



Avani Migrant Development Program

Yearly Report 2023-2024

*With the generous support of the
Maharashtra Seva Samiti Organization, Canada*

Supporting Migrant Families through Education, AVANI's Impact in Maharashtra

In Maharashtra, migrant families from regions such as Marathwada, Vidarbha, and neighboring districts of Karnataka face significant challenges stemming from drought and arid landscapes. AVANI, based in Kolhapur, has taken proactive steps to address these challenges by extending support to migrant families, particularly focusing on the education of their children.

Our efforts center around providing comprehensive support to migrant children, aged 3 to 14, through various initiatives aimed at enhancing their access to education and opportunities for socio-economic upliftment.

Avani Migrant Development Program

Some of the key highlights of AVANI's endeavors in the 2023-2024 period, include:

Daycare Centers for Early Childhood Education AVANI operates daycare centers catering to children aged 3 to 6, offering a nurturing environment where they receive early childhood education and care. These centers play a vital role in laying the foundation for lifelong learning and development.

Enrollment in Nearby Schools under RTE Act For children aged 6 to 14, AVANI ensures their enrollment in nearby schools under the Right to Education (RTE) Act of 2010. By facilitating access to formal education, we aim to mitigate dropout rates and provide these children with opportunities for academic and personal growth.

Impact and Outcomes AVANI's initiatives have yielded tangible benefits, enhancing the lives of migrant children and families in Maharashtra. By providing access to quality education and opportunities for socio-economic advancement, we

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contribute to fostering a more inclusive society and empowering marginalized communities.

AVANI remains committed to its mission of supporting migrant families and promoting educational equity. Through our concerted efforts, we strive to create a brighter future for the next generation, one where every child has the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential.

Survey of Migrant Laborers

Addressing Child Labor and Dropout Rates in Seasonal Migration. AVANI's Strategic Response

Current Situation Seasonal migration for employment, particularly in sugarcane cutting and brickyard work, is a prevalent practice among families residing in Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara districts of Maharashtra. Sadly, many children aged 6 to 14 from these migrant families forego

education to engage in labor-intensive work, contributing to alarming dropout rates and the prevalence of child labor.

Actions Taken Recognizing the urgent need to address these pressing issues, AVANI undertakes a proactive approach during the operational seasons of brickyards and sugar factories, typically



spanning from October to November. During this period, seasonal migrant workers, accompanied by their families, flock to Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara districts in pursuit of employment opportunities.

AVANI initiates a comprehensive survey targeting all migrant families to gather essential data regarding their demographics and the educational status of their children. Through meticulous data collection, AVANI categorizes children into two distinct age groups: those aged 4 to 6 and those aged 7 to 14 years. This categorization facilitates targeted interventions tailored to the specific needs of each age group, with a primary focus on providing essential support and educational opportunities.

By strategically addressing the educational needs of migrant children within these age brackets, AVANI endeavors to mitigate the prevalence of child labor and combat dropout rates effectively. Through our proactive measures and targeted interventions, we aim to foster a more conducive environment for education and development among migrant communities in Maharashtra.

Data Submission to the Government Education Department

Addressing the Educational Needs of Migrant Children. Avani's Proactive Approach

Current Situation Each year, a significant migration of laborers from various regions of Maharashtra and neighboring states occurs during October, primarily to sugarcane fields, while brickyard workers undertake migration towards the end of December. Despite the Government Education Department's mandated responsibility to conduct thorough surveys on these laborers' occupations, with a focus on identifying school dropout children and facilitating their access to education, there is a recurring failure in executing comprehensive surveys. This neglects the plight of migrant children, leaving them without essential educational resources.

Actions Taken Recognizing the critical need to address this issue, Avani Organization undertakes district-wide surveys to identify migrant laborers and

out-of-school children. Collaborating closely with the Education Department, Avani facilitates the enrollment of children aged 6 to 14 in nearby schools, ensuring access to Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) for those aged 3 to 6. Avani also advocates for mid-day meal schemes for daycare centers, actively engaging with government agencies for their implementation.

