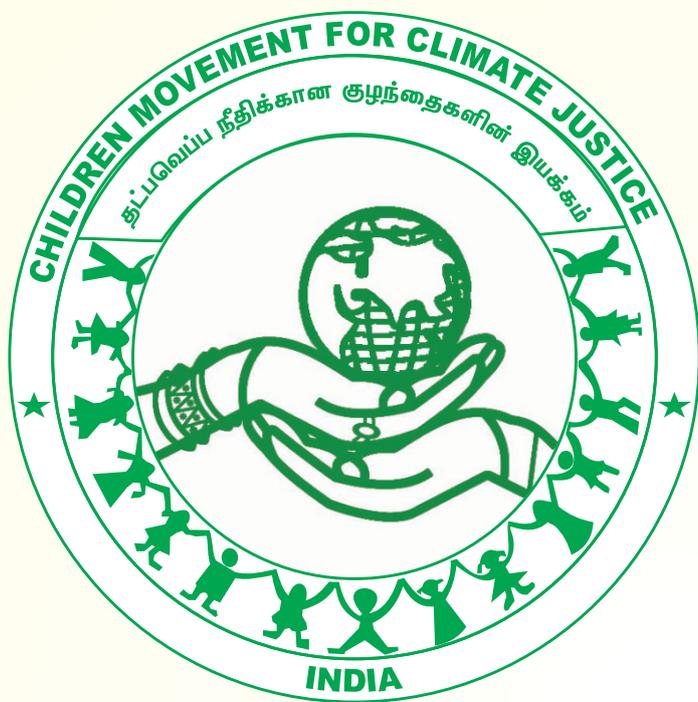


Children Movement for Climate Justice (CMCJ)



National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change

22 – 27 May 2012

Yatra Report



Children Yatra Supported & Convened by





Introduction



“What we do today for climate change and environment protection only would show the future generation, who we were and what had been our way of life and culture. It is because, in today's generation, we are holding the future in our hands. In such future, we should not find ourselves in a position, wherein our grandchildren should not ask us: “Why have you failed to do the proper things? Due to your mistakes we are now facing such sufferings!” ”

Mr. Ban Ki Moon
U N General Secretary

Children who make half of the world's population are vulnerable to anything at anytime. Already children remain as child labourers, thrown out of school, are trafficked, vulnerable to all infections and have become a section of society which is most vulnerable. In this context, environmental experts and social scientist have been warning us about global warming, environment degradation and their dangers and the effects that they would cause in the future. If such predictions come true, those who would be most affected by the same would be the future generation that is the present children. Therefore, 15000 children hailing from 7 states of India have joined together and are functioning as a Movement for Climate Justice.

The UN has pointed out that it was the concerted and general duty of all of us to protect the natural resources like forests, mountains, rivers, lakes, sea that our ancestors left for us. The organization has also warned about the duties that the Nations of the world should do in 2007 towards enhancing Climate Justice, based on which the Nations of the world have put in plan of action that include generating awareness on these. Also, from various researches that has been conducted by world over, we learn that even if all the countries were to stop immediately the emission of CO₂, that increases global warming which in turn causes the Climate Change, still the damage caused would remain for more than 10 years.

As we all know, it is impossible to avoid fully the carbon emission, in the current spaced industrial and scientific growth, which is based on Economic Globalization. Therefore, in this environment, the future of today's children and those who are going to be born remains a big question. It is the need of the hour for all sections across the globe to unite to avoid its impacts and to prepare ourselves for facing the catastrophic effects. In comparison to the seriousness of the problem, the efforts hitherto taken at the National level, by all sections of the people and by the government seems to be very insignificant.

In such background, this yatra is being undertaken, in order to give importance to the voices of children, spread the message among children at large and other general public, build awareness on climate change that impediment the efforts to create a world conducive for the future generations. This National level Environment Awareness Yatra was undertaken, also to draw the attention of the government on the issues that affects the Rights of the Children.



“In order to create a safe world in which we wish to live in the future, we the children and youth who are the main stakeholders in today's world, should participate in the efforts to mitigate the negative effects of climate change and should create models.”

- Jeyadharmar
Representative CMCJ, Virudhunagar

The Children's Movement for Climate Justice was started late 2008, with the focus to reiterate Climate Justice as integral part of Child Rights and from that since then engaged in various environment protection interventions such as tree planting, pollution control, drawing the attention of the government and awareness, lobby and advocacy.

“Children Movement for Climate Justice – CMCJ” as an initiative was conceived by RCPDS, a development organization, supported by Kindernothilfe, Germany as an offshoot of its Good Governance program called “Palar Panchayat” to specifically address Ecological Justice as part of overall UNCRC Child Rights framework. Till the end of 2008 the Movement was confined to adolescents in Thiruchuzhi and Narikkudi panchayat unions in Virudhunagar district. It is significant to note that within 3 years, the CMCJ has grown into a National Movement with 15000 members spread across 7 States of India. All the Child Rights-based organizations that had been behind this phenomenal growth of CMCJ deserve appreciation for their commitment. In this Yatra, Christian Children's Fund of Canada expressed interest and joined hands with KNH and other development organization which added value to the growth of the CMCJ.

A glimpse of activities implemented so far.

- More than 1000 children representatives participated in the “Voices of Children for Climate Justice” conference held in Chennai.
- This was followed by formation of “human chain for climate justice demonstration” and signature campaign in which more than 10,000 people signed on cloth banner.
- During the General Body meeting of the CMCJ that was held in Chennai, an Executive Committee was formed with 42 members.
- 15 representatives of CMCJ participated in the general enquiry that was held in New Delhi.
- At the Summit Meeting COP 15 held at Copenhagen in Denmark, the cloth banner signed by 10,000 children was displayed
- An environment awareness human chain campaign with 4000 children was organized at 8 panchayats in Virudhunagar, at the end of which the representatives of the movement handed over a petition to the District Collector, Virudhunagar.
- Children led Ecological Farming Learning Centre on the basis of guarantee for food and life skill education has been functioning at Sankar Nagar in Thiruchuzhi Block.
- The first Executive Committee meeting of the national level CMCJ was held at Kodaikanal in 2011. In this meeting the first discussion for national yatra was held at adopted as a Resolution

During its average lifespan of 50 years, a tree:



- Produces Rs. 50 lakhs worth of oxygen that is necessary for our life
- Prevents pollution of air worth Rs. 10 lakhs
- Enriches soil worth Rs.6.4 lakhs
- Provides Rs. 5.3 lakhs worth shade and food materials for animals, birds and humans
- Above all, the trees are essential for bringing at the right seasons
- Therefore, if a tree in the age between 40 to 50 years was cut, the loss we will incur is worth 78.6 lakhs.

Grow more trees!

Protect soil!!

Increase Ground water!!!

- A study was undertaken on the exterminated plants, small biological living things and herbs
- Traditional Seed Festival was celebrated in Vishakapattinam
- Child belonging to the movement affected by cyclone Thane was given relief assistance.
- The Third Annual Planning Meeting of CMCJ was held at RCPDS in Madurai
- First stage activities for the yatra (SPEECH media Division, RCPDS, CCRD, pamphlets, stickers, prepared by National Coordinators, route of the yatra, permission from parents and the Child Rights Protection Committee, vehicles for the yatra, individual insurance, police permission, local organizations to welcome the children and so on) were discussed at the Executive Committee meeting held at Thiruchuzhi and resolutions were passed.

The objectives of the National Yatra

- Create awareness among national level children of same age groups, on how the climate change takes place, in what way it affects rights of the children and what children can do for the same.
- Generate awareness among various stakeholders, government and officials on the effects of environment degradation and the roles and responsibilities of each one in mitigating the effects of the same
- Reiterate the need to end the use of plastic and recycling among not only children but all section of society
- Protect children from disasters and provide them life skills to face those challenges and disastes.
- Incorporate Child Rights and children's views in Government's policy making protocols and advocate with the government to implement the environmental justice.

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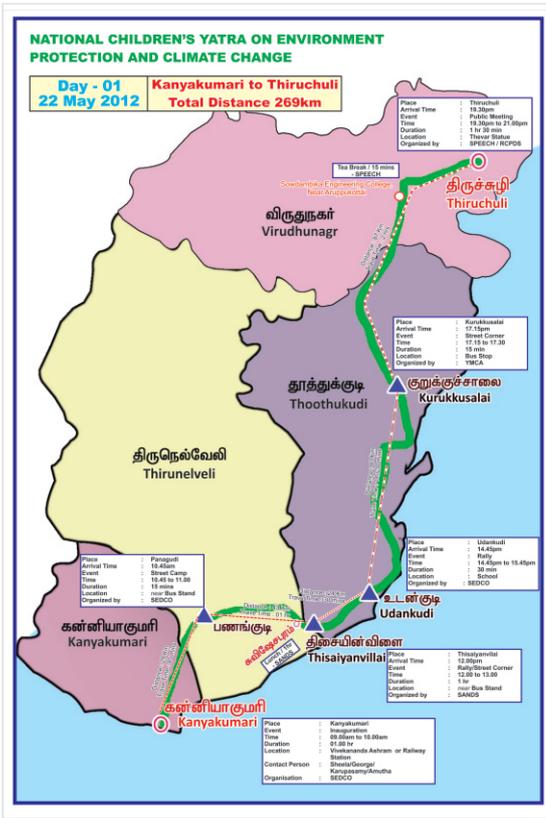


Day 1

22.05.2012

The districts through which the yatra passed through Kanyakumari, Thirunelveli, Tuticorin and Virudhunagar

The total distance from Kanyakumari to Thiruchuzhi: 269 Km.



Day one of the yatra started with grand Inauguration ceremony with full of spirit on Monday, 22.05.2012 at 8.00 a.m. at Vivekanandha Kendra in Kanyakumari, in which the Invocation of “ Tamizh Thai” song was sung by children and performed traditional folk dance called “Thappattam”. Project Officer of Anganvadi Srimathi Uma Maheswari, lit the traditional lamp on behalf of Hon'ble Minister for Forests, Tamilnadu, Thiru Pachaimal. Thousands of children and people belonging to the general public took part in this inauguration. Delivering his inaugural speech on the objectives of the yatra, the National Yatra Coordinator Dr. John Devavaram highlighted, “This is a festival of the children. The Yatra was conceived and started by the children themselves to protect the earth for everyone. Hence it is prime duty of all adults like us to uphold and support the noble cause of protection of environment and child rights.

In the beginning, when we talked about climate change, we had examples for reach our imagination such as snow melting at the Himalayas, the migration of the Polar Bear etc., everyone kept quiet, thinking it is someone else's problem. But when the recent disasters stuck home like tsunami, cyclone, rise in temperature, recurrent drought, new diseases, etc., we began to realize that these sufferings were happening to all people without discrimination, due to the effects of climate change due to human induced activities and playing with the Nature. It is to be appreciated that the children of CMCJ are now raising their voices against globalization, environment degradation, the greed to exploit natural resources with vested interests,



lack of proper policy response to control environment degradation which were the main reasons for climate change and the concomitant child rights abuses. With lack of clean water and air our living has become a big question mark. At this juncture, we are not able to answer the query of the children, who ask us: "Only if we stay alive, we could get all the rights.

The Children's Movement has been spreading the idea that in order to obtain basic rights of the children, it is essential to demand and obtain the Ecological Rights. Therefore, Children have taken the noble Mission of building awareness on climate justice which is needed for everyone through this Yatra. 1500 representatives in all the 7 States where CMCJ is active, held discussions regarding the yatra and on their behalf 1000 children took part in the yatra.

Selvi Panchavarnam, National Secretary of the Movement speaking on the yatra said: "After signing in the UN Convention of the Rights of Children, Government of India has taken lot of positive steps forward to implement the real concerns and targets. But when we look at the changing scenario we feel that the level of support in the government programs and policies are not sufficient." She pointed out that the environment education should not remain merely a school curriculum, but opportunities should be given for making it a life skill education and learning for life.

Mrs. Uma Maheswari, Chairperson on the inaugural event, while addressing the floor mentioned that the National Yatra by children was a guiding light for the whole humanity, because it was also our bounden duty to protect nature, which was given to us by our creator, ancestors, and pass it on to our future generations. She further quoted the words of great Tamil poet Barathi, who said: "the forest and the mountains are our caste". She also appreciated by saying, it is heartening to see huge number of girl children participating in this National Yatra and she with her colleagues from Government system would also take an oath to protect nature.

Speaking on the occasion, Superintendent of Police, Mr. Sankar Narayanan said: "Everyone is aware of earth's climate change, but when the elders remain lethargic, you the children have taken the initiative to conduct the National Yatra, which is simply Great and I am sure every observer will realize this on your Yatra route. He further wished children every success in this mission.

The representatives of the print and electronic media assured their support and solidarity to show to the outside world the children's pro-active initiative. This was followed by a song sung by the children that went "The flowers are started their journey and the nations have united to save the earth".





The official inaugural ceremony ended their indoor action by taking a oath.

“We the children for climate justice will strive to protect the environment. We will protect all the natural resources like the forests, mountains and the water bodies. We will create an enabling environment for other living things. We will tell everyone about this and we shall also follow this. We shall save the world”

SEDCO, one of the participating organization jointly with their fellow network NGOs made wonderful arrangements for this inaugural event.

The National Children's Yatra started from the Gandhi Memorial situated on the Kanyakumari beach, with Kanyakumari District Police Superintendent and Project Officer of Anganvadi Srimathi Uma Maheswari, flagging off the yatra. All the children who were going on the yatra marched in huge rally with the traditional folk dance “Thappu” being played in front. Children shouted slogans and the yatra moved through the market. All the merchants, general public, the tourists, foreigners and children from other schools totaling more than 3000, seeing the commitment of the rallying children, cheered and encouraged them along the way.

Since there is political sensitivity and conceptual duel stand on Koodangulam nuclear power plant among the local fishing community and the government and also the case is pending in the court, our National Children's Yatra avoided that route and went reroute Panangudi.

As a next stage the yatra reached Panangudi Kamarajar bus station, where the members of women Self Help Group attached to the NGO RIP waited to welcome them. The camping children jointly with local hosts distributed pamphlets all around the bus station and shouting awareness slogans. In this street corner campaign activity, the bus station staff, shop keepers, the bus passengers and the general public were numbering nearly 1100 assembled there and asked many clarifications about the climate change to children. From here the yatra went to Parapadi, North Bazaar Road where SANDS organization hosted the event. Before the yatra arrived at Parapadi, local host SANDS, had built adequate awareness about the yatra to the local people, through jeep campaign. There were also posters and banners displayed at vantage points in the area. There it joined with the members of the women SHGs who were organized by the organization. More than 2500 people, consisting mainly of women and children assembled there to welcome and encourage the yatra children. This clearly showed the amount of welcome and the interest the women showed for the yatra children.

The foot march phase of the yatra was inaugurated by Mrs. Prema Thalavai, the Panchayat president, from Kamarajar statue. As she welcomed and felicitated the yatra children, a jeep went before them and slogans were read out over the public addressing speaker system. The white cap worn by the children looked as if clouds jumping over each other in glee, while the green shirts worn by them looked like green trees walking in unison. All along the villages, people saw the children shouting slogans and marching in the hot sun and they were moved and asked for the pamphlets and eagerly read them.

The walking children went along the bus station and the shops and reached the old theatre at Parapadi where a public meeting had been arranged. More than 2000 people consisting of members of women SHGs, children and adults had come for this program. SANDS organization had made all the arrangements for this meeting. In this meeting, CMCJ local representative Miss Aanandhi delivered the welcome speech; Mr. Jacob felicitated the yatra members and the India Coordinator of KNH, Mr. Sathish spoke wishing the yatra all success. The chief executive of Maryalaya Rev. Sr. Clara spoke praising the initiative of children and the event. At the end a folk song was sung by the participants and the local children performed cultural programs.

When the yatra passed through Tirunelveli, the children observed many environmental degradation, wherein all the lakes and rivers turned dry like desert and industrial waste being pushed to rivers, etc. This led to many discussion among children in relation to climate crise and ground water pollution.

When the children started from Prapadi, they were happily welcomed by SEDCO, children, adults and members of women SHGs, at the gates of the TDTA High School. In the function held here the yatra children conducted awareness cultural programs and awareness speeches. Then the yatra started from high school and passed through the important streets of Udankudi (about 2 Kms.) with shouting slogans all along.

From Udankudi the yatra reached cross street, where they took part in the street corner campaign arranged jointly by two organizations, namely YMCA and Vanmughil, where they conducted awareness cultural programs and speeches on climate change. YMCA Madurai Secretary, Mr. Moses and the Director of Vanmughil, Mr Brito spoke and wished the yatra all success. In this street corner campaign event, about 800 people consisting of general public and members of SHGs actively participated and taken the message back home to rest of their members.





When they passed from Tiruchendur to Tuticorin, the children were able to see directly many factories emit carbon and pump their waste water and due to Sterilite factory the whole area having become polluted. One could see that the scene really affected the children, from their shocked faces and the way they shared their feelings with each other.

Then as the last event of day one, the yatra arrived at the venue of a public meeting that had been organized jointly by Thiruchuzhi Panchayat leaders, Union representatives, Member of Legislative Assembly, Women SHG federation, SPEECH and RCPDS organizations. The yatra children arriving at 8.00 P.M were welcomed by a thronging crowd of more than 5000 people who had come to attend the public meeting. Special guests for the meeting were Natural Agriculture Scientist Mr. Nammazhvar, Professor of Gandhi Gram University Mr. Narayanaswamy, who appreciated the singular effort of the children and offered their support for the cause. In between the sharing of views and speeches by the children, Benjamin and Amali group sang environment awareness songs.

