

EVENT TO SPREAD AWARENESS ON CHILD RIGHTS

**Report on Event Conducted on
November 27, 2023 in Agra, Uttar
Pradesh.**

ABSTRACT: This event was a collaboration between the Legal Aid Centre and the Millennium Fellowship Project 'Chaitanya'. As a part of this project, the focus was on SDG 4 and 5 which talk about inclusive and equitable quality education across all genders and Rights of children. This event aimed at not only providing quality education to children but also spreading awareness about several government-run schemes on free and quality education in the country and rights of children.

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I. Concept Note

UN Millenium Fellowship believes in furthering several sustainable development goals all around the globe. As a part of project CHAITANYA, our focus was on SDG 4 which talks about inclusive and equitable quality education across all genders. In furtherance of this goal, our team conducted several events out of which, one was based in Agra, Uttar Pradesh. This event aimed at not only providing quality education to children but also spreading awareness about several government-run schemes on free and quality education in the country.

More often than not, children from low-income households often fall victim to lack of education. The reason behind this is increased population and financial constraints. Parents, unwillingly, drive their children to become bread-winners from an early age often ignoring their basic education.

Keeping these evils in mind, I had structured this event in such a manner which would become more relatable for not only the children but also their parents. The emphasis was not only on introducing the importance of formal education but also skill-based education amongst the children. The event was conducted in a question and answer format with several fun sessions. At the end of the event, I also distributed certain stationery items to the children.

II. Objectives

The objectives of this event were threefold:

1. To lay emphasis on skill-based education.
2. Spreading awareness about children's rights and grievance redressal forums in case of violation of those rights.

3. To motivate them to live a better life.

III. Preliminary Preparations

In order to impart sound knowledge, I researched on various issues that the children were facing with respect to education and attempted to design the event in such a manner that it would sufficiently meet their needs. I conducted both primary as well as secondary research in order to ascertain the education system that is in place for children belonging to low- income households and tried to identify the existing anomalies in the system. Based on my research, I decided to lay more emphasis on skill-based education and its importance in today's world. Secondly, I went and bought certain stationery items such as notebooks, pens and pencils. Lastly, I organized a meeting with the owner of the NGO and finalized the date for the event i.e. November 27, 2022.

IV. Conducting the Event

The event was scheduled at 4:00 p.m. and it took approximately two hours to finish. Upon reaching the NGO, I interacted with all the children in a casual manner so that they would become comfortable. The chat session went on for about 30 minutes wherein each child told me their name and their hobbies. Once I identified their hobbies, I told them how they can turn these hobbies into sound careers. I recognized that some students were not as interested in conventional education as they were in other fields such as art, embroidery, music etc. I informed them about new career paths such as graphic designing, professional cooking, social media etc. They expressed huge interest during this session and were motivated. Post this session, I invited their parents and informed them about various government-run

schemes and the New Education Policy. This session also ended on a promising note. Upon the conclusion of this session, I conducted a game of musical chairs to lighten the environment a bit. At the end, I distributed the stationery items to them which they received with utmost joy and excitement.

V. Response of the Target Population

The children and parents were very happy with the event and they expressed a great deal of interest. Few parents got in touch with me after the event in order to seek guidance from time to time.

VI. Future Plan of Action

Similar sessions have been planned in other parts of the country.

VII. Conclusion

All in all, it was a very fulfilling experience for me. While preparing for this event, I got to learn about a lot of new things that I previously had no clue about. Through education,

children can garner emotional and mental strength which helps in various aspects of their lives. Exams, sports, games, and more, help develop a strong mental foundation and enable a child to take on obstacles and challenges with determination. Not just this, education also nurtures a child's curiosity and interest to learn and grow in life. Thus, it is supremely important to pay close attention to the quality of education that we impart to children. This event aimed to do exactly that and make sure that the future of our children is in secure hands.

GLIMPSES OF THE EVENT

