



bachpan
bachao
andolan

An Initiative of Association for Voluntary Action (AVA)

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18





Table of Contents

1	Chairperson's Message	01
2	About Bachpan Bachao Andolan	02
3	Theory of Change	03
4	Our Presence	04
5	Programmes	05
	Victim Assitance	05
	Access to Justice	11
	Training and Capacity Building	13
6	Policy Sensitization and Analysis	14
7	Legal Interventions	15
8	Events	17
9	Organisational Development	21
10	Financial Report	22
11	Partners	23

Chairperson's Message

It has been 40 years since Nobel Peace Laureate Mr. Kailash Satyarthi began his struggle to free children from child labour and exploitation. Since then, Bachpan Bachao Andolan* (BBA) has come a long way in protecting childhoods and rehabilitating innocent and exploited children. The struggle was not just limited to a cause, but it sparked a movement that has driven society and the government to acknowledge child rights.



Our team has been working hard and supporting the government to create robust laws to eliminate child abuse and child labour. Despite the country's efforts, India remains one of the largest markets for child trafficking where every 6 minutes a child goes missing. To mitigate and end this grim scenario, we endeavor to create a child friendly society where no child is denied his or her right to enjoy his or her childhood. As part of this, till date, BBA has been able to rescue more than 87,000 children.

I feel proud to announce in 2017-18, BBA expanded its presence to 20 states across the country. The most significant step for us in the previous year has been BBA's success in mobilising the masses to create public consciousness towards child rights. The Bharat Yatra, led by Mr. Kailash Satyarthi, has been a great milestone which brought together multi stakeholders to take ownership and join the fight against child sexual abuse and trafficking.

I am grateful to my team of activists, colleagues, supporters, partners, funders and well-wishers for believing in BBA's cause and supporting us in the fight against all forms of child exploitation and abuse. The dignity with which BBA has carried its name is because of the sincere efforts of its team members.

I congratulate the BBA team and all child rights activists for their achievements and I wish them all the very best for taking this giant leap towards making not only India but the world, a child friendly place. Their diligence and hard work shall never go waste.

R.S Chaurasia
(Chairperson)

*Bachpan Bachao Andolan registered as Association for Voluntary Action (Registration Number 10602/79) under Societies Registration Act, 1860".

Bachpan Bachao Andolan

Vision

To create a child friendly society, where all children are free from exploitation and receive free and quality education.

Mission

To identify, release, rehabilitate and educate children who are in servitude through prevention, direct intervention, coalition building, mass mobilization, legal action and for the creation of a child friendly society where all children are free from exploitation and receive free and quality education.

Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) is India's largest movement for the protection of children. Started by Nobel Peace Laureate, Mr. Kailash Satyarthi, in 1980, BBA works closely with survivors, law enforcement agencies and policy makers to strengthen the child protection system, judiciary and civil society organisations towards the protection of every child.

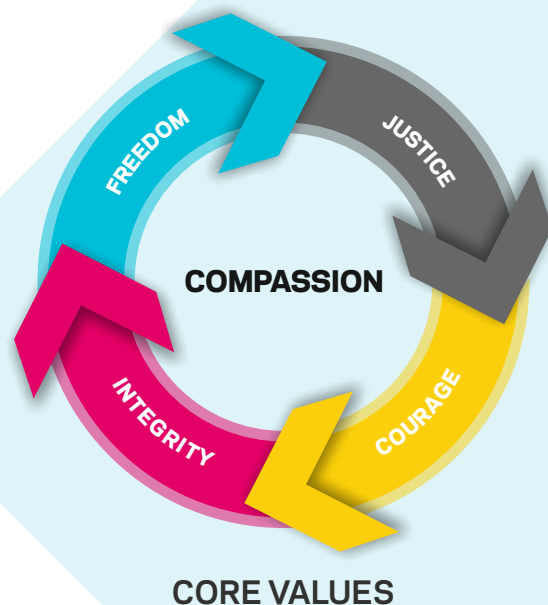
BBA was born out of the values of profound compassion for child victims of trafficking and exploitation. Child trafficking was found to be rampant in industries like stone quarrying, brick making, carpet weaving and a host of other nondescript sectors in several states of India. The emergence of BBA heralded an era of activism that waged an all-out war against a system which had enslaved millions of children and pushed them into a state of dehumanised existence.

The compassion, liberation and humanising philosophy of the movement continue to remain central to its activism against all forms of child rights violations and define its vision for the creation of a 'child-friendly society'. By engendering a child-centric perspective among the government functionaries, law enforcement agencies, elected representatives and civil society groups, BBA has played a decisive role in

shaping various legislative enactments and policy sensitization initiatives concerning children in India.

BBA works in partnership and close collaboration with organisations across India who share its vision and goals.

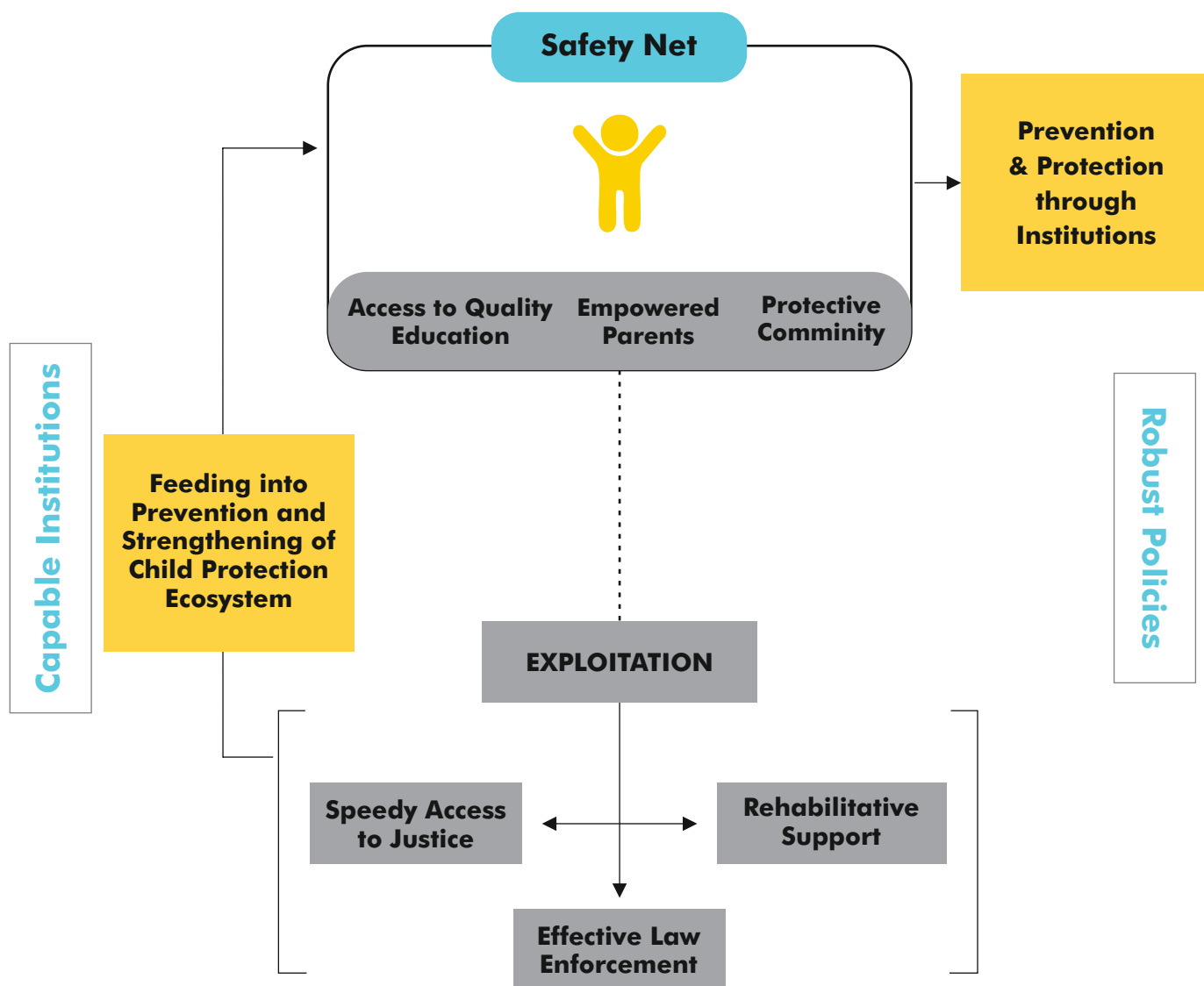
BBA has been instrumental in the liberation of more than 87,000 children from various forms of bondage. Our work is dedicated to our activists Kalu Kumar, Dhoom Das and Adarsh Kishore for their supreme sacrifice of laying down their lives in the fight for children.



