks, coalitions, media, children's forums, academia and other civil society bodies for interaction, networking, joint advocacy, sharing of good practices and experience to end all forms of violence against children especially Child Sexual Abuse, Child Trafficking, Child Labour, Child Marriage and Corporal Punishment with integral focus on Children living with Disability and Child Participation.

Mr. Mikhael Pradhan Head-Advocacy, World Vision India shared about the aims of the BMZ-NACG EVAC India Capacity Building Project and objectives of the Convergence and Coordination meeting organised for the child protection stakeholders and service providers.

Ms. Madhvi Samson, State Convenor, NACG-EVAC India highlighted that generating awareness on CSA among children, parents/caregivers and in the society is the need of the hour and of high importance and an important weapon to curb child sexual abuse especially in Delhi. Mr. Anurag Kundu Chairperson, DCPCR focused that bringing right stakeholder or actors together in one platform and their collective action would bring impact in the community to control child sexual abuse.

In the concluding session Ms. Madhu K. Garg Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of NCT Delhi highly appreciated the effort of bringing the nodal departments and functionaries e.g. DWCD, DCPCR, CWCs, CSOs to a common platform through the convergence meeting. She thanked NACG EVAC India for the initiative to promote for the child protection.

Some major recommendation emerged out of the consultation are to take immediate cognizance of the sexual violence against children in Delhi, importance and effective implementation of the JJ Act and POSCO Act with true spirit and essence, fast track the trial and justice dispense system, mental health and psycho-social care and support to survivors, strengthening the prevention mechanism to safeguard children against sexual violence, the need of periodic convergence and coordination meeting among various stakeholders for prevention, protection, rehabilitation and re-integration of children etc.

Amongst the guest speakers were Ms. Nidhi Dwivedi (Member, DCPCR), Mr. Premoday Khaka (Asst. Director (CPU & Litigation) DWCD, Mr. Mikhael Pradhan (Head Advocacy, World Vision India), Ms. Enakshi Ganguli (Human Rights Activist and co-founder Of Haq: Center for child rights), Ms. Pallavi Sharma and Aishwarya Sinha from Counsel to Secure Justice (CSJ), Ms. Sakshi Chand (Consultant child and Adolescent Psychologist), Ms. Anuradha Mohanty (Executive Director PECUC), Mr. Ashok Kumar Jha (Executive Director, A.V. Baliga Memorial Trust) and Mr. Sanjay Gupta (Vice-Chairman , NACG-EVAC India), & Ms. Zeba Khan (Programme Coordinator for Delhi, NACG EVAC India).

News from States

Nutritional Support to Children with Disabilities in Puri by OLS and Tech Mahindra Foundation

In order to reach out to the unreached, OLS with support from Tech Mahindra Foundation supported dry ration to 500 families having person with disability which are in distressed condition and finding it difficult to cope up with the situation in the slums of Puri Municipality.

OLS procured the materials from Santrupti, a Self Help Group of women with and without disabilities. The first batch of distribution started on 13th February



2021 at Akhyayadham Community Hall followed by BalinoliaSahi where the Councilor was present and also Mr. Rashmi Ranjan Mohanty, CSR Coordinator, Tech Mahindra Foundation, Bhubaneswar. The distribution was completed in a phased manner between 13th and 22nd February 2021. Each family received a packet containing the items, i.e. Rice- 10 kgs, Flattened rice- 10 kgs, Jaggery- 5 kgs, Raw Groundnuts- 2 kgs, Gram Dal- 1 kg, Mustard oil- 1 kg.



“The struggle for food has been a long drawn battle for this fishermen community who were restricted by the pandemic to venture out to the sea for their livelihood. It brought untold miseries to the families especially those having children/adults with disability. The timely support by OLS and TMF cannot be praised enough. Words fail us,” said Mr. Harry Rao, one of the local leaders and a sea adventure coach and trainer from Bali NoliaSahi.

Unprecedented Times Call For Unprecedented Actions

Foster Parenting Helped Us !

The Corona virus proved to be a real challenge. The lockdown was a dampener and a shocker for everyone. When everyone was leaving the campus on

21 March, little did anyone know that things were going to drastically change.



सेट जोन हाई स्कूल सेक्टर-26 की तरफ से एकत्र राशन को प्रिंसिपल कविता दास माता मनसा देवी वेस्टिबल ट्रस्ट को सौंपती हुई ●स्कॉ:

The academic year had just ended and planning for the new session was going on but everything came to a naught. The education process shifted online and educators had to radically change their thought process to adapt to the new situation. Classes started in the first week of April as they would have otherwise. Everyone was putting in their best efforts but there were challenges, especially for the economically disadvantaged group. Education and classes did not remain a priority for a few. Parents had lost their jobs and the situation was grim. The lockdown started easing in May and St. John's High School got into action. The first challenge was to reach out to our vulnerable little ones.

