

No country for 'childescents', says CRY report

By: BinduShajanPerappadan

"Those in 15-18-year age group lose out on Right to Education, are no longer protected by labour laws" "Childescents, or children in the age group of 15-18 years, are the most disadvantaged group," noted a report by Child Rights and You (CRY) on Wednesday — World Population Day.

The report, titled 'Childescents of India: We Are Children Too', is a comprehensive narrative on 15-18-year-olds — "their rights and the lack of them, vulnerabilities of the age group that often go unnoticed and the many discrepancies that seep in while we discuss about this particular set of children".

CRY CEO Puja Marwaha said, "This report establishes the vulnerabilities of childescents, children lost in the transitory space from childhood to adulthood, through in-depth data and policy analysis, making use of available primary and secondary data and published literature; and identifying gaps, and thereby seeks to influence policy and decision makers to close the gaps."

Losing out Ms. Marwaha said childescents lose out on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act that ensures education for all within the age group of 6-14 years as soon as they cross 14; they are no longer under



the protection of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act (CLPRA) as the Act allows children in the age group of 15-18 years to join the workforce barring a limited list of occupations and processes that are considered hazardous.

On the cusp of adulthood "Being on the cusp of adulthood, their health — especially sexual and mental health — is a matter of

concern as well. And unarguably, protection becomes a much bigger worry in the case of these children in the context of rampant child marriages, often forcefully executed. Children of this age group are often also trafficked for either labour or flesh trade," she said.

The report highlighted that there are nearly 100 million childescents in India currently and one billion children will

pass through this life stage over the next decade.

But this huge population remains largely invisible as children and thus under- served.

The report stated that there is need for special focus on children from socio-economically weaker backgrounds; creating systems to identify and track children at risk of dropping out of school, remedial support and appropriate provisioning to keep them meaningfully engaged in education.

It noted that more than 40% of children aged 15-19 years are undernourished, and a whopping 54% girls and 29% boys in the same age-group are anaemic, as the latest NFHS-4 2016 data suggests. Comprehensive plan

"A comprehensive nutrition supplementation programme, along with better provisioning, implementation and sensitisation towards physical, sexual and mental health challenges facing this age group should be the prime focus," pointed the report.

"It is of utmost importance to recognise that childescence as a life phase comes with unique vulnerabilities, challenges and opportunities at the levels of self, society and systems. We should unanimously commit to altering our social perception and treatment of these children in order to make their childhoods happy, healthy and creative," Ms. Marwaha.

Multi-stakeholder project on spring shed development launched in Nagaland

Agency
New Delhi, July 12,

A Multi-stakeholder Project on Spring Shed Development for Water Security in 100 villages has been launched in Nagaland. The state depends on spring water to supply most of its drinking water for agricultural use. However, due to human activities springs have been drying up making water availability nil, especially during the winter months becomes a major concern.

A consortium comprising of the Government of Nagaland — Department of Rural Development and Department of Land Resources; Tata Trusts, Arghyam, Advanced Centre for Water Resources Development and Management (ACWADAM), People's Science Institute (PSI), and the North East Initiative Development Agency (NEIDA) & Eleutherios Christian Society (ECS) has agreed to work together under a three years

project to provide water security by adopting scientific approach of spring shed management in 100 villages in rural Nagaland.

The consortium partners has agreed to converge its resources with the objective of providing an innovative model of Public Private Partnership where resources from Government's existing programmes will be leveraged with non-governmental organizations like the Tata Trusts and Arghyam providing support for software cost and NGOs like NEIDA and ECS extending support for coordination, community outreach and implementation. PSI and ACWADAM will be the technical support agencies for the project.

The overall goal of this project is to provide seasonal water security and conservation of springs with a technically sound spring revival initiative, build capacities at multiple levels of state institutions — village, district and state to undertake spring shed

management and scale up the intervention across the state. Through spring shed management, the project also aims to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change affecting drinking water security in the state.

An Agreement of Association was signed between the partners in October 2017. The project was officially launched on July 11, 2018 during a programme organized by NEIDA at SIRD conference hall in Kohima. Nepeso Theluo, Secretary & Imlieren Jamir, Director, Rural Department; Hoto Yephtho, Director, Land Resource Department and Officers from both the departments attended the programme; Debashish Sen, Director PSI, Sentimongla Kechuchar, NEIDA and Hongkin, ECS along with team members were present at the launching programme. Taking forward this partnership, the consortium partners have agreed to begin the work in 100 numbers of villages in the state over the next three years.

Barak to separate from Brahmaputra Valley: Pradeep Dutta Rai

Agency
New Delhi, July 12,

When the state is witnessing some serious threats of loot, murder, rape and mob lynching. Another threat is rising up as Pradeep Dutta Rai announces that "Separate Barak" to be formed on Wednesday.

In a press meet held at Sihar Circuit House, Pradeep Dutta Rai announced that they will separate Brahmaputra Valley as many of the newspapers and news channels of Brahmaputra Valley special

Guwahati has been constantly insulting the very existence of Barak Valley and its people. He also mentioned that the valley is being overlooked and there is no proper development as it should have few other parts of the state.

There has been a disconnection between the people of Brahmaputra Valley and Barak Valley as Assamese and Bengali which will not be removed. Even the intellectuals of Brahmaputra Valley have undertaken Anti-Barak principles from the past, he said. He also mentioned

that after the NRC procedures are completed, the Hindu and the Muslims along with other organisations will undergo a huge protest which is to be supported by few other districts of the State demanding "Separate Barak".

Further on Tapadhi Bhattacharjee's statement on intellectual of Assam, he added that if FIR can be launched against him than why there is no action taken against Jiten Dutta in spite of being repeatedly informed to the police.