Theory of Change

The prevention of exploitation of any child is ensured through a safety net of an empowered child, access to quality education, empowered parents and a protective and responsive community. If a child is still exploited, BBA seeks to ensure a robust framework for rehabilitation that ensures psychological, medical, economic and social rehabilitation, and reintegration into mainstream society.

BBA seeks to create a deterrence for crimes against children by enabling an effective and responsive law enforcement machinery and a speedy and child-friendly justice delivery mechanism. On one hand, it seeks to create a society which is compassionate towards the needs of an exploited child, and on the other, deters the perpetrator and enforces behaviour change, which together feed into prevention of exploitation.



Our Presence



 **Central Office**

Programmes

Victim Assistance

As a flagship programme of BBA, Victim Assistance envisages a comprehensive and transformative approach to rescue and rehabilitate children from situations of child labour, bonded labour, trafficking and other forms of exploitation. It provides end to end care, protection and support systems to children, and also ensures their reintegration into family and community life. The intervention involves active engagement with Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) for the rescue and protection of child victims of trafficking and labour.

Since 1980, more than 87,000 children have been rescued. This year, raid and rescue operations were conducted in garment factories, cosmetic factories, roadside hotels (dhabas), retail shops, handicrafts factories etc. Children employed as domestic help were also rescued. BBA ensured legal representation and support for all rescued children.

Rescue

Saving Children from Exploitation

Operations are conducted by developing local reporting mechanisms and information networks, and creating vigilant squads in suspected areas for identification of children trapped in child labour. The team gathers intelligence about the industry, approximate number of child labourers and type of work they are engaged in along with other details, to do a risk analysis. This information is further confirmed with physical verification of locations or places of employment. Support and partnership with local administration is sought before the operation, which is an important aspect of this intervention, to avoid any violation of law. Thereafter the identified victims are removed by conducting a raid with the help of District Task Force and other government authorities. BBA ensures that at this stage the children are safely extradited from the site and are transferred into a safe environment.

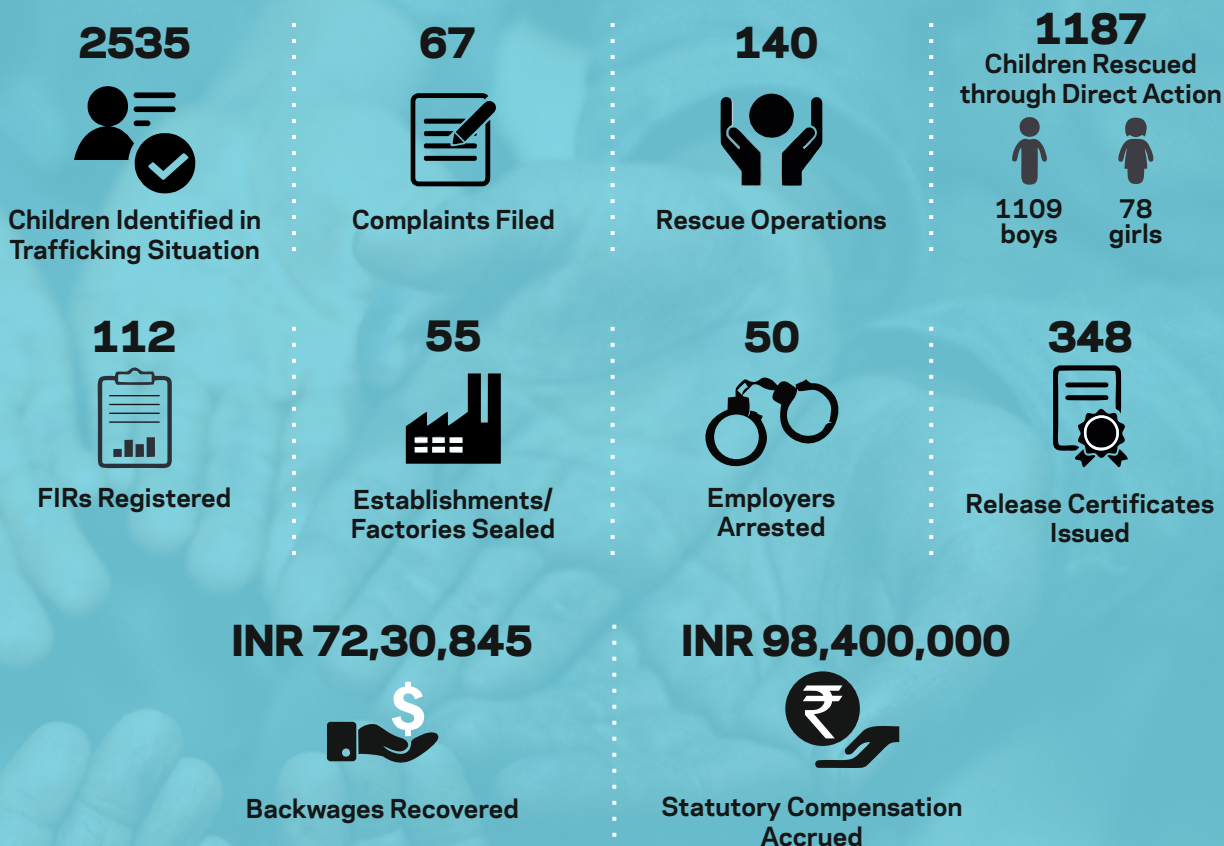


Rehabilitation

After being produced before the Child Welfare Committee, children are either repatriated immediately or sent to Mukti Ashram or other registered Child Care Institutions. Till the children are reunited with their legal parents/gaurdians, our Follow-Up Team does extensive follow-ups of these children to prevent re-trafficking. This is done by ensuring that they have access to social welfare services and are enrolled in school.