Achievements and Impact In Kolhapur, Satara, and Sangli districts, Avani Organization's diligent efforts have yielded promising outcomes. Currently, a substantial number of children are attending Avani's daycare centers, providing them with a conducive learning environment. Additionally, children from this demographic benefit from ICDS schemes, particularly the mid-day meal program, ensuring their nutritional needs are met. Notably, Avani has secured a donor to support the provision of mid-day meals for children attending daycare centers in Kolhapur, further enhancing their overall well-being. Moreover, a considerable number of children aged 6 to 14 are now actively enrolled in nearby schools, signifying a positive step towards addressing the educational needs of migrant children in the region.

Total Families Served	3,996
0-3 Year Old Children	897
4-6 Year Old Children	1,006
7-14 Year Old Children	1,711
15-18 Year Old Children	899
Total Children	4,513

Kolhapur District Brickyard Labor Camps

Total Brickyard Labor Camps	17
Total Families	653
0-3 Year Old Children	273
4-6 Year Old Children	137
7-14 Year Old Children	294
15-18 Year Old Children	167
Total	871

Kolhapur District Sugarcane Farms

Total Brickyard Sugarcane Farms	11
Total Families	1,958
0-3 Year Old Children	335
4-6 Year Old Children	353
7-14 Year Old Children	653
15-18 Year Old Children	498
Total	1,839

Sangli District Brickyard Labor Camps	
Total Brickyard Labor Camps	6
Total Families	426
0-3 Year Old Children	119
4-6 Year Old Children	164
7-14 Year Old Children	187
15-18 Year Old Children	97
Total	567

Sangli District Sugarcane Farms	
Total Brickyard Sugarcane Farms	1
Total Families	177
0-3 Year Old Children	39
4-6 Year Old Children	68
7-14 Year Old Children	95
15-18 Year Old Children	59
Total	261

Satara District Brickyard Labor Camps	
Total Brickyard Labor Camps	6
Total Families	367
0-3 Year Old Children	57
4-6 Year Old Children	147
7-14 Year Old Children	268
15-18 Year Old Children	31
Total	503

Satara District Sugarcane Farms	
Total Brickyard Sugarcane Farms	3
Total Families	415
0-3 Year Old Children	74
4-6 Year Old Children	137
7-14 Year Old Children	214
15-18 Year Old Children	47
Total	472

Training Session for Teachers

Enhancing Community Engagement in Education. Refining Teacher Approach

Current Situation A challenge persists among migrant laborer communities, where parents, largely uneducated themselves, lack awareness of the importance of educating their children. Reluctance to send children to school poses a significant obstacle, with teachers encountering resistance in their attempts to persuade parents. This reluctance hampers efforts aimed at ensuring children's access to education and hinders progress in addressing educational disparities.



Actions Taken To tackle this challenge head-on, a meeting was convened to redefine the approach of teachers toward their work and enhance their engagement with the community. During the meeting, teachers shared their experiences and identified the obstacles they faced in their roles. Through open discussions and the pooling of collective expertise, strategies were collaboratively developed to effectively address these challenges.

Achievements and Impact The meeting proved pivotal in providing valuable guidance and solutions to the difficulties encountered by teachers in their interactions with migrant laborer communities. Armed with insights gained from the discussions, teachers were empowered to foster an engaging and high-quality learning environment conducive to holistic child development.

Additionally, they refined their teaching methodologies to better resonate with the unique needs of migrant children.

As a result of this collaborative effort, teachers emerged better equipped to inspire and educate children from migrant laborer communities, thereby contributing to improved educational outcomes in the region. The training session was attended by teachers from daycare centers across Kolhapur, Satara, and Sangli districts, underscoring its broad-reaching impact on educational practices within the community.

Community Level Meetings with Parents, Brickyard Owners, and Labour Contractors

Enhancing Community Engagement in Education. Overcoming Challenges through Stakeholder Collaboration

Current Situation A notable challenge arose wherein parents displayed hesitancy in enrolling their children in



Zilha Parishad schools, and both parents and brickyard owners exhibited limited engagement with Avani Sanstha's initiatives. Furthermore, employers imposed restrictions on parents' involvement in Avani programs during working hours, hindering crucial activities such as advocating for child and laborers' rights.

Actions Taken To effectively address these challenges, bi-monthly meetings were convened with owners and workers of Day Care Centers and Sugarcane Schools across 22 centers in Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara (Karad) divisions. These meetings provided platforms for disseminating information about Avani's ongoing work and forthcoming initiatives, fostering collaboration and cooperation among stakeholders. By facilitating

dialogue in this manner, owners and parents gained a comprehensive understanding of the implemented activities.

