

# HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

27<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP (MAY 2017)

## UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) OF INDIA

Invest in the  
high potential of  
children across India



**Joint Stakeholders' Submission from:**

**Edmund Rice International**

<http://www.edmundriceinternational.org/> (NGO in Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC)

**Franciscans International**

<http://franciscansinternational.org/home/> (NGO in General Consultative Status with ECOSOC)

in partnership with **NINEISMINE**

(Geneva, 21 September 2016)





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edmund rice



**Franciscans International**  
A voice at the United Nations

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## Introduction

Edmund Rice International (ERI) is an international non-governmental organization, founded in 2005, which has a Special Consultative Status with The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) since 2012. ERI is supported by two Catholic Religious Congregations, the Christian Brothers and the Presentation Brothers. It works with networks of like-minded organizations and in countries where the two congregations are present. ERI has a special interest in the rights of the child, the right to education and in eco-justice.

Franciscans International (FI) was founded in 1989 and has a General Consultative Status with ECOSOC since 1995. FI supports Franciscans and partners working at the local and national levels and assists in bringing their concerns and expertise to the UN to address structural causes of human rights violations.

**NINEISMINE** is an advocacy initiative of, for, and by the children of India that sought the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). It has been actively engaged in the Post-2015 process of framing the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and is now working actively towards their promotion and fulfilment.



## Methodology

Edmund Rice International and Franciscans International make this submission based on the work of their partners on the ground in India, particularly those involved in the **NINEISMINE** campaign.

Between the hot summer months of May and the monsoon lashed days of early August, over 40 consultations were held with young citizens of India on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). These consultations engaged teenagers below 18 years of age, mostly from vulnerable situations, with adequate representation of children from privileged backgrounds as well. These consultations covered the vast regional, geographical, cultural, linguistic and socio-economic diversity of India including every State and Union Territory except for Daman and Diu. Over 200 child-rights organisations and schools (including 2,000 'kidizens') took part in this process.

The child-friendly workshops included sessions on:

- » Knowing the SDGs through mime, charades, puzzles, art, song, etc.
- » Learning CRC through group wax-modelling exercises
- » Writing the UPR report and recommendations through group discussions

These reports from across the nation were then tabled and categorised according to the different states and SDGs. Representatives from these workshops came to the National Capital from 17–23 August, 2016. After engaging with a more detailed study of the SDGs and the ground realities of India – through interactions with social activists and other experts – the representatives sifted through the stories and recommendations and built on those ideas.





These representatives then formed themselves into a National Children's Parliament with 'ministries' based on each of the SDGs. They also promised to ensure the complete realisation of each goal in their neighbourhoods and states (read constituencies).

On the last two days of the Parliament, each associated Minister and Deputy added their own recommendations to the list and then, in a 'Market Place' environment, marketed the emerging recommendations. The other ministers indicated their support for the recommendations by voting.

The following are our stories and recommendations which we are hopeful the world will pay heed to meaningfully, embrace wholeheartedly, and realise with urgency.





23.6% of India's population (of approximately 1.3 billion people) lives on less than \$1.25 (PPP) per day.

-Human Development Report, 2015 - UNDP



Our Indian Constitution asserts that the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing that the citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood. (Article 39A)



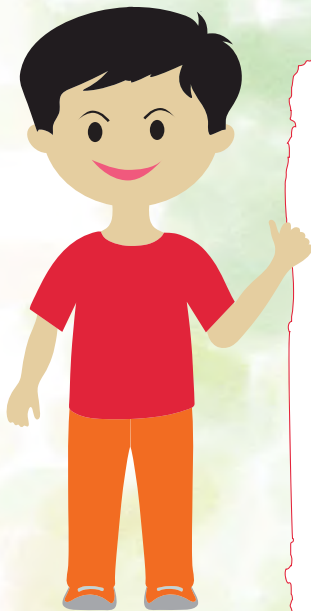


## SDG Goal 1 - End Poverty

**Article 26** : Child's right to benefit from social security (CRC)

**Article 27** : Child's right to an adequate standard of living (CRC)

**Article 18** : Parents' joint responsibilities assisted by the State (CRC)



*"In a small village in Maharashtra, there was an 11 year old boy who lived with his family. His parents were uneducated, and his father worked at a construction site. As they did not have enough money to send him to school, his father often took him along to work. One day, at a construction site, the young boy saw a loose wire lying on the ground. He tried to fix it while holding on to a steel rod. This gave him a severe shock but there was nobody around to help him. After some time, when the elders arrived, they found that the boy had died."*



We thank our Indian Government for its Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Rural Guarantee Act (MNREGA), the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana.

### Our Recommendations

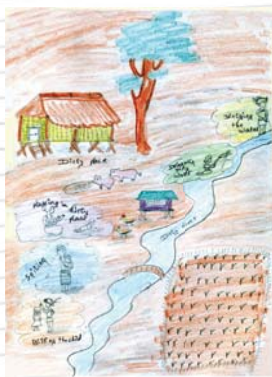
#### That the Government of India:

- » Increases taxes on the rich to ensure quality services to the poor.
- » Increases budgetary allocation (GDP, public spending) on Education (6%), Health (5%) and Children (10%).
- » Introduces Child-Budgets in all ministries related to children.



29%, 39% and 15% of India's children below the age of 5 are (moderately or severely) underweight, stunted or wasted, respectively.

