



PRATHAM COUNCIL FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN



National Report 2008 – 2009



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I) INTRODUCTION

"Ideals are like stars: you will not succeed in touching them with your hands, but like the seafaring man on the ocean desert of waters, you choose them as your guides, and by following them one day you will reach your destiny."

- Carl Schurz

PCVC network in all these years has been ferociously chasing the ideal goal of "No Child Working, Every child in school and Learning well". In the year 2008 – 2009 the network was set out to achieve few goals which were:-

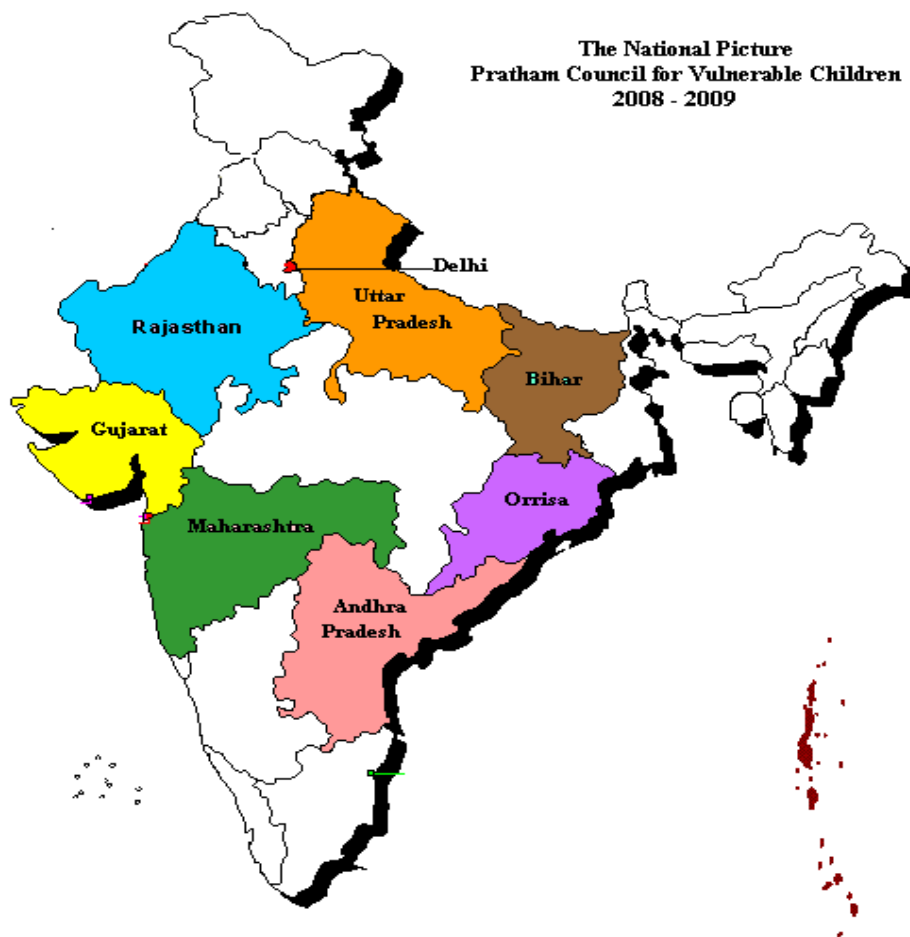
Year 2008 – 2009: In Retrospect

- Strong involvement with the Central and State governments on the campaign against Child Labour.
- Enabling the differently abled – Program to be initiated on Disability.
- Quality Institutional Care in Government run institutions across PCVC networks.
- Strengthening the Community level programs for sustenance of child labour free communities.
- Initiating National Advocacy Campaign with a major thrust on interstate coordination for smooth functioning between the source and receiving states.
- Networking and playing a catalytic role in the other states (outside the PCVC networks) to initiate campaign against Child Labour.
- Standardizing the process of Rescue, Rehabilitation and Repatriation of the children across all states through implementation of the Protocol.
- Training and sensitization of the major stake holders (in the existing PCVC networks) for the formulation and implementation of the State Plan of Action.
- Action research on the Rag Picking Community across the PCVC network.