St. John's has an extremely dedicated FOSTER PARENT program. Each staff member is responsible for the well being of two/three EDG students and personally gets involved with them. The foster parent took special care of his/her foster sons during this terrible period of isolation and kept a close watch and could identify their needs.

1. **Distribution of learning material:** Sets of books, copies, etc were distributed in COVID affected colonies like Bapudham, where most of the students belonged to.
2. **Distress calls** were coming in from students who had financial problems and ration was provided to them.
3. **EDG students also had a problem because of the non availability of smart phones.** The Principal, Mrs. Kavita Das requested help from the alumni group, SJOBA (Batch of 1977) and in a short period, 40 of the students received smart phones which enabled them to start attending classes regularly. This really made a difference as they were up to speed with the rest of the class.



THE AIM WAS TO LEAVE BEHIND NO ONE and not even one family had to leave Chandigarh because of lack of facilities.

Students were feeling disconnected with the school and missing all the fun and activities that they used to have in school. Various online competitions were organized to cheer them up and the participation was encouraging. Earth day, Bio diversity day, Teachers Day, all occasions became online celebrations. The school encouraged students to thank the frontline warriors by making cards and reaching out. All through, students were kept engaged through interactive games, songs, individual research projects, activities around art, PE, music, yoga, dance and drama as well.

As the situation eased, and students became more settled, they were involved in outreach programs. Online yoga, English speaking sessions were held during these outreach sessions with the outreach partners. This inculcated the quality of acceptance and mutual respect.

An outstanding effort was put in by Class 6 students who made videos of X-mas carols in sign language for hearing impaired students of Vatika Special School.

Then X-mas rolled in which is the yearly giving time for Johnians. The regular program, **A FISTFUL OF RICE** was initiated and students and their families opened their hearts and collected 1000 kgs of grains to donate to the Langars in PGI, Sector 32 GMCH and Mansa Devi all services were providing food for families of patients. It was a difficult time for everyone and these little rays of hope were bringing in light for some.

Celebrating the Girl Child

“As Priya reached the finish line of the 200 metre race, she jumped with joy; the sparkle in her eyes reflecting her victory. True, she beat the others in this athletic contest but what she accomplished to defeat was much more – a life caught in the clutches of despair. Priya is a victim of child marriage. In India, around 1.5 million girls like Priya are forced to get married before the age of 18 every year, facing severe health issues, domestic abuse, and lack of education. Their childhood is lost behind the ugly veil of this social issue.”



TdH-NL's Initiatives for Married Adolescent Girls' Empowerment (IMAGE) project empowers early married girls and fights against child marriage. On the occasion of the National Girl Child Day in India on the 24th January this year, the project decided to celebrate the victory of these girls. To observe the day, IMAGE conducted a sports day programme in Karnataka which saw the participation of 6 early married girls, 15 Kishoris (vulnerable adolescent girls) and the IMAGE staff.

When Children of Devadasis dialogue with the Government



A two day event was organized by TdH-NL's Children GOOD project at Bangalore, on 28th and 29th January 2021. Children of Devadasis along with their mentors, from Bijapur, Koppal, Bagalkot, Bellary and Belgaum districts, participated in the event. The goal of the event was to let these children

present their issues in front of the Government officials, for an action to be taken against injustice meted out to them. Coming from a poor socio-economic background where they face exploitation, this event was a great opportunity for them to seek redressal. The children prepared a list of their issues such as Strict action against harassment and sexual assault on devadasi children, change in application process to ease their continuation to higher education, and special reservation for devadasis in jobs and presented before Dr. Shashidhar Shetty, Head of Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, Mr. Anthony Sebastian, Head of Child Rights Protection Commission, and Ms. Asha Ramesh, Head of Women Development sector were present in this event. The children were highly motivated and hailed as “**Seeds for Change**” by the panel.

Income Generation during the pandemic

In the Mica belt of Jharkhand, India, most of the families are dependent on Mica scraps for their livelihood. The whole family including children work in these mines as a means to ensure their survival. This leads to children dropping out of school and helping their parents in extracting mica.