Representative of the CMCJ children's movement Miss Rajathi, speaking on the occasion said "The curriculum now we use is based on the British colonial system, which is designed to produce clerical menials who would then serve the Colonial rulers to manage their powers in government system. This is introduced by Lord McCale, during the time of the British, as a job to fulfill the assignments given by the colonials. Since then the system kept changing by linking very many macro policies and vested interests of the well off through very many introductions such as advance science and technology, globalization, economic liberalization, market economy, etc. The education curriculum we children learn to day still remain basically to fulfill the needs of vested interest and not children perspective and creativity. Hence our traditional knowledge and learning life skills had been sidelined all through. Already, we have systematically lost our herbal medicines, agriculture methodologies, cultural habits, language, to the alien education. Therefore, in the future the government should consider and refine curriculum that would unearth our tradition, culture and the knowledge. This is my plea to the government on behalf of present and future generation, she said.

Mr. Erskin, Director of SPEECH local host organization thanked, every local representative individually to recognize their contribution and support to make the public event a grand success. He specifically thanked Mr Thangam Thennarasu, Member of Legislative Assembly, Thiruchuzhi constituency, for providing special T.shirt to all participating children and extended all possible support. The other key supporters in the event include Mrs. Indira Mohan, Thiruchuzhi Union Chair Person, Panchayat President, Local school for providing accommodation, food for all the children and obtaining kits.

When Miss Panjavarnam spoke, she said “When there was no guarantee for the food security and food sovereignty of the children, the education we all learn became a question mark. It is paramount that we provide to the children the Basic Rights. The future belongs to the children and it is the prime responsibility of everyone; parents, relatives, panchayats, teachers, government and society at large.

In this meeting, the audio CD containing awareness songs on climate change, produced with the assistance of CCFC organization was released by Mr. Moses, the Secretary of YMCA Madurai and Mr. Sathish Samuel, India Coordinator, KNH, received the first copy. He said that the initiative by children and the National Yatra would be talked about at a global level and on the concluding day - May 27th - when the children meet the Union Minister, the dream of the children would be realized. Following this Mr. Erskin, Project Director, SPEECH proposed the vote of thanks and with that the curtains were drawn on the first day of the yatra.

As a feedback of the events of day one, it was decided that on the future days of the yatra, the children belonging to the organizations in the planned area, would take responsibility of the scheduled events. Keeping in mind the safety of the children, the vehicle drivers were also asked to go in a convoy, to strictly adhere to speed limits at all times and to

The climate change does not affect everyone in the same way. People and children in the poor countries and developing nations will be most affected by this. When catastrophes happen as an effect of these, it would be too late to take any action to mitigate the effects of them then

**- Economy of Climate Change
Stern Evaluation 2006.**



Excerpts from the speech of Nature-Agriculture Scientist Sri. Nammazhvar, at the Thiruchuzhi public meeting.

“This earth belongs to the children and youth. Due the change of seasons the rains did not come and since there was no rain there was no agriculture leading to migration of workers. Due to people's avarice the factories are producing carbon-di-oxide..., due to the destruction of forests again there is no rain and lack of rain leads to lack of agriculture, ultimately leading to food shortage...

Due to lack of rain lakes, tanks, ponds, rivers have become dry and the river sand is being stolen without qualms.... The industrial effluence is let out into the river. Cattle is not reared but taken for butchering. Industries are springing up on agricultural lands. Small grains are disappearing and there is hardly any guarantee for food. At this juncture, you children have decided to undertake this yatra. I appreciate you for this. This land will be glorified by your deed.

Since the time, Government introduced green revolution, farmers are spoiling the soil by using the chemical fertilizers. The required rice is imported from other countries.. but all the nutrition we need are in the grains and pulses like raggie, maize, corn, jowar and others, then why should we import from outside? For the first time you children have started to spread awareness, you will shine as stars of hope for the people. I praise you with all my heart.”



maintain patience. It was well taken by the drivers who extended their prime support for safety of children. It was significant to note that from the first day when the yatra started from Kanyakumari to Thiruchuzhi, the government Emergency health service ambulance 108 remained with the yatra 24 hours. This showed the government's concern for the children's safety and its support for the yatra.

The newspapers and media channel Pudhiya Thalaimurai TV extended their fullest support to highlight the glimpse of yatra throughout the yatra route and updated general public at large on a day to day basis.

Statistics on Yatra Reach and coverage

	Venue	Program	No. of Participants	No. of Audience
	Vivekanandha Kendra, Kanyakumari	Yatra Inauguration	1000	7000
	Gandhi Mantabam, Kanyakumari	Yatra flag-off	1000	5000
	Panangudi	Street Corner Campaign	1000	2000
	Parapadi	Rally and Public Meeting	2500	5000
	Udankudi	Rally and Meeting	1000	5000
	Cross Road	Street corner campaign	800	1000
	Thiruchuzhi	Public Meeting	5000	7000

National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change: Organizations that helped and supported for the success of the program

Organizations and Groups that provided support to the campaigns of yatra of children in Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin and Virudhunagar Districts.

Participant NGOs

CSR, Nagercoil

RED, HEAL, RUCODE India

Panangudi Programme

RIP

TADA high school

ADCHAYA Federation

Mrs. Prema Thalavai, President, Illankulam Panchayat

Mr. Kasiviswanathan, Vice President, Illankulam Panchayat

Mr. Jacob Pandian, Chairman, Rathish Nursery & Primary School, Parapadi

SANDS Vanmalar Women's Federation members

Mr. Vijeyanthira Pithari IPS, Superintendent of Police, Tirunelveli

Mr. Linga Thirumaran, Inspector of Police, North Vijayanarayanam

Mr. Chinna Samy, Inspector of Police, Tisaiyanvillai

Mr. Moses, secretary, Madurai YMCA

Mr. Britto, Project Director, Vanmughil, Tirunelveli

Mr. Thangam Thennarasu, MLA, Thiruchuzhi

Mrs. Indira Mohan, Panchayat Union President, Thiruchuzhi

Mr. Muragan, Panchayat President, Udayanpatti

Mr. Packiam, President, Panchayat, Thiruchuzhi

Mrs. Sarathadevi Gurusamy, President, Sennilaikudi

Mr. Ponnambalam

Mrs. Lakshmi Pichai, Othaveedhu, Thiruchuzhi

Mr. Kumar, Contractor, Othaveedhu, Thiruchuzhi

Mr. Madurai Veeran, Othaveedhu, Thiruchuzhi

Mr. Periyasamy, Proprietor, Karuppusamy Radios

National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change: Organizations that helped and supported for the success of the program

Mrs. Jeyakodi, Proprietor, Gurunathan Store, Thiruchuzhi

Mr. Muthu Murugan, President, Vadathakulam Panchyat, Melendhal, Thiruchuzhi

Mr. Rajendiran, secretary, Press Club, Virudhunagar

Mr. Benjamin

Mrs. Amali

Mr. Balaguru, Mallanginaru

Secretary, Members of Executive Committee, T.U.N.S.V, High School

Southern Alliance for Ensuring Child rights (SAFE – CR)

Childline, Virudhunagar

Women's Network, Thiruchuzhi

Child Parliament, Vidathakulam, Thiruchuzhi

And village panchayat leaders, Village development clubs, Self Help Groups, Agriculture clubs, children's organizations.



Materials given to children who participated in the yatra

For all the children who participated in the yatra

- * A travelling bag able to hold one week's travel items
- * Identity Card
- * T Shirt
- * Cap
- * Shoes
- * A kit containing Paste, brush, oil, bathing soap, washing soap
- * A cloth bag containing 1 litre of water and bed sheet.

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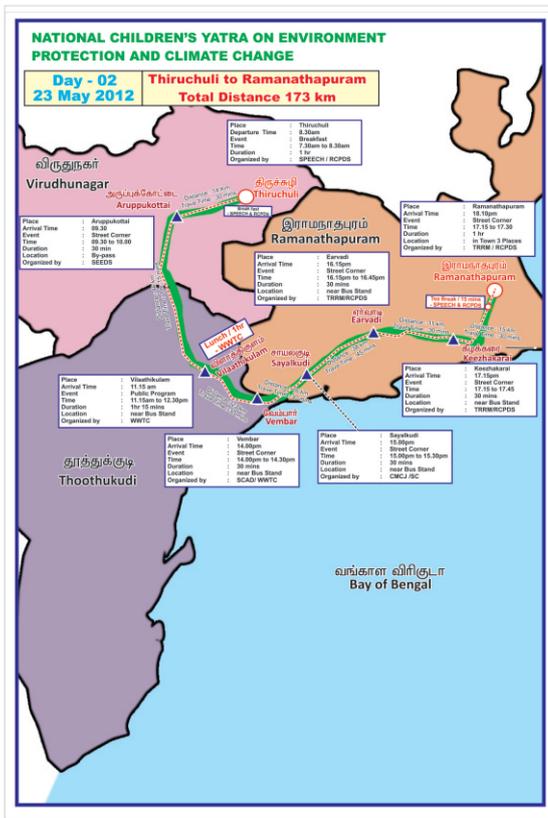


Day 2

23.05.2012

The districts through which the yatra passed through Tutucorin, Virudhunagar and Ramanathapuram

The total distance from Thiruchuzhi to Ramanathapuram - 173 Km.



The second day's yatra started at 9.00 a.m. on 23.05.2012, with a street corner campaign at Athipatti in Arupukottai Union. Mr. Pandiyan, the Founder-Director of SEEDS, local NGO which focus on protection of Child Rights and members of the SHGs welcomed the yatra children.

More than 600 plus general public, children and members of the women's SHGs participated in the street corner campaign. The children of CCRD performed awareness programs in the street corner activities. The children distributed awareness pamphlets to all the shop keepers, bus passengers, vehicle drivers and pedestrians and also stuck stickers on autos and vehicles parked in front of shops.

Then the yatra started with the rally and the reception given by WWTC and its network NGOs and members of Peoples organizations at Vilathikulam in Tutucorin district.

Vilathikulam MLA, Mr. Markendeyan flagged off the rally of 2000 people that consisted of yatra children together with local children, adults and members of SHGs. This rally marched to nearly 2 Kms., with children playing thappu Melam, shouting slogans and passing through important streets and the bus stand, reached the venue of the public meeting. All along the way the children distributed pamphlets to the people on the streets. It was a wonderful sight to see the children in the rally holding tree samplings to focus on the importance of growing trees.

The President of the Children Network, speaking on the occasion, said: "We all belong to small marginal farming system.



Our parents take loans for agriculture and remain as debtors all through their life cycle. Due to environment degradation food production is on the decline and we are forced to depend on the free/cheap ration rice distributed by the government. Hence we children want to reverse this trend in the future and that is why we have embarked on this yatra. During the meeting Saritha and Muthulakshmi and other CMCJ members recorded their opinions about the yatra.

Pastorate Chairperson and Parish priest, Mr. G. Nagarj, Counselor, SCAD organization, Illayaraja, President, Valluar Vasuki council, Vembu and representatives from various institutions felicitated the children for undertaking the yatra to protect the environment.

Mr. Sathish spoke highlighting the efforts of CMCJ children to that of the school children affiliated to the Green Peace, Germany, who generated interaction, understanding and exchange of views on the International Environmental issues. In between the addressing by many speakers, the children provided cultural programs with simple awareness messages. More than 3000 people participated in the public meeting and graced the occasion.

When the yatra reached Sayalkudi, through a vehicle mounted with PA system awareness messages on the environment was given and at the Vembar border, members of the women SHGs, promoted by SCAD and the village people welcomed the children. More than 5000 people consisting of general public, merchants and bus passengers witnessed this program.

As the last event of the second day, the yatra reached Yervadi, Lanthai, Thoruvalur areas, where TRRM organization and Fishermen Union had made special arrangement for street corner campaigns and street plays. The yatra children too conducted awareness program among general public. The children of SASY and Arokiya Agam had taken responsibility for conducting these programs. In between CMCJ leaders addressed the people on climate change and the negative impacts that can have on the children and the expected support sought from the elders. In Ramanathapuram, in the three places mentioned above, more than 5000 people consisting of travelers, general public, shop keepers, those waiting for bus, villagers, elected panchayat leaders, government officials witnessed and participated in the campaign.





Second day's night stay at the Primary School, Teachers' Union auditorium and St. Andrea school premises were arranged by Mr Rajendran, Horticulture Officer, Ramnad Collectorate with the assistance of Madurai and Ramanathapuram diocese. The responsibility for food arrangements were taken up by TRRM organization and Women's

Statistics on Yatra Reach and coverage

	Venue	Program	No. of Participants	No. of Audience
Athipatti	Street corner campaign	600	1000	
Villathikulam	Rally and public meeting	3000	5000	
Vembar	Street corner campaign	500	1000	
Yervadi	Street corner campaign	1000	1000	
Lanthai	Street corner campaign	1000	500	
Thoruvallur	Street corner campaign	1000	500	

Climatic Changes- Some important tit bits

- From 1970 to 2004, globally the green-gas emission has increased by 70%
- The global warming, we know, has happened 90% due to human greediness and man-made green-gas emission
- It has been predicted that in this century world climate will increase from 1.8 to 4 degrees and the global warming will increase to 6.4 degrees

National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change: Organizations that helped and supported for the success of the program

Organizations and Groups that provided support to the campaigns of yatra of children in Virudhunagar, Tuticorin and Ramanthapuram Districts.

Vembu Peoples Power Organization – Vilathikulam

SCAD – Vilathikulam

Vidiyal - Vialthikulam

Gokulam – Vialthikulam

Karisal - Puthalapuram

Assefa – Vilathikulam

Vasuki Peoples Power Movement

Retired Government Officers' Club

Northern District Traders Union – Villathikulam

Mr. G. V. Markendeyan, MLA, Vilathikulam

M. Dhananjeyan – President, Pudur Panchayat Union

V. Veppurar – Vice President, Pudur Panchayat Union

Umamaheswari Ragupathy – Vilathikulam Union Chairperson

S.Mani – Executive Officer, Vilathikulam Union

Sagayaraj Vilvarayar – Thasildhar, Villathikulam

Balasubramanian- Block Development Officer

Rev. A. Arumaithurai – Pastorate Chairperson, Nagalapuram

Rev. Ricobar, Parish Priest

President and office bearers, Ramanathapuram District Fishermen's Union

Mr. Sheik Abdul Hussain, Former President

Mrs. Nagavalli, President, Panchayat Level Federation

Mr. Karuppusamy, Project Director, TRRM, Ramanathapuram

National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change: Organizations that helped and supported for the success of the program

K. Kala, Coordinator, TRRM, Ramanathapuram

A. Paulsamy, President, Ramnad District Fish Workers' Trade Union, Ramanathapuram

G. Anand, Secretary, Ramnad District Fish workers' Trade Union, Ramanathapuram

P.M. Karuppaiah, President, Bharathi Nagar, Ramanathapuram

Cluster Coordinators, TRRM, Ramanathapuram

Volunteers from MSW field placement program

Lanthai Women's Self Help Groups

Thoruvalur Women's Self Help Groups

And Village people, village panchayat leaders, village development clubs, SHGs, Agriculture Clubs, Children's groups



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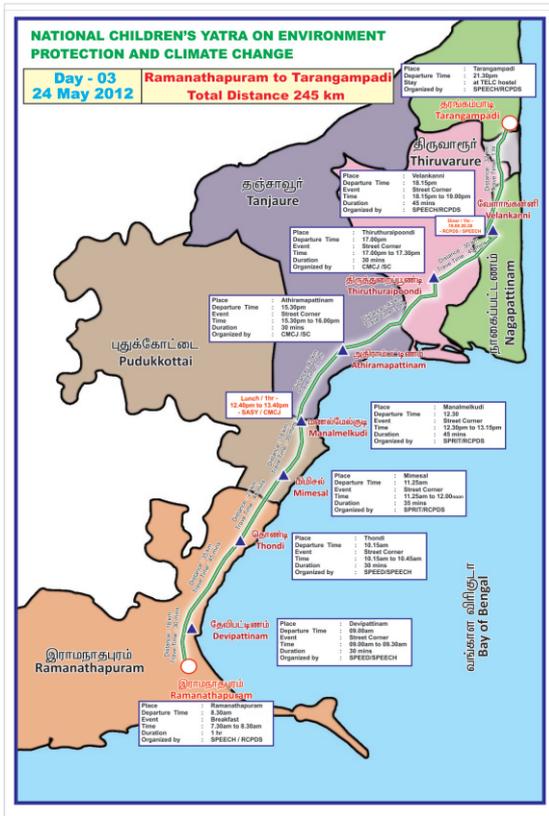


Day 3

24.05.2012

The districts through which the yatra passed Ramanathapuram, Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam

The total distance from Ramanathapuram to Vailankanni - 245 Km.



Third day, on 24.05.2012 at 9.00 A.M before the yatra started, the participant children, organizations' outreach workers, and vehicle drivers held a brief reflection meeting and reviewed for interim corrections. During the reflection, it is observed that the yatra has become very popular among the masses, there is good amount of welcome from the public but it also equally important to draw the attention of the government officers also, they said.

The yatra started from Ramanathapuram and proceeded towards Devipattinam. As the yatra proceeded to little distance, the children could see garbage, burning into a conflagration. All along the way, they also saw agriculture lands remaining fallow due to lack of rain. This created a great yearning among the children. One could feel the outpouring of this yearning in the next point of children's campaigning.

When the Yatra arrived at Gandhinagar market at Devipattinam, Neighbourhood Community Network (NCN) representatives and members of the SHGs welcomed them. The children played the thappu and attracted the attention of thousands of people there and shouted the awareness slogans. The shop keepers asked for stickers and stuck them at their shops. The children of CCRD organization put up a street play about the need to grow more trees. In the campaign, former Panchayat President Mr. Sedhu Abdul Hussain and Devaraj, spoke appreciating and felicitating the children.



The National Awareness Yatra held cultural programs, awareness songs, thappattam, street plays, street corner campaigns, at Mimeesel in Pudukottai district. The children conducted these programs among the shops, near vehicle parking areas, bus stations/junctions and places where lot of people assembled so as to get maximum coverage.

Near Manalmelkudil police station the SPRIT organization welcomed the yatra. And when the children beat thappu the campaign started, with shouting of awareness slogans. Speaking at the campaign, Mr. Seeniar said that even for a return of

one would not venture out into this hot summer, but our children have achieved what we didn't. This shows their commitment to the cause. He conveyed his best wishes for the success of the yatra. Panchayat President, Mrs. Murugeswari and the Inspector of Police, Mr. Ravichandran also wished the children all success in their speeches.