The Year 2008 – 2009 was a year of experimentation and innovation for the network. It was indeed a productive and fruitful year as majority of the goals that were set last year were successfully met and some new ideas came along.

The following report is a snapshot of our programs and achievements last year. The journey of the network continues as we gear up for the coming year and chase the ideal goal of 'No Child Working, Every Child in School and Learning Well.'

II) PRESENCE



Last year the PCVC programs were operational in the 8 states of Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh.

Odisha is a new entrant in the list as the program was initiated last year.

(Annexure 1 – List of locations where PCVC programs are operational)

In each of the state the idea is to demonstrate an urban and rural model of Child Labour Free communities by varied strategies. In majority of the states the programs are run in collaboration with the Government or in partnership with likeminded organizations.

III) COVERAGE -

The PCVC program children being covered under different programs.



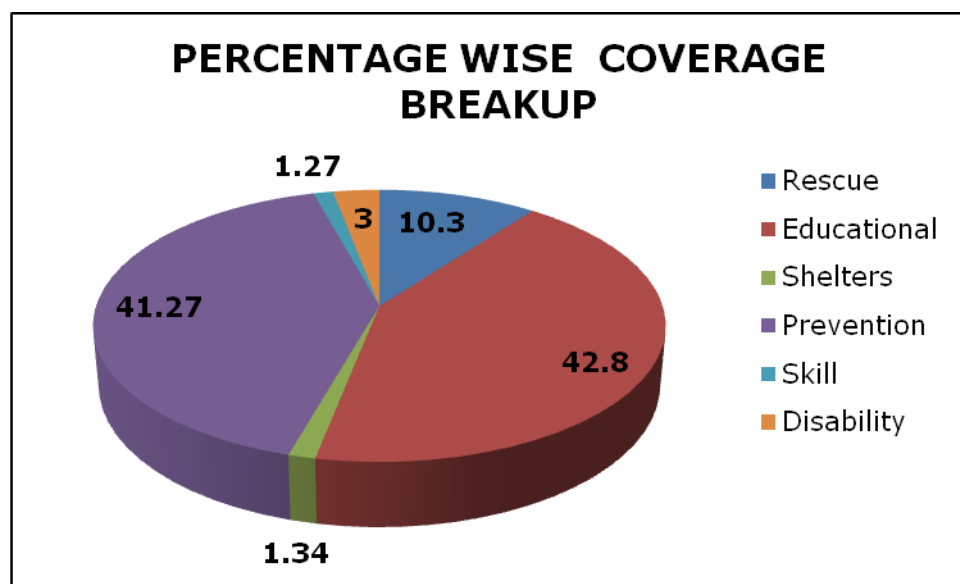
Table 2: Coverage as on March 2009

Program	A.P.	DELHI	GUJARAT	MAH	MUMBAI	RAJASTHAN	U.P	TOTAL
Rescue	663		265	503	2360	19	67	3877
Educational	184	450	2754	526	4547	5013	2624	16098
Shelters	207		57		135		108	507
Prevention	663			92	2194	3078	9496	15523
Skill					481			481
DISABILITY					1127			1127
TOTAL	1717	450	3076	1121	10844	8110	12295	37613

Note –

- The rescue figures have been added up for all the months from June 2008 to March 2009. Others are maximum coverage as per March 2009 data.
- The skill training program is operational in Mumbai and caters to adolescent girls in the age group of 18 years onwards.
- The disability program was a new endeavor started in Mumbai from October 2008.

(Annexure 2 – Month wise Coverage Data for programs)

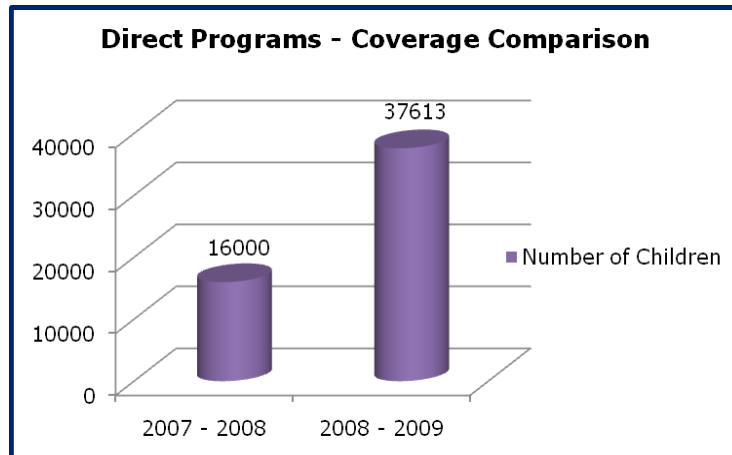


94.3% children were covered through cost effective, catalytic and replicable programs like education, prevention and rescue. Majority of the educational programs were Government reimbursed.