Overview: 2017-2018

BBA conducted rescue operations in a number of industries which included - Automobile, Cosmetic, Electronics, Footwear, Garment, Handicraft, Hotels/Dhaba, Metal and Retail Shops.

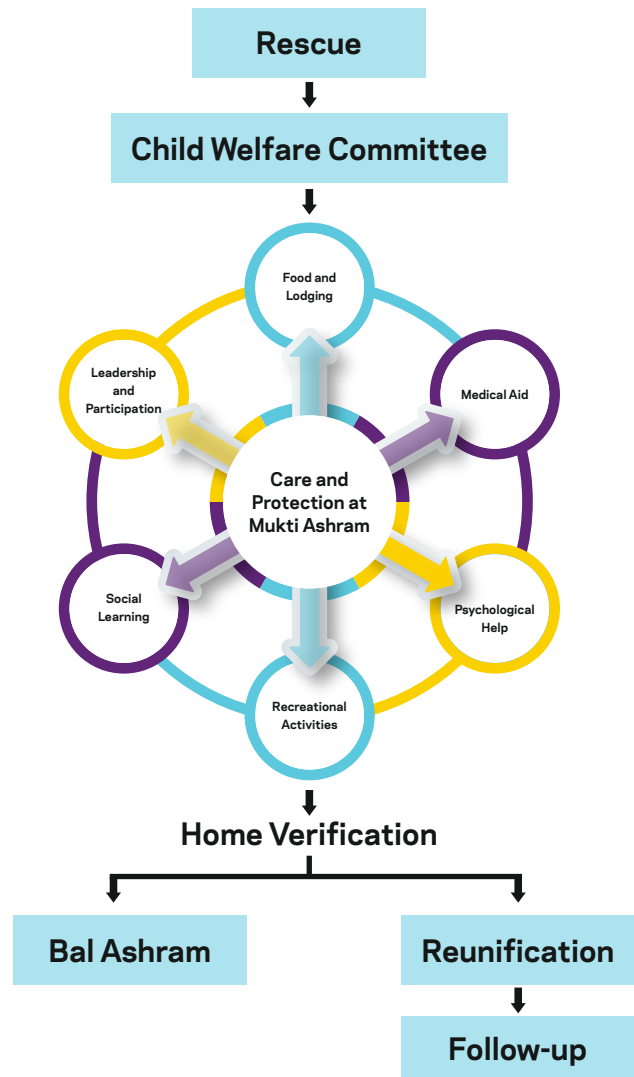


Mukti Ashram

Children received immediate care and protection at Mukti Ashram	140
Bank Account opened for children	21
Legal support for all children	140

Children rescued from child labour are often found to be traumatised, disillusioned and withdrawn. BBA understands the gravity of these traumas and strongly believes in holistic rehabilitation by adopting robust and well-designed rehabilitation processes.

A short-stay home, Mukti Ashram is a part of the comprehensive rehabilitation services provided by BBA to the children who are freed from the bondage of trafficking and forced labour. Along with providing institutional care and protection to the rescued children, the programme focuses on reducing their vulnerability to re-trafficking through effective social and economic rehabilitation. During their stay, the children are provided with boarding and lodging facilities, medical, psychological and emotional support, nutrition, learning, recreational opportunities and legal assistance. To develop the leadership and administrative skills, children are encouraged to take part in the management of Ashram activities. This involvement helps develop their leadership and decision making skills. An individual care plan is developed for each child for his personal development, which also helps in initiating his rehabilitation process. The number of children in Mukti Ashram were limited to 140 this year due to ongoing construction work.



Follow-Up for Rehabilitation and Mitigation

This is an extensive programme for mainstreaming liberated children and preventing re-trafficking. This includes field visits in source area villages to assess the situation of the children and help them accordingly. Special focus is placed on their education, release of statutory rehabilitation and challenges faced by them in receiving other welfare support from the government. The team supports the children to address these challenges by engaging them with the school authorities and government officials. Despite the efforts, a large majority of rescued children are re-trafficked soon after their repatriation due to absence of community support and a holistic rehabilitation mechanism in villages.

To address this challenge, Follow-Up focuses on child participation in the village areas, wherein a group of rescued children along with other youth groups and community leaders work together for holistic rehabilitation, prevention of trafficking, access to education and welfare schemes by engaging with different government stakeholders in the district.

Outcomes 2017-18

People's Vigilance Committee formed	4
Children's Groups formed	4
Families received below Poverty Line Card	104
Children continuing with education	61
Children whose bank accounts were opened	104
Households received Pradhanmantri Awas Yojana	2
Children received immediate assistance (INR 20,000)	23
Households received National Insurance Health Policy	9
Children received INR 20,000 as statutory compensation	5
Children received INR 10,000 as statutory compensation	1
Children followed up (including home visit & phone call)	204
Households received benefit of employment under MGNREGA	29

Meeting with community members and other stakeholders for the formation of a vigilance group in Majgama village, district Araria, Bihar.



Follow-up Activities

Community based Rehabilitation Model - Communities are sensitised towards the issue of trafficking in order to protect the children from being re-trafficked. We mobilise the communities to form safe and democratic spaces for children where their voices can be heard. We help them to form People's Vigilance Committee (PVC) and Children's Groups (CGs) by involving various stakeholders such as schools, Panchayat, Anganwadi teachers and Asha workers, to create a support system for children where they can freely express their concerns.

Vulnerability Mapping - The Community Social Worker visits the houses of repatriated children to assess their educational and socio-economic situation and other issues faced by the family. They are apprised of the statutory rehabilitation and other related schemes.

Enrollment of Children in Schools - On the basis of needs and requirements identified in the vulnerability mapping, networking with school authorities is undertaken to seek their support for enrollment of the children in accordance with the Right to Education Act, 2009 and individual reports are prepared to ascertain their due compensation and legal provisions.