-State of the World's Children Report – 2016, UNICEF



Our Indian Constitution affirms that the State shall regard the raising of the level of nutrition and the standard of living of its people and the improvement of public health as among its primary duties. (Article 47)







2 ZERO HUNGER



## SDG Goal 2 - End Malnutrition

**Article 24** : Child's right to health and health services (CRC)

**Article 6** : Child's right to life and maximum survival and development (CRC)

**Article 27** : Child's right to an adequate standard of living (CRC)



*"My name is Debera Das and I am from West Bengal. When I was younger, my aunt brought me to Kalimpong telling my parents she would send me to school. However, once I was here, I was made to do all the domestic work. I was given stale smelly leftovers and did not get any proper food to eat. On many occasions, I could not get myself to eat the food and remained hungry. I often got stomach pains, headaches and bouts of vomiting. After a medical check-up, I came to know that I was suffering from stomach tuberculosis and was also severely malnourished."*



We thank our Indian Government for the National Food Security Act, 2013, the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, the National Nutrition Mission, and the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.

### Our Recommendations

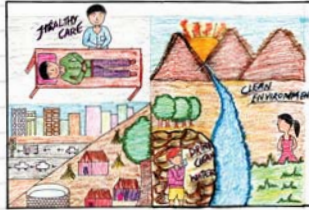
#### That the Government of India:

- » Improves the quality and variety of the mid-day meal to make it more nutritious, and also provides these meals on holidays.
- » Encourages nutrition and agricultural education in schools while encouraging everyone to have kitchen gardens.
- » Provides ration cards to all households and improves the delivery of services at ration shops while also including pulses and edible oils in the Public Distribution System (PDS).



India lost **1.2 million** children below the age of **5** in the year 2015.

-State of the World's Children - Report 2016, UNICEF



Our Indian Constitution states that no person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty except according to procedures established by law. (Article 21)







## SDG Goal 3 - Health and Well Being

**Article 24** : Child's right to health and health services (CRC)

**Article 6** : Child's right to life and maximum survival and development (CRC)



"I am Bamang Martha from Sangram, Arunachal Pradesh. Sangram is a remote village that is four hours by road from the closest government hospital in Ziro. Luckily, we have a privately run clinic in our village. There are people who have to walk for up to two days just to avail of these basic facilities. I have lost three of my siblings to common childhood diseases like diarrhoea, dysentery and malaria."



We thank our Indian Government for the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana, the National Health Mission and the Integrated Child Development Scheme.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

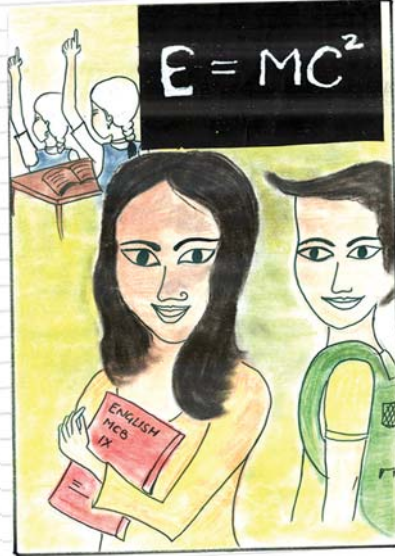
- » Ensures that facilities, medical care and medicines available at government hospitals are of the same quality as the leading private hospitals in India.
- » Provides functional, well-staffed and well-maintained Public Health Centres (PHCs) in every village.
- » Makes every PHC child-friendly and accessible to all, particularly the most vulnerable, including persons with disability.





6.4 million Indian children of primary school age are out of school.

-State of the World's Children Report - 2016, UNICEF



Article 21A of our Indian Constitution asserts that the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of 6 to 14 years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine, while Article 45 affirms that the State shall provide early childhood care and education to all children until they complete the age of 6 years.





## SDG Goal 4 - Education

**Article 28** : Child's right to education (CRC)

**Article 29** : The aims of education (CRC)



*"I am from a village in Chhattisgarh. The quality of education in my village is extremely bad. Teachers in our school never arrive on time and often come to school drunk. This affects our education greatly, which in turn results in a decline of jobs and an increase in poverty in our village."*



We thank our Indian Government for the Padhe Bharat, Badhe Bharat campaign and the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

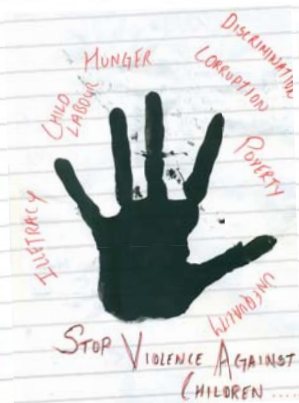
- » Extends the RTE from early preschool years to all children up to class 12 or age 18.
- » Provides an education that is free, compulsory, inclusive and complete. The standard in all schools must be at least that of the Kendriya Vidyalayas.
- » Sets-up a students' committee in every school which is representative of the socio-economic and religious diversity and also of disability. Its views and suggestions must be taken seriously.





47% of Indian women presently aged 20–24 years were first married or in union before they were 18 years old while 18% of them were first married or in union before they were 15 years old.

–State of the World's Report 2016, UNICEF



Our Indian Constitution encourages the State to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India and to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women. (Article 51A(e))







## SDG Goal 5 - Gender Equality

**Article 2** : Non-discrimination (CRC)

**Article 19** : Child's right to protection from all forms of violence (CRC)

**Article 35** : Prevention of abduction, sale and trafficking (CRC)



"Simran is 13 years old and lives in Sawatsar village, Rajasthan. She studies in class 9 of a government school which has provisions only till class 10. She had a bad experience of the behaviour of boys in school, and finds that teachers do not listen to the opinions of the girls in class. As the school in their village does not have avenues for education beyond class 10, most parents do not send their daughters for higher studies. They do not let their daughters travel in trains or buses due to their own insecurities. Most often, parents arrange for the marriage of both, their elder and younger daughters, together due to financial constraints. Child marriage, therefore, is still very prevalent in the community."