Whenever the yatra passed any village, children sang awareness songs on climate change and shouted slogans. The next campaign point was Tiruthuraipoondi bus station. Since being high way, Town headquarters and main road the streets were highly crowded and busy. But wWhen the children started with their cultural event at the street corner, more than 3000 people consisting of those going to and from the buses, youth, women, men, vehicle drivers and traders etc., witnessed the campaign and benefited form the same. Even the people who were in the buses, asked for pamphlets and read it and appreciated the effort. Children of RCPDS danced an awareness song. A street play entitled “We depend on the earth” was staged by children. The children attracted the crowd by shouting slogans and then provided them awareness on climate change through all those events.

Gradually the Yatra progressed toward the last event of the third day by reaching Velankanni. Velankanni being internationally known pilgrimage point and the time being festive season there were millions of people crowded in the region. Our children walked as a rally among the thronging crowd of devotees, reading nature awareness messages. This rally walked 1 Km and came to “Dravidian Hotel” and performed a street corner campaign. The whole crowd consisting of devotees, tourists, general public, shop keepers, children were attracted by the awareness songs, music and cultural programs. The local host Mr George, who is a member on the Velenkanni Church Committee contributed to the whole organizing jointly with Mr Thomas Alwa Edison and Mr. Thangavel. The special invitees spoke praising the yatra, and with the environment slogans the third day programs of the yatra came to an end.





A significant event on the third day was that when the yatra crossed the river beds, the children could see sand mining and hundreds of trucks filling sands from the river beds. Also, without the summer rains, the trees and the agricultural fields were dry and fallow. The children seeing these were very sad and shared their grief with each other.

On the third day of the yatra, the children had the chance to see a lot of prawn and shrimp farms. They could see how productive agricultural lands have become saline and not fit for any more agriculture. They could understand that the prawn farms pollute the soil and make it useless for farming. Since sea water is brought inside for the prawn farms and due to the chemicals and food for the prawns and the water let out from the prawn farms pollute the nearby agricultural lands and they also become unfit for farming. Due to this fact, many small farmers around the farms are slowly losing their livelihood. Realizing all these facts the children thought of their challenge for food security and became very sad.

Accommodation for the third night halt was organized by the great support extended by Rev. Navaraj Abraham of Tamil Evangelical Lutheran Church, Taramgampadi. Taramgampadi being a missionary land point of Segampalk is popular for its tradition. Children were able to learn a bit of old history and sleep over the thoughts.

Statistics on Yatra Reach and coverage

Venue	Program	No. of Participants	No. of Audience
Devipattinam	Street corner campaign	1000	1500
Meemisal	Rally and public meeting	500	2000
Manalmelkudi	Street corner campaign	1000	2500
Thiruthuraipoondi	Street corner campaign	1000	3000
Velankanni	Rally & Street corner campaign	1000	5000

National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change: Organizations that helped and supported for the success of the program

Organizations and Groups that provided support to the campaigns of yatra of children in Ramanthapuram, Pudukottai, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam Districts.

Mr Devaraj, Project Director, SPEED

Mr. Babu, Secretary, Hands Society

Mr. Raja Samson, Project Director, SPRIT

Mrs. Murugeswari Ganesan, Panchayat President, Manalmelkudi

Mr. Seeniar, Former Panchayat President, Manalmelkudi

Mr. Muthusamy, Police Inspector of, Manalmelkudi

Mrs. Suseela, Project Coordinator, SPRIT

Mrs. Jasmine, Coordinator, SPRIT

Kadalkanni Network of Women's groups

Rev. Navaraj Abraham, TELC, Poraiyar

Mrs. Rajkumar Thambu, Coordinator, DRR Program, CASA/PDA Field Office

Mr. Thomas Alwa Edison, President, Velankanni Municipality

Mr. George, Committee Member, St.Mary's Basilica, Velankanni

Superintendent of Police, Thiruvarur

Deputy Superintendent of Police, Thiruthuraipoondi

Superintendent of Police, Nagapattinam

And Village people, village panchayat leaders, village development clubs, SHGs, Agriculture Clubs, Children's groups

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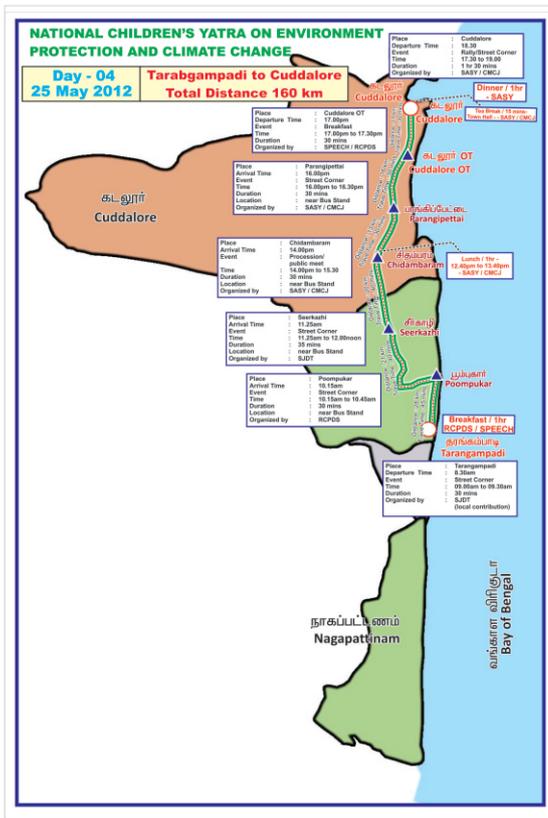


Day 4

25.05.2012

The districts through which the yatra passed through Nagapattinam and Cuddalore

The total distance from Tharangapadi to Cuddalore - 160 Km.



The fourth day of the yatra on 25.05.2012 at 9.00 a.m., started with the street corner campaign at Tharangapadi bus stand. This street campaign was eagerly witnessed by more than 500 people who were passengers and the general public gathered at the market and shops. During the campaign awareness pamphlets were distributed and awareness stickers were stuck on the autos and vehicles parked at the bus station.

Then after reaching Poombuhar the yatra children went in a rally from the Poombuhar bus station, passing through the 4 streets of West Street, Cross Street, Fishermen's Street, East Street, with shouting of awareness slogans, passed the 3 kms., and arrived at the bus stand. In the villages, the campaign took place, by distributing awareness pamphlets in every house and sticking awareness stickers.

The soul stirring awareness songs sung and cultural shows by the children of SPEECH organization was heard and witnessed by thousands of people, who were tourists who came to Poombuhar, fishermen, youth, adults. The most significant event that happened was the fishermen community of Poombuhar village did not go out to sea on that day, for the sake of welcoming the yatra children and participating in the campaign. They said that this decision was taken after a special panchayat session to discuss this matter. The local fishermen's network had made excellent arrangement and hospitality hosted by local community for the campaign here. This single incident in itself could be taken as the very success of the yatra, as it has united the people and committed them for the cause.



After the campaign at Poombuhar, the yatra proceeded to Sirkazhi. On the way to Sirkazhi all the participants of the yatra could see a huge garbage dump that had been torched and smoke was bellowing out of it and the foul smell and the thick smoke emanating from the dump suffocated every one. The children witnessed the environment degradation happening in front of their eyes and this saddened and moved the children.

At noon 12.00 o'clock, the yatra reached the petrol bunk near the Anna Bus stand. In that busy area, the street corner campaign conducted by CCRD children was witnessed by thousands of people.

Then the yatra arrived at Chidambaram bus station, where more than 2000 plus children, elders, women belonging to the Thaiman Network and the SASY organization.

Mrs Nirmala Sunder flagged off the rally formed by the yatra children from the Chidambaram Bus stand. The rally wound its way along Temple Street, Speaker's Street and arrived at the road leading to Sirkazhi. From there they reached the Nandanar High school, the venue of the public meeting. More than 2000 persons belonging to the women's SHGs, men, youth, polytechnic students had gathered for the public meeting. At the meeting Mr. Ramesh Nathan, Executive Director of SASY organization delivered the welcome address and awareness cultural shows were conducted and during the meeting tree saplings were distributed for those who participated in the meeting on request. This event was covered by the Pudhiya Thalaimurai TV channel and was telecast in the evening news on that day.

SASY organization welcomed the yatra children near Parangipet police station. During the street corner campaign that was conducted there, Town President, Panchayat Vice President, Superintendent of Police spoke on various issues related to environment degradation, welcomed the children and rendered their best wishes for the success of the program.

When the yatra children arrived at Cuddalore Town Hall, they were welcomed by SASY and the Tamil Naud Consumer Federation. In the public meeting that took place in Cuddalore, the District Collector took part and said: "I felicitate you who have undertaken the yatra for Environment protection and mitigating Climate change. If children start the fight, it would surely bring about a change. Our lives should be in accordance with the objectives for which we campaign. We should think of abhorring





plastic and think of the 4 “R”s, namely Refuse, Reduce, Re use, Re-cycle. We have to use power judiciously and should talk about “Green Building, Archie Technology, toxicity element and pollution” The Collector also distributed tree saplings to the students. More than 500 people and children participated in the program. The yatra children performed cultural shows. The SASY organization, local host, had made arrangements for the programs at Sirkazhi, Chidambaram, Cuddalore and Parngipettai. The CMCJ movement would like to record its sincere thanks for Mr. Patrick, Mr kutti and other colleagues fulfilled the emergency basic needs of the children at the opportune time to make the stay comfortable.

Statistics on Yatra Reach and coverage



Venue	Program	No. of Participants	No. of Audience
Tharangampadi	Street Corner Campaign	1000	1500
Poombuhar	Rally & Street Corner Campaign	500	2000
Sirkazhi	Street Corner Campaign	2000	3500
Chidambaram	Rally & Public Meeting	1000	3000
Cuddalore	Street Corner Campaign	1000	5000



“Global Warming is happening, it is plain truth. At the global level we see sea level rising, heat waves and Himalayan ice melting and changing climate for agriculture

- The Union of countries for climate change- 4th Assessment Report

National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change: Organizations that helped and supported for the success of the program

Organizations and Groups that provided support to the campaigns of yatra of children in Nagapattinam and Cuddalore Districts.

Poombuhar Rally and Street Corner Campaign

Poombuhar Village people and Fishermen's Network

Deputy Superintendent of Police - Sirkazhi

Chidambaram Public Meeting, Cuddalore District

1. Mr. K. Ramarathinam, Social Activist, Kavarpet
2. Rotary Club, Chidambaram
3. Lion's Club, Chidambaram
4. Mrs. Nirmala Sunder, President, Town Council, Chidambaram Corporation
5. Mr. Pradeesh Patel, Panchayat President, M.K.K. Garden
6. Mr. Anbazhagan, Koothankoil
7. Mr. Paneer Selvam, Headmaster, Nandanar Boys' High School
8. Mr. Rajendran, Former Panchayat President, M.K.K Garden
9. Mr. Sekaran, Thaiman Men's Network
10. Mr. Paulraj Thaiman Men's Network
11. Mrs. Thamizharasi, Inaindha Kaigal, Women's Network
12. Mrs. Kanniammal, Inaindha Kaigal, Women's Network
13. Mrs. Paavai, Inaindha Kaigal, Women's Network
14. Mr. Arul, Librarian, Kavarpet
15. Mr. Balaganapathy, Keezha Moongiladi
16. Mr. Raj Sri, Volunteer, Kavarpet
17. Mr. Stalin, Athipet
18. Mr. Nijandhan, M.K. Gardent

National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change: Organizations that helped and supported for the success of the program

Parangipettai Reception – Cuddalore

1. M. S. Mohamed Yunus, President, Parangipet Municipality
2. Mr. Pandian, Vice President, Parangipet Municipality
3. Mrs. Indira, Inaindha Kaigal, Women's Federation
4. Mrs. Velvizhi, Pudhumeipen, Women's Federation
5. Mrs. Kamalaveni, Pudhumeipen, Women's Federation

Cuddalore- Public Meeting, Cuddalore

1. Mr. M. Nijamudhin, General Secretary, Tamil Nadu, Consumer Federation
2. Poet Balki, Readers' Movement
3. Mr. C. A. Das, Advocate
4. Mr. K. Thirunavukarasu, Dalit Livelihood Federation
5. Mr. Arulsevam, Coordinator, Sipcot, Social Environment Supervision
6. Mr Patric, Councillor, Puducherry
7. Mr Kutti, Social Activist, Puduchery

And Village people, Village panchayat leaders, Village development agencies, SHGs, Agriculture Clubs, Children's organizations

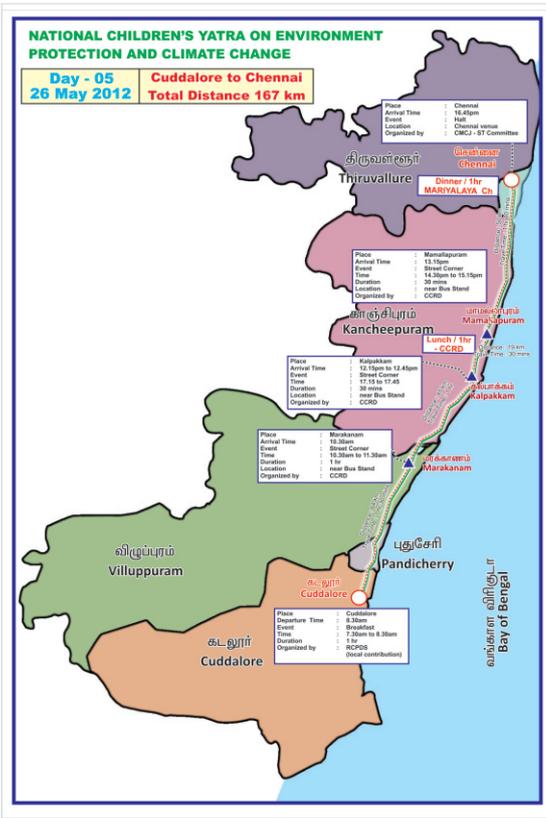


Day 5

26.05.2012

The districts through which the yatra passed through Cuddalore, Vizhupuram, kancheepuram and Thiruvallur

The total distance from Cuddalore to Chennai - 167 Km.



The fifth day of yatra started on 25.5.2012 at 9.30 a.m. from Cuddalore and reached Marakkanam, via Puducherry.

The children gathered at Marakkanam and marched as a rally from Thindivanam road passed through Pondi Road and market place to reach the function stage, shouting slogans all along the way. There were lots of tree saplings on the stage. Mr. Then Pandian first spoke welcoming the yatra children. PWC organization's Founder Secretary, Rama Kennedy, speaking on the occasion said: "The children are slogging for the lives of others. The elders speak on the stages, but the children are actually doing what they speak. They are fighting for themselves and others. Speaking next Mr. Sivalingam said: "About 1000 children in our area are very eager to see the yatra children and speak with them. Not only the local children but the whole of Tamil Nadu with you all the way. We have to start such a movement in every village. We have to develop living environment every where and maintain. Throughout the state the trees are being cut, we have to put an end to this. All living things should live". At the end of the meeting tree saplings were distributed to the general public and to the traders.

After the function, the yatra proceeded towards Mamallapuram. On the way to Mamallapuram, the children saw the Alayathi forests and the salt pans.

When the rally reached Mamallapuram, the children and every one stood as a great rally in front of elephant's statue and passed through South street, East Street and reached the campaign stage. Rev. Guido Falkenburg, representative from KNH Germany, joined the National Yatra and children at this point. He travelled all the way from Germany to participate in



this noble cause and to pass on greetings from KNH headquarters. Speaking at the campaign, Mr. Devanbu said: "I appreciate the children for undertaking the yatra. What the elders failed to do, children have accomplished. The organizations SEA, CCRN, ACDS and CCRD jointly welcomed the children. CMCJ movement representatives Selvan. Muthukumar, Selvi. Janaranjini, explained the objectives of the yatra and spoke about the environmental degradation that they had noticed on the way. The children of TEST and SEEDS put up awareness plays. CCRD organization had arranged for the Marakanam and Mamalapurm cultural programs in an excellent way.

After the function at Mamallapuram the yatra started its journey towards Chennai. After completing successfully the 5 days, the yatra arrived at 7.30 P.M at the night halt venue, Madras Christian College Higher Secondary School. (MCC). At the MCC School premises, the Tamil Nadu yatra children were very happy to see their rally counterparts from other states like Andhra, Karnataka and Orissa who also travelled for five days across the Northern States and reached Chennai. CMCJ children from different states welcomed each other with love.

Traversing beyond caste, language and culture, the children had united as one family in order to save the Nature and they exchanged news, pleasantries and hugged each other. Both formal and informal meetings were held in small groups wherein children heard from each other that there existed in every part of India, the same story of raping the nature and environment problems and exchanged their views on them. And they shared with each other the environment problems they had witnessed and experience they had gained.

Statistics on Yatra Reach and coverage

	Venue	Program	No. of Participants	No. of Audience
	Marakkanam	Rally & Street Corner Campaign	1000	3000
	Mamallapuram	Rally & Street Corner Campaign	1000	3000

The total distance covered by the Tamil Nadu yatra is 1014 kms.