Enrollment of Children for Welfare Schemes - The activist ensures that the children receive social welfare schemes like the mid-day meal scheme, Integrated Child Development Scheme, Kishori Shakti Yojna etc. They approach the concerned departments and the local administration to take immediate action for rendering necessary assistance to children. They also help them in getting their release certificate from the local authorities.

Registration of Families for Welfare Schemes - Support is provided to families and children to facilitate their holistic rehabilitation. They are assisted with the application forms required to be submitted for government schemes like Annapurna Yojana, Pradhanmantri Awas Yojana, National Health Insurance Policy, MNREGA, Social Security Pension etc. They also help children open bank accounts since they are necessary to receive compensation amount under the statutory rehabilitation.

Integrated Child and Community Participation Averted Trafficking in Bihar

When Ravi (name changed) was rescued as a child labour, he resolved to not let any other child from his village fall prey into the hands of traffickers. As Ravi was being assisted by BBA's team in his rehabilitation and reintegration process, he noticed one of his classmates Naina (name changed) had left school and was planning to move to the city in search of work. A man had tricked the girl's parents and was about to traffick the girl to the city. Applying a vigilant approach, Ravi raised the issue in front of the People's Vigilance Committee, which pressurised the Gram Panchayat (Village Parliament) to take up the matter. Taking up the responsibility to protect the girl from traffickers, the Panchayat persuaded her parents against sending their daughter away, and briefed them about the legal implications of such actions. The alert and prompt action by Ravi and collective members of the village not only saved the life of the girl but also reaffirmed the Panchayat's commitment to stop trafficking in the village. It was a proud moment for the entire village as they were not only been successful in stopping a girl from being trafficked, but were also able to make the community aware about the issue. The committee also took up the responsibility to enroll Naina in school again and impart vocational training to help her lead an independent life.

Distress Stories of Domestic Help

Devi (name changed) used to work as domestic child labour in Delhi. She worked for long hours without being paid any money. She was brought to Delhi by a trafficker from her village. Since the day she had come to Delhi she was not allowed to contact her family or to go back home.

After not hearing from Devi in a long time, her sister contacted BBA in the hope to find her. The only thing she knew about her whereabouts was the phone number of her employer.

BBA initiated a search operation by putting the number on surveillance with the help of the police. The phone number was eventually traced and Devi was rescued from a workshop in Haryana with the help of the police. She was kept in inhuman conditions and was subjected to many exploitative conditions. An FIR was registered in the case and she was presented before the Child Welfare Committee. Devi was sent back home with her back-wages worth Rs.22,800. Later, she went to a shelter home in Guwahati with her sister, where she continues to pursue her studies.

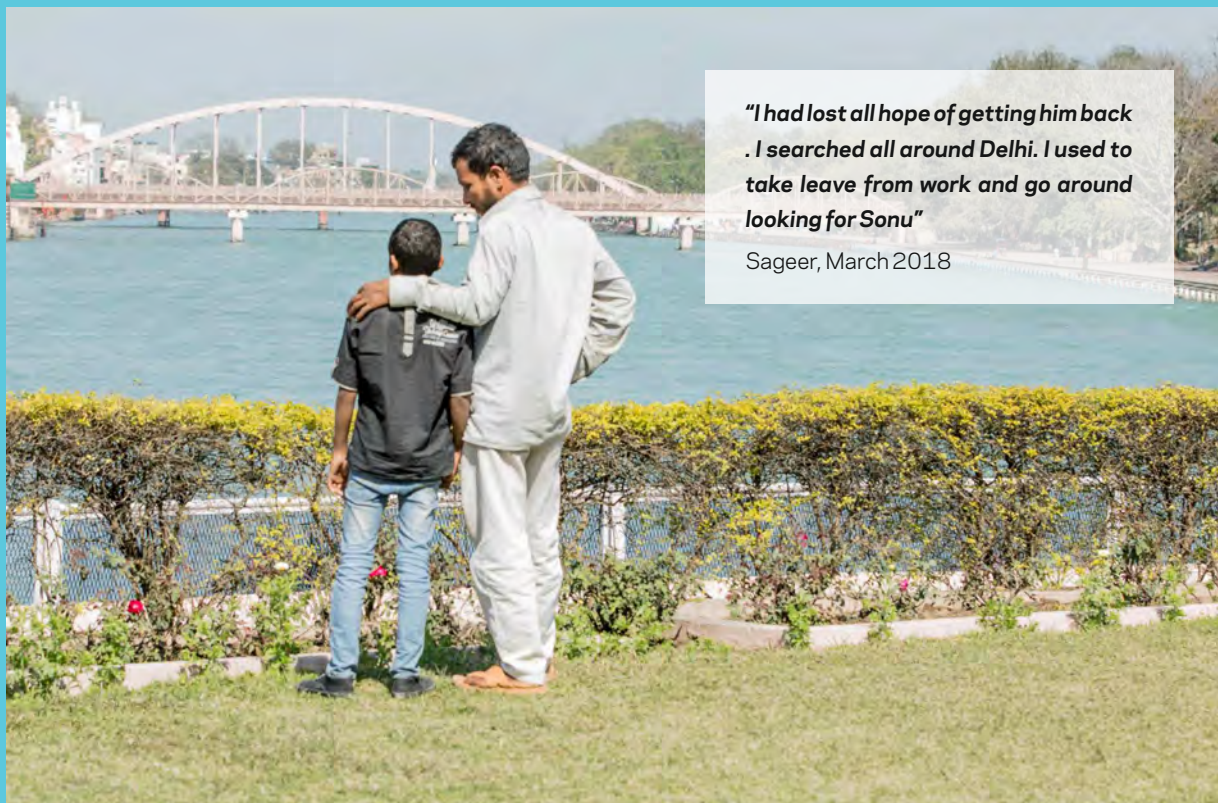
We Didn't Give Up on Sonu!

Sageer sat in a corner in the BBA office crying. Another police raid to rescue his son, Sonu had failed. He was losing all hope. It had been several months since Sageer had reached out to BBA, desperate to find his 12-year-old son, Sonu. BBA had conducted a series of unsuccessful raids in search of Sonu. In the latest raid in a factory in Turkaman Gate, nine children were rescued but Sonu was not one of them.

The happy, mischievous child had gone missing from his home in Raghunathpur, Bihar in 2016. After due investigation BBA suspected he had been trafficked by a man named Ale Rasul. Sageer, after having searched for months amidst the heat, dust and chaos of Delhi, feared the worst and approached BBA for help.

When the strategy of raids and rescues did not yield a result, BBA cast a wider net. We filed a 'Missing' complaint with the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Central District of New Delhi, and simultaneously launched a campaign called 'Finding Sonu' across Child Care Institutions in 20 states. His photograph and details were circulated amongst Child Welfare Committees, Child Care Institutions and shelter homes across 1734 locations.

