

Adjust Today for a Just Tomorrow

Executive Summary

We the young citizens below the age of 18, from across 31 states and union territories of India, representing 209 NGOs and varied contexts, causes, vulnerabilities and challenges have consistently engaged in processes leading to the release of this report we call,



“We wish to be **AD**vocal for ourselves and our Mother Earth.

I hope that (this book) positively impacts all 472 million of my peers in India, if not all 2.2 billion child-citizens globally.

UNICEF states that approximately 1 billion children are at an extremely high risk of the impacts of the climate crisis.

Like all interventions of **NINEISMINE** the focus of this report remains child-led advocacy.

We are attempting to influence

UNGA - New York - September 2022
OHCHR UPR India - November 2022
G20 Summit - Bali - November 2022
COP 27 - Egypt - November 2022
General Comment 26 - Geneva - February 2023
National Budget - New Delhi - March 2023
HLPF - New York - September 2023
Summit of the Future - September 2023
National Policy On Children Review

I request each of you to use this report as teaching tools, learning material and as an advocacy toolkit for a leaner today and for a greener tomorrow.” ”

Kartik Verma (16)
Uttar Pradesh



A **NINEISMINE** campaigner who will be representing India at the UN General Comment 26 process in Geneva.

These are our 'ASKs' to all Duty-bearers, World Leaders, Elected Representatives, Bureaucrats, Elders, Parents, all Concerned Adults (and even those who currently are indifferent or opposed to these ideas) to recognise us as key stakeholders ,if not, core representatives of

OUR Mother Earth,
OUR Dharti Maa (India),
OUR Tatei Yurianaka (Mexico),
OUR Pachhamama(Peru),
OUR Bunoo (Bhutan),
OUR Máttaráhkká (Lapland),
OUR Haumea (Hawai),
OUR Papatūānuku (New Zealand).

To summarise our ASKs, we use the acronym 'CLEVER BRIGS'*.

C - Corporate Responsibility (9)
 L - Laws and Standards (6)
 E - Environmental Education (1)
 V - Vulnerable Children First (5)
 E - Expression and Participation (3)
 R - Risk and Impact Assessment (8)

B- Budgets and Policies (10)
 R - Recovery and Complaints (4)
 I - Information (2)
 G - Good Governance (7)

*A brig is a two-masted warship with a facility of imprisoning captives in a cell on the boat itself. So our 'CLEVER BRIG' implies that if we do not use the current opportunities, science, information, technologies and resources wisely to sail the stormy seas of this ongoing climate emergency, we may find ourselves and future generations imprisoned in a brig of irreversible climate disasters!!

ECOLOGICAL RIGHTS OF US CHILDREN

MY RIGHTS	MY GREEN RECOMMENDATIONS
My Green Right to Holistic Green <u>E</u>ducation 1	- Embed scientific and adequate (including hands-on) information on climate change into the formal <u>school curriculum</u> to reconnect with Mother Earth and our earth community and to promote sustainability. - Provide the necessary practical experiences, <u>skills and training</u> to students to acquire climate adaptability, to address climate change and to advocate for climate action.
My Green Right to Adequate Green <u>I</u>nformation 2	- Ensure that adequate information and <u>child-specific data</u> on climate change and related government policies are available and accessible to children in their own language and according to their age, maturity and culture. - Strengthen each country's <u>right to information</u> laws while providing young citizens with the right to use the same and to be protected upon doing so.

My Green Right to Genuinely <u>E</u>xpression and Participation 3	• Create adequate child-friendly platforms to facilitate meaningful participation of <u>children</u> in <u>decision making</u> on environmental issues. • Ensure the safety and protection of <u>environmental defenders</u> (particularly child-citizens) from verbal threats and physical attacks
My Green Right to Recover and <u>C</u>omplain 4	• Ensure that all children have access to safe and easily <u>accessible complaint procedures</u>. • Provide immediate <u>relief, rehabilitation and compensation</u> to children, their families and communities during and after extreme natural disasters or resulting from climate change or developmental projects.
My Green Rights of Protection When <u>V</u>ulnerable 5	• Ensure the genuine <u>participation</u> of children from local, rural, adivasi, dalit, muslim and other <u>vulnerable communities</u> (including those with disability) in decision making over their traditional lands, livelihoods, customs, culture and way of life. • Publish specific <u>data and stories</u> of the impact of climate change and development projects on the most vulnerable children and their families.
My Green Right to the Best Green Laws and <u>S</u>tandards 6	• Enforce protective legislations, review of environmental laws which <u>honour people's rights</u>, child rights, community rights and earth rights itself. • Ensure that earth rights of Mother Earth and the environmental rights of children and all citizens are legally enshrined in <u>National Constitutions</u>.
My Green Right to expect Good Green <u>G</u>overnance 7	• Ensure that all rights enshrined in the <u>UNCRC</u> become compulsory guidelines for national and international environmentally sustainable policies. • Engage proactively in the ongoing <u>General Statement 26</u> process of the UNCRC towards recognising the environmental rights of children.
My Green Right to Green Child specific <u>R</u>isk and Impact Assessments. 8	• Conduct unbiased, scientific and <u>child specific risk assessment</u> before approving of any development project.. • Include children in genuine <u>public consultation processes</u> provided under environmental and land laws.
My Green Right to <u>C</u>orporate Earth Responsibility 9	• Strictly monitor businesses and companies and take firm action against those <u>violating environmental laws</u>, standards and processes. • Put a complete <u>ban</u> on diversion of forests, on harmful mining activities and on <u>commercial exploitation of natural resources</u>.
My Green Right reflected in Green <u>B</u>udgets and Green Policies 10	• Ensure allocation of <u>adequate budgets</u> for the protection of the environment and the environmental rights of children • Ensure that environmental rights of children are reflected in the <u>national policies on children</u>.

How are we faring ?

3500 child-citizens from across India had participated in a survey on these key areas.

MY RIGHTS	MYSELF	IN COVID TIMES	MY STATE PEERS	THE LAST CHILD
Education	78% 	78% 	56% 	80% 
Information	73% 	76% 	65% 	77% 
Child's Views	77% 	38% 	73% 	53% 
Complaints	37% 	100% 	56% 	82% 
The Last Child	57% 	100% 	60% 	100% 
Child-Impact	41% 	100% 	42% 	52% 
Law and Policy	63% 	76% 	56% 	84% 
Governance	61% 	81% 	64% 	73% 

-  Diamonds - can't get any better
-  Blooming - but not fully experienced
-  Broken Hearted- because it does not exist
-  Spade Work Not Done- so don't know, can't say

“As a child ... I seek child rights for all children.
 As a girl ... I seek gender rights for all women and sexual minorities .
 As a muslim-minority, living in an urban slum and a child of daily wagers...
 I seek rights for all vulnerable children.
 As a human... I seek rights for all human beings.
 As an animal lover... I seek animal rights of all animals, birds and bees.
 As an earthling... I seek earth rights for all earth beings.

In short.. I seek All Rights For All!

For only then our planet will truly be ALRIGHT FOR ALL.”



Ruksar Rehman (14)
 Delhi, India
 President of
 National Inclusive
 Children's Parliament

For the detailed report please visit:
<https://www.nineismine.in/resources/publications/>



WARNING

We have already begun our next process of articulating 'Earth Rights' of our Mother Nature.

Are you ready for this bold idea?

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