

Human Rights

Secretary/Convenor

- ▶ Additional District Magistrate of the District-Member
- ▶ Deputy Commissioner of Police – Member
- ▶ District Social Welfare Officer – Member
- ▶ District Urban Resource Centre (SAA) – Member
- ▶ District Health/Medical Officer – Member - Senior most Officer of MCD in the District – Member
- ▶ Chairperson of the concerned Child Welfare Committee – Member
- ▶ Centre Coordinator, CHILDLINE (having jurisdiction over the area) – Member
- ▶ Voluntary Organisations actively involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of child labourers in the area – Member

The ground reality: In spite of this, there is still pendency of reported cases of child labour as the meetings are not taking place on a regular/continuous basis and the officers nominated to preside over the meeting change frequently which leads to further discontinuity.

The way forward: One of the solutions to this can be that the meetings should be done on a regular monthly basis. Officers and members mentioned in the above list should be present in every meeting, and a nodal officer should be appointed to conduct these meetings on a continuous basis. The officers shouldn't change in every meeting. Also, a regular update report should be sent to DCPCR, NCPCR and High Court.

(C) The Action plan also specifies the composition of the rescue team. It consists of the Sub Divisional Magistrate, Labour Department, Police and Civil

Society Organizations. The Action Plan also refers to the inclusion of the District Social Welfare Officer Nodal officer of SJPU, deputy education officer (zonal of MCD and CWC in the rescue team. The rescue team has a pre rescue meeting to discuss and decide on the logistics and role distribution.

The ground reality: However, in the above mentioned list of officers who should be present during the rescue, most of are generally not available.

The way forward: Directions should be given to all the departments by the concerned authority to be a part of the rescue team for a successful rescue. They should also be present in the pre rescue meetings.

(D) The Delhi Child Labour Action Plan also refers to procedures for major and minor rescue operations the major being those with more than 10 children. The involvement of the district child labour task force is mandated in all major rescues while minor rescues can be coordinated by the labour department with the police on the day when the case is reported.

The scope for improvement: A time limit should be specified within which the rescue operation conducted after receiving the request for rescue preferably within a week.

(E) In case of minor rescues the concerned civil society organization and the police produce the children before the CWC whereas in case of major rescues the CWC, labour, police and SDM take the statement of the children at a common place like a community hall, college premises, baarat ghar etc. The arrangement of logistics of rescue including the vehicles, adequate refreshment, food, and water etc is the responsibility of the Labour department.