We thank our Indian Government for its Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Campaign and its related Sukanya Samridhi Yojana.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

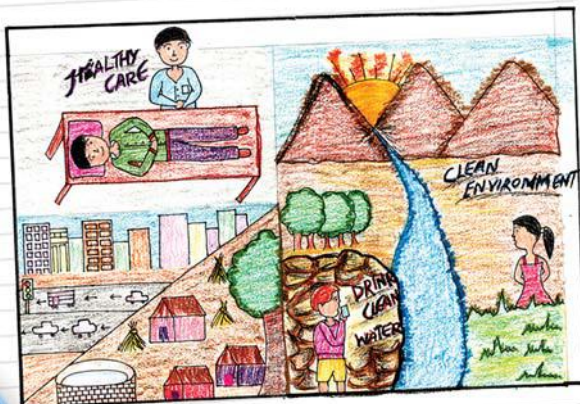
- » Includes lessons on gender sensitivity into every year of schooling.
- » Ensures that no girl or boy is allowed to get married before the age of 18 and 21, respectively.
- » Considers all child marriages as null and void and re-conducts such marriages when the girl is 18 or more, but only if both individuals concerned approve of the same.





53.1% of India's households do not have access to toilets.

-Census of India, 2011



Article 47 of our Indian Constitution affirms that the State shall regard the raising of the level of nutrition and the standard of living of its people and the improvement of public health as among its primary duties.





## SDG Goal 6 - Water and Sanitation

**Article 24** : Child's right to health and health services (CRC)



"I am Sumit from Dadra and Nagar Haveli. During the monsoons we have ample water. However, during the summer the rivers dry up. Sometimes our cattle does not have any water to drink, leading to the death of many animals. Moreover, there isn't enough water for us to drink or use in our houses. The PWD sends government tankers, but the water is only provided at the recommendation of the head of the village."



We thank our Indian Government for its Namami Gange Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission, the Swachh Bharat Mission and the National Rural Drinking Water Programme.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Provides every house with a toilet, proper drainage systems and with sufficient light and water.
- » Ensures that all new toilets should be green toilets that use bio technology and less water.
- » Provides sufficient and child-friendly public toilets at common places, which are then maintained regularly.
- Ensures that all schools, offices and public places are provided with toilets for girls and people with disabilities.





-Annual State of India's Environment Report – 2015



Article 48A of our Indian Constitution encourages the State to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country.







## SDG Goal 7 - Energy for All

**Article 27** : Child's right to an adequate standard of living (CRC)



"My name is Sonal and I come from a small village in Jharkhand. My father left my family when I was 3 years old, and I now live in Delhi with my mother who is a domestic worker. When my mother moved to the city from the village, she left me to take care of my grandmother who was very old. I had to cook food, get water and do all the household chores for her. Every day, I wake up at 4 a.m. to go to the nearby forest to collect firewood, along with other girls from our village. We had to carry heavy loads of wood from a long distance just to provide ourselves with cooked food."




We thank our Indian Government for its National Policy on Bio Fuels and the National Solar Mission.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Provides sufficient and regular electricity to every house across India by 2020.
- » Promotes the use and production of renewable energy.
- » Provides continuous, affordable and clean energy to farmers and those engaged in cottage and rural industries and small enterprises.



 4,353,247 children within the age group 5–14 years (and thus eligible for the Right to Education) are engaged in child labour.

—Census of India, 2011



Our Indian Constitution affirms that the State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provisions for securing the right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of undeserved want. (Article 41)







## SDG Goal 8 - Decent Work

**Article 32** : Child Labour (CRC)

**Article 18** : Parents' joint responsibilities assisted by the State (CRC)



*"Usha is 13 years old and lives in MauliJagram Colony in Chandigarh. Her mother was a domestic labourer and her father, a gardener. Unfortunately, her father fell seriously ill when she was studying in the 7th grade. Because of this, Usha dropped out of school to work as a domestic worker and support her family. After a year, her father recovered, but was unable to work. Usha, therefore, had to continue working as a domestic help."*



We thank our Indian Government for its Skill India programme and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA).

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Guarantees parents' Right to Work with decent and just wages and with proper written contracts.
- » Ensures a complete ban on child labour that deprives any citizen below the age of 18 years of his or her Right to Develop and the Right to a Childhood.
- » Extends the MNREGA scheme to ensure work throughout the year and across the entire country.





18% of India's population are internet users, while there are over 74.5 subscriptions to mobile phones per hundred people.

-Human Development Report, 2015



Article 39b of our Indian Constitution affirms that the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing that the ownership and control of the material resources of the community are so distributed as best to subserve the common good.







## SDG Goal 9 - Innovations and Technology

**Article 27** : Child's right to an adequate standard of living (CRC)



*"Iba hails from Meghalaya. She is visually impaired and studies in an inclusive school. She believes that children with disabilities do not need to be protected; rather, they need to be given sufficient spaces and opportunities to grow. She believes in inclusive education and wants special educators and counsellors who can assist children with special needs, particularly in SSA schools. She advocates for the right use of technology to overcome the barriers. For instance, building ramps in schools, providing Braille tablets, frequency receptors and JAWS software could ensure inclusion."*



We thank our Indian Government for its Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadhak Yojana and its Make In India, Start Up India and Accessible India campaigns.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Makes technology affordable and accessible to all.
- » Makes IT education an option within formal education.
- » Makes technology usable, affordable and relevant to improving the lives of persons with disabilities.





The number of children with disabilities between the age of 5–10 years in India is estimated to be **2.20 million** (Census of India, 2011), but only **1.72 million** are enrolled in schools.

