



Dear World Leaders, Child Rights Defenders, Environmentalists, Civil Society Organizations, Educationists, Influencers, Concerned Citizens of this Earth Community,

We seek your organizational and personal endorsements of our charter of demands, we call...

3500 of us young citizens 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 Charter of Demands, which was adopted and released by the National Inclusive Children's Parliament on the 2nd of October 2022 (the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi).

Armed with this Charter, we seek to influence the:

- UPR India – Geneva – Switzerland – November, 2022
- COP 27 – Sharm El Sheikh – Egypt – November, 2022
- G20 Summit – Bali – Indonesia – November, 2022
- COP 15.2 - Montreal – Canada – December, 2022
- National Budget – New Delhi – India – February, 2023
- General Comment 26 – Geneva – Switzerland – June, 2023
- Summit of the Future – New York – USA – September, 2023
- National Policy on Children Review – New Delhi - India – Ongoing

We summarize these ASKs with the acronym 'CLEVER BRIG'

C - Corporate Responsibility
L - Laws and Standards
E - Environmental Education
V - Vulnerable Children First
E - Expression and Participation
R - Risk and Impact Assessment

B- Budgets and Policies
R - Recovery and Complaints
I - Information
G - Good Governance

ADVOCAL
ADOLESCENT VOICES
SEEKING ECOLOGICAL RIGHTS FOR ALL CHILDREN



Towards the realization of Ecological Rights of All Children, we the generation NOW recommend that governments must protect and promote...

MY GREEN RIGHTS

To Green Corporate Earth Responsibility

- Monitor and penalize individuals, governments, businesses and companies **violating environmental laws**, standards and processes while affirming those that comply with the same, with incentives and recognitions.
- Put stringent restrictions based on genuine principles of sustainable development, on the diversion of forests, on mining activities and on **commercial exploitation of natural resources**.

The Best Green Standards and Laws

- Enforce protective national and local legislations and strengthen environmental laws to **honour people's rights**, child rights, community rights, animal rights and earth rights itself.
- Ensure that **earth rights** of 'Darthi Maa' (Mother Earth) herself and the ecological rights of young citizens and all other citizens are enshrined in national constitutions.

To a Holistic Green Education

- Embed scientific and adequate (including traditional and hands-on) information on bio-diversity, climate change and an earth spirituality into the formal **school curriculum**.
- Provide practical experiences and the necessary **skills and training** to students for climate adaptability, for disaster risk preparedness, towards green jobs in the future and to advocate for climate action.

To Protection When Vulnerable

- Ensure the genuine participation of young citizens with disabilities and those from local, Adivasi (indigenous), Dalit (excluded castes), Muslim and other vulnerable communities, in **decision making** over their traditional lands, livelihoods, wisdom, customs, culture and way of life.
- Ensure green affirmative action and follow the **common and differentiated** principle within countries too, to address internal national inequality and to reduce the burden on the vulnerable by addressing climate change.

To Genuine Expression and Participation

- Provide adequate, creative and child-friendly platforms (like federated neighbourhood children's parliaments) for meaningful participation of young-citizens in **decision making** around environmental issues in all governance structures from local to national, regional and global levels.
- Ensure the safety and protection of **environmental defenders** (particularly young-citizens) from psychological and verbal abuses and physical attacks and mental well-being of all young citizens in relation to climate anxiety.

To Redressal and Recovery

- Ensure that all young citizens have safe and easy access to **complaint and accountability procedures** and green tribunals for young citizens.
- Provide immediate relief, remedy, **rehabilitation and compensation** to young citizens, their families and communities impacted by extreme natural disasters, climate change or developmental projects.

To be reflected in Green Budgets and Green Policies

- Allocate adequate grants (not loans) to developing countries and **adequate public investments** in the protection and promotion of the ecological rights of young citizens and the earth itself, while withdrawing funding from unsustainable or high risk solutions.
- Ensure the environmental rights of young citizens are reflected in each country's **national policy on young citizens**.

My Green Right to Green Risk Assessments for child safeguarding

- Conduct unbiased, scientific, rights-based and **child specific risk assessments** before approving any development project.
- Include young citizens in genuine **public consultation processes** provided under environmental and land laws.

To Adequate Green Information

- Ensure that adequate information and **child-specific data** on climate change and related documents are made available and accessible to young citizens in their own language and according to their age, maturity and culture, with young citizens themselves effectively serving as data providers.
- Strengthen each country's **right to information** laws, while providing young citizens with provisions to rights to use the same and to being protected while doing so.

To Good Green Governance

- Ensure that the articles of the **UN CRC** (and all its optional protocols) and the principles of intergenerational equity and the best interest of young citizens and Mother Earth become non-negotiable foundations for local, national and international policies.
- Engage proactively and boldly in the ongoing General Statement 26 process of the UN CRC towards recognizing the ecological rights of young citizens while evolving the same into an **'Optional Protocol 4'** of the UN CRC.

On behalf of the child-ministers and members of the National Inclusive Children's Parliament (NICP).

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* Kartik Verma will represent India and the **NINEISMINE** campaign at the UN General Comment 26 process.

By 'young citizens' we mean -those young people of our common home, who are below 18 years and who are defined as a 'child' under the UN CRC.

On the 4th and 5th of November, 2022, over 900 students from across India engaged virtually with over 30 COP 27 delegates, side-organizers and participants from across the world, to refine their Charter of Demands.

A brig is a two-masted warship with a facility to imprison 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, budgets and other 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!!