Cost Effective Scalable Model – A reality



Although the financial allocations for the states remained the same this year compared to last year, there has been an increase in the coverage of the number of children compared to last year.



STEPS TOWARDS SELF SUSTAINABILITY

The network was successful in raising **Rs. 2.35 crores** last year from corporates in India, foreign foundations and individual donors.

Approximately **Rs. 1 crore** was the reimbursement amount for the implementation of Government Programs.

(Annexure 3 – (i)Financial Allocations & (ii)Funds Raised for the year 2008 – 2009)



IV) SNAP SHOT OF THE PROGRAMS -

Prevention

The Prevention program is through community/village contact where in there is awareness raised among the children and their parents about importance of education. It has been observed that contact through prevention is the first step to get the thought of education in the child's mind.

This year the prevention activities included community prevention through community centers and platform prevention in like Mumbai, activating the School Management Committees in Rajasthan, parents meetings of the NCLP school children in Gujarat, active participation of village Panchayats in UP and Andhra Pradesh and using the Self Help groups for prevention in Solapur.

Rescue

Rescue entails freeing children from their working conditions.

Although the strategies are manifold like convincing, warnings issued by the police and raids by the State Task force, the aim is ultimately to withdraw the child from work.

We are members of the Task force in Maharashtra, Hyderabad, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh.

Shelters

The residential shelters cater to children hailing from extremely difficult circumstances. The shelter seeks to provide opportunities for holistic development to children hailing from critical backgrounds. During the residential stay the children are provided with basic facilities of residential care, health, education, recreation and prevocational training.

10 shelters homes are spread across the four locations of Mumbai, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat. Out of these 10 shelters, only 3 being fully supported by Pratham remaining 7 have been funded either by the Government or Corporate donors.

Education

As an alternative to labour educational activities are carried out to instill conviction among children for education.

Last year the educational activities included drop in centers for rag picking children, classes through community centers, libraries in the communities, retention support classes for children enrolled in school, implementation of the Government schemes like NCLP and SSA.



V) NATIONAL ADVOCACY ACHIEVEMENTS -

- **State Level recognition in Maharashtra and break through in Advocacy:**
The director of PCVC, Mrs. Farida Lambay became the member of the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights. The commission will review provisions under various laws for protection of rights of children and implement them effectively in Maharashtra.
- Pratham team became a part of the district review team of UNICEF and looking into activation of task forces across Maharashtra.
- PCVC was invited as a **Resource organization in the National Convention on Right to Education and Abolition of Child Labour**, organized by the National Commission for Protection of the Rights of the Children (NCPCR). Ms. Farida Lambay chaired the session on issues of Migrant Child Labourers and recommendations were made to the National Panel.
- The NCPCR organized **State Level consultations** across the country last year. Pratham was an active participant in the States on Gujarat, UP and Rajasthan.
- In **Andhra Pradesh**, Pratham was invited to be a part of the State Consultation on the Draft of the State Plan of Action for Eradication of Child Labour. The suggestions and remarks made by Pratham were incorporated in the final document.

The first ever SSA funded Urdu Residential Bridge course was successfully started in the old city of Hyderabad.

- In **Gujarat**, 73 children were jointly rescued by Pratham and the Labour Department. Out of the 73 children 60 were migrants from Patna. All the 60 children were successfully repatriated back through coordination with the CWC in Patna and the Juvenile Aid Police Unit.
- In **Rajasthan**, we became a member of three-member state level committee for revising the NCLP guidelines. The committee was constituted in July 2008 by the Principal Secretary, Dept of Labor and Employment. Second, the District Collector, Jodhpur has involved Pratham as part of a pilot project, Navjeevan Yojna (principally approved by Govt of Rajasthan), for rehabilitation of people engaged in production and selling of illicit liquor. The project is targeting four child labor prone slums of Jodhpur city.