*-DISE on Elementary Education in India, 2013-2014*



Article 14 of our Indian Constitution states that all citizens are equal before the law within the territory of India; Article 15(1) prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them; and Article 46 asserts that the State shall promote, with special care, the educational interest of the weaker sections of the people.







## SDG Goal 10 - Reduce Inequalities

**Article 2** : Non-discrimination (CRC)

**Article 23** : Rights of children with disabilities (CRC)

**Article 30** : Children of minorities or indigenous people (CRC)



*"Sanjay from Tamil Nadu, enrolled at our school to study in the 6th grade. He has a physical disability and cannot eat, walk, stand or move by himself. His peers and friends used to support him and help him walk, play, eat, etc. We spent time with him, and therefore, over time, his self-confidence increased and he started interacting with us like a member of our peer group. The fact that we treated him equally and were inclusive made him very happy and hopeful."*



We thank our Indian Government for its Give It Up and Accessible India campaigns and the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Sets-up an Equal Opportunities Commission to ensure that there is no inequality in providing services and opportunities to all; particularly, to the girl child and women, to the Dalit, Adivasi or Minority communities and to those with disabilities.
- » Provides the best specialised care to all children with disabilities or other vulnerabilities within an inclusive environment, and in the same neighbourhood school where their siblings and friends.
- » Ensures that all women are given equal decision making powers. They should have at least 33% representation in all elected bodies from the village council up to the National Parliament.



There were approximately **35,000** buses operating in urban areas. Of these, **8** of the biggest cities – Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and Pune – account for **80%** of all buses.

-EMBARQ India's Bus Karo 2.0 Report, 2014



Our Indian Constitution affirms that the State shall provide opportunities and facilities for children and youth to develop in freedom and dignity. (Article 39(f))







## SDG Goal 11 - Sustainable and safe cities

**Article 34** : Sexual exploitation of children (CRC)

**Article 35** : Prevention of abduction, sale and trafficking (CRC)

**Article 19** : Child's right to protection from all forms of violence (CRC)



*"I am Raj, a resident of Podi district in Uttarakhand. My school is very far from my house, and therefore, I have to travel a lot. It is especially difficult to travel when it rains, as the roads have potholes and there is a constant fear of being attacked by animals. There is no bus service provided for our travel."*



We thank our Indian Government for its Smart Cities Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) programme, the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Builds proper transport infrastructure with reliable, frequent, affordable and disabled-friendly public buses and transport systems.
- » Mandates that all police stations be made child-friendly.
- » Installs fully functioning lights along all streets and roads and in all public places.
- » Builds cycle tracks and barrier-free footpaths in all cities and villages.





India discards roughly 18.5 lakh metric tonnes of E-waste each year.

-Joint study by ASSOCHAM- KPMG as reported in The Hindu, May 26, 2016



Our Indian Constitution asserts that the State shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing that the citizens, men and women equally, have the right to an adequate means of livelihood. (Article 39A)







## SDG Goal 12 - No Wastage, Wise Consumption

**Article 3** : Best interests of the child (CRC)



*"I was once at a fair in my hometown in Jammu and Kashmir, with tempting food stalls all around me. Everyone's mouth watered looking at the delicacies. There were also a few young rag-pickers at the fair, who looked starved. They looked at the sweets being prepared but couldn't afford any. Soon, a man came along and bought two packets of sweets and started eating them. The children begged him to give them some food, but he ignored them. After a few minutes his stomach was full and he threw the leftover sweets in the dustbin."*



We thank our Indian Government for its National Clean India Fund.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Introduces a programme aimed at complete point-to-point waste segregation, while ensuring that rag-pickers are recognised as workers with rights and dignity.
- » Legislates that all waste generated by companies that produce, use and throw products must be treated by them.
- » Ensures that all new vehicles are of hybrid varieties that use renewable energy.
- » Encourages rain water harvesting and the sustainable use of other resources while discouraging mega-projects that destroy the earth and displace people.



 India ranks **141** out of **180** nations with a score of **53.58** in the Environmental Performance Index.

-Yale University (2016)



Our Indian Constitution encourages the State to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country. (Article 48A)





## SDG Goal 13 – Climate Action

**Article 3** : Best interests of the child (CRC)

**Article 29** : The aims of education (CRC)

**Article 39** : Rehabilitation of child victims (CRC)



*"Thaibi, from Manipur, is a poor girl who is a victim of nature's calamities. Recently, there was an earthquake which damaged her house, and the heavy rainfalls that followed worsened the situation. Because of this, her family is also facing a food crisis. Loss of property and her helpless condition has made her access to education impossible."*



We thank our Indian Government for its National Plan on Climate Change and the National Solar Mission.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Bans all destructive mining completely. All mining companies should have a mandatory reforestation and restoration plan for the mined area.
- » Designs and imposes 'green' taxes on all people who have carbon footprints larger than 1.7 gha and those who spend on lavish lifestyles and exorbitant weddings.
- » Makes regular disaster safety drills and awareness raising mandatory in all schools, offices and housing societies.





India was ranked **104** out of **180** countries in the Fisheries category of the Environmental Performance Index.

-Yale University 2016



My Right to reach my Potential through education.

Our Indian Constitution affirms that it shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures. (Article 51A(g))







## SDG Goal 14 - Life in the Oceans

**Article 3** : Best interests of the child (CRC)

**Article 29** : The aims of education (CRC)



*"Udaipur in Tripura is also known as Lake City. The lake named Amar Sagar is situated in the heart of the city. Its water is getting polluted day-by-day because residents of its surrounding areas are regularly dumping plastic bags and domestic waste directly into the lake. Even the sewage outlets are directed straight into the lake. The people who use this water are becoming prey to many water-borne diseases."*



We thank our Indian Government for its Namami Gange Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission and for declaring dolphins and other cetaceans as 'non-human persons'.