Achievements and Impact The proactive conduct of these meetings yielded a discernible shift in parental behavior, resulting in increased school attendance among children. Additionally, children demonstrated improved habits of cleanliness and discipline, reflecting the positive impact of community engagement facilitated by Avani Sanstha's initiatives.

Through collaborative efforts and stakeholder involvement, Avani Sanstha continues to make significant strides in overcoming barriers to education and fostering a conducive learning environment for children in the region.

Setting Up Daycare Centers

Expanding Access to Early Childhood Education. Avani's Daycare Initiative

Current Situation In Kolhapur, Sangli,

and Satara districts, families of bricklayers and sugarcane workers often lead migratory lives, presenting a challenge for children aged 4 to 6 due to the absence of nearby preschools or daycare centers. Without structured learning or supervision while their parents worked, these children faced a disadvantage in preparing for primary school.



Recognizing this critical gap, Avani took proactive steps to establish 22 daycare centers, aimed at providing essential care and early education for these vulnerable children. These centers serve to bridge the educational divide by offering a safe environment and structured activities, preparing children for formal schooling and ensuring equitable access to quality early education and care.

Actions Taken The 22 daycare centers, strategically located across Kolhapur,



Sangli, and Satara, are actively operational, catering to the educational needs of 762 children. These centers offer a comprehensive curriculum encompassing language development, local studies, physical fitness, sensory perception, health education, diverse social interactions, sports, and recreational programs. These activities are meticulously designed to foster holistic development in the children under their care.



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Achievements and Impact Through Avani's daycare initiative, 1006 boys and girls aged 4 to 6 receive pre-primary education across 22 daycare centers in Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara districts.

Structured activities implemented in these centers have facilitated the development of vital skills, laying a robust foundation for children's pre-primary education.

Parents have gained increased awareness of the importance of early education, health, and nutrition for their children's overall well-being, further strengthening community support for early childhood education initiatives.

Avani's daycare centers serve as safe havens where children receive supervised care and nurturing, ensuring their holistic development and well-being.

Overall, these daycare centers have successfully addressed educational gaps and promoted the overall well-being of children in the community, marking a significant step toward fostering early childhood development and educational equity.

Regularization of 6 to 14 Age Group Children in Schools

Empowering Education. Avani's Advocacy Efforts

Current Situation A significant number of children aged 6 to 14 residing in brickyard and sugarcane cutting labor camps were found to be out of school, highlighting a pressing issue of educational neglect. Parents, unaware of the importance of education, were reluctant to enroll their children in school, exacerbating the problem.



Actions Taken Avani swiftly responded to this educational crisis by initiating follow-ups and maintaining continuous communication with the education department. Advocacy efforts were intensified, with a focus on emphasizing the Right to Education Act to ensure the enrollment of these children in nearby Zilla Parishad primary schools.

Achievements and Impact Avani's relentless advocacy efforts bore fruit, resulting in the enrollment of 1711 children across the districts of Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara in Zilla Parishad primary schools, in accordance with the provisions of the Right to Education Act.

Daily Timetable of Daycare Centers

Hygiene Through instilling habits of cleanliness and personal grooming, children learn the importance of self-care and hygiene, laying the foundation for a healthy and confident start to their academic journey.

Practice Engagement in patriotic rituals and moral storytelling nurtures values of citizenship and ethical decision-making, fostering a sense of belonging and



responsibility among children.

Language Development Mastery of language skills equips children with essential tools for communication and literacy, ensuring a smooth transition to primary school.

Numeracy Development of numerical proficiency provides children with a solid academic grounding and confidence in handling mathematical concepts.

Study of Surroundings Exploration of their surroundings nurtures curiosity and awareness, fostering a passion for learning and inquiry.

Art Creative expression cultivates imagination, problem-solving skills, and self-expression, enhancing children's confidence and passion for learning.

Sport Engagement in physical activities

promotes physical health, coordination, and teamwork, fostering a positive attitude toward an active lifestyle.

Storytelling Participation in storytelling activities improves listening and comprehension skills, laying the groundwork for advanced literacy and critical thinking.

Achievements and Impact The comprehensive daily activities at Avani's Daycare Centers create a nurturing environment conducive to holistic development, preparing children for the academic rigors of primary school. Through a blend of academic, creative, and physical pursuits, children emerge as well-rounded individuals equipped with the skills, knowledge, and values necessary for success in their academic journey and beyond.