On 7 March, 2018, the phone rang in BBA's Victim Assistance office. The Child Welfare Committee from Haridwar, Uttarakhand called to say that they had identified a child who looked like Sonu. A BBA team from New Delhi and Sageer rushed over there. Sageer held his son in his arms after two and a half years. And wept.



Access to Justice

The Access to Justice programme, is aimed at bringing 100% increase in the reporting of cases of crime against children through capable, transparent and accountable institutions. The intervention, launched in 2017, is designed to be implemented in close engagement with government agencies at the central and state level. As part of this engagement, BBA works

closely with government agencies, judiciary, law enforcement agencies and Central government. The intervention has been successful in influencing the State Child Protection Mechanism to move forwards towards creating a child-friendly environment. Under this programme, State Coordinators in 19 States were appointed and trained.

Outreach and Impact 2017-18

- The reporting of crimes against children increased by 97% under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, 351% under Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, and 4398% under Commercial and Sexual Exploitation of Children, in 2017.
- Need Gap analysis on status of implementation of child related laws in 20 States.
- State Consultations in 16 states for formulation of an enforcement plan on child protection.
- Legal camps in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Telangana and Haryana.
- 17 capacity building trainings for over 1000 members of law enforcement agencies and civil society organisations.
- Developed guidelines for Child Friendly Police Stations (CFPS) and shared with different State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights and Bureau of Police Research and Department and other stakeholders in 20 states.
- Eight CFPS were formed in Madhya Pradesh.

Activities

Need Gap Analysis - BBA prepared a need gap analysis report in 2017 to assess the implementation and functioning of the existing institutional framework. The objective of the report was to pave the way for the creation and enactment of State Specific Plans based on identified gaps and to measure the desired performance level for increasing reporting, prosecution and conviction in cases of crime against children. The report analysed the overall implementation of child related laws in the country, reviewed their progress and identified common trends and challenges that impede their effective implementation. A primary assessment of the current baseline of the institutions was carried out to overcome the persistent challenges and gaps in safeguarding the rights of the children.

Legal Camps - One of the major activities of Access to Justice is to organise Legal Camps to spread legal awareness among the general public, particularly about different legislations to protect the rights of the children in India. They are organised in collaboration with State and District Level Legal Services Authority. In 2017-18, BBA organised and facilitated legal camps in Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh.

Information, Education and Communication Material - BBA developed various informative user friendly manuals on different laws and Standard Operating Procedures pertaining to children as a ready reckoner for the police. These were sent to all the Superintendent of Police, District Collectors/Magistrates and District Judges in each district.

Partnership and Networking - Under Access to Justice programme, BBA has partnered with state governments, statutory bodies and non-government organisations for strengthening and implementing protection, prevention and rehabilitation schemes for children. In the state of Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the

organisation has entered into formal agreements for assisting the state government through capacity building, supporting policy development, sensitization and analysis, and developing an action plan for the implementation of child protection laws to create a child-friendly state. More than 1200 meetings were held this year with government authorities and other related departments such as Women and Child Development, State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, State Legal Services Authority and Police. Knowledge Building Workshops were held for officials of Law Enforcement Agencies and other related departments.

Breaking the Silence: Sexual Abuse by Family

In the month of November, BBA got a call from a child mentioning that she and her siblings were abused by their father. He was working as a government servant in the capacity of a security officer.

Being repeatedly sexually abused by their father, the girls were under the trauma of physical and mental violence. One of the relatives of the girls approached BBA's Central office in Delhi to seek help in the case. The girls were finally rescued by BBA's Punjab team and the accused was sent to jail on the basis of the victim's FIR.

It is seen that sexual abuse within family is not only ignored and dismissed; the children are even punished for disclosing it. In this case, the girls were threatened by their father and forced to settle before the court. Immense pressure was put on them by their relatives to get their accused father out of the jail.

Sensing the vulnerability of the victims, BBA requested the Court to appoint a counsellor for the victims, following which the victims accepted that they were pressurized to withdraw their FIR and settle the matter internally. The Court took notice of the submission made by the victims and directed the jail authorities to restrain the accused from contacting the girls.

BBA supported the victims throughout the case and the girls finally received a compensation of Rs 34,000 and a fixed deposit of Rs 2,50,000 in each of their names. The youngest two siblings were enrolled for the Integrated Child Protection Scheme under which they get Rs 2,000 per month. All the four siblings are now pursuing their studies at their native place.

Training and Capacity Building

BBA imparts knowledge and skills to law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders through innovative, practical, hands-on approaches, rather than theoretical training. Our training programmes are built upon systematic, step-by step processes instead of standalone, one-off events that often fail to meet the desired objectives and participant's expectation. We aim to develop and conduct effective training programmes for all the agencies and stakeholders that are meant to provide protection and care to children and thereby strengthen implementation of initiatives for children. Our participants include officials from various government departments including Police, Labour, Education, Child Welfare Committees, Juvenile Justice Boards, and Child Care Institutions.

Outreach

- 7 workshops on Child Sexual Abuse for children and teachers
- 4 workshops on child protection laws for enforcement agencies
- One media workshop
- One sensitization workshop for Punjab and Haryana Police Personnels
- Remote training for State Coordinators
- Residential training for State Coordinators

Workshops and Trainings

- A training and sensitization workshop on Child Protection was organised in collaboration with Punjab Police Academy, Phillaur on 14th December, 2017. The workshop was attended by approximately 300 trainees that included IPS Probationary officers from Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, Probationary Sub-Inspectors, Phase 2 Probationary officers and legal staff of the Academy. Topics covered included: Juvenile Justice, child sexual abuse and child labour.
- Seven sensitisation workshops on child sexual abuse were conducted for children, teachers and support staff of schools in Delhi.
- Four workshops were conducted for law enforcement agencies on special laws for the protection of children. The participants were officials of State Child Protection Societies, District Child Protection Units, Rescue Officers and the judiciary.
- One-day workshop was organised for media personnel in Delhi on child rights with focus on child protection and sensitisation on reporting of child-related cases.
- One judicial training was organised for Judicial Officers working as Principal Magistrate JJB and Special Prosecutors working for POCSO and Trafficking cases in Sikkim on March 24, 2018.



Policy Sensitization and Analysis

BBA has contributed to several key policy making decisions, and to strengthening the policy response mechanism. The year 2017-18 saw its participation in various law drafting processes of the government and providing technical support in policies related to child rights. The comprehensive work done by the policy team this year ranged from providing inputs and suggestions to the law drafting committees to forming Standard Operating Procedures for issues pertaining to child protection.