### Our Recommendations

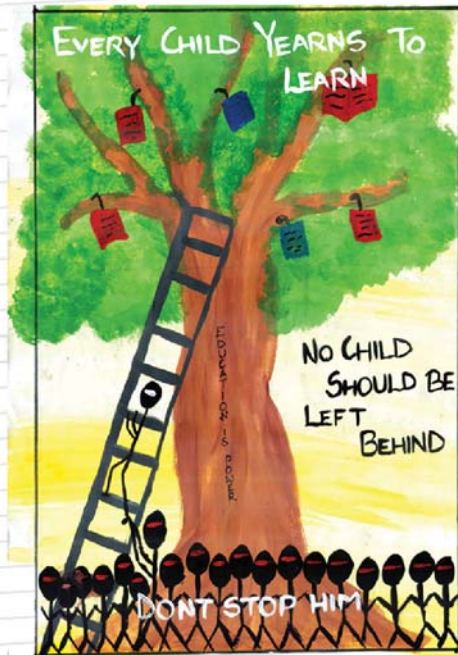
#### That the Government of India:

- » Bans the dumping of untreated human and industrial wastes into rivers and oceans.
- » Ends overfishing and illegal fishing, while protecting smaller fishing communities.
- » Ensures a complete ban on non-recyclable, non-reusable plastic bags.



While CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of India's poor who earn below ₹ 3,000 per month (432 million) is 335 kg, the richest consumer class (only about 10 million) who earn ₹ 30,000 or more have a CO<sub>2</sub> emission average of 1,494 kg.

-Hiding Behind The Poor Report – Greenpeace 2007



Our Constitution encourages the State to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country. (Article 48A)







## SDG Goal 15 – Life on Land

**Article 3** : Best interests of the child (CRC)

**Article 29** : The aims of education (CRC)



*"Deforestation is one of the major issues in our Adivasiwadis in Maharashtra. Our forests are being destroyed by deforestation as well as forest fires. Because of this deforestation, our people have lost their livelihood; we are not able to get any firewood or collect products to sell. There is now water scarcity in our area and the increase in heat is leading to a subsequent change in temperature. All this has also affected the number of wild animals in our forest."*



We thank our Indian Government for its Project Elephant and Project Tiger that protect these species and their ecosystems. We welcome the Delhi High Court's recognition of a birds 'Fundamental Right to Fly' (May 2015).

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Provides only organic fertilizers and natural inputs to all farmers, especially women, Dalits, and Adivasis.
- » Increases budgets of the Environment ministries.
- » Empowers the Independent Green Commissions and Tribunals.
- » Bans the deforestation of present forests completely and plants only native species of trees and plants.





India ranks 59 out of 102 countries in the rule of law.

-World Justice Project's Rule of Law Report, 2015



Our Indian Constitution asserts that the State shall secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice, on the basis of equal opportunity. (Article 39A)







## SDG Goal 16 - Peace and Justice

**Article 38** : Protection of children affected by armed conflict (CRC)

**Article 7** : Birth registration, name, nationality and the Right to know and be cared for by parents (CRC)



*"Gopal was from a middle class Manipuri family. He lived with, and looked after, his blind wife and their children. One night, when Gopal went out to get a van, the army saw him and killed him on the mere suspicion that he was an insurgent. His young son, Arnav, was left alone to look after his blind mother and little siblings. Till now justice has not been delivered to Gopal and his family. In fact, a few years later, Arnav himself lost his life to Armed Forces (Special Power) Act. (AFSPA)"*

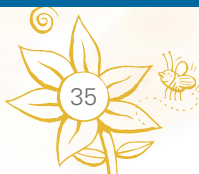


We thank our Supreme Court for its recent judgement on AFSPA (*The Hindu*, 11 July, 2016) while thanking our Indian Government for the Right to Information Act, the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) and the Digital India campaign.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Prohibits the occupation of any school by the army or police even during conflict.
- » Passes strict anti-corruption laws immediately.
- » Signs all international conventions and optional protocols that relate to children.
- Provides every child with birth registration, which should be done within 21 days of birth, at all local health care centres.
- Withdraws AFSPA from all applicable states, immediately.





In terms of GDP and public spending, India currently spends less than **4%** on Education and **1%** of Health. This is well below Brazil's 6% and 5%, Botswana's 9% and 4%, Malawi's 8% and 4% or Bhutan's 6% and 3% spending on the same.

-State of the World's Report, 2016 - UNICEF



Article 51c of our Indian Constitution proclaims that the State shall endeavour to foster respect for international law and treaty obligations in the dealings of organized peoples with one another.