Advocacy for Government Regulation. Establishing Hostels for Children of Seasonal Migrant Sugarcane Laborers

Advocacy for the Establishment of Sant Bhagwan Baba Government Hostel for Migrant Children

Background In regions characterized by seasonal migration for sugarcane harvesting, the children of migrant laborers face significant educational challenges. Absence of suitable accommodation leads to disrupted schooling and hampers their academic progress. Recognizing this pressing need, Avani has undertaken advocacy efforts to collaborate with stakeholders and lobby for government regulations mandating the establishment of hostels for these children.

Current Situation Despite the government of Maharashtra's initiative to formulate a special welfare board for migrant children and their families, awareness among parents regarding its

provisions remains low. The provision for establishing hostels for migrant children to ensure continuity in their education has not been effectively implemented. Avani Sanstha identified this gap and undertook advocacy efforts to address the issue, particularly in the Beed district.

Actions Taken Avani Sanstha took proactive steps to advocate for the establishment of the Sant Bhagwan Baba Government Hostel in the village to accommodate children of sugarcane workers. A delegation from Avani Sanstha visited Beed to present a comprehensive statement to key stakeholders, including the District Collector, Chief Executive Officer, Social Welfare Officer, and Education Officer. The statement highlighted the urgent need for the hostel and proposed specific actions:

- Advocating for the establishment of the Sant Bhagwan Baba Government Hostel to prevent the migration of school-going children from sugarcane worker families.
- Proposing the issuance of education guarantee cards to children migrating with their parents for sugarcane harvesting, ensuring uninterrupted access to education.

- Encouraging parents to utilize hostel facilities to safeguard the education and well-being of their children.

Achievements and Impact As a result of Avani Sanstha's advocacy efforts, significant progress has been made in addressing the educational needs of migrant children in the Beed district. The social welfare and educational departments at Patoda Taluka have established a hostel capable of accommodating 30 boys, providing them with a stable living environment conducive to continued education. Furthermore, the district collector of Beed has shown commitment to implementing the recommendations of the Gopinath Munde board, signifying a positive step towards fulfilling the educational rights of migrant children.

Review and Action Plan Meeting with Kolhapur District Magistrate

Background In our ongoing efforts to address key socio-economic challenges in the Kolhapur district, particularly those affecting vulnerable communities, a review and action plan meeting was convened with the District Magistrate. This meeting aimed to assess the progress of existing initiatives, identify areas requiring further attention, and develop a strategic action plan to address pressing issues effectively.

Current Situation Avani Organization conducted a comprehensive data collection effort focused on children accompanying their parents to brickyards and sugarcane fields. The data revealed alarming numbers of children, particularly in the age groups of 3 to 6 and 7 to 14, who were out of school. Specifically, 137 children aged 3 to 6 and 271 children aged 7 to 14 were identified as out of school in brickyards, while 353 children aged 3 to 6 and 484 children aged 7 to 14 were out of school in sugarcane fields. Despite submitting this critical data to the District Magistrate and education

department, no action was taken to address the situation.

Actions Taken In response to the lack of action from government authorities, Avani Organization collaborated with similar organizations operating in the Kolhapur District to amplify their advocacy efforts. Together, they drafted a demand letter highlighting the urgent need for government intervention to enroll children aged 6 to 14 in schools and establish seasonal daycare centers in brickyards and sugarcane cutting fields for children aged 3 to 6. The joint effort aimed to bring greater visibility to the issue and compel authorities to take immediate action.

Achievements and Impact The concerted advocacy efforts yielded significant results, prompting an immediate response from the District Magistrate of Kolhapur. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, the District Magistrate called for an urgent meeting involving all relevant departments and Avani Organization. Subsequently, the education department was directed to conduct a survey and gather data to assess the extent of the problem.

In the subsequent meeting, after

analyzing the collected data, the District Magistrate issued clear instructions to enroll school children aged 6 to 14 and establish daycare centers for children aged 3 to 6 in brickyards and sugarcane cutting fields. This decisive action marked a crucial step forward in addressing the educational needs of vulnerable children in migrant communities, ensuring access to education and childcare services essential for their holistic development and future prospects.