As part of TdH-NL’s Mica project to eradicate child labour in the mica industry (Koderma and Giridih, Jharkhand), TdH-NL provides these families with access to a community revolving fund which they further invest in additional income generation activities, such as agriculture, goat rearing, tailoring and so on. The IGA became the primary source of income for some families during the pandemic. During January and February, 757 families were given facilitated access to income generation activities and a total of INR 3,15,500 was collected as a repayment from 119 SHGs.

Training early married girl as change agents



As part of empowering early married girls, TdH-NL is working towards building a movement of these girls where they would be capacitated to stand up, advocate and fight for their rights and get their demands met. In lieu of this, early married girls displaying confidence and good communication skills were selected as leaders of this movement. The 53

leaders who attended the workshop in Belagavi district of Karnataka were refreshed and regenerated to continue advocating against Child Marriages. The workshop also gave the leaders the knowledge about the Government Welfare Schemes with respect to Early Married Girls and how the movement leaders can further share this knowledge with their small groups. Overall, the Movement Leaders highly benefited from this and were extremely enthusiastic to be agents of change in their communities.

The Co-Chair of SACG

TdH-NL India’s Country Manager, Mr. Thangaperumal Ponpandi, was elected as the Co-chair of the South Asia Coordinating Group on Action against Violence against Children (SACG) on February 10th, 2021. Mr. Thangaperumal has been in the development sector for over 20 years with experience in managing Child Protection programmes across 11 countries in Asia. SACG brings together United Nations agencies, international non-governmental organizations and other actors working at the regional level for child rights and protection in South Asia. At the global level, SACG collaborates with the Office of the UN Secretary-General’s Special Representative on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC), promoting mutual support and joint efforts. ***SACG will prioritise advocating against child marriage for the next two years.***

State Level Consultation on Nutritional Self Dependence

A State Level Consultation on Nutritional Self Dependence was organized at Panthanivas, Bhubaneswar on 3rd March 2021 by People’s Cultural Centre (PECUC), a leading voluntary organization of Odisha in collaboration with TDH (G) and BMZ and in cooperation with DISHA & CAUSE. Ms. Sandhyabati Pradhan, Chairman, OSCPCR, Dr. Sipra Mallick, Member Odisha State Food Commission, Ms. Sulata Deo, Advisor, WCD Dept. of Govt. of Odisha were present in this programme and shared their valuable inputs. Ms. Anuradha Mohanty, Executive Director, PECUC gave the welcome address and Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Secretary, PECUC, shared the purpose of this workshop and also facilitated the inaugural session.

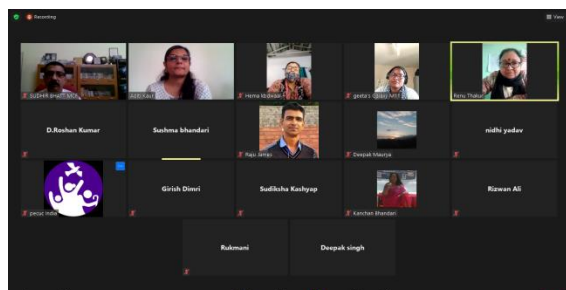
Other guest speakers Madhumita Das, Consultant, WCD Dept., Govt. of Odisha, Dr. Biswaranjan Padhi, Former Joint Director of Nutrition, Health and Family Welfare Department of Govt. of Odisha & Deepak Kumar Mishra, State Coordinator, Baitarani



Initiative discussed on local ecological food & its nutritional value, regular diet & balance diet, scope for improvement, health, wellness and disease management, nutrition, stress & immunity and different nutritional related schemes and programme of Govt., etc. This session was facilitated by Mr. Binayak Swain, Social Worker. Around 100 participants from different districts including farmer, SHG leaders, members of civil society groups, Govt. institutions and academicians participated in this consultation.

Excerpts from Meetings.....

NACG EVAC India Uttarakhand State Chapter Meeting



Meeting of NACG EVAC India Uttarakhand State Chapter was organized online on 10th March 2021. It was organized by Mountain Children's Foundation the convenor for Uttarakhand State Chapter. Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson, NACG EVAC India and Mr. Roshan Kumar, Vice Chair, NACG EVAC, India was also present in the meeting. 25 representatives from 9 organisations attended this meeting. The meeting was hoisted by the NACG EVAC Secretariat. The meeting was moderated by Aditi P Kaur President MCF and EC member NACG EVAC India. The organisations shared the issues that had risen especially during the COVID19 that further compromised the protection of children.