In collaboration with Save the Children Foundation, a prevention model through education has been demonstrated in 25 villages in the district of Rajsamand which is one of the high sending districts of working children.

- In **Maharashtra**, a major fact finding exercise was successfully carried out in Solapur. The day saw about 850 volunteers participating in a one day fact finding exercise for the number of out of school children in the city. The impact of the survey was such that immediate action was planned with the collector's office.



- In **Mumbai**, Mr. Vikas Sawant was appointed as a member of Child Welfare Committee for Mumbai suburban region. The committee is constituted as per the Juvenile Justice Act of 2000. (*Annexure 4 – About CWC*)
- In **Bihar**, we were a part of the NCLP evaluation process. India's first rural Child Line which was established in 2006 has been functioning well and 875 villages and 40 Municipal Wards have been covered under it.
- In **Uttar Pradesh**, our efforts saw the Child Welfare Committee getting activated in the city of Kanpur with weekly two sittings. Every day raids in Lucknow by the Labour Department have also been initiated.

V) PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS –

(i) Participation in the National Urban Conference on Education

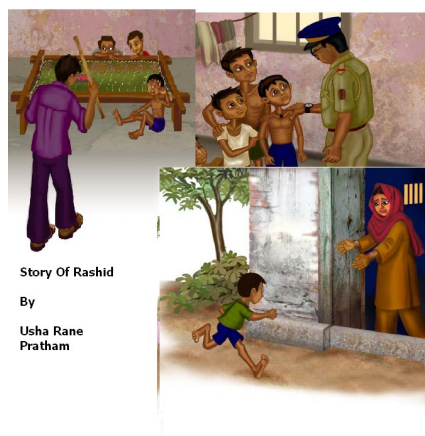
The Members from PCVC network wrote theme papers on the different topics related to vulnerable children for the Pratham National Urban Conference on Education. The topics of the papers were as follows –

1. Child Labour in India.
2. Study of Child Rag Pickers & Pratham Intervention Model – Case Studies of UP and Mumbai.
3. Children working in the Construction Industry.

The Urban National Conference on Education was held by Pratham with a view to understand different issues that exist today in the context of education in cities. Vulnerable children being one of the major categories of out of school children were a major point of discussion throughout the conference. The theme papers and presentations helped the Pratham Network get an insight on the different categories of working children and PCVC interventions for the same.

Book release of "Rashid Ghar Lauta" – by Ms. Usha Bapla, Officer on special duty for Education with the principal secretary of Rajasthan.

The story is based on the real incidences experienced by the child labour team of Pratham and the rescued children. It encapsulates the journey of a boy call Rashid who is working in a zari factory, then taught by the Pratham teacher in an educational class and finally rescued and sent back to his village.



Story Of Rashid
By
Usha Rane
Pratham

(ii) Institutionalizing Quality Education in Government run Institutions

Children living in Government run institutions are considered to be among the most vulnerable children because majority of the times these children languish in the homes without proper care.

One of the goals for last year was to initiate educational programs in the Government run institutions across the PCVC network.

State	Number of Homes covered
Maharashtra	Working in 2 homes in Mumbai, 1 in Ulhasnagar and 1 home in Pune.
Andhra Pradesh	Work began in 2 homes in Hyderabad City.
Uttar Pradesh	Work began 5 homes in Lucknow and Kanpur. 3 of these homes have been handed over to the SSA.

Although in Gujarat and Rajasthan there are no direct classes in the institutions but the process of activating the Child Welfare Committees and looking into implementation of procedures under the JJ Act have been in full force.

(iii) Shelter Homes

- In Mumbai, three boys cleared the Standard 10th Examination through the National Institute of Open Schooling. They are now going to the nearby Junior Colleges.
- The 'Life Style Education program promoting sports and hygiene, in collaboration with the Australian NGO Red Dust was conducted across 5 shelters in India.



Stalwarts in cricket like Allan Border, Damien Fleming, Vinod Kambli and Abey Kuruvilla gave children important tips on the game.