National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change: Organizations that helped and supported for the success of the program

Organizations and Groups that provided support to the campaigns of yatra of children in Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur Districts

Mr. Robert Kennedy, Director, People's Welfare Centre

Mr. Devanbu, Director ACDS- Association for community Development Services

Mr. S. Desingu, Director, Society for Education and Action

If we do not care for the climate change, behave indifferent and remain lethargic, at the global level, there will be a loss of US \$ 750 crores. At the same time, if the nations of the world work towards reducing climate change, in a firm and concerted way, that could be achieved with very low expenditure which will be within 1% of world's total production. While these steps will not very much affect the world economy, but on the contrary, in some parts produce increased incomes

- The Economics of Climate Change,
Stern Assessment 2006

Security arrangements made for the yatra children



- * The Tamil Nadu government ambulance 108 travelled along with the yatra children, at all times
- * All the participating children were covered by accident insurance
- * Clean water can was kept in all the vehicles and all the children were provided a water bottle able to fill 1 litre of water
- * A first aid kit was kept in all the vehicles. The kit contained doctor – prescribed pain killer, medicines for fever, cold, headache, vomiting, diarrhoea and glucose to avoid dehydration due to summer heat.
- * All the medicines were given after diagnosing the problems of children, by a qualified (trained nurse) health worker
- * Vehicle number stickers that were easily identifiable were stuck on all the vehicles.

Overview of the yatra from Odisha and Andra Pradesh



After the KNH partners' meeting at Visakhapatnam, the children and partners from Andhra Pradesh and Orissa also felt that it would be good if there was a representation in Chennai by the children group/ CMCJ members from these two states as well. Dr.Sasiprabha, Director of CeFHA has taken the responsibility to coordinate the Yatra of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha chapter.

Day 1:

Press meet

19th May, 2012 the CMCJ members along with the organizing lead for the Yatra from AP and Odisha, CeFHA team have addressed the press. Different print and visual media were present to learn the work of CMCJ and the purpose of Yatra.

To begin with SasiPrabha (Director CeFHA and Co-Convenor for CMCJ Yatra) introduced the members and shared that CMCJ was a children network which begun in the year 2008, it was an assimilated effort from various partners of KNH to work for a just and safe environment for the children. The network has members of 5 different states (A.P., Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Jharkhand). The major purpose of Yatra was to aware people at different places on climate change.

The yatra would begin simultaneously at two places Kanyakumari and Semiliguda the members would converge at Chennai to submit a memorandum to Honourable Minister of Labour and Employment, ShriMallikarjunKharge. The memorandum would insist the state and central governments to re-enforce stringent implementable policies to regulate the various polluting agencies, individuals and industries.

The present section of Yatra would begin from Semiliguda, Odisha and then with an inaugural event at Youth hostel, Visakhapatnam the team would move to Parwada, Addu Road, Tuni, Uppada, Kakinada, Yanam, Amalapuram, Pallakollu, Bheemavaram, Kolleru, Vijayawada, Guntur, Ongole, Kavali, and Chennai.





Ananta Lakshmi

Ananta Lakshmi spoke about the importance of environment and how human beings have contributed towards polluting the most important resources land, air and water. She says that one can witness the plight of people living in the vicinity of industries and their sufferings due to the hazardous elements that have been released into the atmosphere. Ananta Lakshmi reflects on the attitude of parents saying that these days people are more keen to give children more wealth instead of giving them a safe climate to live on. As declared by WHO, 85% of the diseases are due to pollution and its high time stringent measures be taken against polluting industries and other sources.

Hemalatha

Hema shares on the importance of trees and how it helps to sequester the carbon emissions. Plants and trees are not only the source of oxygen but they also are the sources of livelihood to many.

Yatra itself,

Inaugural Event, 22nd May 2012

The Yatra commenced with the inaugural event at “Youth Hostel” Visakhapatnam. The event begun with a welcome message by Lalitha (CMCJ Representative) and she invited the dignitaries to stage. The following were invited on stage, Anantalaxmi (Secretary of Green Ambassadors and CMCJ member), ShriPurna Chandra Rao (Police Commissioner Visakhapatnam), ShriVenkateshwaraRao (Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board)ShriSathyanarayana (Auditor of CeFHA),Prof. M.K. Raju (Psychology Department, AU), Prof. Rajasekhar and Prof. E.U.B Reddy (Environmental Sciences Dept., A. U.)

Sasiprabha followed it up with a brief up on the purpose of the yatra in the context of climate change. She requested ShriSathyanarayana to chair the session. The session followed up with short speeches from the children as well as from the dignitaries.

ShriPurna Chandra Rao: (Commissioner of Police)

His excellence The Commissioner of Police, Vishakapatnam has appreciated the efforts of the children and explained many facts as to how the human beings were exploiting the existing resources and he said if we continue to exploit the resources there would be a triggered effect on the environment and on the climate as well. He also explained that this was the reason why there is a marked difference in the climate from the past.

ShriVenkateshwara Rao

Joint Chief Environmental Engineer did speak about the importance of awareness and should reach the masses at the earliest to address the issues of the ongoing climate crisis. He also shared the existingsissues and cited some of the important examples in this context at the global level. Apart from that he also congratulated the green ambassadors and CeFHA for taking up such an event that could bring in a great level of awareness in the greater interest of people.

AnantaLaxmi

Anantalaxmi questioned the current lifestyle methods in the purview of climate change. She spoke about the disturbance caused to ecological balance due to severe loss on biodiversity and its components. It has been development at its helm with deterioration at its best. She questioned the particples of life and their existence within the context of climate and its changes.

Prof. Rajasekhar, E.U.B. Reddy and Venkaiah

The faculty members of Andhra University, Visakhapatnam shared their views on climate chaos, and said that its very important to address the issue at the earliest. Maintaining ecological balance and preserving biodiversity are also equally important to maintain the life cycles of many species. Professors have urged the children to take up these issues in their communities and start disseminating knowledge from programs such as these.

The rally was flagged off by ShriPurnachandraRao and the bus proceeded towards Parwada for the next meeting.

Parwada (Spandana)

Reaching Parwada at 2:30, the second destination

CeFHA had mobilised lunch to be offered by Mr.Ishmail director SPANDANA. After the lunch there was a rally from the office to zillaparishadschool. On behalf of CMCJ, AnantaLaxmi welcomed the people and also chaired the session, The chief speakers were

BimalTadingi, shared on displacement and the growth of industries, vehicles in his area. Bimal says it's very pathetic to see all the natural reserves being destroyed in a very unsustainable manner, due to which the poor and marginalised are facing the plight of climate change.





Pawan Kumar: He spoke about various steps that are required to combat air pollution, he also shared about the usage of excessive vehicles, refrigerators and Ac's which are the prime reason for ozone depletion.

Lalitha shared on the activities of CMCI and Green Ambassadors. The various steps the children have taken to promote a green ecological zone in the areas they belong to. The following were a few important activities taken up by them,

- a. Management of plastic
- b. Large scale plantation drive
- c. Developing organic farming models
- d. Awareness campaigns
- e. Study on local biodiversity resources.

Ananta Lakshmi, spoke on various learnings from CMCI- Green ambassadors and shared on how important a safe environment is for human beings.

Hemalatha explained the concepts of global warming and climate change.

Pawan Kumar said water was as important as land and air and its our duty to protect the water from being polluted.

Adda Road, street corner meeting

Adda road, the team arrived at 3:45 and organised a small street corner meeting, there were anxious by passers who came and listened to what the children were speaking. In the meeting Ananta Lakshmi, RajniTading and Pawan Kumar spoke on climate change and its impact on humans. The children also suggested the importance of changing the existing pattern of lifestyle that could help to negate the harsh effects of climate related issues. The groups sang songs on climate adversity and also on child rights, after which Ananta Lakshmi sensibly brought out the sync between climate justice and child rights.

Tuni (The team reached Tuni at 5:45 P.M.)

As soon as the team reached Tuni there was a public meeting at Gollapparao centre. The meeting started with cultural dances from CMCJ children. In the public Anantalakshmi, hemalatha and lalitha of Kotauratla region shared their views on the disastrous impacts people were facing due to climate change.

After the public meet at Gollapparao centre, BRIGHT team had organised a panel discussion program with the local Judges. CMCJ members from Semiliguda area and Kotauratla area have actively participated in the discussions.

Sasiprabha shared the plan and purpose of yatra in brief. She welcomed the participants and greeted the magistrate and judges for being present on this occasion. She also shared about the international climate convention being held every year at different places called as conference of parties. The children were invited to speak on various issues they face in their respective regions.

Anantalakshmi and Pawan of Andhra shared on environmental issues like excessive usage of plastics, climate change issues pertaining to food security and livelihood sustenance. PrabhatJani of Orissa spoke on behalf of tribal communities in Orissa on the various problems face due to climate change. He spoke on how erratic rainfall had an impact on productivity of crop during the last year. Hemalatha spoke on different laws being created for the environment. Some of the valid questions the children asked the Judge can be summarised as follows,

- a. Are these laws for legal action or is it a property to be remained sealed within a book?
- b. There have been environment laws since the past two decades but who is following them and who is taking responsibility to punish the illegal practices of destroying the environment.
- c. Is law going to be so weak creating opportunities to continue exploiting the environment and natural resources?

Magistrate

The above questions were appreciated by the Magistrate, Tuni Region and said he completely accepts the questions raised by the children. He first of all congratulated KNH Germany and India team, CeFHA and other local organisers for organising this event. He said that climate change has been a very serious issue; he also accepted the fact that legal acts have been made but there has been no right implementation steps taken. He also said that due to the humans exploiting the resources there have been many species that have become extinct. Many other species, have been struggling as well due to the irresponsible behaviour of human race on the face of the earth.

Stanley D' Silva (KNH- India team)

Stanley d' Silva conveys greetings from KNH India team to all the members present in the meeting. He said children and climate change is a very sensitive issue, people face a variety of problems and solutions for them need to be provided very soon. From his experience of work he observed that children these days speak on vermicompost, panchakavya, organic farming. Children in these areas donot look for icecreams or chocolates instead are very happy if good food was provided. Food security has been an issue and good nutritious food was available only once in 2 -3 days. With all the steps being taken on the climate front by the CMCJ members, he feels very encouraged and wishes all the very best.

Venkateshwarulu expressed his concern on the climate issues and the future of children. He also shared that the children need to be aware on climate change, it is very necessary for them to know and be prepared for the future.

The children had their Dinner at the Centre and took rest for the night.

Day 2:

Day started journey towards Danavayipeta, TondingMandalam. The team arrived there at 11:30 A.M.

Chief guest for the meeting at Danavayipeta was SatyanarayanaRao, (MRO, TondingMandalam). The public gathering commenced with welcoming the participants by Chakra Rao, There were many children participating in the event however Anantalakshmi of CMCJ chaired the event and invited Lalitha, Hemalatha, Prasad, and Bimal to share on the climate issues in respective regions where they belong to.

Ms.Lalitha shared on plastic and the menace it had been creating world wide. Hemalatha shared her view on biodiversity and spoke on the results they found out through the study which the green ambassadors have done. Bimal shared the story of Orissa tribals and their view on climate change. Which was followed by Stanley d' silva's message on children and climate change.

Reddy, a representative from aid et action spoke in brief on the global crisis due to climate change. He appreciated the children initiative towards a safer climate. He also emphasised on the importance of biodiversity and the ways to preserve it.

Sasiprabha shared her experiences in COPs, and also said it's very important for the children to step up to fight the causes of climate change before it gets out of our hands.

Satyanarayana, MRO (TondingMandalam) conveyed a message to children on the various ways climate should be protected.

Kakinada

The team arrived in Kakinada in the late afternoon, the event began late in the afternoon at around 4 P.M. The event was organised at SarvaSikshaAbhijan, project director of the same was the chief guest.

The program was led by AnantaLakshmi, She invited the representatives from AP and Orissa to sing a song. Pawan Kumar from AP has sung a song that related to education in the current context of development. The representatives from Orissa also sang a song, which meant safe environment is required for a safe livelihood.

Ananta Lakshmi, Secretary Green Ambassador/ Member CMCJ

Anantalakshmi spoke on the various hazards the human race face due to the deteriorating effects of climate. She also explained on the changes in times with respect to the performance and efficiency levels of human capacity to work. The dire need according to her was to protect the environment and help preserve the biodiversity for a better and safer tomorrow.

Pawan Kumar, Member - Green Ambassadors and CMCJ

Pawan Kumar spoke about the harsh effects of air pollution, there have been various factors responsible for air pollution amongst them industries and transport machinery form the bulk of pollutants. He also spoke about the CFC's and HCFC's which are a major cause of ozone depletion in the atmosphere. Trees

are a major source of carbon sink, and Pawan urged that each one of us on the earth should take the responsibility of planting some trees and taking care of them so that the emitted carbon can be sunk through them.

SasiPrabha, Director CeFHA/ Co-Convenor CMCJ (AP and Odisha)

Sasiprabha shared on why it was important for the children to talk about climate and its impact on them. It was rightly said by her, that the deterioration of climate is going on at a very high pace and if it continues to do so, earth would be a mass of “un-livable” substance. The children would be the most hit as they grow up they would be left with polluted air, polluted water and polluted land which is the basic right of a human being. Hence KNH and its partner NGO's have reinstated the children population to be united and fight for a cause and their voice be heard in International conventions normally where the voice of children is neglected.

DasaSatyanarayana - Child Rights Coordinator

Satyanarayana appreciated the efforts of Green Ambassadors and CMCJ members taken to protect the environment. He said that the question of children representation at the conference of parties organised by UNFCCC was put before the Minister of Environment and Forestry then, Shree Jayaram Ramesh. In his talk he spoke about how a tree was important in every stage of life, every twig and leaf of a tree are very important for us, hence it is very important to know the value of the trees first. As there was an increase in the number of vehicles off late, he urged to think of alternative transport mechanisms which have been well practiced and proved effective in the westlike car pooling and public transport systems.

Stanley d' Silva, KNH-India Team

Stanley introduces KNH and purpose of its work, he shared as it was a child based organisation the next major threat that could be faced by them was ecological issues hence the approach towards ecological child rights was considered very seriously by KNH-Germany. He also shared that KNH worked in tandem to improve food and economic security of the families which is a basic requirement for holistic child development. In his experience of work with the children in India he appreciated the efforts taken by CMCJ members in solving various problems in different areas. Water issues were taken to the sarpanch and were solved, members support the usage of organic farming and traditional seeds, open levitation issues were solved. He also acknowledged Indian children as the most active members working towards a safer climate.

Jaganadham, Program coordinator SarvaSikshaAbhiyan

Jaganadham said 45% of Indian population are children and it is very important for them to understand the impact of climate change, he further urged that all the living human beings on earth should act in accordance with the current scenario of climate change. It is very important for the industries, corporates and other MNC's to work in accordance with law and take responsible measures to protect the climate.

Ramesh, Project Officer SSA

Appreciating the children initiative on climate change and the activities taken by them he shared, Environment is most talked about issue these days, addressing pollution, climate crisis and current trends of modern development urged every single citizen to take the responsibility to change their

lifestyle. There were many deaths due to climate change. Climate change the cause and droughts, flash floods, earthquakes and cyclones being the effects of it. It is very important for the children to understand the climate change phenomenon and act accordingly.

Following the event at the centre there was a rally organised till the town center, shouting slogans on climate change and voicing out their demands.

After which the team proceeded towards Tallarevu, a church based event.

Tallarevu

The team after a long tiring journey reached Tallarevu due to time constraints, the group could not spend much time there. There were two child speakers ,Ananta Lakshmi from Andhra Pradesh and RajaniTading from Orissa.Ananta Lakshmi in her short speech shared her experience and activities that Green Ambassadors/ CMCJ children do. RajaniTading also shared her experience pertaining to climate change from the area she belongs to. The event was organised by Rev. Johnson and Sunil Kumar.

After the quick program the team proceeded towards Dariyalatippa, a village which comes under the jurisdiction of Yanam.

Sunday school children and Youth have participated!

Dariyalatippa (Yanam)

It was 20:00 hours by the time the members reached this village,

The event was organised by Rev.Johnson, the evening started with few songs by the CMCJ members on education, girl child issues and environment. After which, Anantalaxmi invited the elders of the community and people to participate in the meeting.

Anantalakshmi, shared her views on global warming and climate change. She also urged the people around to rethink and revisit their past days when everything was so happy unlike the struggles of survival like today. She shared on how important birds, insects and certain microorganisms were to the human beings, she insisted that the present human race should wake up and also respect the right to live of other species on earth.

Bimal from Orissa, questioned the present strategy of development and said if we continue to live and do what ever we have been doing in the past few years. We would be left with poisoned air, poisoned water, and polluted land. The three basic things required as living beings to survive.

SasiPrabha, shared her experience with the on-going process of developing children as climate crusaders. She explained on the purpose of Yatra, and why this kind of widespread message on environment is absolutely necessary in the present context of development. She said that protection of environment is not just an activity but it is the responsibility of all as citizens of the earth. In a question to the community, “on what better gift can we give to our children than a safe and healthy environment to live on?” has also triggered many positive responses.

Village Leader, said “We should be ashamed of ourselves in the name of development and in the process of becoming economically wealthy we are destroying the existing resources and poisoning ourselves. We need to congratulate the efforts of the children towards protecting the environment and disseminating useful information to many others like us. We on behalf of Dariyalatippa would like to thank the children representing Green Ambassadors and CMCJ members for coming to us and creating awareness on climate change”.

After being served with Delicious meal, the team proceeded towards Amalapuram. The night halt was arranged by Snehitha, a voluntary organisation.

Day 3

Amalapuram

A good night's rest put the children back on track for the long day again,

The event was organised in the town centre.

Swarnalatha, Director Snehitha welcomed all the members of CMCJ and introduced the Organisation and its activities. She introduced the theme of Yatra, which is Climate Change. Sasiprabha gave a brief input on the current dynamics of climate change. Following which CMCJ members spoke on various issues.

Ananta Lakshmi brought up the issues relating to climate change and the possible effects it could have in the future generation. She also questioned the viability of modern days development progress. Ananta Lakshmi shared that the trees act as a major source of carbon sink and it is very important for the people to start afforestation. Plastic is another major culprit and said we need to regulate our usage on plastic. The other important aspect that she brought out in her talk was about the protection of Biodiversity, as it is the only source which helps to maintain a normal food chain and many symbiotic relations survive due to rich biodiversity. It is very necessary to preserve the biodiversity .

