### "Why did you not come earlier?"

Her angry question still shakes me and has the power to shake the world. What are we waiting for?

~Kailash Satyarthi



### VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

# 66 A lot of work still remains but I will see the end of child labour in my lifetime ??

#### - Kailash Satyarthi

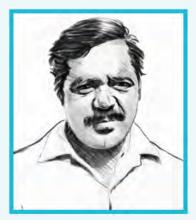
**Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA)** is a frontline anti-trafficking and anti-slavery grassroots movement in India, founded by Nobel Peace Laureate Kailash Satyarthi in 1980. Its core activities are run and managed through the registered society **"Association for Voluntary Action" (AVA).** Over the years, the founder has nurtured several motivated individuals to work towards eliminating child exploitation across the globe.

During this struggle, some of BBA's activists sacrificed their lives to pave the path for ending trafficking and slavery.



DHOOMDAS

Mercilessly beaten to death by stone quarry mafias



ADARSH KISHORE Gunned down by stone guarry mafia



KALU KUMAR

A former child labourer and activist lost his life, while on a mission to sensitise people

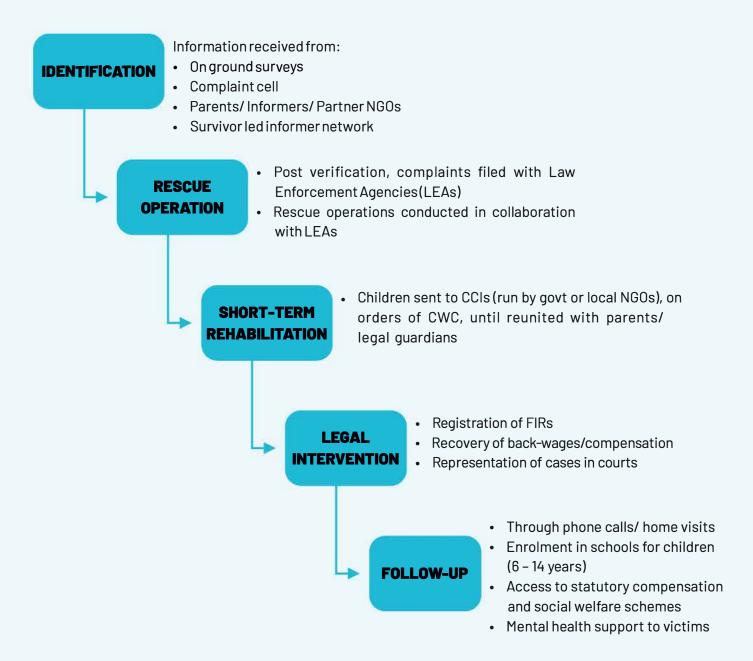
Our martyrs continue to inspire and motivate each and every individual associated with BBA towards eliminating exploitation of all forms against children. Since 1980, BBA has rescued more than 1,04,000 children from various forms of exploitation and ensured their rehabilitation.

# **ABOUT THE PROGRAMME**

The Victim Assistance (VA) programme is BBA's flagship programme that envisages a comprehensive and transformative approach to child protection and rehabilitation. It has created an end-to-end mechanism to provide protection and rehabilitation support to children for ensuring their safety, well-being and reintegration into the community. BBA began its journey with the Victim Assistance programme in 1980 when Nobel Peace Laureate Kailash Satyarthi rescued a minor girl "Sabo" who was about to be sold into prostitution, along with 35 others involved in generational bonded labour in a brick klin in Punjab. The learnings and experience gained from the programme have contributed immensely in reforming and reshaping the legal and institutional mechanism of child protection in the country.