Vigorous Follow-up with the Education Department

Engagement with Education Authorities. Promoting Educational Rights for Migrant Children

Background In response to the pressing need for action regarding the educational welfare of migrant children, Avani Organization has undertaken a robust follow-up initiative with the education department. Recognizing the importance of consistent engagement and advocacy, Avani has strategically pursued dialogue and collaboration with the education department to address the critical issue of



out-of-school children in migrant communities.

Current Situation Amidst concerns over the educational rights of migrant children in Kolhapur, Avani organized a pivotal meeting with the Hon'ble Education Officer to address this pressing issue. Despite the conclusion of the factory season, a significant number of migrant children remained excluded from the educational system, highlighting a critical gap in upholding their fundamental right to education.

Actions Taken Representatives from Avani, in collaboration with key stakeholders including the Education Officer at Zilla Parishad Kolhapur, Block Education Officer, and Extension Officer, convened to discuss strategies to safeguard the educational rights of

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migrant children. Recognizing discrepancies in the data provided by the educational department compared to Avani's comprehensive data collection efforts, Avani advocated for urgent interventions to rectify this disparity and ensure accurate representation of the educational needs of migrant children.

Achievements and Impact The meeting culminated in constructive deliberations between Avani representatives and Principals from five villages, focused on devising concrete measures to address the educational needs of migrant children. Plans were formulated to establish educational facilities tailored to the unique requirements of these children, with a commitment from the education department to issue education guarantee cards for migrant children. This proactive engagement signifies a significant step forward in promoting the educational rights of migrant children and underscores Avani's dedication to fostering inclusive and equitable access to education for all.

Outcomes of our Persistent Advocacy Efforts

1) **Enrollment Initiative** The Primary

Education Officer of Kolhapur district has been mandated to ensure the enrollment of children aged seven to fourteen in the nearest school, thereby guaranteeing universal access to education for all eligible children.

2) **Provision of Educational Resources** Children attending school will receive complimentary uniforms, textbooks, and midday meals, facilitating equitable educational opportunities. Currently, [insert number] students are benefiting from these provisions.

3) **Transportation Support** To address barriers to access, plans have been devised to provide transportation for migrant children who are unable to attend school presently.

4) **Labor Regulation Enforcement** The Assistant Labor Commissioner has been instructed to conduct raids at sugar factories and brick kiln centers to rescue and rehabilitate children engaged in labor, thereby ensuring their access to education and safeguarding their rights.

5) **Strengthening Child Welfare Mechanisms** The District Women Child Development Officer has been directed to empower School Management

Committees, Child Protection Committees, and Child Guards, strengthening child welfare mechanisms and ensuring migrant children's consistent attendance at schools.

6) **Improvement of Laborer Facilities**

The Office of the Sugar Commissioner has urged sugar factory owners to enhance laborer facilities, including housing, electricity, water, toilets, and healthcare, prioritizing the well-being of workers.

7) **Integrated Child Development**

Services (ICDS) Program Integrated Child Development Officers and District Women Officers have been advised to provide childcare for seasonal migrant children and offer educational scholarships for mothers, pregnant women, and children aged 3 to 6 years under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) program, promoting holistic development and support for vulnerable populations.

8) **Issuance of ID Cards** Every migrant sugar cane worker will be issued ID cards by the social welfare department to facilitate access to government services and entitlements.

Collaborative Efforts and Alliances with Partner Organizations

State-Level Meeting on Migrant Sugarcane Workers' Children and Child Labor

Background In our pursuit of impactful initiatives, we have established fruitful collaborations with various partner organizations, leveraging collective expertise and resources to achieve our shared goals. Through strategic alliances, we have expanded our reach, enhanced program effectiveness, and fostered synergistic relationships within the community.

Current Situation A significant state-level meeting convened in Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar (Aurangabad) to address the challenges faced by migrant



sugarcane workers' children and combat child labor. Spearheaded by the Campaign Against Child Labor (CACL), this initiative drew participation from 31 social organizations across Marathwada, including representatives from various governmental bodies and stakeholders. Avani organization, represented by Satappa Mohite, Amar Kamble, and Ravi Kurade, actively contributed to the discussions.

Key Objectives The primary objective of the meeting was to identify and discuss effective strategies for addressing the educational needs of migrant children and combating child labor in the region.

Actions Taken During the meeting, officials from governmental bodies provided valuable insights into existing initiatives aimed at tackling the challenges faced by migrant children and combating child labor. Key topics discussed included:

- The provision of education guarantee cards for migrant children.
- Available educational scholarships and financial support for migrant women's self-help groups.