Lalitha Devi in her message to the audience gave a brief report on what CMCJ ambassadors were working on. Pollution a major cause of destroying existing ecosystems had been brought in by the industries and other sources of opting non traditional methods. Land, air and water are very important for our survival and if they are polluted it would put the Human Race in a very dicey situation. She urged the people present to join their hands in this quest for Climate Justice.

RajaniTading of Odisha

Shri.Sampath Kumar (Rural Development Officer, Amalapuram)

Shri.Sampath Kumar wished and congratulated the children for working on a serious issue like climate change. He also hoped that the Rally becomes a huge success and children take adequate precautions as it is very hot.

DSP Thrinadh was also present.

The event was closed and the team proceeded towards Pallakollu.

Pallakollu

The team reached Pallakollu by 11:15 A.M. after which there was a small meeting and slogans were raised on climate change. Due to time constraints the program at pallakollu was cut short and the team proceeded towards Kolleru.

On the way the team had their lunch.

Kolleru (Mongluru)

The team reached the program point at 2:00 P.M.

The program begun with two songs, one song (Telugu) was on protecting trees and helping mother earth smile. The other song was in Oriya depicting the sufferings the tribal communities faced interms of issues like education, environment and industrialisation. Along with the child representatives, sarpanch and vice sarpanch of the village were requested to take the dias.

NireekshanaRao (Director – Sneha)

Introduced the floor to the context of which this rally was being organised. He gave a brief explanation on how the existing water sources which were once supposed to be the hubs of biodiversity were destroyed due to mainstream development activities.

SasiPrabha:

Briefed up on the progress of yatra so far, she spoke about the requirement of the children's united voices to be heard at National and International levels as it is the question of survivability, the basic child right which has already been put as a question posing threat to the children in future. She further instigated that child representation is required at these meetings as their opinions have to be given importance because they are going to be the future face.

The CMCJ members, Anantalakshmi share her views on climate change representing the children of AP region and Bimal also shared his views, on large scale development processes that has been impacting the livelihood sources of tribal community.

Stanley D' Silva

In his short talk, said children are the duty bearers and right holders, it is very important that the various committees in the village give an opportunity for child representation.

Sharing by Village Representatives

It was an important session for the children to actually relate to the destruction associated with development projects. One of the Village representative said “ In the past when we drop a 50 paise coin in to the lake we could see it glittering till it reached bottom, but now it won't be visible after it passes the first inch of water level such is the condition of once a very beautiful lake”.

The village vice president said “ Kolleru was a beautiful area with a lot of agriculture land and irrigation facilities but now our situation has changed , people have also begun to lease out their lands for a very meagre price. According to the G.O. Kolleru has 11 acres of cultivable land but now there is not a single cent which can be cultivated. This has forced the people to shift from farm based activities to non farm based activities and as of now they find labour and domesticated cattle as the only source of earning possibilities”.

Sundar Singh of Mongluru said Kolleru was completely destroyed by one project after another, the people received package loans to buy domesticated animals so that they have an alternative earning mechanism but the mediators have misplaced the sanctioned loans. Due to which the people here lead a miserable life.

Sampoornama, SHG President said “ No doubt environment is a big issue and the children (CMCJ members) are fighting on it but for us livelihood has become a major issue only if we can live with dignity we can think of environment, hence I request the children to fight on land rights and help us eat.”

The Program came to an end and the team hurriedly moved towards Vijayawada for the program.

On the way there was a small problem as the bus in which the children were travelling was punctured, the program at Vijayawada got delayed.

Vijayawada

There was a large gathering at Vijayawada, which was organised by APCRAF

Francis welcomed the participants and congratulated the CMCJ representatives of different regions for taking up the ever growing issues of climate change. He also gave a brief up on the purpose of the rally and encouraged the children to be more involved in the environment saving activities. He welcomes Ms.Vani to speak a few lines on the issue.

Ms.Vani appreciates the efforts taken up by CMCJ members and explains to other children of Vijayawada on what CMCJ actually means, “children movement for climate justice”. It is very alarming to see children instead of enjoying the holidays to have come out on a purpose to aware many people on the issue of climate change. Furthermore, definitely there have been unjust practices that have been irresponsibly deteriorating the climate and that is the reason CMCJ representatives want to bring in justice. It is evident that the children would be affected badly by the climate change in the future as already there is scarcity of water, land is being polluted and air is unclean. Plastic usage has been at an increased level and there needs to be proper awareness spread to reduce the usage, chemical fertilizers and pesticides also contribute enormously towards land pollution and proper measures need to be taken to check the pollution. Children are a part of this struggle and as adults many of us need to support their cause.

Mr. Thomas Koshy (Krishna District Child Welfare Committee)

Thomas Koshy shares that he feels very special today as children have come forward to speak about climate change. He said the times have changed, today when the tenth class results were out 90% students have passed out that means they have brought a change in their own lives, once only the private school going children were able to pass but now these children showed that even they can change and be counted upon. Similarly, he feels that as responsible citizens it is high time that we all change and safe guard the environment for our children.

SasiPrabha,

Sasi greets everybody and apologises for being late. Environment has been a serious issue and it is not only in India but throughout the globe people face similar kind of environment related issues. During which there have been many international conventions on climate but children are not being invited to such events where they could voice out their opinions, as we all know they would be the most affected. A brief description on the Rally was given by her.

Anantalakshmi, (Secretary, Green Ambassador and CMCJ member)

Anantalakshmi spoke about the purpose of the yatra, she questions the attitude of human beings on the large scale destruction in the name of development. The children now would be the next generation and they would be left with polluted land, water and air so in a collective effort the children need to voice out their opinion to influence the changes. According to an international survey, 1,36,000000 people lose their lives due to the harsh affects of climate change. Citing different examples she says trees have been cut for the roadways, mining is done for our daily utilities but if we keep utilising it the question of replacement comes into every ones mind. Are we replacing a cut tree with another one? No. Are we recreating forests if a patch of it has been mined? No, again. We are not destined to suffer but we are putting ourselves in a very critical spot from where we can may be never be back to normal. It is now to take action and she requests all the children to come together and fight for a just climate.

Shiv Shankar (Secretary)

Starting with an example of pickle, he says whenever we have a pickle in our home we also serve that to our children we don't realise that the child struggles because of it being very hot instead we insist him to eat. Similarly as adults we have designed the environment according to our needs and never bothered on what a child wants. As parents, as government institutions, as policy making individuals we all fail to understand the needs of the children and also exclude them from decision making and policy making. We do that because children don't have voice and they are not encouraged to give their opinions.

Pawan Kumar (Green Ambassador/ CMCJ member)

Pawan spoke about air pollution, there are three reasons primarily responsible for air pollution 1. Industries 2. Vehicles and 3. Insecticides and fertilizers of chemical origin. The major polluting gases are carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrous oxides etc... are all released as bi-products of industries. It is because of the constant chemical reactions these harmful gases are emitted into the atmosphere. Similarly the carbon emissions from the vehicles are in collective very huge which affect the life cycle of many living creatures, finally emissions due to the agriculture are also at a very large level. Ozone layer depletion is also being caused due to the release of chloroflouro carbons and flourochloro carbons, and it is responsible for harmful uv rays to which human beings and other living organisms are getting exposed to. He finally urges children to plant more trees so that considerable amount of carbon dioxide gets sunk and reduce the usage of vehicles where ever it is possible.

Chaitanya (Kankipadu - Child Parliament member, Vijayawada)

Chaitanya shares his view on climate with respect to child rights. He says in all the villages there are members for the parliament particularly to address child right based issues. In the future, present generation of children would certainly face difficulties because of the deteriorating climate. He urged all the children to be united in this common struggle they are about to face and has questioned the relevancy of the present day development models.

Bimal Tading (CMCJ Member from Odisha)

Bimal speaks about the popularising of chemical pesticides and fertilizers. He says people who were once organic traditional farmers are now slowly getting used to the concept of chemical farming which leads to dependency on the fertilizers. Soil profile has been depleting and we need to bring in changes that could optimise the conditions as soon as possible.

Stanley D'Silva

Children and CMCJ partners of KNH don't look upto having icecreams and chocolates. Food security is a major issue in the area and children struggle to get two meals a day. Children have understood the threats that may come along with climate change and are now united to fight the causes of it. When asked to some children, Can your Father buy oxygen in the market? Children shook their heads and said No, Can your Mother cook oxygen in the kitchen ?the answer was same "No". Children said we can get oxygen by planting trees and hence the children with whom KNH is working have taken up extensive plantation activities. Children have witnessed the harsh effects that come with chemical fertilizers and pesticides, they have seen their agriculture production going down and soil fertility being completely dependant on the fertilizers they use. Furthermore, Stanley shares the concept of "3 R's" with the children, he said each R has something specific to do with the usage of plastic and that is 1. Refuse – Our

children say we don't want to use plastic 2. Reuse – In case there is some more plastic in house, children say let us reuse the plastic in house 3. Recycle – The existing plastics can be used by recycling. The children are also actively involved in promoting organic methods like Panchagavya in Tamil Nadu and Vermiculture in different places of India.

Smitha (Environment Engineer, Vijayawada Municipality)

Everyone understands the threats associated with climate change but individuals get hesitant to change as they feel as a single person how can we bring a change keeping in view the humongous issue ahead of us. The municipal corporation has been involved in taking up certain activities that could be beneficial to the environment, encouraging children to use toilets instead of defecation. Car pooling needs to be popularised, short distances cycling helps reduce a lot of carbon that is being emitted.

The event was closed with a colourful cultural program of which even the CMCJ children were part of.

Day 4

Guntur

The children had a comfortable night stay at APCRAF's centre and after the breakfast the team proceeded towards Guntur, In Guntur the team went to Collector's residence cum office and addressed the media alongside the Collector of Guntur,

Roshan Kumar (Director and Guntur District Forum for Child Rights)

Roshan Kumar introduces the team in brief. In short he also gave an idea of the purpose of Yatra to the Collector.

Ananta Lakshmi shared that due to changes in climate there have been lots of problems and children would be the most affected. In this 21st century we all have learnt that the most common reason for ill health has been climate change, but the children are not allowed to speak out their view on climate crisis in any of the international conventions. Its high time that the children's view be considered by the elite decision makers of the globe.

Pawan Kumar spoke about air pollution and the various ways it has been happening. Children being most affected need to step up now to help the cause of depleting environment.





Collector (Guntur)

Shri Vishnu appreciated the CMCJ members for being so clear on the purpose of the Yatra. He shared that even in 45 deg C temperature, due to the breeze and trees around its pleasant and such is the importance of plants around. He stated 60% of the worlds population are below 30 years and its very important for the adult population , government and other agencies to work for the right based approach of children. As the children have already spoken about child rights and the relation of it to climate is a very important focal point at this juncture. As children its very heartening to see the level of knowledge and maturity they possess and its also important to know that Government of AP has taken some deliberate steps to provide education for all the children. On the environment front the state has been taken some serious efforts like banning the usage of plastics. Environment is like a mother and we need to take care of it and nurture it like a child. Political will, official will and stakeholder participation are the three important parts which work hand in hand to protect the Environment. He wishes the children all the very best.

Press meet

The CMCJ members and

Event at MahilaVedikaSabha, Guntur

SasiPrabha,

Sasi welcomes all the participants, government officials and the children. The main objective of the Yatra is to find space for the children to voice out the opinions on the impacts of climate change. There have been many international conferences where the children or their opinions were never considered. This network helps the CMCJ members to voice out the issues

Stanley D' Silva

Stanley speaks on behalf of KNH, an international child care organisation. In India KNH work with 13 different partners, and work on right based approach for children. The purpose of the Yatra is to understand the harsh effects of climate change and explained that the children with which KNH and its partners work face the issue of food and income security which is directly or indirectly due to the climate change. The children not only talk about the problems but have recently started experimenting with the solutions. The major activities the children have taken up in the villages are reducing the usage plastic bags, shift of attitude towards organic farming, and much more.

Faculty members

In their talk addressing the participants, Ramadevi, Sharada and Srinivas have appreciated the children for their efforts, They shared that the children are the building blocks of any nation and its great to see these members stand out to fight the most important issue of environment and climate change

Lunch was served at the centre and the team moved towards Ongole.

Ongole

It was 4:30 P.M. when the team reached Ongole, Father Hrudayaraj, the HoTTHS team and team from Visthar joined the rest of the CMCJ Network in Centre. After which the whole team proceeded to St. Theresa convent to meet the bishop and hear from him. The team had banners and slogans and voiced them,

Bishop appreciates the children's effort to protect the universe and blesses the team wishing them all the very best. After that the team proceeded towards Collector office shouting slogans on climate change, child rights and plantation. Father Hrudayaraj and NirmalaBai of HoTTHS had organised a public meeting opposite to the collectors office

The event begun with songs by children from Prakasam district on climate change and the adverse impacts it has on the humans, following which there were a few skits and songs by children from Odisha and Kotauratla as well.

The children played a skit and beautifully demonstrated the practical reality on the destructive attitude of humans ultimately contributing to the climate chaos. The skits also brought out the concern for children in relation to the environment they are going to live.

Bishop

Bishop addressed the gathering and spoke on the importance of climate justice and the relevance of the same to the children. He shared that the purpose of the current yatra and the responsibility of the same felt by the children is a very heartening sight, It speaks volumes about the struggle for existence these network members may face in future. He gave a brief idea of what was the situation internationally and the events that shook the whole world due to climate and its change. Tsunami's, cyclones, earth quakes and floods all have been induced due to the human actions and its high time that we correct our attitudes and way of life before we are left with only hope. He congratulated and blessed the Yatra team for their concern on climate change and biodiversity.





There was a delicious meal organised by Father Hrudayaraj and children could have a good nights rest. The next day was supposed to be a very long day as the team had to reach Chennai for the main event the day after.

Kavali

The team begun its journey towards Kavali at 8:30 A.M after breakfast, it was 11:30 A.M. by the time the team reached Kavali.

The team received a hearty reception from the local NGO's Navajeevan and RRDS Sahadeviah and Gangi Reddy being the Directors. It was the longest rally the children participated shouting the slogans, Save Mother Earth, Biodiversity our Life, Protect the Child Rights, etc..

The rally was from the town centre till the primary school, the children formed a human chain and demanded climate justice. Later on the children assembled in the primary school to express their views on climate change to others who have been present there. The NGOs present at the venue were Navajeevan, RRDS, CJWS, RRES, Aid Et Action.

The gathering was welcomed by Sahadeviah saying climate justice now is not an issue of adults and select geographical locations but now it's a struggle for children and entire planet. It is very alarming to see the children raise their voice and demand the adult community for climate justice as the human population now lives in a very dicey situation.

Following this Venkateshwarulu of RVDS, sang a song on climate change and pollution.

Sasiprabha briefed up the gathering on the main objective of this Yatra being the children representation at the international conferences and climate justice correlates the right to live and this echoes the entire struggle for this Yatra.

The Yatra reaches the last day and children took part in the entire process with discipline, responsibility and maturity. Children spoke on issues like pollution, which undoubtedly is a very widespread issue across our nation.

Ananta Lakshmi

Ananta Lakshmi gave a brief talk on the various demands that children were about to submit as memorandum to the minister, Shri. MallikarjunKharge.

1. Plantation by all.
2. Children to be a part of meetings and decision making process,
3. Industries and other polluting agencies need to have consensus with the people and children in the area of establishment.
4. Plastic usage to be reduced.
5. To create school children committee and discuss issues related to school.
6. Climate change induced migration has been increasing and it is very necessary to check it.

Rajani Tading

Rajani comes from Koraput block of Odisha, she expressed her deep concern towards deforestation in the area. Deforestation had been an issue and it has disturbed the livelihood patterns of tribal communities. She felt that it is very necessary that the people realise it as a cause of concern and do something about it. Fertilizers and pesticides were never used in our area but of late people are being tempted to experiment now there is an increased risk of it being practiced as the people in vicinity of urbanise colonies have already started using it.

Mamata (Karnataka)

Mamata spoke on ozone depletion and the various reasons for it. In her short talk in Kannada she made it clear to all the children that there is a very big need to join hands and march towards the clear objective of climate justice.

Poojitha (Besthatvaripeta)

Poojitha expressed the need to aware people from rural areas on climate change. She briefly put across the main purpose of the yatra, educating the unaware masses on climate change and child rights issues. She also said that it was very important that there is a need to change the pattern of agriculture methods and as much as possible we need to make it organic. Using plastic is a proven cause for many issues. In particular she emphasised the pollution created by Singarenimines was a major issue and urged the government to take necessary steps so that the people in the vicinity of mines could be relieved.

After completing successfully the 5 days, the Tamilnadu yatra team arrived at 7.30 P.M at the night halt venue, Madras Christian College Higher Secondary School. (MCC). At the MCC School premises, the Tamil Nadu yatra children were very happy to see their rally counterparts from other states like Andhra, Karnataka and Orissa who also travelled for five days across the Northern States and reached Chennai. CMCJ children from different states welcomed each other with love.

07



Concluding Conference

27.05.2012

Venue
Balar Kalvi Nilayam,
Chennai



On the final day concluding conference, CMCJ members and those who had been part of the National Yatra from the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra, Karnataka, Odissa, Jarkhant, Maharashtra and Gujarat took part.

The Concluding Conference of the National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change, was a surprise event for the city of Chennai, because thousands of children from 7 states of India had gathered to take it up on themselves the burden of spreading awareness on a social problem of global proportions and that was threatening the very future of the world. Every where there was children wearing green dress and everyone wondered who they were and why they have suddenly descended on the city of Chennai. After spending 6 days for a noble cause and undertaking a grueling long yatra the children without losing their energy or enthusiasm waited for the Concluding Conference of the National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change on 27.05.2012 at BKN conference hall. Without the impediments of language, culture or caste, the children from seven states of India, interacted with each other and shared their experiences of the yatra.

The arrangements such as Interview with the media, food, stay etc., for the valedictory day function had been made through the assistance of KNH and CCFC in partnership with Maryalaya, RCPDS, SPEECH, CCRD, IRDWSI, in an excellent way. Importantly, members of CCFC like Dr. Arumugam, Mr. Lipi Jobson, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Rajendran from Anandavikadan Kuzhumam rendered their utmost cooperation to make the Chennai Valedictory event a success.