## SDG Goal 17 - Global Partnerships

**Article 42** : Making the convention widely known (CRC)

**Article 4** : Implementation of rights in the Convention (CRC)

**Article 26** : Child's right to benefit from social security (CRC)

**Article 25** : Child's right to periodic review of placement (CRC)



*"I am Gyanashekar from Tamil Nadu. I was travelling to Hosur town in Tamil Nadu where I saw some children begging. I discussed this issue with the members of my local Children's Parliament and informed 1098. Following this, a recovery team came and rescued 42 children from the streets. This is my team's big achievement."*



We thank our Indian Government for proactively promoting international cooperation, and in particular regional cooperation, through BRICS and SAARC.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

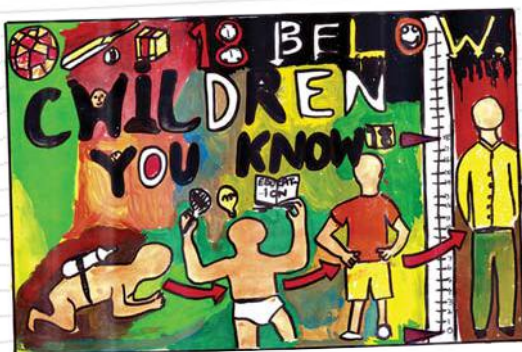
- » Ensures that every elected representative (including CMs, MPs and MLAs) and government officials, knows about these SDGs, and their targets and indicators.
- » Encourages the formation of genuine neighbourhood Children's Parliaments that are federated with the district, state, national and international levels.
- » Ensures that the SDGs, Human Rights and Child Rights awareness classes and workshops are held in all educational and professional institutions and with government officials.





India ranks **102** out of **163** nations on children's rights.

-Kids Rights Index (2016)



Our Right To Have Our Dream  
CONSIDERED HONESTLY



Article 15(3) of our Indian Constitution empowers the State to make special provisions for women and children.





## Our Goal 18 - All Rights for All Children

**Article 25** : Child's right to periodic review of placement (CRC)

**Article 1** : Definition of the child (CRC)

**Article 12** : Respect for the views of the child (CRC)



"Rohit is a 16 year old boy who lives in a slum a kilometre away from India's National Parliament in New Delhi. He lost his mother when he was a young child, after which his father got remarried. Rohit was then looked after by his elder brother and sister-in-law. His elder brother could not afford to educate him, and therefore he had to leave school and work at a government retail shop close to Connaught Place. His grandparents got him married at the age of 14, against his will, which he continues to resist even today."



सत्यमेव जयते

We thank our Indian Government for the SABLA scheme that uplifts adolescent girls, and for passing the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Bill that attempts to protect children from sexual abuse.

### Our Recommendations

#### That the Government of India:

- » Makes all information and data about the SDGs and child-related schemes accessible, particularly to children themselves.
- » Defines the age of a child as 18 for all matters related to children including criminality, labour and the Right to Education.
- » Creates opportunities for the meaningful and widespread gathering of children's opinions on all matters concerning them.



You may have been surprised to note our 'Eighteenth Goal' which the **NINEISMINE** campaign marks as All Rights for All Children; we would like the world to recognise children as active citizens of today. They should enjoy all the rights and not just the present piecemeal-approach of seeing them as recipients of Education, Health and Prosperity and Peace. Hence, there is a need to include all the Earth's PROGENY, as a specific and independent Goal.

"India is home to more than 19% of the world's children. More than one-third of the country's population, around 440 million, is below 18 years of age. It is estimated that around 170 million or 40 per cent of India's children are vulnerable or experiencing difficult circumstances characterized by their specific social, economic and geo-political situations." (Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, Annual Report 2014–15)

If the world is serious about its promise to 'leave no one behind' then it cannot ignore the voice of India's 'Last Child'.

## Implementation of UPR Recommendations

### We recommend that the Government of India:

- » Ensures the effective implementation of UPR recommendations through the establishment, by the time of a mid-term assessment of the current UPR cycle, of a permanent governmental mechanism to liaise with relevant ministries and consult with Civil Society, National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI's) and all relevant stakeholders.

**Kindly Note:** All the names of individual children in this submission have been changed to protect the identity of each child.





## APPENDIX 1

### The SDG's reflected in the BJP Manifesto:

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is the largest party in the ruling coalition-called the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). The BJP's pre-election manifesto (2014) promised...

#### Goal 1

... to identify 100 most backward districts to bring them at par with other districts and to gainfully employ rural poor in agriculture and allied activities.

#### Goal 2

... to address the issue of under-nutrition and malnutrition, since universal food security they stated is integral to national security.

... to ensure the effective implementation of the Right to Food Security Act and to address the issue of anaemia.

... that the Mid Day Meal scheme would be revitalised in terms of management and delivery with a mission-mode project to eradicate malnutrition.

#### Goal 3

... to provide, health assurance to all Indians and to reduce the excessive spending on health care, with the help of the state government

... to modernise government hospitals, upgrading infrastructure and latest technologies and that high priority will be given to address the shortfalls of healthcare professionals

... to set up an AIIMS like institute in every state.

#### Goal 4

... to ensure the effective implementation of the Right to Education.

... that public spending on education would be raised to 6% of the GDP.

... that special pedagogy would be developed for differently-abled students.



### Goal 5

...to have a special focus on children, especially the girl child, with regard to health, education and skills development.

... to commit to 33% reservation in parliamentary and state assemblies through a constitutional amendment.

### Goal 6

...that cleanliness and sanitation will be given priority and that model towns will be identified for rolling out integrated waste management infrastructure.

.. it also promised to create an open-defecation-free India and to set up modern, scientific sewage and waste management systems

.. to make portable drinking water available to all, towards making India into a Diarrhoea-free India.

### Goal 7

...to take steps to maximize the potential of oil, gas, hydro power, ocean, wind, coal and nuclear sources and also to set up small hydro power generation projects to harness the hydro power.

...to give a thrust to renewable sources of energy and to expand and strengthen the national solar mission.

### Goal 8

... to issue identity cards to the unorganized sector labourers and provide them good quality health, training programs and education services.

... to strengthen the pension and health insurance safety nets for all kinds of labourers.

### Goal 9

... to bring urban amenities to rural areas, while retaining the soul of the village.





... that Wi-Fi facility will be made available in public places and commercial centres

... to launch a national programme for digital empowerment through computer literacy of the people especially the youth.