- 'Meri Awaz Suno' – A song by the Pratham shelter children in Mumbai was composed. The song was written by the children and was composed by Australian musicians working with the RED DUST Role models.
- In Gujarat, three boys from the shelter participated in the interschool volley ball competition and bagged the second prize.
- In Andhra Pradesh, three boys from the shelter topped at the block level volley ball championship and went for the district level selections.
- In Uttar Pradesh, the first zari class has started as an attempt to train the older boys in traditional skills.

(iv) Government Funded Pratham Managed Programs –

There has been a huge success in accessing the Government funds that have been allocated for out of school and working children.

- 21 NCLP schools in Gujarat.
- 18 Transitional Educational Centers (TEC's) under the INDUS project in Mumbai.
- 17 Educational Classes under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in Mumbai.
- 9 NCLP special schools in Rajasthan.
- 4 TEC's in Delhi (Till December 2008).
- 3 Residential Bridge Course in Andhra Pradesh.
- 3 Educational classes under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan classes in Solapur.



Enabling the differently abled – Pilot program on Disability

Expanding the definition of Vulnerability of children, the Mumbai program piloted a community based program for children with disabilities. Although there have been NGO's working with disabled children it was observed that there is a lack of community based initiatives and awareness generation among parents on the issue of disabled children.

The first step to begin working with these special children was to ascertain the magnitude of the children. Because we have been working with the community on the issue of child labour, we decided to begin with the communities in which we are already present. We undertook an initial survey in the various communities with our presence.

Across Mumbai we came across 814 children with different kinds of disabilities and they were spread across in the slums of Mumbai. It was shocking to notice that 632 i.e. 78% of the children did not have any access to any form of education. Also 96% children in the survey had not received any kind of assistance. The two most prevalent forms of disability among the children surveyed were physical impairment and mental retardation.

Based on the experience and data of the survey results we started the pilot program on children with disabilities. The objectives are –

- Creating a database of services (both governmental and non-governmental) available for children with disabilities
- Increase the awareness of parents through Parent trainings.
- Developing preventive care through awareness programs at community level.
- Establishing a remedial approach through medical camps for the children.
- Linking the children and the families to resources both governmental and non-governmental.
- Collaboration with the Municipal and Government agencies for the efficient delivery of services.

The activities undertaken under the program were Staff training on the issue by NASEOH, home visits, medical camps in collaboration with Government and Non Governmental organizations and networking with other organizations.

This year **871** children were covered through the camps. Camps were organized for mentally challenged children wherein they were tested and accordingly Disability certificates were issued to the children. For children with physical impairment physically impaired children, calipers, Jaipur foot, wheelchairs tricycles and hearing aids were distributed.

3rd December 2008 – World Disability Day

In collaboration with a local trust, an awareness program for parents on the psycho-Educational aspect of Children, Dr. Tripathi from the Spandan Holistic Institute spoke to the parents about the socio and psycho aspect of bringing up children. Individual cases were also handled during the day and information on available services was disseminated.



KICK START in ODISHA

In **Odisha**, the Pratham team organized a one day State Level Workshop in the month of November on "Towards a Child Labour Free Odisha: Issues and Challenges".

The objective was to get a grip on the issue of working children in Odisha, understanding the existing mechanisms (both governmental and non governmental) in place and then planning out a strategy to replicate the Mumbai model.

RED DUST PCVC PARTNERSHIP

Australian charity, 'RED DUST ROLE MODELS'. Red Dust has been working relentlessly in the indigenous communities in Australia seeking improvement in the health and well being of disadvantaged youth through Music and Sport. Our partnership with Red Dust saw its one year completion in February 2009. In the last one year the 'Life Style education program' has been delivered in 5 shelter homes in Mumbai and Andhra Pradesh.

Through the Red Dust program there has been a massive shift in the way children perceive their future. Looking at the role models the children have now started believing that they can dream of a career in sports. Their conviction to be in the education net has increased immensely.

The Vodafone's Global Foundation Day on the 26th of February 2009, was celebrated by Red Dust in partnership with Pratham. The day saw **1213 children** from all over Mumbai covered under various PCVC program, **350 volunteers** and more than 100 guests coming together at the D.Y. Patil Cricket Stadium.