This meeting was attended by Ms. Renu Thakur from Arpan Pithoragarh, Mr. Girish Dimri SBMA Gairsain, Mr. Umashankar Bisht from Himad Chamoli, Ms. Kanchan Bhandari from Vimarsh Nainital, Mr. Rizwan Ali from Latika Roy Foundation Dehradun, Ms. Nidhi from Aasraa, Mr. Raju James, World Vision Pauri, Ms Hema Kabadwal, Ms. Saral Haldwani and Sudhir Bhatt from MCF Dehradun. They discussed on the various issues like child labour, child marriage, child sexual abuse, mental stress, lack of proper menstrual hygiene, education, cyber crime or online safety issues, etc faced by the children due to COVID19 pandemic.

ECSAE - Project Activities in Brief

During this quarter two Block level Children's training programme was organised at Bhubaneswar block of Khurda and Similiguda block of Koraput district and two Village Level CPC members training was held at Bhubaneswar and Jatni Block of Khurda district. Similarly, 7 ICDS and front-line Health workers' training and 9 Teachers training at block levels of Khurda, Koraput and Ganjam was organised by the NACG member organizations at the respective districts. In Kandhamal, Khurda, Balasore and Koraput districts 4 batches of dist. level Doctors' training was held during the quarter. Similarly, 6 dist. level Media workshops were organized at Sambalpur, Kandhamal, Khurda, Koraput and Ganjam. 4 Batches of Police and 3 batches of CWC and JJB members training and orientation was held at Koraput, Balasore, Khurda & Kandhamal districts. Block and District level Convergence and Coordination meetings among the line department officials and different stakeholders were also held at 6 Districts.

The Annual Review and Planning Meeting



The Annual Review and planning meeting of the project "Child Protection Workforce Capacity Building Project to End Child Sexual Abuse in India" was held at YMCA, Delhi with the project team and the representatives from NACG EVAC member organizations of 10 project districts of Odisha &

Delhi, Executive Director, PECUC, Chairperson, NACG EVAC India and Advocacy Head, WVI, Delhi on 23rd & 24th March 2021.

State Consultation & Convergence Meeting to End Child Sexual Abuse



The State Level Consultation & Convergence Meeting of Stakeholders for Ending Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation was held at Pantha Niwas, Bhubaneswar. The consultation was organized by National Action & Coordination Group for Ending Violence Against Children (NACG EVAC), India, PECUC (Secretariat), OLS (Odisha Convenor), World vision India & Germany in collaboration with Odisha State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (OSCPCR). Mr. Prakash Rath, Convenor NACG EVAC India, Odisha Chapter gave the welcome address and Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson NACG EVAC shared the vision, mission of the project and objective of the convergence meeting as well.

Participating in the consultation Ms. Sandhyabati Pradhan, Chairperson, OSCPCR, said that most of the children are ignorant of child protection related laws to make best use of them for their own protection. Mrs. Kasturi Mohapatra, former Chairperson of OSCPCR expressed her deep concern on the issue, emphasized on importance of promotion of culture and zero tolerance on any sort of exploitation and abuse of children. Mr. Sanyashai Behera, OAS, DSSO, SSEPD Deptt. sharing his perspective on the issues said security of child is not exclusive responsibility of police, rather social relationships both within the family and the neighborhoods provides a greater safety net to the children. Mrs. Sulata Deo, Advisor, WCD Deptt, Government of Odisha said child abuse starts from home, she expressed her concern on children of working parents those are being neglected. Former OSCPCR member Harihar Nayak presented data from National crime record bureau.

Prof (Dr.) Pratap Rath, eminent psychologist and child rights activist emphasized on the Constitution of India that underlies the importance of the right to life with dignity of the individuals. A total, 130 delegates from 10 districts of Odisha representing from civil societies, government, statutory bodies and academic institutions participated in the consultation. Dr. Anangdev Singh, Technical Expert, World Vision India gave vote of thanks to all the speakers for their valuable inputs.

National Level Children's Consultation



A National Consultation with Children was organised on 31st March 2021 with around 226 children on virtual platform. Children from different states of India namely Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Nagaland, Odisha and Delhi participated in this consultation. The objective of the consultation is to get recommendations from children as their expectations from Government, NGOs and Political parties. The consultation was inaugurated by Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Chairperson of NACG EVAC India. An animated film on child abuse was shown to the children to understand the issue. Ms. Anuradha Mohanty, Executive Director of PECUC explained to children about the notion of bad touch and good touch and POCSO Act. Children were provided opportunity to do various group activities. A session on online safety was taken by Ms. Isha from Shaishav. Mr. C. Jimjesudoss, SAKTHI-VIDIYAL also facilitated the process. Ms. Aditi Kaur, MCF, moderated the consultation and she also moved vote of thanks.

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