- BBA supported the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) to draft the Rules of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Rule, 2017. In this amendment the list of hazardous occupation was increased to 138 processes and 16 occupations instead of '3 hazardous occupations' in the original act amended in 2016. The terms 'help' and 'family' were also defined.
- BBA supported the National Human Rights Commission in developing the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) against trafficking that provides step-by-step guidance to anti-trafficking professionals. It was circulated amongst District Judges, Superintendents of Police and District Collectors in 707 districts in the country.
- BBA supported the MoLE in developing the SOP that serves as guidelines for enforcement of the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. It aims at effective implementation of the provision of various legislations and convergence of government resources. We also assisted in developing the PENCIL portal, which is a platform for tracking and monitoring enforcement of child labour laws.
- BBA proposed the inclusion of the Child Rights Education (CRE) curriculum in National Education Policy. The CRE module and design was shared with the Ministry of Human Resource and Development, though it is yet to be notified.

Legal Interventions

BBA uses judicial intervention as a major tool to further its goal of ensuring holistic child development and creating a child-friendly society. Various legal initiatives and strategies are developed to ensure easy access to justice, development of child-centric policies and improvements in existing legislations to ensure all aspects of child protection are duly recognized in the country. This is done by filing petitions and providing legal representations.

Legal Aid

BBA runs the All India Legal Aid Services on Child Rights (AILAC) in collaboration with National Legal Services Authority and Delhi Legal Services

Authority to ensure access to justice in cases of crimes against children. Understanding the vulnerability and poor economic standing of such children in society, we support their legal representation in court to help convict the perpetrators of crime and rehabilitate the victims in an effective and time-bound manner. Our legal actions so far have saved lives of thousands of children since 1980.

AILAC has 11 empanelled lawyers looking after 472 cases of child trafficking, sexual abuse, forced labour etc, in different courts and it has extended all the required support and services to the 9130 beneficiaries.



95

New Cases Assigned to
AILAC lawyers



1125

Children Supported



₹ 9,30,088

Compensation Disbursed



₹ 2,27,000

Fine Imposed



24 Convictions

of Employers/Traffickers

Legal Intervention/Public Interest Litigation (PILs)

Legal Intervention has always been at the core of BBA's journey towards creating a safe environment for children. Our legal interventions include filing Public Interest Litigations for mobilizing support towards the issue of child protection, criminal appeal and intervening in cases. PILs are led by Senior Advocates like Mr. H.S. Phoolka and a team of lawyers that provides pro bono support for strengthening the judicial response.

BBA continued to follow-up on its cases filed with the Supreme Court and State High Courts on different matters related to child protection and enforcement of laws. BBA's legal actions have led to several significant judgments in following cases cases:

1. The Supreme Court of India on Missing Children -

In a PIL filed by BBA ([WP (Crl) 75 of 2012], the honourable court ordered:

- State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights will monitor the Standard Operating Procedure on Missing Children formulated in 2013.
- National Crime Records Bureau to include information on missing children in its annual report of Crime in India. The Crime in India Report-2016 added data on missing children and BBA's role for the same was acknowledged in the report.
- The National Disaster Management Authority should give special attention to the children in the event of a disaster since they are the most vulnerable victims of a disaster that may strike at any time.
- Trafficking of children or exploitation of children cases should be registered by the police and necessary follow up action to be taken.

2. Facial Recognition Software in Delhi High Court -

In the order for the Writ Petition filed under NEETU THRU REWATIRAM V/S STATE W.P.(CRL.) 869/1998 the court directed the Delhi Police to run the Vision Box (Facial Recognition Software developed by BBA) on a test basis. BBA had identified and engaged with a technology agency for the development and procurement of this software.

Major highlights of the case were:

- BBA proposed the use of facial recognition software to match the information of missing children registered on the TrackChild portal with the children staying in Child Care Institutions, following which the court ordered time bound procurement of the software and sharing of data on missing children.

3. A Delhi district court ordered 10 years of imprisonment to Baba Bamdev accused of rape and trafficking tribal girls.

- A district court, in Baba Bamdev vs State, sentenced 10-years' of imprisonment along with fine of INR 1 lakh to Baba Bamdev who was accused of running an organised interstate human trafficking syndicate and for raping an eighteen year old tribal girl.
- BBA supported the victim in filing FIR against the accused and represented in court leading to conviction.

4. Jharkhand High Court order in the matter of Bachpan Bachao Andolan vs State of Jharkhand filed in 2011

- The State Legal Service Authority to work in close cooperation and coordination with the National Legal Services Authority to ensure that modules and guidelines are prepared and steps are taken for interventional strategies to be adopted for a strong preventive, rehabilitative and reintegrative framework for children.

Events

Bharat Yatra

Campaigns have always been a successful tool of BBA to reach out to people as well as decision makers. In October 2017, BBA partnered with the Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation, to carry out a March across India to raise awareness on trafficking, child sexual abuse and also to remove the social stigma around it. The Bharat Yatra was organised to demand a comprehensive and rehabilitation-focused law against trafficking. Flagged off from Kanyakumari and culminated at New Delhi, the Yatra was joined by over 8 lakh people, 2,50,000 educational institutions, 500 corporates, 60 faith leaders, 600 government bodies and 500 political leaders. It led to a declaration of stringent action by many state governments against the perpetrators of child sexual abuse. It also opened the door for partnership with five State governments to work jointly towards a robust system of child protection in the country.



Highlights of the Yatra

Duration **35** days

Distance **Over 12,000** km

Number of Core Marchers **Over 290**

Number of Marchers **Over 8,00,000**

Corporates **500**

Number of Pledges (physical and digital) **Over 14,00,000**

Faith Leaders **Over 60**

Political Leaders **Over 500**

"On one hand man had created many scientific miracles, while on the other side, demons in the guise of humans are playing with our children's lives. If a child is insecure today, the whole society is guilty for the situation. What Kailash Ji is trying to do is to break the silence we have grown up in, when our society asked us to keep quiet, reinforced when our parents told us not to talk. It is a commendable step. I am told that through this Bharat Yatra he has addressed several stakeholders thereby awakening the social consciousness of the country."

- Ram Nath Kovind, Hon'ble President of India.



Karimnagar Declaration

The Telangana State Government invited Mr. Kailash Satyarthi to Karimnagar, Telangana on 28th of February, 2018, and committed to make it a child-friendly state. This event was organised by the Hon'ble Member of Parliament of Karimnagar, Mr. Vinod Kumar and the district administration. It was attended by the Secretary of the Women and Child Development Ministry, local Members of the Legislative Assembly, state-level government officials, over 30,000 students and their teachers from over 700 schools, 10 NGO partners and over 500 volunteers. On behalf of the government, the Secretary of the Women and Child Development Ministry made an eight-point declaration, which came to be known as the Karimnagar Declaration. This is to be implemented through an action plan to help nodal agencies strategise, specific roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders and support to ensure implementation of laws related to children.