Apart from the children, the stars for the day were former Australian ace batsman **Allan Border**, former Australian fast bowler **Damien Fleming**, former Indian cricketer **Vinod Kambli**, **Abey Kuruvilla**, **Melanie Jones**, **Brett Wheeler** and **Adam Thompson**, who gave sport & music lessons to children.

A special song called 'Meri Awaz Suno' was composed by the children from the shelter home in Mumbai. 25 eager kids and 2 passionate musicians in 48 hours created magic through 'Meri Aawaz Suno'. The song is a heartwarming reflection of the lives of these children who penned their real life stories into the lyrics.



VIII) INNOVATIONS

'Mazya Solapursathi Maza Ek Diwas' – "A day for my Solapur city"

A day which saw the youth of Solapur city getting down to the ground and finding out the number of out of school/working children in their city. The idea was to involve the university students and all the concerned governmental departments for one day in the need assessment process.

- **The Key Players** – District Collector of Solapur, NSS coordinator of Solapur University, Secretary of Solapur University, Pratham Education Team, Additional Labour Commissioner and college students.

- **The Process** –
 - Appeals to the University heads in Solapur requesting them to allocate student volunteers from the NSS units for the fact finding exercise.
 - The NSS heads of each college were explained to about their roles and responsibilities during the assessment.
 - The blue print of Solapur division was obtained from the Election Office and the city was divided into 50 zones.
 - 40 Pratham volunteers were assigned to head 40 zones. These zones were demarcated not according to the wards, but according the locations of the colleges. The remaining 10 zones were additionally allotted for the experienced Pratham staff.
 - The Additional Labour Commissioner was made a partner in the assessment process. The logistics and material required for the assessment was funded by the department.

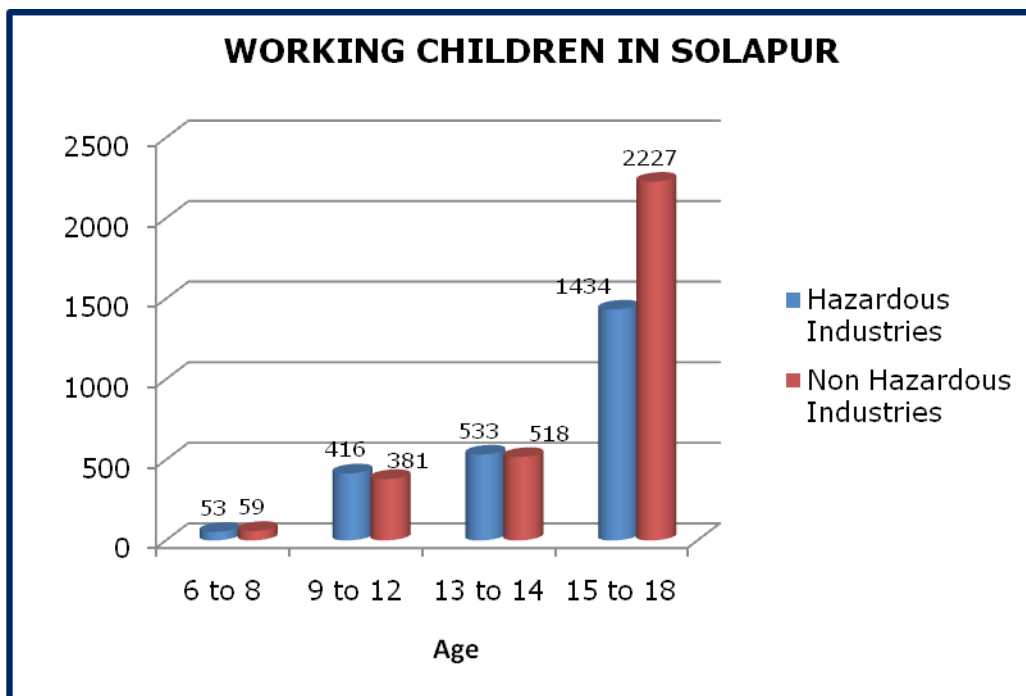


- Under the leadership of the district collector, a meeting was called of all the various department heads. The dates for the assessment, post assessment data presentation and discussion of the future action plan was fixed.