- The establishment of residential hostels for migrant school children.
- Various health department schemes aimed at addressing the health needs of migrant families.

Collaborative Efforts This collaborative effort facilitated a comprehensive exchange of ideas and information among stakeholders, fostering a deeper understanding of the issues at hand. By bringing together representatives from diverse organizations and governmental bodies, the meeting provided a platform for stakeholders to share best practices, explore synergies, and develop effective strategies to mitigate the challenges faced by migrant children and combat child labor.

Achievements and Impact The state-level meeting held at Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar (Aurangabad) proved instrumental in addressing the challenges faced by migrant laborers and their children. Through insightful discussions, participants highlighted the government's apparent indifference towards these issues and sought solutions. Additionally, attendees gained valuable knowledge about pertinent legislation such as the Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act and the Child

Labor Act, which are crucial in safeguarding the rights and welfare of migrant children. Overall, the meeting served as a platform for raising awareness, fostering collaboration, and advocating for meaningful action to improve the lives of migrant laborers and their families.

Conclusion The state-level meeting served as a pivotal platform for fostering collaboration, sharing knowledge, and developing strategies to address the complex challenges faced by migrant sugarcane workers' children and combat child labor in the region.

Engagement with Allied Organizations Addressing Similar Challenges

Strategic Meeting to Address Educational Challenges of Migrant Children

Overview In response to the urgent educational challenges faced by children from brickyard and sugarcane laborer families, a convening of senior social worker organizations was orchestrated.

The primary objective was to devise strategic solutions to ensure that children in Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara districts could exercise their right to education as stipulated by the Right to Education (RTE) Act, thereby breaking free from the cycle of child labor.

Key Objectives The meeting aimed to:

- Strategize actionable solutions to enforce RTE provisions and provide access to education for vulnerable children.
- Advocate for the issuance of education guarantee cards to liberate children from exploitative labor practices.
- Mobilize collective efforts to exert pressure on governmental bodies to address educational challenges effectively.

Actions Taken Representatives from various social organizations and activists convened to deliberate on pressing educational issues faced by migrant children. The discussion centered on advocating for the enforcement of RTE provisions and the issuance of education guarantee cards to emancipate children

from exploitative labor practices. A consensus emerged to collectively advocate for urgent governmental action to safeguard the educational rights and well-being of vulnerable children.

Achievements and Impact Following the collaborative meeting, a decision was made to present a formal statement to the District Collectors of Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara districts. This statement will delineate the specific challenges encountered by temporary migrant students in these regions, urging swift action to address their educational needs and uphold their fundamental rights. Through concerted advocacy efforts, the aim is to catalyze meaningful change and ensure that every child has access to quality education, irrespective of their socio-economic background.

Strategic Workshop Addressing Educational Concerns of Migrant Children

Overview A workshop convened in collaboration with Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch (MAKAAM), focusing on the

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welfare of migrant children from sugarcane worker families, highlighted the critical need for addressing educational concerns. Avani Sanstha participated in this initiative alongside like-minded organizations to contribute insights and devise actionable measures.

Key Objectives The workshop aimed to:

- Compile a roster of women sugarcane laborers and identify pregnant and lactating mothers among them.
- Strategize a dialogue with Social Welfare Officers and Factory Administration Collectors to address the educational needs of migrant children.
- Discuss initiatives such as healthcare camps for sugarcane workers and sessions with contractors to enhance awareness and support for this demographic.



Actions Taken Avani Sanstha collaborated with MAKAAM to organize a meeting in Pune, bringing together stakeholders to address educational concerns of migrant children. The agenda encompassed a range of topics, including the compilation of laborer rosters, identification of vulnerable groups, and strategic engagement with relevant authorities. Through extensive discussions and brainstorming sessions, actionable measures were devised to tackle the multifaceted challenges faced by migrant children.

Achievements and Impact The workshop facilitated robust discussions and strategic planning to address the educational needs of migrant children effectively. Agreed-upon measures, including dialogues with key stakeholders and initiatives such as healthcare camps and contractor sessions, are poised to make a meaningful impact on improving access to education and overall well-



being for this vulnerable demographic. Through collaborative efforts, Avani Sanstha and MAKAAAM are committed to advocating for the rights and welfare of migrant children, ensuring they receive the support and resources they need for a brighter future.