Three PREPAK (PRO) Cadres Apprehended

Agency
Imphal, July 12,

In a cordoned and search operation, Imphal west apprehended one active member of PREPAK (PRO) organisation from Lamlai Bazaar. The member is identified as Sinam Subaschandra alias Joychandra Meitei (21yrs) son of S. Joychandra Meitei of Ingourok Awang Leikai. He has been working under the command of Mr. Rakesh of Thoubal Wangmataba presently staying at Myanmar since December 2017. On instruction of Mr. Rakesh he collected extortion money for their party fund and he came to collect extortion money from an unknown person staying at Lamlai Bazaar on Wednesday.

One Samsung mobile handset and one wallet containing Rs.9240/- and some I'D card's has been recovered from his possession. Further he has been handed over to Lamlai

PS. Meanwhile, a team of cordoned and search operation Moreh led by OC Y Shakti Shen Singh, under the command of DSP/CDO Moreh Thomas Thokhom arrested two active workers of banned organization PREPAK-PRO from DI parking at Moreh Bazar, Moreh. The arrested were identified as Leihaothabam Loken Sharma (41) son of (L) Leihaothabam Bhorat Sharma and Leisangthem Sanjit (38) son of Leisangthem Kishore. The active members were sent by Heikrujam Roma (34) to meet Jit alias Jiten, s/s commander of banned organization PREPAK-PRO at Tamu in Myanmar. Jit alias Jiten is currently looking after the finance section of the organization and he was supposed to instruct them about some subversive activities in Imphal valley. Further interrogation is going on and also a case has been registered against them at Moreh Police station.

Sunil Deodhar Greet Dipa at Delhi

Agency
New Delhi, July 12,

As a part of Sampark Se Samarthan programme of Bharatiya Janata Party, its National Executive Member & Tripura State In-Charge, Sunil Deodhar met Indian gymnast Dipa Karmakar at Indira Gandhi Stadium, Delhi. He briefed her on the achievements of four years of Modi Sarkar. Dipa also appreciated the initiatives taken by the Union Sports Minister Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore Ji who himself has a glorious career as a sports person.

The athlete of international acclaim has recently returned to India after winning Gold Medal at FIG Gymnastics World Challenge Cup in Turkey with remarkable comeback after a gap of 2 years due to an injury. She thanked the people of Tripura for supporting her during the period of her injury during her meeting with Deodhar. Deodhar congratulated her for the recent victory and wished her for the upcoming Asian Games to bring more laurels for the country. He also assured Dipa, Tripura's development under the new BJP regime in the state.

PM Modi says financially empowered women are bulwark against societal evils

Agency
New Delhi, July 12,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that self-help groups are playing a very important role in the rural areas of the country especially for small entrepreneurs and for labourers. Interacting with the members of Self Help Groups, (SHGs) comprising more than 10 million women across the country, through video conferencing this morning, Prime Minister said, Self Help Groups form the basis of economic growth for the poor especially the women.

He said, the groups are making women socially and economically strong. He said, for women empowerment, the most important requirement is to provide them the opportunity to recognize their own powers, abilities and skills.

The Prime Minister said, women are working in large numbers in every sector and the country's agricultural sector and dairy sector can not be imagined without the contribution of women. He said, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojna under the National Rural Livelihood Mission, there is a target of reaching millions of rural poor families.

Pawan Chamling gets listed in the World Book Of Records

Agency
Itanagar, July 12,

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling has been included in the World Book of Records for being the longest serving Chief Minister of any Indian State by World Book of Records, London. The Chief Minister was bestowed with the Certificate of Record by the officials of World Book of Records at the official residence of the Chief Minister at Mintokgang on Wednesday. The officials of the World Book of Records were

accompanied by educationists from Sikkim and few from North Eastern States.

Chief Minister Pawan Chamling expressed his gratitude to the officials from the World Book of Records for the recognition and for their gesture. He shared that he is always driven by an innate passion to serve the people of Sikkim. The visiting delegates lauded the unique feat achieved by the Chief Minister and expressed great joy in meeting him personally and presenting the honour.

Chairman, World Book of Records, London, Dr. Diwaker Sukul complimented the Chief Minister for his record tenure as the Chief Minister of an Indian State and for the relentless service to the people of Sikkim and the country. He stated that the Chief Minister is one of the most popular leaders in the country who has had the continued love and support of the people. He also conveyed the congratulations and good wishes sent by Shri Virendra Sharma, Member of British Parliament.

Three IPFT leaders booked for journalist killing: CBI

A new turn in the murder case of journalist Shantanu Bhowmik

Agency
Itanagar, July 12,

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has lodged an FIR against three leaders and several supporters of the Indigenous People's Front of Tripura (IPFT) in connection with the murder case of Journalist Shantanu

Bhowmik. Bhowmik was hacked to death in September last year while covering clashes between the IPFT and the Tripura Upajati Gan Mukti Parishad (TUGMP), the tribal wing of the communist party of India (Marxist) CPI-M. However it is alleged that the

IPFT supporters were behind the incident.

According to the sources, Shantanu Bhowmik worked for a local television channel, and was killed when he went to cover a road blockade in Mandwai area of West Tripura district on September 21 last year.

Certificate Lost

I, the undersigned, Dr. Maimom Hemonath Meitei, have lost my certificate for **Screening test for Indian Nationals with foreign medical qualification** bearing testing ID No. CD1083393 issued by **National Board of examination** on 23/12/2014 on the way between Lamphel to Porompat on 10/7/2018.

Finders are requested to hand over the same to the undersigned.

Sd/-

Dr. Maimom Hemonath Meitei
S/o Maimom Nungshithoi Singh
Porompat Thawantaba Leikai
Ph. No. 7628967256