#### Goal 10

... to create an enabling ecosystem of equal opportunity for the eradication of untouchability at all levels.

... to lay special emphasis on vulnerable children and especially those belonging to the vulnerable communities like SCs, STs, OBCs, migrants, slum dwellers, street dwellers and those with disabilities.

... to enact the Rights of Persons with Disabilities bill.

#### Goal 11

... efficient public transport systems and that major steps will be undertaken in transport and housing for urban upliftment in India

... the idea of 'rurban' villages to urban amenities to our rural areas, while retaining the soul of the village.

#### Goal 12

... to ensure food, agricultural, nutritional and environmental, wealth health and energy security of the people on a sustainable basis, using science and technology.

... to encourage and incentivize innovative garbage disposal and waste management practices.

#### Goal 13

... to champion uniform international opinion on issues like terrorism and Global Warming.

#### Goal 14

... to launch a massive Clean Rivers Programme across the country driven by people's participation.



... to encourage efficient use, water conservation, recycling and rainwater harvesting.

... sewage treatment plans to prevent pollution of rivers and desalination plants for drinking water supply in coastal cities.

### Goal 15

... to encourage cleaner production and to promote cleaner fuels and promote the concept of proactive 'Carbon Credit'.

... to take an ecological audit of projects and pollution indexing in cities and townships would be done.

... to set up foolproof mechanisms for protection and preservation of wildlife.

### Goal 16

... to engage proactively on our own with countries in the neighbourhood and beyond, instead of being led by big power interests.

... to strengthen Regional forums like SAARC and ASEAN

### Goal 17

... to continue dialogue, engagement and cooperation with global forums like BRICS, G20, IBSA, SCO and ASEM

... to play a greater role in diplomacy to strengthen regional forums like SAARC and ASEAN.

... to revive brand 'INDIA' with the help of our strengths of 5 T's: Tradition, Talent, Tourism, Trade and Technology.

### Goal 18

... to set up neighbourhood children's and youth parliaments across India to lead a vibrant student committees.





## APPENDIX 2

### Abbreviations:

<b>AFSPA</b>	Armed Forces Special Powers Act
<b>AIIMS</b>	All India Institute of Medical Sciences
<b>AMRUT</b>	Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation
<b>ASEM</b>	The Asia–Europe Meeting
<b>ASEAN</b>	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
<b>BRICS</b>	Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
<b>CMs</b>	Chief Ministers
<b>CRC</b>	Convention on the Rights of the Child.
<b>DISE</b>	District Information System for Education
<b>G20</b>	The G20 (or G-20 or Group of Twenty) is an international forum for the governments and central bank governors from 20 major economies. The members include 19 individual countries—Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States—along with the European Union (EU).
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GHA</b>	Global hectares (acre)
<b>IBSA</b>	The IBSA Dialogue Forum (India, Brazil, and South Africa) is an international tripartite grouping for promoting international cooperation among these countries.
<b>ICPS</b>	Integrated Child Protection Scheme
<b>JAWS</b>	Job Access With Speech
<b>MDGs</b>	Millennium Development Goals
<b>MDM</b>	Mid Day Meal



<b>MLA</b>	Member of the Legislative Assembly
<b>MNERGA</b>	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
<b>MP</b>	Member of Parliament
<b>NFSA</b>	National Food Security Act
<b>NRLM</b>	National Rural Livelihoods Mission
<b>OBC</b>	Other Backward Classes
<b>PDS</b>	Public Distribution System
<b>PHC</b>	Public Health Care
<b>PMJDY</b>	Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana
<b>POCSO</b>	The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences, Act
<b>PPP</b>	Purchasing Power Parity
<b>PWD</b>	Public Works Department
<b>RKVY</b>	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana
<b>RMSA</b>	Rashtriya Madhayamik Shiksha Abhiyan
<b>RTE</b>	Right to Education
<b>RUSA</b>	Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan
<b>SAARC</b>	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
<b>SABLA</b>	The Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) Sabla
<b>SC</b>	Scheduled Caste
<b>SCO</b>	The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>ST</b>	Scheduled Tribe
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UPR</b>	Universal Periodic Review





## APPENDIX 3

### Acknowledgements:

#### Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1. Butterflies

#### Andhra Pradesh

1. Lotham High
2. ZPPH School (Zila Parishad)
3. EPH (Partha Residential)
4. D.M.H School
5. Sobharao School
6. Nivadhata School
7. Nagraesa School
8. Darbhanga Medical College School
9. N.K.V English Medium High School
10. Z.P.P School
11. Bennai Polytechnic, Korukunda
12. Nivya College, Rajahmundry

#### Assam - Guwahati

1. Utsah
2. Snehalaya
3. Child Friendly, Guwahati
4. USA
5. Jyoti Snehalaya Arunachal Pradesh

#### Arunachal Pradesh

1. Childline
2. Don Bosco School
3. Don Bosco Youth Centre

#### Bihar

1. CSEI Chandigarh

#### Chandigarh

1. St John's
2. Manav Vikas Samiti

#### Chhattisgarh

1. Mahila Kalyan Samiti

#### Dadra Nagar Haveli

1. Caruna Child Development Centre
2. Navjeevan Seva Mandal

#### Delhi

1. St. Joseph's Academy - Savita Vihar
2. St Thomas School – Goyela Vihar
3. S.R DAV Public School - Dayanand Vihar
4. St. Mary's School
5. Brain International School - Vikaspuri
6. Vishal Bharti Public School
7. Gyan Mandir Public School
8. Salwan Public School
9. Rajasthan School Pusa Road
10. Kamal Model Senior Secondary
11. Air Force Golden Jubilee School
12. Anok Bharti Public School
13. Sahoday School
14. Loreto Convent