8 pointers of Karimnagar Declaration, 28 February 2018

1. Chief Justice led committee to review quarterly the cases filed and those in prosecution
2. Budgeted State Action Plan against Child Trafficking
3. Ensure free and compulsory education for the girl child till the age of 18
4. Sensitization and Training programs for elected representatives and bureaucrats in Child Friendly Telangana
5. Separate police cadre to be made of the Juvenile Police
6. Incorporation of Child Protection training modules and Child Friendly Village training module in Panchayati Raj training cascade
7. Ensure Child Protection Committees are formed in all villages in Telangana
8. Establishment of Child Friendly Police Stations

National Consultation on Developing Roadmap for Protection of Children in States

BBA organised a national consultation with representatives of State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCR) across the country with the aim of creating a roadmap for protection of children in states through mass mobilization and institutional strengthening. The SCPCR were called as they are the apex body of child protection in the state, also monitoring implementation of child protection laws. Members of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights and 13 SCPCR took part in the consultation and pledged for bringing together the other stakeholders to act in convergence in these states.



State Consultations on Child Protection



As part of the engagement with government institutions for enhancing child protection initiatives, BBA organised state consultations in 16 states. These consultations witnessed participation of State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights, State Legal Services Authority, the judiciary, government departments, and NGOs. The consultations highlighted state specific challenges in registration and investigation of crimes against children and their rehabilitation. It emerged from these consultations that there was a lack of convergence

between various departments. A need was also felt to build the capacities of Law Enforcement Agencies. Therefore, a decision was made to develop a budgeted state action plan for each state to streamline its initiatives, as well as build convergence of all stakeholders to protect the child from exploitation.

Visits at Mukti Ashram

International Labour Organization (ILO) Director Ms. Panudda Boonpala along with BBA colleagues visited Mukti Ashram. Ms. Panudda Boonpala and our colleagues celebrated the ratification of ILO Convention 182 on worst forms of child labour. The children presented her with 25 hand-made cards with quotes and personal messages for Syrian refugees. Panama's Ambassador Dr. Gilberto Llerena Garcia visited Mukti Ashram. He was given a warm welcome by the children. The visitor had an interactive session with the children and also participated in the cultural activities organised in the Ashram.



Organisational Development

Strategic Development

BBA's programme and management structure was revised and restructured with effect from 1st April, 2017. According to the new structure, BBA implements programmes related to building accountability, capacity and enforcement of child protection laws and mechanisms. Along with the strategic shift, new policies have also been developed for the organisations to govern its human resource, financial and risk management aspects.

Staff Orientation

A three-day in-house training was organised for the newly recruited staff and other state Victim Assistance teams from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Rajasthan and Maharashtra. Training was held to familiarize the participants with the Follow-Up Programme and its process. The staff was also trained on various participatory tools that can be used to establish a rehabilitation-cum-protection mechanism at the community level. The team was also briefed on how repatriated children can be ensured protection by creating an environment where they can demand their rights from caregivers. A session with Chairperson, Mr. R.S Chaurasia and Mr. Kailash Satyarthi was organized to inspire the participants.

Staff Training

In order to develop a clear understanding, capacity and awareness among the implementers, the organisation conducted capacity building workshops of its coordinators and other stakeholders. A remote training of State Coordinators and Victim Assistance team members was organised through an online module. Each module was conducted for four days and on the fifth day an assessment of knowledge was undertaken through a multiple choice questionnaire. A total of eight modules were shared with State Coordinators.

Another 15-day residential training of State Coordinators from 20 States was organised in Delhi in June-July 2017. The objective of the training was to sensitize them on the legacy and history of the organisation and also develop their capacity on special laws, policies and programmes for the protection of children. The State Coordinators were also explained the objectives, expected outcomes and strategies under the Access to Justice Programme.

Organisation Retreat

BBA, along with its partner organization Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation, organised a retreat for its employees in Gulmarg from 8th to 10th December 2017. The objective was to encourage team building amongst the employees, develop a strategic plan for the coming years, organisation building, and the orientation of new members.



Finance Report

ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
L-6 KALKAJI NEW DELHI - 110019
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31st March ,2018
(Consolidated)

		Amount (in INR)	
LIABILITIES	AMOUNT	ASSETS	AMOUNT
Capital Fund (As Per Annexure-A)	6,39,09,647.55	Fixed Assets (As Per Annexure-E)	5,81,73,387.17
Award Fund & Prizes	1,00,000.00	Advances (As Per Annexure-F)	53,08,165.00
Programme Balances (As Per Annexure-C)	3,24,77,539.24	Tax Deducted at Sources (As Per Annexure-G)	4,93,317.00
TDS PAYABLE (As Per Annexure-D)	20,000.00	Security Deposits (As Per Annexure-H)	15,91,561.66
		Cash & Bank Balances (As Per Annexure-I)	3,09,40,755.96
Total	9,65,07,186.79	Total	9,65,07,186.79

For Association for Voluntary Action

In terms of our separate Audit report of even date
For Anil S. Gupta & Associates
Chartered Accountants
FRN 004061N

R.S. Chaurasia

R.S. Chaurasia
General Secretary

Laxman Singh

Laxman Singh
Treasurer



Anil Kumar Gupta
Anil Kumar Gupta
FCA (Prop.)
M NO 083159

Place: New Delhi
Date: 19/09/2018



ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
L-6 KALKAJI NEW DELHI - 110019
INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2018
(Consolidated)

		Amount (in INR)	
EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT	INCOME	AMOUNT
Grant Recurring Expenditure-FC (As Per Annexure-C)	10,34 74,424.15	Grant Received -FC (As Per Annexure-C)	8,96,88,952 00
Grant Recurring Expenditure-LC (As Per Annexure-C)	49,81,507 13	Interest Income-FC (As Per Annexure-C)	30,67,512 00
Depreciation (As Per Annexure-E)	46,89,115 91	Grant & Donation Received-LC (As Per Annexure-C)	81,94,361 50
Loss on Sale of Assets-FC	14,05,870 05	Interest Income-LC (As Per Annexure-C)	11,51 095 00
Loss on Sale of Assets-LC	32,200.64	Interest on Income Tax Refund-LC	17,337 00
		Excess of Expenditure over Income (As Per Annexure-B)	1 24,63,860 39
Total	11 45,83,117.89	Total	11,45 83 117.89

For Association for Voluntary Action

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Chartered Accountants
FRN 004061N

R. S. Chaurasia

R.S. Chaurasia
General Secretary

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Treasurer



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M NO 083159

Place: New Delhi
Date: 19/09/2018



ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
L-6 KALKAJI NEW DELHI - 110019
RECEIPT & PAYMENT A/C FOR THE PERIOD 1st APRIL 2017 TO 31st MARCH 2018
(Consolidated)