From the start of the yatra, till the valedictory function the Pudhiya Thalaimurai TV Channel as a Media Partner, recorded all the events. We appreciate the interest and co-operation extended by Mr. Bala Kailasam, Mr. Shyam Sunder, Mr. Pradeep, Ms. Bobby for their cooperation in this.

As the first item in the agenda of the Conference, the children, divided themselves into different groups and shared their experiences during the yatra. They also discussed to critically explore the root causes of climate change, various forms of Ecological Rights violation and reflected from their learning through the yatra route. How these affect the climate change? How they would affect the children's future? As children what we could do about this? What are the policy changes we could effect from the elders and the government to reduce this? They sought to find answers to these questions through the group discussion. The discussion points from these small groups were synthesized and formed into a list of resolutions and handed over as a Demand Note from Children to the Chief Guest of the function the Union Minister. The representatives of CMCJ from all the states put their signature on these resolutions. The Demand Note and Memorandum by children is annexed to this report.

At 12.00 Noon, the CMCJ Executive member of CMCJ National Working Group Selvi Pachavarnam took the podium and the function was underway. Representatives from all the seven participating States and special guests were seated on the stage. This reiterated the importance CMCJ attribute to Participatory Rights of children. Mr. Ramesh Nathan took the role of the anchor for the function. The special guests, namely, Rev. Guido Falkenburg, KNH Germany, Mr. Sathish Samuel, KNH India Coordinator, Dr. Muniasamy, Director of CCFC, India, Mr. Vidyasagar, Child Protection Consultant, UNICEF, Mr. Naveen Armstrong, Mr. Manickam Tagore, Member of Parliament, Virudhynagar, constituency, Mr. Gnanadesigan, Member of Parliament, Honorable Union Minister for Labour and Water Resources, Mr. Mallikarchune Karge and government officials, were welcomed to the stage with traditional drums. Selvan Joan delivered the welcome address.

Introductory note and principle addressing was done by Dr John Devavaram, National Convenor of the Yatra to set the tone of overall objectives of the Yatra, previous Yatra proceedings, logistics, focus of the Yatra and its relevance in wider global context. The introductory note is attached to this report. He further congratulated the children for making the historical event a great success and made everyone to turn towards children rights. The voices of children have been heard by everyone across the country. This is good beginning. The small beginning that sparked in Tamilnadu has now grown to a strength of 15000 children across seven Indian States.

During two National Working Committee Meetings consisting of 42 members, discussed at their level and decided to undertake National Level Yatra for generating awareness on global warming and Climate change. Thus children from Chennai to Kanyakumari, Karnataka to Chennai, Semiliguda to Chennai, Orissa to Chennai and all to meet at Chennai and at the final day to submit to the Union Minister a resolution. The voice of children strongly sounded that climate change lead to violation of basic Children's Rights. In order to protect the Ecological Rights of the children they decided to generate/increase awareness on these issues to the wider society, to the elders and to children.

As a result of Climate Change, food security is deprived which lead to deprivation of fundamental rights and other rights of the children. Their future becomes a question mark

The children placed many demands, such as inclusion of environment protection and climate change the school curriculum. Through the impact of this yatra and the conference, I do hope the demands of children would to be fulfilled. My best wishes to the children.

The CMCJ representative Selvan Muthukumar, who spoke earlier said: " The climate change we witness today is not one day business. It has been evolved over years. We should not view this superficially but local the root cause and explore who or what contributed to this deplorable condition. It is very clear since beginning the powerful vested interests have imposed this on the poor and vulnerable sections. For example most of the human and natural resources have been drastically and extensively used by the vested interests. This still continue in various forms. Our forefathers and anchesters may not have had basic literacy but they had lot of life experience and livelihood skills and knowledge. Systematically this had been eroded from the minds over a period to maintain status quo of the vested interest. To meet the growing demand Government introduced many new alternate programs such as Green Revolution, science and technology, reforms, etc. But all these were piecemeal solution and not really development integrated eco friendly views. Increasingly poor had been made to be dependent on Government and political vested interests. Poor have been treated as simple vote banks and once someone goes to power in democracy and the poor always looking for alms.





Secondly with globalization and market economy productive lands have been moved away from the grassroots community in the pretext of agriculture failure or non productive. Thus present day children are completely out of agriculture knowhow and increased craze for science and technology positions. This leads to more and more food insecurity. When I was a little lad I used to go to the tanks and lakes and swim and play there. I also used to go with my grandma to the paddy fields, when they would be all green. Now the lakes and tanks have dried up and the once green fields are now dry like a bone. So much change has come about. If such change continues, living would become a great challenge for future generations like us and the children's fundamental rights will be affected. We have embarked on this yatra specifically to redeem the child rights”

CMCJ representative, Shine when he spoke said that during the yatra they saw all water sources dried up and every where they were burning, which mostly included plastic. This will cause holes in the ozone layer. Children must continue the fight to reverse this trend and elders should give them support.

CMCJ representative from Andhra, Selvi Ananthalakshmi while addressing the floor on the occasion said: “during our journey we saw all lakes, tanks etc., dried up and we also saw factories letting out chemical effluents out of the factory into the lands, due to this land will further get spoiled. Hence the farmers use more and more chemicals as fertilizers which lead to grains and pulses, having the opposite effect. Hence the future of the children has become a question mark. If all of us children join hands and raise our voices against climate change, we are sure to find success”

CMCJ representative Gayathri speaking next said “during our yatra we saw every where sand quarrying. This indiscriminate quarrying would result in depletion of ground water and also the water would get spoiled. When we crossed into Cuddalore, we saw the damages caused by Thane cyclone. This had very much affected the lives of farmers. To avoid such natural calamities, disasters and to protect the earth's environment, we the children should join hand with elders and fight.”

CMCJ representative Sangeehta when she shared the experiences said on the way she saw lot of hedge plants called “Velikaruvelam”. These plants have grown very thick, becoming thick bushes, they suck the ground water and stimulate drought condition, prevents ways for water to flow and spoil the water bodies. Hence the soil loses its resource and the farmers suffer. The government should make efforts to remove these plants and we should also remove them from our own villages.”

Speaking next CMCJ representative Arunkumar said “On the campaign trail we saw boats being built and we also saw plenty of wood stored for future boat buildings. This is indiscriminate felling of trees. If this continues we will have no rain at all in the future. Felling of trees for industries should be reduced and trees should be planted to replenish the forests and for this we children are prepared and wish the government should promulgate strict laws.”

Jhansi a CMCJ representative said: I saw Alayathi forests along the coast, these forests had reduced the effects of the tsunami we were told, but now these forests are now gone due to climatic change, pollution of the seas and also due to lack of maintenance, which saddened me a lot. The government and general public should declare these forests as national property and make efforts to grow them.”

CMCJ representative Brinda shared her experience in this way:”Our yatra mostly came along coastal areas. We saw lot of salt pans and prawn farms, especially in Tuticorin and Nagapattinam district, where in the near by fields there were no agricultural activity. It is due to the fact when the sea water comes in the chemicals like iodine spoils the soil and makes the land unfit for agriculture. In the same way the food and chemicals used for the prawns too are dangerous for the soil. Since the prawn farm owners want to earn money, they are spoiling other people's lands and it affects the future food production also. To prevent such occurrences, not only the government, but like minded people interested in saving the environment should work concertededly. One of the highlights of this yatra for me is obtaining such experiences”.

CMCJ representative from Odisha Sanjutha while sharing her experience, said: The government is handing over the mountains to big industries for developing mining industries. As a result of this the tribals living on the mountains are forced to migrate to other places and affect the education and health





of the children, thus affecting the rights of the child. Also the mines deplete the forests and the animals lose their habitat and enter the villages, hurting the people. Hence the government should accomplish such matters with proper planning and judiciously.”

Nelson Drike, belonging to HCDI organization said that due to destruction of forests rains are less and there is drought every where. The increased use of plastics goes into the ground and the soil becomes toxic. Hence we should desist from using plastics and take cloth bags to the shops or markets. I am very happy to have been a part of this yatra that has given me great peace of mind, confidence and I shall implement all these in my local village”, he said

Rev. Guido Falkenburg of KNH, specially came from Germany in his special address mentioned ”I am extremely happy to be part of such an exciting initiative by children in India to make the rights realized and making appropriate claims. CCFC and other NGOs have largely contributed to make this program a great success, for which I thank and congratulate them by clapping hands. Like India, in places like West Asia, Germany, Canada also there is growing awareness about global warming, especially among children. The initiative taken to save mother earth is very welcome. I will take the details of this National yatra by children to my country - Germany and share with them there. Due to magnitude of the issue and its implication to human being globally, all the countries of the world can work concertedly to save the earth. There is a great need for children after the Yatra to take the learnings back to your own villages and to your communities, through this you can make India very prosperous”.

Followed by this Joseph Edmond, CMCJ Member of the National Working Group read out the conference resolution in Tamil and Selvi Nithya another member of the National Working Group read the same in English. To highlight some of the key resolutions - Due to indiscriminate mining our country's resources are usurped and the environment is spoilt. Special Economic Zones is taking away our country's resources. We need to develop technology for increasing power production through non conventional and alternate systems like solar energy. Local politicians should raise their voices in various policy making forums for saving the environment. We should adopt organic farming systems and protect nature. Lives of the children are in jeopardy and we should take steps to protect them.

The CMCJ children who took part in the yatra handed over the petitions to the Union Minister Hon'ble Mallikarchune Karge, in the presence of Shri Manickam Tagore, MP and Mr. Ganadesikan President of Tamil Nadu Congress committee.

The Hon'ble Minister, speaking after receiving the petition from the children said “Children have the great responsibility to preserve our natural resources for the future generations. It gives me great joy to see children come from Tamil Nadu, Andhra, Karnataka and Orissa. Congratulations for taking this initiative. I appreciate you for creating such a movement on global level in India that too in Tamil Nadu. The government of India is very committed to saving the environment and controlling pollution. The central government is also making efforts to spread awareness among the masses on environment and climate change. Through “Vanamothsva” we have to spread awareness among the school children to plant trees and reduce pollution. The government is also taking efforts to reduce child labour and completely eradicate. Children in the age group of 5 to 14 going to work has been decreased. In India in 2004-05 there were 90 lakhs child laborers. In the year 2009-10, this has been reduced to 49.8 lakhs. We shall promulgate laws to completely eradicate child labor, as well as laws to not employ in dangerous works youth in the age group of 14- 18 years. At present there are laws to prevent employing children in the age group of 6 and 14. So the children in the age group of 6 to 14 should go to school. To this end, the government has brought the Free and Compulsorily Education through Right to Education Act. Making the children in the age group of 6 to 14 go to school is also the responsibility of State Governments and the District Collectors. Very soon we shall bring in the law that prevents youth in the age group of 14 to 18 from being employed in dangerous activities. NGOs should cooperate with the government to eradicate child labour. The government is committed to the overall development of the children, including the child labour. The government wants to bring everyone as a good citizen.”

Mrs. Vidya Sagar, Child Protection Counselor, UNICEF, speaking on the occasion said “Now a days elephants are entering the villages, why? Because as we need place to live they too need spaces. We have destroyed those spaces and blame the elephant for entering the villages. 45% of the Indian population is children so if you raise your voices it will be heard.”





Dr. Muniyasamy, CCFC, Country Director in his speech said “If the global temperature is increased by one degree, 400 tons of food production would be reduced, says the World Bank. Due to the environment problems, there are many unforeseen disasters and natural calamities taking place often in India. Monsoon rains are not coming as forests are destroyed, due to plastics, ground water is depleted. Increase in industries has caused pollution and increase in world temperature. Due to this natural destruction the children's rights are affected. Now the children have taken up their cause in their own hands, which is a welcoming sign and a great thing”

Children from Orissa, Andhra, Karnataka, HCDI put up cultural programs.

Mr. Sathish, KNH India Coordinator speaking on the occasion said “During the past 6 days, you (children) have obtained lot of experience. You should share all these experiences with the children in your respective villages. Also, the yatra's experience and the demands given to the Minister should be shared with the village women members of SHGs and with the elders of the village. You should continue to carry on the good work with other support groups concertedly to fight climate change.”

At the end, Dr John Devavaram, speaking on the occasion said: The preparatory work for this National Yatra had begun almost six months before which led to the great success of this event. Many persons have worked hard many days before for this yatra. The Documentation and Media Division of SPEECH (Society for Peoples Education and Economic Change) had designed and prepared all the campaign printed materials in a wonderful way. Mr. Newton Ponnamuthan and Mr. M. Palanikumar have put in much sleepless nights work for this purpose and they deserve special mention and their service is greatly appreciated. Big thanks to all the children who participated in the yatra.

Finally, all the participant children shouted the Yatra slogans and curtains were drawn on the function.

As the function ended all the working group members and facilitating organization representatives sat again and discussed about the function, sharing opinions about the function, way forward and reluctantly left for their homes. Through this National Awareness Yatra the children have come together to solve the burning issue of Climate Crisis and Child Rights Violation. Hence the thought, our children are second to none in solving problems lingered in every one's mind.

National Children's yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change: Those who helped and supported for the success of the Program

Mr. Stanely D'silva, KNH India

Mr. John Nathaniel, Social Worker

Mr. John Bosco, Program Coordinator, Childline India Foundation

Mrs. Subha, Sponsorship Manager, CCFC Country Office, Chennai

Mr. Saravanan, Thirunagar, Madurai

Mr. Naveen Amstrong, President, Youth Congress

Mr. Raja, Films Division, Chennai

Mr. Rajendran, Vikatan Group, Chennai

Mr. Sibi Saravanan, Cinematographer, Tirupur

Mr. Suresh, Videographer

Mr. Prakash, Photographer, Sivakasi

Poet Ala, Social worker, Puducherry

Mr. Dhramaputhiran, Sivakasi

Mr. Fakrudheen, Sharp Com –Tech Designers, Sivakasi

Mr. Kannan, Caps, Madurai

Tamil Nadu Government ambulance 108 Vehicle driver

Penguin Printers, Sivakasi

IRDWSI, Chennai office personnel

CMCJ - India Task Force Elected Members List

CMCJ Task-Force Team Elected Members by CMCJ Working Group on 10.10.10 at Chennai				
1	Promi Jani	IRDWSI	F	Orissa
2	Ananthalexmi	CeFHA	F	Visakapatnam
3	Joseph Edmond	CCRD	M	Chennai
4	Srinivasan	SASY	M	Tindivanam
5	Premlatha	HOTHS	F	Prakasam
6	Karthick	WWTC	M	Nagalapuram
7	Arun Kumar	Arogyagam	M	Theni
8	Selvakumar	SANDS	M	Tirunelveli
9	Eramma	VISTHAR	F	Koppal
10	Lavanya	Mariyalaya	F	Chennai
11	Nithya	SPEECH	F	Sivakasi
12	Lavanya	SPEECH	F	Tiruchuli
13	Jone	RCPDS	M	Madurai



CMCJ - India Working Group Members List

Working Group Members of CMCJ-India, KNH (As on 10.10.10 at Muttukadu)				
S.No	Name of the Organization	Child Name	Gender	Name of the Place/Location
1	HOTHS	V. Prasanth	M	Prakasam
2	HOTHS	K. Hebhashibha	F	Prakasam
3	HOTHS	P. Eswaremma	F	Prakasam
4	CeFHA	T. Anantha Lakshmi	F	Vishakapatnam
5	CeFHA	G. Seshu Kumar	M	Vishakapatnam
6	CeFHA	G. Hemalatha	F	Vishakapatnam
7	Arogyagam	K. Arun Kumar	M	Theni
8	Arogyagam	K. Prurutha	F	Theni
9	Arogyagam	E. Oviya	F	Theni
10	Mariyala	S. Lavanya	F	Chennai
11	Mariyala	P. Sukayana Sri	F	Chennai
12	Mariyala	S. Naveen Kumar	M	Chennai
13	SPEECH	Rajkumar	M	Tiruchuli
14	SPEECH	Gayathri	F	Tiruchuli
15	SPEECH	Layanya	F	Tiruchuli
16	RCPDS	Panchavarnam	F	Madurai
17	RCPDS	N. Shine	M	Madurai
18	RCPDS	U. Amutha	F	Madurai
19	RCPDS	Jone	M	Madurai
20	Visthar	Vimala	F	Bangalroe
21	Visthar	Nimbamma	F	Bangalroe
22	Visthar	Eramma	F	Bangalroe
23	CCRD	R. Joseph Edmond	M	Chennai
24	CCRD	L. Uma Mageswari	F	Chennai
25	CCRD	B. Sangeetha	F	Chennai
26	SPEECH	Muthukumar	M	Sivakasi
27	SPEECH	Ramakrishnan	M	Sivakasi
28	SPEECH	M. Nithya	F	Sivakasi
29	IRDWSI	Promi Jani	F	Orissa
30	IRDWSI	Sanjukta Mudriya	F	Orissa
31	IRDWSI			Orissa
32	SANDS	M. Vijayakumari	F	Tirunelveli
33	SANDS	G. Jenciya	F	Tirunelveli
34	SANDS	M. Selvakumar	M	Tirunelveli
35	SASY	Gayathri	F	Tindivanam
36	SASY	Thamizarasan	M	Tindivanam
37	SASY	K. Srinivasan	M	Tindivanam
38	WWTC	N. Nivethiya	F	Nagalapuram
39	WWTC	Indrani	F	Nagalapuram
40	WWTC	Karthick	M	Nagalapuram
41	HUB, Mizoram		M	Saiha, Mizoram
42	HUB, Mizoram		F	Saiha, Mizoram
TOTAL = 42 Children in the National Working Group				

Annexure 1

Let us create a green earth!!

Let us protect child rights!!