15. Fr. Agnel's School
16. St. Michael's School
17. Bal Bharti Public School
18. Jagou International
19. Bhatnagar International School
20. St. Columba's School
21. Holy Child Auxilium School
22. Hope Hall Foundation,
23. Kamal Model School
24. DPS Vasant Valley
25. Convent of Jesus And Mary
26. Jagganath International School
27. Evergreen Public School,  
Vasundra Enclave
28. Evergreen School
29. Tagore International
30. Presentation Convent School
31. Prabhatara
32. G.B. Senior Secondary School,
33. Nagar Nigam School,
34. Sant Hari Das School
35. G.S.C.S.S School Of Govt.
36. Shades of Happiness
37. Pusa Public School
38. Navyug School
39. PRATYeK

## **Goa**

1. St Teresa's School

## **Gujarat**

1. Rashtriya Sala - Rajkot
2. Sagar Education
3. Vatsalya Charitable Trust
4. Anmol Trust - Rajkot
5. Vidya Bharti Foundation,  
Ahmadabad
6. S.U Public
7. Jatan Samratan Kendra
8. Parivan Vikas Kendra
9. Humankind Foundation
10. SHAISHAV

## **Haryana**

1. S.U. Public School – Sonipat

## **Himachal Pradesh**

1. People's Action for People in  
Need

## **Jammu And Kashmir**

1. Balgran Charitable
2. SOS foundation
3. Sangarsh
4. Koshish
5. Jammu Kashmir Association of  
Social Workers
6. Borderless World Foundation
7. Childline
8. Presentation Convent School
9. Jagriti Youth Club Jharkhand

## **Jharkhand**

1. SAMARPAN
2. Dalit Vikas Parishad
3. LEADS





**Karnataka**

1. World Vision
2. Oasis
3. Radiant Life
4. Don Bosco Social Centre  
Yadagiri

**Lakshadweep**

1. Agatti Senior Secondary School

**Madhya Pradesh**

1. CSS NGO - Indore
2. Karnataka Vidya Nikos Indore
3. Adarsh Shishu Vihar Indore
4. Karnataka School
5. Columbia School
6. Tagore Vidyapeth
7. Agaod Palika School – Agrod

**Maharashtra**

1. Amardeep
2. Sarva Vikas Deep
3. St Augustine's
4. Yuva Rural Association
5. Centre for Social Action
6. Peoples Action for People in  
Need

**Manipur**

1. Mega Manipur
2. Maria Montessori
3. K.T.S School
4. Kids Foundation
5. Keishamthong High School
6. Catholic School
7. Children's Vision
8. Visas Resonance
9. MMSSS

10. K.V. Langjing

11. Manipur Alliance for Child  
Rights
12. Human Rights Alert
13. Big Sisters League
14. Unicam

**Meghalaya**

1. FSHC
2. St. Edmund's School
3. Bethany Society

**Mizoram**

1. Magic Bus India Foundation
2. Mary Mount School

**Nagaland**

1. Pilgrim School
2. C.E.C School
3. R.K School
4. S.S.A.H.S.S
5. R.S.H
6. Prodigal's Home
7. Radiant Shelter Home
8. Assisi Hr Sec School
9. S.D Jain Girls College
10. St. Xavier's Higher Secondary  
School
11. St. Theresa's High School
12. Neingulie Memorial High School
13. Bharat Sevashram Sangha
14. Government Higher Secondary  
School
15. Community Education Centre  
School
16. Ever Shine School
17. El Shide School
18. Shine School



**Odisha**

1. ROPE

**Puducherry**

1. Samugam Jaly Home
2. Sathyalayam High School
3. Vallalar School
4. N.K.C. Government
5. Navarkulam

**Punjab**

1. Oasis Public School
2. Shimla Chandigarh Diocese Society

**Rajasthan**

1. Social Work and Environment for Rural Advancement
2. Komal
3. Nai Udaan Children Group
4. New Tagore Shikshan Sansthan
5. Sawera Sanstha
6. Chumki Gramin
7. Save The Children
8. Shiv Shiksha Samiti
9. St Mary's Mount Abu
10. Sophia School, Mount Abu

**Sikkim**

1. Tango Bazar Junior High School
2. Being Free

**Tamil Nadu**

1. TASSOS

**Telangana**

1. GHS Musheerabad
2. PARA
3. Don Bosco

4. MV Foundation

5. APSA's, Rainbow Home

6. MDWM School

7. BSK

8. Light house

9. Kailasagiri

**Tripura**

1. Netaji Subhash, Mahavidyalaya

2. UFMSS

3. Brilliant Stars School

4. Udaipur Bigyan O Sanskriti Manch

5. Ferrando Rehabilitation Centre

**Uttar Pradesh**

1. SARC

2. Shakti Darshini

3. Fr Agnel, Balbhavan

4. Shivaji Mission Society

5. Maa Gayatri Educational Society

6. Sama Education society

7. Social Action and Research Centre

**Uttarakhand**

1. World Vision

**West Bengal**

1. St Vincent's, Asansol

2. St Patrick's, Asansol

3. St Mary's, Dum Dum

4. Nayi Disha, Asansol

5. Goethals Memorial, Kurseong

6. Bal Suraksha Abhiyaan

7. Prerana Educational Centre









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**For more information contact**

**Nine is Mine Office**

Edmund Rice Hall Basement, 1 - Ashok Place, Bhai Vir Singh Marg, New Delhi - 110001 India  
Tel. : 011-23743095-96, Mob.: 0999 0999 640, 099 11 705 999  
Email.: rally4nine@gmail.com