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT	PAYMENTS	Amount (in INR) AMOUNT
Opening balance		Grant Recurring Expenditure-FC	10,34,74,424.16
Cash & Bank Balances	5,35,91,327.75	(As Per Annexure-C)	
Grant Received-FC	8,96,88,952.00	Grant Recurring Expenditure-LC	49,81,507.13
(As Per Annexure-C)		(As Per Annexure-C)	
Grant & Donation Received- LC	81,94,361.50	Non Recurring Expenditure- FC	1,09,97,915.00
(As Per Annexure-C)		(As Per Annexure-C)	
Interest Income-FC	30,67,512.00	Non Recurring Expenditure- LC	28,29,705.00
(As Per Annexure-C)		(As Per Annexure-C)	
Interest Income-LC	11,51,095.00	Security Deposits-FC	9,92,500.00
(As Per Annexure-C)			
Interest on Income Tax Refund-LC	17,337.00	Current Liabilities Paid - FC	3,03,098.00
Others-FC	492.00	Current Liabilities Paid- LC	11,067.00
Investement Matured-FC	31,25,096.00	Advances-LC	40,07,043.00
		Tax Deducted At Source - FC	2,43,761.00
Sale of Assets	4,65,000.00	Tax Deducted At Source - LC	92,763.00
Recovery from staff (Assets Lost)-FC	53,859.00	Advances -FC	7,27,774.00
Income Tax Refund Received-LC	2,47,773.00	Others-LC	492.00
		Closing balance	
		Cash & Bank Balances	3,09,40,755.96
		(As per annexure-I)	
Total	15,96,02,805.25	Total	15,96,02,805.25

For Association for Voluntary Action

In terms of our separate Audit report of even date
For Anil S. Gupta & Associates
Chartered Accountants

R.S. Chaurasia
R.S. Chaurasia
General Secretary

Laxman Singh
Laxman Singh
Treasurer



Anil Kumar Gupta
FCA (Prop.)
M NO 083159

Place: New Delhi
Date: 19/09/2018



Partners

From the children who donated their pocket money, to the individuals and organisations who support our programs, we thank you for continuing to believe in our work, and regret not being able to list all the names due to paucity of space.

Bread for the World

Capgemini Technology Services India Ltd

Children's Investment Fund Foundation

Estée Lauder Inc

Global Greengrants Fund

IDBI Trusteeship Services Ltd

Made in a Free World

Robert Bosch Stiftung

The Oriental Insurance Co Ltd

Triskeles Foundation

Stars Foundation Fund

Stichting Kidsrights

United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC)

Child marriage is trafficking

The conflict between the IPC and the Posco Act must be resolved to stop the exploitation of girls, writes KAILASH SATYARTHI

The world is fairly governed by laws and rules. But, how can we permit the rape of a 16-year-old girl by a 30-year-old man under the cover of marriage? Recently, the Supreme Court, in response to a PIL filed by the Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA), asked the government to protect children from sexual offence in marriage by addressing existing conflicts in the law.

In India, where even today, 47% of children are married before the age of 18 years, this is a step forward. Child marriage is an understated phenomenon, but the effects of it on young girls and their lives are relatively unknown to the public and policy makers. In a meeting with Raj Karpurich (senior child leaders) of several Bhojpur districts (child-friendly villages) of Rajasthan, I came across more girls than boys, which is a sign of good things to come. However, almost all had come to this position because of their refusal to get married before 18.

Karika, married at 5, fought mindsets and beliefs as she grew up and today at 16, she is in school. She has educated all children in her village, regardless of caste and gender, until school. Asked why she had decided to fight child marriage, she said, "My mind and body were not ready for it." India has the fifth highest prevalence of child marriage in the world, with almost every third child bride being Indian. Moreover, 30% Indian women are married before they are 18, out of which 2% were married before they are 10.

Child marriage perpetuates the exploitation of health, rights and body of adolescent girls. This treatment of young girls is viewed as separate from human trafficking but in reality, it is a form of trafficking. I say this because child

brides have no say in the arrangement and become the property of the man they are married to, who is more often than not, makes a trade out of their circumstance and innocence of the young girl.

We also have the highest number of adolescent girls worldwide, who give birth before they turn 18. Pregnancy remains a major contributor to maternal and child mortality and to the cycle of ill health and poverty. Whereas, the benefits of timely sex education, delayed marriage and pregnancy are many, and come through lower health care cost of the family and more productivity in work.

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (PoCSO) 2012, is a special Act formulated to provide for protection of all children, who by definition, is anyone under 18 years. From the offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment, etc., and to enforce the rights of children to equality, security and protection from sexual abuse and exploitation. Section 3 of the Act provides that whoever in a school or household with the child commits penetrative sexual assault is said to have committed aggravated penetrative sexual assault or rape. However, Exception 2 under section 3 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) states that sexual intercourse or sexual acts by a man with his own wife, the wife not being under 15 years, is not rape. A conflict reading of the above provisions makes it happen that where a child is below 18, even if she is a wife and is in a sexual relationship with her husband, it is not a crime. This is a gross violation of the rights of the child and is a form of trafficking. I say this because child



India has the highest number of adolescent girls, worldwide, who give birth before they turn 18. Pregnancy remains a major contributor to maternal and child mortality, and to the cycle of ill health and poverty

A child's status as a child till she is 18, otherwise guaranteed by the State, is denied to her once she is sexually or otherwise wed. Moreover, provisions of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, show that a child who has been forced into marriage and in all probability should be subjected to intercourse, only has the option of rescinding her consent from the illegal relationship if she applies to the district court through her guardian or next friend, along with a Child Marriage Prohibition Officer.

How can the law expect a young child to find a guardian, usually the one who is responsible for getting her married in the first place, or another individual who is not bound to put her out of this arrangement? She has no other resource against the offences committed against her despite her being a child. However, with the compulsory application of PoCSO, the child will have a presence in law. In as much as sexual intercourse committed against her would qualify as "rape".

For years, we have fought for legal reforms which will be applicable to all children without any exception. The decision of the apex court to direct the government to clear this conflict between the IPC and the PoCSO Act within four months will turn the basis of the fight against the sexual exploitation of girls in the name of child marriage.

The singular aim of the law is to protect the weak and vulnerable, and ensure speedy and effective delivery of justice. The time has come for the government and society at large to unite and ensure the end of child marriage and fulfil the promise of quality education to all children.

Kailash Satyarthi & Mahesh Kumar
Bachpan Bachao Andolan, Delhi

22,000 children went missing in last 3 years, 9,000 still untraced

According to Bachpan Bachao Andolan, Delhi is fast emerging as the hub of child trafficking



Parents of children who went missing from different parts of Delhi and other NCR towns

Children from Delhi are often taken to Punjab and western UP to work in agriculture fields. In cases where we have managed to track children, this was the trend. In cases of girls, they are pushed into prostitution.

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