Children's Movement for Climate Justice- CMCI

C/o. RCPDS, plot No.6 & 7, Park Town, 6th Street, Post & Telegraph Colony, Madurai- 625 017
Ph: 0452 – 2642172, email rcpds@sify.com

National Children's Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change

From 22.05.2012 to 27.05.2012

From Kanyakumari to Chennai Semalida (Orissa) to Chennai

During the Valedictory Function of the National Children's yatra on environment protection and climate change, the petition given by the children to the Union Minister

PETITION

Introduction

- We, the children of India hailing from the states of Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Andhra have met with lakhs of people like the general public, politicians, trade union representatives, social activists, child rights protection officials and campaigned for saving the environment and mitigate the sufferings caused by the climate change.
- 500 children from Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Andhra participated in the yatra
- Our yatra started from Thiruvalluvar statue at Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu on 22.05.2012 and went through Tirunelveli, Virudhunagar, Tuticorin, Ramanathapuram, Pondicherry, Karaikkal, Cuddalore, Marakkanam, Kalpakkam and Mamallapuram and reached Chennai on 26.05.2012.
- The recent news coming out of newspapers and the reports about environment degradation induced us to start this yatra. In this yatra the government, NGOs, our movement for climate justice and the general public have joined together environment protection and to mitigate sufferings that would be caused by the climate change, we hand you this petition.
- We the children who are 45% in the Indian population that is about 350 crores are very sad about the danger of the 21st century which is being widely talked about. We bring to your kind attention that if the predicted destructions happen, we will be the persons who would be most affected by them. Hence request you to consider our petition at an early date.

Cont . . .

- In the research report published by the Asian Development Bank 2009 has declared that due to the global warming there is going to be water and food shortage in the world due to which 160 crore people will be affected. It further states that rice, maize, wheat production would be reduced by 10 to 12 percentage. Keeping all these in mind, we have written the petition that would ensure the protection of our forests, rivers, mountains and water bodies. Hence we request your immediate attention for this petition.

Our Demands

- Due to the climate change the earth has warmed up and as an effect the sea level has risen up to 5 feet that would much affect the people. Hence we request you to allay the fears of the people and protect the fishermen community and the fishermen's children, by taking stringent legal action against the industries that pollute the sea waters.
- Though India was a participant nation in the summit meetings held (Stockholm, Johannesburg, Brazil, Kyoto, Indonesia Bali) to save the earth and nurture the environment, so far no tangible action has been taken against environment degradation and climate justice. This has created lot of fear among the people, especially the children. So we request that a discussion be held in the parliament on this and declare to people the steps taken by the government, including in policy changes.
- We request that immediate necessary action be taken to avoid environment pollution and climate change and steps taken to encourage nature agriculture.
- To protect the forests, the tribals living there and protect the bio Diversity of the forest most aggressively implement the environment protection act 1976.
- While implementing Mega Projects, Development plans, giving mines on contract and setting up Special Economic Zones, seek the opinion of the people including the children.
- To find the basic reasons for the change in the climate and publish the same for the people and create an environment for social participation.
- When planning for long time sustainable development, discuss openly with the people the action plan
- Encourage solar and air power to reduce power shortage.
- Allocate adequate funds for enabling us children to join with the society to grow more trees to protect our water bodies and natural resources and the coastal areas.

Green Impressions

Some green impressions of children on the yatra

Muthukumar

People reading our pamphlets with great eagerness and the support they offered for the yatra is the biggest success of the yatra

Edmond

The movement which was known only to local people has now spread to district level and even national level

Nithya

The people who received our pamphlets wanted to know more and asked us lot of questions, but we did not have enough time to answer those questions

Lavanaya

In Velankanni after finishing our campaign when we went to the market, we heard some people talking about us and one lady was given a plastic bag by the shop keeper and she returned it and asked for a cloth bag instead, which made us feel so happy.

Gayathri

When this movement became famous due to telecasting in the TV, friends and people seeing the news called us, which made us all so happy

Amutha

In this yatra I was able to see so many environment degradation, which made me so sad and it made me determined to do my best to save the environment.

Divya

I received a wonderful experience in this yatra. I will share all these with my parents, relatives and friends. I will do my best to strengthen and spread the movement.

Kousalya

This yatra has given me a new enthusiasm. This children's movement's campaign should continue and environment awareness should be spread to all people.

Selvakumar

As I spread awareness during the yatra, in the same way, I shall spread awareness in my village.

GREEN IMPRESSIONS

HOLISTIC CHILD DEVELOPMENT INDIA

GREEN IMPRESSIONS:

The children's movement for climate justice is a good beginning to understand the environmental rights of the children. That children have a right to food, security, clean water and pure air cannot be compromised by corporate and adult avarice.

The ecology yatra is symbolic of a movement in measured and patient steps which is bringing positive changes to protect the earth from further degradation.

Children's right to participation is very critical in our present times of globalization. Participation makes children confident, responsible, caring and sensitive to their own needs and to the needs of all living beings and the environment. In our endeavour to bring peace and justice, the efforts of children toward climate justice is both central and of immense futuristic value to sustainable development. Children need to be situated anthropogenically within the context of the environment, if we are to provide them with a safe future.

The Ecology Yatra organized by RCPDS and KNH is a very vibrant and exciting initiative. Participating in the yatra was a wondrous experience for our children and also for adults.

Our children from the northern states enjoyed the fellowship and expressed their admiration for the resilience and joyfulness of the children of the south. They said they had learnt much from their southern friends especially about being hopeful and calm in the midst of all difficulties

HCDI extends its support to CMCJ's endeavors through the continued participation of the children of North India, Andaman Islands and Karnataka for peace and climate justice for children around the globe.

Grateful for this opportunity.

Dr Naina Athalye
Programme Coordinator
Dept. of Children At High Risk
Holistic Child Development India, Pune

Nelson Tirkey, 14 years (Final Day function Participant)

The Andaman Islands is situated in the Bay of Bengal. We have rich flora and fauna and are proud of its secular and multilingual culture. We also have one of the world's oldest tribals, the Jarwhas and the Nicobarese people.

As children parliamentarians we have a responsibility to protect our beautiful ecology and make adults understand the need for planting more trees and caring for our rare medicinal plants and beautiful birds.

As children parliamentarians, we have worked toward making our village free of litter, ensuring that all children go to school and keeping our village free of malaria and other diseases.

GREEN IMPRESSIONS

HOTHS ORGANISATION FOR THE HUMAN SERVICES. BALA KEERTHI PROJECT.CFCD.

Children movement for climate justice. (CMCJ)

National children's yatra on Environment Protection & Climate change start from Singaripalli village Dt. 25 th May 2012.the Bus yatra Inaugurated by ICDS Project officer Bestavarapet Ms J.Lakshmi Devi Mr.G.Meeraiah Agricultural officer, and the chief guest of Mr.M.Suniel kumar, Professor & Scientist, Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University Rajendra Nagar Hyderabad. The Hoths project Director MS.K.Nirmala, Childrens Staff, SHG members, Village elders are participating the bus yatra.

The public meeting were conducted on behalf of Andhra, Karnataka .Orissa group of CMCJ Childrens in front of the Prakasam District collector office at Ongole .The chief Guest of the CMCJ Childrens meeting Rt RevMD,prakash,D,D, Bishop of Roman Catholic Mission, Diocese of Nellore , The KNH India Field officer Mr.D'Silva Stanley ,The prakasam Development social service society Director, Rt Rev, Illuri Hrudaya Raj ,podili,Dr,Mis,Sasi Prabha, Director CEFHA,Vishakhapatnam ,Mr.Susanth IRDWSI Orissa,Mis.K,Nirmala HOTHs ,Bestavarapet are participating the public meeting .

The Message of Mr. Prasantha Rao CMCJ member of mother Theresa Child group

The CMCJ Member Mr.Prasantha Rao is orphan child belongs to Dalith community in khajipuram village.

He is a CMCJ Member of Mother Theresa child group .He is studying Intermediate at Cumbum. He is very interested to participate the CMCJ Yatra. He spoke to the CMCJ Children meeting in front of the collector office at ongole, the climate change depends upon 5 elements there are 1)water,2)Land,3)Air,4)Atmosphere,5)Fire. Which together constitute the earth one element affects the other. And hence any change in one of these elements effect the equilibrium of other elements.

Earth;--Earth provides enough to breath, drink and eat. We get food from Agriculture .in our area 70%of the people are Agricultural Laborers .The Laborers are depend on Daily wages. The agricultural is rain fed.



Pollution;--There are different types of pollution 1) Air pollution.2) Domestic Pollution.3) Water pollution 4) Noise pollution.

Air pollution; ---The air pollution was created by the industrial areas Destroyed the forest Cut the trees. Now the Equipments and implements, vehicles etc cause more noise pollution and effect human mind.

Domestic pollution; ---The Domestic pollution was created by households, shops establishments etc.

In the form of bottles, pots plastic bags, polythene, papers, clothes, containers. The children s is present the Memorandum to the Government of Andhrapradesh Abolish the plastic covers.

Water pollution;--The presence of any toxic substance in water which effects temporarily or permanently its quality to its usefulness, is known as water pollution.

Noise Pollution;--Noise pollution was created by the Granite mines, Slates minis, industries at city level equipments.

The land cultivates plough and uses the Land soils Like ORGANIC manure doesn't use comical fertilizers .The Chemical Fertilizers is dangerous in our crops .Organic manures give good crops ,good health human beings a lot of uses with organic manure .Generally human beings are selfish in nature and that is the main reason for environmental degradation.

How to protect the children and the community disasters Tsunami Cyclone etc.The CMCJ Yatra team focus the flock songs cultural and dramas and distribution the pamphlets posters etc.

The childrens focus on the pamphlet news .The report of Asian development Bank says that Global warming world effect at least 150crore people due to food and water scarcity further it warms that the sea level world raise up to 5, feet and world effect the entire coastal population.

Our Rivers Mountains ponds and forests are gifts given by Nature which we are destroying everyday due to our greed .As a consequence of the environment scientists warn that the Global temperature would increase that the earth will become unit for human beings ,plants and animals alive .

Global warming and environment protection in places like .Stock holms .even then we feel extremely

Sorry to place on record that despite world leaders meeting every year there is no significant progress in parties –Cop every year regularly.

But there is no result in Global warming we must participate childrens awareness the parents and community.

CONCLUSION.

Protect the climate, provide the facilities and participates each and every one respect the child and rights.

CMCJ Child report By Prasantha Rao.

GREEN IMPRESSIONS

Ananta Lakshmi

Ananta Lakshmi spoke about the importance of environment and how human beings have contributed towards polluting the most important resources land, air and water. She says that one can witness the plight of people living in the vicinity of industries and their sufferings due to the hazardous elements that have been released into the atmosphere. Ananta Lakshmi reflects on the attitude of parents saying that these days people are more keen to give children more wealth instead of giving them a safe climate to live on. As declared by WHO, 85% of the diseases are due to pollution and its high time stringent measures be taken against polluting industries and other sources.

Anantalaxmi questioned the current lifestyle methods in the purview of climate change. She spoke about the disturbance caused to ecological balance due to severe loss on biodiversity and its components. It has been development at its helm with deterioration at its best. She questioned the participles of life and their existence within the context of climate and its changes.

BimalTadingi : Spoke about displacement and the growth of industries, vehicles in his area. Bimal says it's very pathetic to see all the natural reserves being destroyed in a very unsustainable manner, due to which the poor and marginalised are facing the plight of climate change.

He questioned the present strategy of development and said if we continue to live and do what ever we have been doing in the past few years. We would be left with poisoned air, poisoned water, and polluted land. The three basic things required as living beings to survive.

Lalitha

Lalitha shared on plastic and the menace it had been creating world wide. Hemalatha shared her view on biodiversity and spoke on the results they found out through the study which the green ambassadors have done.

She also gave a brief report on what CMCI ambassadors were working on. Pollution a major cause of destroying existing ecosystems had been brought in by the industries and other sources of opting non traditional methods. Land, air and water are very important for our survival and if they are polluted it would put the Human Race in a very dicey situation. She urged the people present to join their hands in this quest for Climate Justice.

Pawan Kumar

Pawan spoke about air pollution, there are three reasons primarily responsible for air pollution 1. Industries 2.Vehicles and 3.Insecticides and fertilizers of chemical origin. The major polluting gases are carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitrous oxides etc... are all released as bi-products of industries. It is because of the constant chemical reactions these harmful gases are emitted into the atmosphere. Similarly the carbon emissions from the vehicles are in collective very huge which affect the life cycle of many living creatures, finally emmissions due to the agriculture are also at a very large level. Ozone layer depletion is also being caused due to the release of chloroflouro carbons and



flourochloro carbons, and it is responsible for harmful uv rays to which human beings and other living organisms are getting exposed to. He finally urges children to plant more trees so that considerable amount of carbon dioxide gets sunk and reduce the usage of vehicles where ever it is possible.

RajaniTading from Odishashared her view on climate change. She shared her personal experiences saying “ In the past there was timely rain and the climate was not hot as told by the elders in the villages, but now I realise there is some thing changing and after being a CMCJ member I understood what climate change was all about? “. She continued to talk on the various development projects which were not inline with the environment norms. The vehicles are increasing day by day and we are being forced to inhale unclean air. We talk about this issue in our CRPC and Child organisations where we discuss on the issue of climate change regularly.



Children Voicing for Ecological Rights and Climate Justice to be part of India's Child Rights Agenda

The National Awareness Yatra by members of Children Movement for Climate Justice - CMCJ children portray “High Awareness about Climate Change” among children especially those from the economically weaker and vulnerable communities. It is a clear indicator about their concern for safe childhood and willingness to exercise their Participatory Rights in wider Global and National agenda of addressing climate crisis. It is our wish that children, not only the elite, but real vulnerable children from remote corners of our country with rich personal experience, join the mainstream initiative of ensuring climate Justice from Child Rights Perspective. Our children are assembled here, after the long stretch of yatra, to tell, not only the dignitaries and fellow members of CMCJ in this concluding event, but all our National leaders, Political and Social thinkers and General public along with their peers about their stand on climate addressing. Facilitating organisations of CMCJ, under the convenor ship of Resource Centre for Participatory Development Studies – RCPDS backed by Kindernothilfe, Germany and Christian Children Fund of Canada endeavour jointly with National and State Governments, that children will form part of the official debate on climate change and children voices being heard at the National Action Plan for addressing Climate Change. This is one step forward in the direction of making climate Justice as integral part of Child Rights and will be the pioneering initiative to set example at the Global scene. We are glad that our children are able to critically reflect on the root causes of climate change, source for such a damage to bio-diversity and the ecology, hence raising the question for climate justice – whose agenda?

Recent report by Times of India suggests that 175 million children will be affected every year by frequent natural disasters caused due to climate change. Further the other report by Save the Children reveal that climate change is the biggest global health threat to children that could increase risk of deaths due to diarrhoea, malnutrition, malaria and other diseases because of reduced community access to clean water, nutritious food and hygienic surroundings.

Right to food is the first among the enabling rights of Children as well adults. The adverse impacts of climate change on ecosystems affect sovereignty over food production. Firstly life cannot adapt as quickly as the climate is changing and secondly desertification increases the amount of barren land and lastly migration from rural to urban pose great threat to child protection, employment, and stress on resources at the new place. Thus food sovereignty has been taken away from the real producers and farmers by posing agriculture as non viable or non profitable. Such directions take away the viability and sustainability of small and marginal farmers who form almost 80% of the food production sector. Children in the migrated condition become increasingly become environmental, economic and social refugees. Number of cases on child abuse, child mortality and crime rate against children is on the increasing trend which poses new challenges to increased awareness on climate crisis and ecological sustainability and children perspectives to be placed on cards of policy making processes.

While recognising the fact that Government of India has taken many initiatives to cut down green house gases, one should also be aware that India is the fifth ranking country around the world on GHG emission. It is also projected at this rate by 2015 India will be the third largest emitter after China and the US. This leaves a big question on the future of children and those who are likely to be born in future.

The core Mission Statements of CMCJ, as clearly laid down in their manifesto, speaks loud for their action and commitment to the CAUSE.

- Create opportunity for children from vulnerable families and all our peers to identify opportunities for effective mitigation and adaptation strategies to effectively address the impacts of climate change
- Working with our peers, parents, our communities and other stakeholders on the ground to design pilot mitigation and adaptation projects
- Serving as advocates and change agents of influencing policy framework to be innovative and conducive to children to enjoy their Rights and ensure children voices from our perspectives be heard at all levels.
- Ensuring climate mitigation and adaptation strategies as well Ecological Rights of Children are appropriately prioritised and handled economically, effectively, equitably and transparently to ensure SAFE FUTURE.

(Extracts from CMCJ Kodai Working Group discussions – 2011)

Hence, there need to be a strong understanding and awareness built across all levels that, “Climate Change is an intergenerational problem; and it needs to be addressed at the root causes including structural, societal and policy framework.” Core elements of Climate Crisis, possible mitigation, ways to adapt to the unwarranted climate impact and entering policy debate and lobby should form part of the school educational curriculum and treated as 'Life Skills' since the adults have done enough damage to the climatic and Ecological Rights of Children globally. As future generations, architects of the Country, close to half of the global population children have united and made a constructive step forward. It is our, the adult's, bound duty as parents, stakeholders and duty bearers of ensuring Child Rights to support Children initiative, beyond simple appreciation.

***Dr John Devavaram,
National Convener, CMCJ
27 May 2012, Chennai.***



குழந்தைகள் நலம் மேம்பாட்டுக்கான வாகன பிரசார யாத்திரை

நாகர்கோவில், மே.28-
தட்பவெப்ப நிதிக்கான குழந்தைகள் இயக்கத்தின் சார்பில்
தேசிய அளவில் கற்றுபுறச்சூழல் தட்பவெப்ப மாறுதல் மற்றும்
குழந்தைகள் மேம்பாட்டினை வலியுறுத்தி கன்னியாகுமரியில்
இருந்து சென்னை வரை வாகன பிரசார யாத்திரையும்,
கருத்தரங்கும் நடத்த முடிவு செய்யப்பட்டது. அதற்கான
கருத்தரங்கு கன்னியாகுமரி விவேகானந்தா கேந்திராவில்
நடந்தது. பின்னர் வாகன பிரசார யாத்திரை தொடக்க விழா
கன்னியாகுமரி காந்தி மண்டபம் முன்பு நடந்தது. விழாவுக்கு
பஞ்சவர்ணம் தலைமை தாங்கினார். ரவிராகுல் வரவேற்று
பேசினார்.

