

**LEGAL AWARENESS
PROGRAMME**

ON

**WORLD DAY AGAINST
CHILD LABOUR"**

CONDUCTED AT VILLAGE BISUNDERPUR

MIRZAPUR DISTRICT, UTTAR PRADESH

ON 12ND JUNE, 2019

Abstract: This event was an effort which was conducted to make villagers aware of the Child Rights under Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. The significance of Rights of Children along with the objectives as well as the goals of the Act was also discussed.

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1. Concept note

The Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, Noida, conducts various activities and awareness programs to sensitize the society towards different legal and social issues. In order to escalate the purpose, an awareness program on **Child labour** was conducted in Bisunderpur village of Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh on **12th June, 2019**.

As an extension of the above initiative I Ishika Gupta, one of volunteer of LAC, conducted this program in Mirzapur. It is so important to make children aware about their legal rights and praise them to demand for it accordingly if they are barred off. But it is more important to restrain them from doing labour work. Moreover, in today's scenario the need of letting them know that their precious time is to get educated and worth making their future bright rather than making it worse by sinking into the swamp of child labour. Keeping these things in mind the LAC Volunteer strove to impart a basic knowledge on these issues in order to make them a little more aware about their surrounding and to restrain from doing such sin.

2. Objective

The main objective of the LAC Volunteer are as follows -

- To make them aware about their basic rights so that they can avail for it whenever needed.
- To make the target audience more responsible towards the society they live in.

- To create awareness regarding one of the very effective project of government of India- **NCLP** (National Child Labour Project)

3. Preliminary Preparations

Before the event few preparations were made, like-

- Brushing up on the knowledge of child rights, Child Labour, steps taken by government to deal with the issue and about NCLP
- Searching a proper place to conduct the program.
- Making of posters related to child labour.

4. Conducting the program

The event was organized in the Bisunderpur village of Mirzapur. The place was visited and selected beforehand in order to execute the campaign smoothly. A banner was also prepared on a chart paper for Child Labour, displaying the name of SLS, Noida and Legal Aid Centre so as to make students aware about the event organizing institution.

When I reached the village, it was the time for farmer's work on their field. I tried to communicate with a family and tried to click some pictures with them but they were quite busy and thus didn't show me any great enthusiasm. After reaching there the first thing I tried to introspect was to find out the farming conditions and some data related to child labour in the field and it was very unfortunate seeing such a miserable conditions of children. After some arrangements event was started and local people were gathered at a place. I divided them in two different groups. First was of children and another group was of parents, in which majority of them were mothers of the children. Both groups were handled one after another. They

were told about the impacts of child labour, how it affects their lives and eventually their future. As the event was held in concern with issue of Child Labour, so there was a quick interaction with children about the rights they possess and what I came across was that they were completely unaware of it. So, I tried to tell them about it. During the session I tried to know about the education qualification of children and it was really depressing that children were enrolled in schools just to get mid day meal and the rest of the time either they were engaged in field along with their parents or used to go on work like on tea stalls, shops, etc. Though some family based work are not considered as child labour but children working below than 14 years of age is considered as child labour in India. Last but not the least, posters on child labour was shown and parents were made to take an oath to not let their child to go on work.

5. Response of the target population

Regarding the small scale campaign on child labour: The children were completely unaware about the side-effects of the concerned issue of the event. As they were children of labours and farmers, what they learnt from the surrounding was to **work, earn and eat**. I myself met some children who were not even enrolled in schools, and others who were enrolled were attending it just for mid day meal. So, after interacting with their parents I somehow made them realize that how they themselves are playing with the future of their children.

6. Future plan of action

Just one session is not enough to make a target audience aware and enlighten about various important issues. I could only provide them with some basic points rather than going into details. According to me, more events related to these issues will help in achieving the goal of our campaign.

7. Feedback

Various ways in which the program could be better conducted in future are as follows:-

Number of Volunteers - The number of volunteers for the program should be definitely more than one, because if there are more helping hands, then the objective could be better served and achieved.

Collaboration with NGO - If there were any collaboration with NGO working especially on children, it would have been like garnishing a dish.

Prior information - Though the campaign was successfully organized, i think if there would have been more time, the event could have been more creative in nature.

8. Conclusion\Remarks

This was only the second time, I was indulged in any campaigning activity. And executing it on an individual level it was a learning experience for me. I got to know about the condition of farmers and the mind set of children in village areas. But the enthusiasm of some children was so appealing and I enjoyed it a lot. Overall this was a great experience and learning process as a Legal Aid volunteer.

(The photographs relating to this program are attached as annexure 'A')

ANNEXURE 'A': PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE EVENT dt: 12.06.2019