#### PROCESS

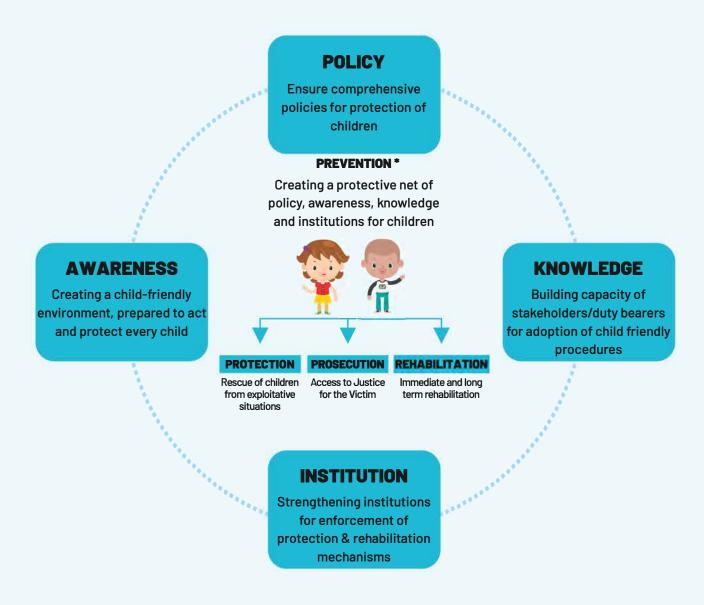
The Victim Assistance process encompasses five broad steps:



## **THEORY OF CHANGE**

The VA Programme's ToC is developed and strengthened through the 4 decade long on-ground experience in facilitating end-to-end protection for children. This is done by withdrawing children from exploitative situations, prosecuting traffickers, encouraging participation of survivors and preventing re-trafficking of vulnerable children by facilitating their access to rehabilitation components i.e. education, statutory compensation and social welfare schemes.

The programme also works towards creating a safety net around children. The child protection institutions are strengthened by building capacities of stakeholders/duty bearers, leading to creation and implementation of robust policies for child protection. Moreover, spreading awareness about child exploitation within the community, increases vigilance and preparedness to act against any form of exploitation, thus ensuring holistic and all round protection of each and every child.



# **FROM SLAVERY TO FREEDOM**

# "COVID-19 shattered my dreams, the tools bruised my hands, but BBA brought back my childhood" – Asraf (name changed), a former child labourer

COVID-19 had a devastating impact on economies all across the world. While the world was battling economic and medical crises, BBA noticed that the vulnerable and marginalised children were amongst the most affected.

Loss of livelihood opportunities for the earning members of the family forced children into the trap of slavery, trafficking, child labour or other forms of exploitation. Asraf, a 10-year-old boy from Sitamarhi district of Bihar, was one such child whose family succumbed to huge financial debt during the lockdown.

School being shut, family suffering huge economic stress due to loss of job of the sole breadwinner during the pandemic, led Asraf to move to Delhi in search of work.

In November 2020, Asraf was rescued from an automobile shop in Jamia Nagar, Delhi where he was made to work for over 9 hours, with no leave and a meagre salary. Considering the long working hours and restrictions imposed on his movement, Asraf was declared a bonded labourer. Thereafter, BBA activist's facilitated issuance of Release Certificate and recovery of his due back wages of INR 23,380 from the employer. He also received immediate support of INR 20,000 under the Central sector scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labourers, 2016.

Asraf's enrolment in school post repatriation and his family's linkage to social welfare schemes will prevent Asraf's re-trafficking in the future. Today, BBA's efforts have reinstated Asraf in school, where he is aiming for a brighter, happier future for himself and his family.



### IMPACT 2017 - 2021

<b>19,142</b> CHILDREN RESCUED		<b>22,532</b> CHILDREN FOLLOWED UP
<b>1,962</b> FIRs REGISTERED	SCHOOL	<b>1,701</b> CHILDREN ENROLLED IN SCHOOLS
<b>2,276</b> EMPLOYERS/ TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED		<b>2,783</b> RELEASE CERTIFICATES ISSUED
<b>INR 3,13,36,637</b> BACK WAGES RECOVERED		<b>269</b> ESTABLISHMENTS SEALED



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To report any issue of child abuse, please call 1800-102-7222 (Toll-Free)