மாவட்ட பஞ்சாயத்து தலைவி சாரதாமணி குத்துவிளக்கேற்றி
கருத்தரங்கையும், பிரசார யாத்திரையையும் தொடங்கி வைத்தார்.
இதில் நாகர்கோவில் ஆயுதப்படை போலீஸ் துணை சூப்பிரண்டு
சங்கரநாராயணன், சமூக சீரமைப்பு நிறுவன திட்ட மேலாளர்
பழனிப்பிள்ளை, தட்பவெப்ப நிதிக்கான குழந்தைகள் இயக்கத்தின்
தேசிய செயற்குழு அமைப்பாளர் ராஜ்குமார், டேனியல் ஜாவி,
நித்தியா, சுமித்ரா உள்பட பலர் கலந்து கொண்டனர். இந்த
யாத்திரை நெல்லை, விருதுநகர், தூத்துக்குடி, ராமநாதபுரம்,
புதுச்சேரி, கள்ளகை, கடலூர், கல்பாக்கம், மாமல்லபுரம் வாயிலாக



Mallikarjun Kharge, Union Minister for Labour and Employment, receiving a memorandum from children at the concluding ceremony of the National Children's Yatra on 'Environment Protection and Climate Change' at a function held in Chennai on Sunday. TNCC president B.S. Gnanadesikan is also in the picture. - PHOTO: S.S. KUMAR

Centre committed to protecting welfare of children: Kharge

Special Correspondent

CHENNAI: The Centre is committed to protecting the welfare of children, Union Minister for Labour and Employment Mallikarjun Kharge said here on Sunday. "Elimination of child labour is an article of faith and commitment to us," he asserted.

He was happy to point out that there had been a sharp decline in the number of children in the age group of 5-14 "who are economically active." From 90 lakh in 2004-2005, it had slumped to about 49 lakh in 2009.

"Our Constitution provides for the protection of children. India is the only developing country to ensure free education for all those in the age group of 6-14 under the Right to Education Act for which it is spending a huge amount." This was the dream of the first Prime Minister of the country Jawaharlal Nehru. "The National Child Labour Project schools won't be necessary hereafter as all those in this age group will have to be provided education."

He was speaking at the concluding ceremony of the National children's yatra on environment protection and

"Elimination of child labour is an article of faith and commitment to us"

climate change organised by the Children's Movement for Climate Justice. Children from five States took part.

The Minister said the Central government was planning to bring about a major amendment to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Abolition) Act, 1986, according to which all those below 14 years of age could not be employed in any industry. So far, they had been prohibited from being employed only in hazardous industries.

Besides, even those in the age group of 14-18 would not be employed in the hazardous industries.

"This would be a major step to be carried out shortly," he added.

He appealed to all sections of society, especially the non-governmental organisations and the parents, to support the government in its efforts for eliminating child labour.

Mr. Kharge also pointed out that the government was very much aware of the prob-

lems emanating from the onslaught on natural resources by various forces, especially industry and vehicles and the compressed natural gas being made mandatory in Delhi for vehicles was a definite response to that.

As a signatory to various conventions on environment protection, the Central government was determined to protect and preserve it, he added.

The memorandum submitted by the children, who took part in the yatra, demanded among other things safety of the families living in the coastal areas, strong initiatives towards resolving environmental issues, immediate attention to prevent environmental pollution, stringent enforcement of Biodiversity Act of 2002, Forest Protection Act of 1980 and Wildlife Protection act of 1972, assessing the opinion of the local people before planning for mega projects, impetus to renewable energy to prevent pollution from fossil fuels and adequate sanctioning of funds by both the Central and the State governments to promote children involve themselves in afforestation activities.

Enjoy a delicious range of mango delicacies at The Shop, Accord Metropolitan. The festival is on till... For details, call 281...

Yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change concluded

by Sangetha Neeraja

Chennai: Child representatives from the Children's Movement for Climate Justice (CMCJ) concluded their five-day national yatra on Environment Protection and Climate Change here in Chennai on Sunday. Around 500 children from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand and Gujarat participated in this interactive awareness-creating yatra. Over the course of the yatra they spread awareness among over a lakh of people on the importance of protecting the environment and the dire consequences of climate change. One group started its campaign on Tuesday from the Thiruvallur State in Kanyakumari and crossed Tirunelveli, Vinnuthangudi, Tuticorin, Kannad, Tanjore, Cuddalore and Pondicherry to reach Chennai. On the same day another group of children started their yatra from Semilgauda in Orissa and traversed the coastal dis-



Members of CMCJ submitting their report on Environment Protection and Climate Change to Mallikarjun Kharge, Union Minister of Labour and Employment | A. RAJASEKHARAN

reach Chennai on Sunday. Addressing the children, Mallikarjun Kharge, Minister of Labour and Employment, appreciated the initiative. "I am sure this national yatra on climate change will create awareness among children all over the country about the protection of the environment. Children have a huge role to play in protecting mother nature for future generations," he said.

"India is one of the signatories of the Kyoto Convention for climate change and we have to act positively in this direction," Kharge said. Abbas Hanji, 14, a participant from Gujarat, said, "This yatra was a great experience. The message I am taking back home is to plant drought-resistant trees and crops in our village so that with minimum water we have the maximum output."

Jharkhand said, "Meeting children from the South is a great experience. I find them highly motivated and spirited. I will go back home and inspire the children of our village to fight against the cutting of trees." Nithya, 14, from Sivakasi shared her experience of organic farming done near her village by the children collective of which she is a part. She said, "Many children from other states were citi-

to know how we did it and they now want to do it in their own communities." Amrithalakshmi, 14, from Andhra Pradesh said, "It was a great learning experience to find out what children from other states are doing." She said she had picked up some Tamil, "Vannakom... ramba nalla eruku... congar ranga."

CMCJ is a children-led network for ensuring the ecological rights of children as part of overall child rights specified in the UNCRC (United Nations Convention on the Rights of Children) and the Indian Constitution. During the yatra the children managed to create a dialogue among themselves and also among the public to prevent environmental pollution, enhance natural resource management, promote organic farming, environmental degradation and displacement of people due to development. They took a pledge and submitted a petition with their demands to Mallikarjun Kharge.



Norris C Perform Crossfield Saturday p.m. Tickets are \$28 for adults and \$19 for students for the evening performance and \$30 for adults and \$15 for students at the matinee performance. For reservations, call 544-0403.

Entertainment

Irish Band Celebrates St. Patrick's Day with Men and Women Overseas

தினமணி

அபத்தான வேலையில் சிறார்: தடுக்க புதிய சட்டம்



கற்றுச்சூழல் மற்றும் தட்பவெப்ப நிலையை பாதுகாக்க கோரி மத்திய அமைச்சர் மல்லிகார்ஜுன கார்கே மறு வழங்குகின்றனர் மனைவர்கள். உடன் தமிழ்நாடு காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டியின் தலைவர் குரானதேசிகை தாள் குழந்தைகளின் வேலை செய்வதைத் தடுக்க நாடாளுமன்றத்தில் சட்டம் இயற்றப்படும்.

குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர் முறையை ஒழிப்பதில் தன்னார்வ அமைப்புகள் உதவ வேண்டும். குழந்தைகளுக்கு கல்வி அளிப்பது அரசின் கடமை. பெற்றோர்களை வறுமையை ஒழிக்க பல்வேறு வேலைவாய்ப்புத் திட்டங்களை அரசு செயல்படுத்தி வருகிறது.

இதேபோல மாநில அரசுகளும் மதிய உணவுத் திட்டம், கல்வி உதவித்தொகை போன்ற திட்டங்களை வழங்கி கல்வி மேம்பாட்டுக்கு முக்கியத்துவம் அளிக்கின்றன.

குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர் முறையை ஒழிக்க விழிப்புணர்வு ஏற்படுத்த உடனடி நடவடிக்கை எடுத்தவருகிறார்.

இந்தியாவில் இப்போது குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர் முறை குறைந்து வருகிறது. நாட்டில் குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர் முறையை முழுமையாக ஒழிக்க அரசு நடவடிக்கை எடுத்தவருகிறது.

5 முதல் 14 வயது வரை உள்ள குழந்தைகள் பணிக்குச் செல்வது குறைந்துள்ளது. இந்தியாவில் 2004 - 05 ஆண்டுகளில் 90 லட்சம் குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் இருந்தனர். ஆனால் 2009 - 10-ம் ஆண்டில் இந்த எண்ணிக்கை 49.8 லட்சமாகக் குறைந்துள்ளது. குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் பிரச்சனையை ஒழிக்க சட்டங்கள் ஏற்படுத்தப்படும். 14 வயது முதல் 18 வயது வரை உள்ளவர்கள் ஆபத்தான வேலைகளில் வேலை செய்வதைத் தடுக்க நாடாளுமன்றத்தில் சட்டம் இயற்றப்படும்.

தொழிலாளர் முறை குறைந்து வருகிறது. நாட்டில் குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர் முறையை முழுமையாக ஒழிக்க அரசு நடவடிக்கை எடுத்தவருகிறது.

5 முதல் 14 வயது வரை உள்ள குழந்தைகள் பணிக்குச் செல்வது குறைந்துள்ளது. இந்தியாவில் 2004 - 05 ஆண்டுகளில் 90 லட்சம் குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் இருந்தனர். ஆனால் 2009 - 10-ம் ஆண்டில் இந்த எண்ணிக்கை 49.8 லட்சமாகக் குறைந்துள்ளது. குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர்கள் பிரச்சனையை ஒழிக்க சட்டங்கள் ஏற்படுத்தப்படும். 14 வயது முதல் 18 வயது வரை உள்ளவர்கள் ஆபத்தான வேலைகளில் வேலை செய்வதைத் தடுக்க நாடாளுமன்றத்தில் சட்டம் இயற்றப்படும்.

தூது தூது

DAILY THANTHI

27.05.2012

வலக்க தமிழ்

மாநில செய்திகள்



கற்றுச்சூழல் விழிப்புணர்வு பாய்ச்சலில் கற்றுக்கொண்ட மாணவர்கள் மத்திய மந்திரி மல்லிகார்ஜுனகார்கேவிடம் கோரிக்கை மறுவை உரித்தாயோ எடுத்த படம். அருகில், தமிழ்நாடு காங்கிரஸ் தலைவர் பி.எஸ்.குரானதேசிகை உள்ளார்.

அபத்தான வேலைகளில் குழந்தைகளை பணி அமர்த்துவதை தடுக்க விரைவில் சட்ட திருத்தம்

மத்திய தொழிலாளர் நலத்துறை மந்திரி தகவல்

சென்னை, மே.28-18 வயதுக்கு கீழ் உள்ள குழந்தைகள் அபத்தான வேலைகளில் அமர்த்தப்படுவதைத் தடுக்க விரைவில் குழந்தைத் தொழிலாளர் சட்டத்தில் திருத்தம் கொண்டுவரப்படும். உள் அறக்கட்சித் தொழிலாளர் நலத்துறை மந்திரி மல்லிகார்ஜுனகார்கே கூறினார்.

கற்றுச்சூழல் விழிப்புணர்வு பாய்ச்சல்

தட்பவெப்ப நிலை குறைந்துள்ளது. இயக்கம் சார்பில், தேசிய அளவிலான கற்றுச்சூழல் விழிப்புணர்வு பாய்ச்சல். உட்க 22-தேதி கல்வி பின்பற்றும் மாணவர்கள் பாதுகாப்பில் தொடங்கியது. மின்னல், திருநெல்வேலி, விருதுநகர், தூத்துக்குடி, ராமநாதபுரம், தருமபுரி, திருச்சூர், கடலூர், புதுச்சேரி, விழுப்புரம், காரைக்காலம் ஆகிய மாவட்டங்களில் கற்றுச்சூழல் விழிப்புணர்வு பாய்ச்சல் நேரடி சேர்வை வந்தது. இந்த

மக்கள்தொகை அறிவகம் உள்ள இந்திய போன்ற நாடுகளில் வள வளங்களை கொண்டு தாழ்ந்த நிலம், நீர், காடுகள் மற்றும் கற்றுச்சூழல் பாதிக்கப்படுகிறது.

இந்திய போன்ற வளமுள்ள நாடுகளில் வள வளங்களை கொண்டு தாழ்ந்த நிலம், நீர், காடுகள் மற்றும் கற்றுச்சூழல் பாதிக்கப்படுகிறது.

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locals for a few... established out that it... establishments... developed between... these families... age visits have... same families... United States... on about the... on... edge... CENTER... OFF THE-405... ALL DIGITAL SOUND... 310-968-3376... 688-9205... WITH VALID I.D... TIL 6 PM DAILY... SATURDAY 8:00PM... 1:45 1:45... 9:15 9:25 9:25 10:30... ESTIMATION LONDON (P... 4:35 4:00 3:20 1:55... Show inter... 1:30... 4:5 10:10 12:30... 12:41



Two young women in green shirts and white caps are talking to a man in a green shirt. They are outdoors, possibly at a school or community event.

and entertained the locals for a few... rolling... chery... g says... A special bond developed between... the band members and these families... and already exchange visits have... occurred when the same families... were on leave in the United States... For more information about the... band, log on to... www.lnnisfromusic.com... thebridge... THE BRIDGE (IN THE MIDDLE... THE PROMENADE TO HOWARD HUGHES CENTER... ON THE HOWARD HUGHES PARKWAY OFF THE-405... 17 STORES OF THE-ARC AUTOMATONS... FULL STUBBORN-STYLE SEATING + ALL DIGITAL SOUND... PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE AT 310-968-3376... OR ONLINE AT WWW.THEBRIDGEONLINE.COM... Director e Hall tickets 310-688-9205... SPECIAL STUDENT PRICE WITH VALID I.D... BARGAIN MATINEE TIL 6 PM DAILY... TAKING LIVES (R) SNEAK PREVIEW... SECRET WINDOW (PG-13) 1:40 1:40... DIRECTOR'S HALL 12:30 1:30 9:30... (SHEATM IR)



CMCJ RALLY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

CMCJ RALLY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE							
NATURE OF ACTIVITIES	RCPDS Budget	RCPDS Expenses	BALANCE WITH RCPDS (A)	SPEECH Budget	SPEECH EXPENSES	BALANCE WITH SPEECH (B)	TOTAL BALANCE AVAILABLE (A+B)
Initial screening, campaign route and focus group study	10,000	12,750	(2,750)	20,000	42678	(22,678)	(25,428)
Vehicle hire plus mobility 20 vans(@20/children each) x 7 days x Rs.4500/-p.d.p.v + vehicles for orissa and AP 5 vans x 7x4500/-	288,000	90,949	197,051	150,000	167613	(17,613)	179,438
Food expenses and hospitality at various points for 500 children @Rs.125p.p.p.d x 7 days	113,000	169,620	(56,620)	150,000	160519	(10,519)	(67,139)
Child amenities – T-shirt, slip on shoes, caps, etc. @Rs.300/- x 500	100,000	116,745	(16,745)	80,000	218,765	(138,765)	(155,510)
Advocacy materials (posters, banners, stickers, campaign slogans, etc. (multi lingual)	50,000	53,370	(3,370)	50,000	41,861	8,139	4,769
Accommodation for 450 campaigners at 6 points @ 15000 per point	30,000	71,420	(41,420)	60,000	55000	5,000	(36,420)
Insurance for all campaigners @Rs.30 x 400 + 30 x 100	-	-	-	-	0	-	-
Medical kits and health workers to be organised	-	-	-	40,000	22995	17,005	17,005
P.A Systems to fixed on vans	35,000	31,800	3,200	-	0	-	3,200
Public meetings in four places + two places in AP/ORISSA	70,000	65,898	4,102	50,000	50280	(280)	3,822
Documentation - video and photographs	15,000	-	15,000	100,000	72180	27,820	42,820
Publicity, advertisement and press kit plus materials (New Delhi Travel 63,750/-)	65,000	67,154	(2,154)	50,000	13,109	36,891	34,737
Logistics and administrative costs (Initial Meeting at ICSPA, Meeting with KNHG at B'lore, Steering Committee Meeting at ICSPA, Chennai Travel Air Ticket, Purchase of Samples, Courier Charges Etc.)	70,000	88,975	(18,975)	100,000	56365	43,635	24,660
Concluding meeting at Chennai (break up to be worked out later closer to the event since it involve scale and level of guest)	300,000	267,835	32,165	50,000	0	50,000	82,165

Cont.....

CMCJ RALLY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE

Concluding meeting at Chennai (CCFC, CHENNAI CONTRIBUTION)					50,000	50000	-	-
CMCJ Working Group Meeting Expenses	-	59,578	(59,578)				(59,578)	
Total for the Event	1,146,000	1,096,094	49,906	950,000	951,365	(1,365)	48,541	
Add : Share of AP, Orissa	429,000	429,000	-	0	0	0	0	
Total of CMCJ Rally Budget	1,575,000	1,525,094	49,906	950,000	951,365	(1,365)	48,541	
RCPDS Grant Received from KNH	1,603,578	(including forex gain 28,578)						
Expenses for the Rally	1,525,094							
Balance Funds available under RALLY Budget	78,484							
		RCPDS Budget		1,575,000	RCPDS Exps.		1,525,094	
			SPEECH Budget	950,000	SPEECH Exps		951,365	
				2,525,000			2,476,459	
			Balance of Rally				48,541	
		Forex Gain					28,578	
						Total Balance	77,119	
Note: Balance funds to be used for finalysing report, video editing, reflection with children and making future plans with working group members								

GREEN

IMPRESSIONS . . .





Report Prepared by
CMCJ Working Group Members

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யாத்திரையின் ஆதரவு அமைப்புகள்

