ILO TECHNICAL COOPERATION - CHILD LABOUR

Project Snapshot

Integrated area-specific approach against hazardous and exploitative forms of child labour

Duration: 1999 – January 2007

Donor & Budget

Germany, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation USD 329,764 (Tirupur) USD 84,096 (Jaipur) USD 128,727 (Mirzapur)

Sweden, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency USD 145,845

United Kingdom, Department for International Development USD 571,227

Total:

USD 1,259,659

Objectives

- Prevention, withdrawal and elimination of child labour in hazardous work by channelling certain IPEC inputs.
- Contributing to the implementation of the Supreme Court of India's decision in December 1996 by providing an integrated package of direct and indirect services to the affected population.
- Integrating and coordinating delivery services in the affected areas.
- Developing a model approach for replication in other areas.

Results and Outcomes

TRIPURA

<u>Education</u>: The number of mainstreamed children was more than then target expected from the project and of them 70-80% attended progressively higher classes in the formal schools. Transitional Education Centres (TECs) served as mini-formal schools with considerable benefit to the children and parents in the form of provision of noon-meal, medical attention, personal care for future well-being, etc.

<u>Women & Community Initiatives:</u> Self Help Groups (SHGs) were formed to motivate women for regular savings and internal credit, which helped to secure them from the claws of money landers, but also to gain confidence to venture in various experiments of small-scale business activities. The SHGs served to motivate parents against incidence of child labour and thus they were achieving women's economic and social empowerment.

<u>Government:</u> The able chairmanship of the project under the District Collector aided to create not only awareness to a great deal among all sections of the population but also apprehension among employers who were violating norms against child labour despite legislation and chance inspection. Authorizing raids to even workplaces that were unregistered and/or had less than 10 workers in all particularly helped to deal with child labour in sub-contracted units and to explore the links of sub-contracting to some degree.

MIRZAPUR:

Close to ten thousand (9.825) children and their families directly benefited by the project activities. These included 2000 TEC studied children (in the age group 8-12 years) and 7,825

children (aged 5-7) directly enrolled into formal schools. All of these ten thousand children, apart from material benefit like school uniforms, books and mid-day meals, have been exposed to some kind of basic literacy and awareness about the evils of child labour.

524 mothers benefited from the project both in cash and kind in a big way. These women had a savings of Rs. 76,083 and a matching contribution of Rs. 463,760 only from ILO. They were provided orientation training for one day. Largely "illiterate" others held regular monthly meetings with discussions and decision-making exercises.

Apart from the direct beneficiaries or stakeholders of the project, there are numerous other who have indirectly benefited in some way or the other, both in tangible and non-tangible terms. These stakeholders or beneficiaries include 41 parents groups, 19 community support groups with 504 members, 22 NGOs, 80 TEC teachers, 80 TEC dais (housemaids), about 200 formal school teachers and numerous members of the general public, who were spectators of some of the project events. These indirect beneficiaries benefited in terms of achieving greater awareness about child labour issues, human rights, importance of health and education, literacy and organisational behaviour.