850 student volunteers participated in the survey along with 250 local volunteers. 186 communities were surveyed during the day.



➤ **Findings:**



- 1) 5621 working children in the age group of 6 to 18 years were found in Solapur City v/s the SSA data of 450 children.
- 2) 3810 out of school and working children
- 3) 1811 in school and working children.



- 4) 1002 children in the age group of 6 to 14 years are still working in hazardous industries.

➤ **Post Assessment Advocacy:**

After the assessment a meeting of all the departments was called under the leadership of the district collector. The departments of Education, SSA, Women and child welfare, National Child Labour Programme, Labour and Urban community development participated. The data was appreciated and based on it different departments were given responsibilities to reduce the number of out of school children.

Department of the Urban Community Development was directed to organize meetings of the Self Help Groups in Solapur. This was mainly due to two reasons. The first being that these SHGs could work as pressure groups at the community level as per the Child Labour Free Community model, and secondly many times the children of the SHG members also go to work. Thus these SHGs are to be used as the action system for prevention of this problem as well as for the sustainable rehabilitation of the rescued children.

**SAC – Students Action Committee in Bapatla Engineering College
Andhra Pradesh**

In the Bapatla Block of Guntur district lies one of the biggest engineering colleges of Andhra Pradesh. The Bapatla Engineering College with its 4000 students and 9 branches was a potential source of volunteer base for social action and funds.

The idea of SAC was born with a bunch of 6 to 7 students wanting to do something for their surrounding. The Pratham team drafted a detailed plan of action and presented it to the college principal and other students. SAC not only grew in size but also in vision. A captive action system of 4000 students was tapped.

The students of the engineering college became the prevention team for Pratham and went to each and every village in the block spreading the message of abolition of child labour.

The students also adopted one of the Pratham shelter homes in the district saw to it that the children from the Pratham shelter home received monthly donations either in the form or cash or kind.

Today SAC has become an integral part of the Bapatla Engineering College. Although the students have passed out the committee has been absorbed into the college system.

IX) MISSION 2009 – 2010



Based on the achievements of last year the network definitely aims at sustenance and continuation of majority of the programs. However some of the key deliverables for the coming year are as follows:

The key deliverables

- Preparation of a National Resource Kit for training of the entire Pratham network.
- Replication of the SOLAPUR model and Pilot Need Assessment in 15 districts across PCVC network.

The idea is to collect concrete authentic data from different sources. Pratham to do an intensive need assessment exercise – tools and data collection in collaboration with the ASER institute.

In the coming year maximum information to be collected and disseminated to the various stake holders. Based on the information the network will play a catalytic role and work with the existing government mechanisms. The idea is to try and create 12 Model Districts with 'No Child Working and Every Child in School'

- Focus on maximum fund raising and self sustenance of programs in the States. Tapping more Government resources and schemes would be the key.

X) OUR PARTNERS





ART VENTURE

Creative Philanthropy, Art in Action





NATIONAL CHILD LABOUR PROJECT

XI) ANNEXURE:

Annexure 1: Names of the districts where PCVC programs are operational



State	Presence
1) ANDHRA PRADESH	HYDERABAD DISTRICT
	GUNTUR DISTRICT
2) DELHI	
3) BIHAR	
4) GUJARAT	RAJKOT
	AHMEDABAD
	VADODARA
	DHARAMPUR
5) MAHARASHTRA	MUMBAI
	THANE
	PUNE
	SOLAPUR
	AURANGABAD
6) ODHISA	BHUBANESHWAR
7) RAJASTHAN	RAJSAMAND
	JAIPUR
	JODHPUR
	BIKANER
8) UTTAR PRADESH	KANPUR
	LUCKNOW
	BANARAS
	BEHRAICH



STATES		MONTHS								
	June 2008	July 2008	August 2008	Sept. 2008	Oct. 2008	Nov. 2008	Dec. 2008	Jan. 2009	Feb. 2009	March 2009
1) ANDHRA PRADESH										
Prevention	105	70	70	70	70	60	60	5	53	73
Rescue	30	5	30	248	300	-	-	7	4	39
Education	60	60	60	60	131	66	60	184	144	144
Shelter	123	108	98	98	94	98	125	159	207	147
TOTAL	318	243	258	476	595	224	245	355	408	403
2) GUJARAT										
Prevention	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rescue	73	41	-	-	67	5	24	49	-	6
Education	803	886	2743	2684	2754	2579	2749	2623	2099	1972
Shelter	57	57	57	57	57	50	50	50	50	50
TOTAL	933	984	2800	2741	2878	2634	2823	2722	2149	2028
3) MUMBAI										
Prevention	-	1625	1925	2194	1808	1967	1563	1843	1317	1723
Rescue	164	193	225	137	139	233	262	366	310	331
Education	4547	2705	3418	2915	3680	3892	4324	4208	4295	4439
Shelter	135	130	129	119	113	122	123	115	114	69
Skill	259	381	430	387	422	481	459	438	346	317
Disability	-	-	-	-	-	74	345	182	269	257
TOTAL	5105	5034	6127	5752	6162	6769	7076	7152	6651	7136
4) MAHARASHTRA										
Prevention	-	22	-	-	92	-	-	-	-	37
Rescue	81	-	-	39	259	22	38	17	11	36
Education	90	135	121	89	526	114	70	105	116	179
TOTAL	171	135	121	128	785	136	108	122	127	252
5) RAJASTHAN										
Prevention	-	-	-	-	2507	2507	3078	2797	2797	2797
Rescue	18	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Education	200	200	200	200	3082	3082	4765	4852	4813	5013
TOTAL	218	200	200	201	3082	3082	4765	4852	4813	5013
6) UTTAR PRADESH										
Prevention	4590	5155	5668	7674	9496	1694	1661	1495	1482	1651
Rescue	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	35	16	-
Education	204	489	2642	924	226	46	56	55	119	122
Shelter	59	64	72	82	74	69	82	89	108	101
TOTAL	4853	5724	8382	8680	9722	1709	1739	1634	1705	1874



State Commission of Maharashtra
A

Annexure 3:

(i) Financial Allocations for the year 2008 – 2009

NOVIB Allocations for 2008-09



State	Total Sanctioned
1) AP	11,00,000
2) GUJARAT	27,00,000
3) MUMBAI	10,00,000
4) MAHARASHTRA	5,00,000
5) RAJASTHAN	11,00,000
6) UTTAR PRADESH	11,00,000
7) ODISHA	5,00,000
8) DELHI	2,00,000
RESOURCE CENTER	20,00,000
Total	1,02,00,000

(ii) Funds Raised

➤ *Non Foreign Contributions*

Donor	Amount
1) Child Line India Foundation	3,73,130.00
2) Disha Foundation Trust	1,00,000.00
3) International Justice Mission	84,913.00
4) ING Vysya Foundation	18,52,600.00
5) Other Local Receipts	4,96,686.00
Total	29,07,329.00

➤ *Foreign Contributions*

Donor	Amount
1) ADM Capital Foundation	10,37,975
2) Art Venture	4,40,059
3) Capital Group	24,46,689
4) Glaxo	15,77,800
5) J Leon & Company Ltd	7,43,225
6) Save the Children	13,00,000
7) United Way	82,01,687
8) Johnson & Johnson	48,50,000
TOTAL	2,05,97,435.00



Annexure 4: About Child Welfare Committee (CWC)

- CWC is formed Under - The Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection) Act, 2000.
- The State Government by notification in Official Gazette constitutes for one or more Child Welfare Committees for every district or group of districts, for exercising the powers and discharge the duties conferred in relation to children in need of care and protection under the JJ Act.
- **Composition** – Consists of a Chairperson and 4 members (at least 1 has to be a woman).
- Any Child in need of Care and Protection as per definition in the act can be produced by any Indian citizen in front of this committee.
- **Powers of Committee-**
 - (1) The Committee functions as a Bench of Magistrates and has the powers conferred by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) on a Metropolitan Magistrate or Judicial Magistrate of the first class.
 - (2) The Committee has the final authority to dispose of cases for the care, protection, treatment, development and rehabilitation of the children as well as to provide for their basic needs and protection of human rights.
 - (3) Has the power to deal exclusively with all proceedings under this Act relating to children in need of care and protection.