Press Conference

Press Conference Addressing Challenges Faced by Seasonal Migrant Sugarcane Workers and Their Children

Overview A press conference was convened in Beed district, a renowned hub for sugarcane laborers, to illuminate the persistent challenges faced by seasonal migrant sugarcane workers and their children. The event, organized by Avani Sanstha, aimed to bring governmental attention to the enduring injustices faced by this vulnerable



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demographic, even decades after India's independence.

Key Issues Discussed

Establishment of Dedicated Provisions

Advocating for the establishment of dedicated provisions within Sant Bhagwan Baba Vasti in respective villages to address the unique needs of seasonal migrant children.

Education Guarantee Cards Urging the education department and schools to issue education guarantee cards for the children of sugarcane laborers, ensuring their uninterrupted access to education.

Provision of Essential Amenities Calling for the provision of essential amenities such as lighting, water, and sanitation facilities for laborers at sugarcane cutting sites to improve working conditions.

Construction of Sturdy Housing

Advocating for the construction of sturdy housing for sugarcane workers to provide them with safe and dignified living conditions.

Government Responsibility

Emphasizing the government's responsibility, as per the Right to

Education Act, to ensure universal access to education for all children, including those from marginalized communities.

Participants Avani Sanstha, alongside Shahu Pratishthan and Jagar Foundation Beed, were prominent participants at this pivotal press conference, collectively advocating for the rights and welfare of sugarcane workers and their children.

Achievements and Impact As a direct outcome of the advocacy efforts highlighted during the press conference, a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) elevated the issue by submitting it as a star question in the Maharashtra state assembly. This significant development underscores the importance of addressing the challenges faced by sugarcane-cutting workers, bringing their struggles to the forefront of the state's agenda for discussion and action. The press coverage of the event received prominent placement on the front pages of print media, further amplifying awareness of the issue.

Field Trip

Study Tour Report. Investigating Challenges Faced by Seasonal Sugarcane Workers and their Children

Overview A study tour, facilitated by the Campaign Against Child Labor (CACL), was conducted to examine the educational, physical, and health-related obstacles confronting seasonal sugarcane workers and their children in the Beed, Jalna, and Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar districts.

Objectives

- To assess the educational status and challenges faced by children of seasonal sugarcane workers.
- To investigate the availability and accessibility of educational facilities within the villages and sugar factories.
- To identify gaps in data collection pertaining to out-of-school children.
- To foster collaboration and awareness among stakeholders, including NGOs, educational institutions, and local authorities.

Key Activities

Direct Interactions Participants engaged directly with families to gain insights into their living conditions, educational aspirations, and health challenges.

School Visits Discussions were held with headmasters and school management committees of Zilla Parishad schools to understand existing educational provisions and identify gaps in data collection regarding out-of-school children.

Sugar Factory Inquiries Visits to sugar factories were conducted to inquire about educational support and facilities available to migrant children working within these establishments.

NGO Collaboration The study tour involved participation from 11 NGOs, fostering collaboration and collective action towards addressing the identified challenges.

Key Findings

Educational Deficits Families of seasonal sugarcane workers faced significant barriers to accessing education, with many children deprived of educational opportunities.

Data Collection Gaps Schools, particularly those affiliated with the Zilla Parishad, lacked essential data regarding out-of-school children, highlighting deficiencies in data collection processes.

Lack of Educational Provisions Migrant children working in sugar factories were found to lack access to any form of educational support or facilities within the factories, exacerbating the educational deficit in these communities.

NGO Commitment The participation of 11 NGOs demonstrated a widespread concern and collective commitment to addressing the challenges faced by seasonal sugarcane workers and their families.

Recommendations

Data Collection Improvement

Implement robust data collection mechanisms to accurately track and monitor the educational status of children from seasonal sugarcane worker families.

Educational Provision Advocate for the establishment of educational facilities and support programs within villages and sugar factories to ensure access to education for migrant children.

Stakeholder Collaboration Foster collaboration among NGOs, educational institutions, and local authorities to develop holistic solutions addressing the multifaceted challenges faced by seasonal sugarcane workers and their families.

Conclusion The study tour provided valuable insights into the educational, physical, and health-related challenges encountered by seasonal sugarcane workers and their children. It underscored the urgent need for targeted interventions and collaborative efforts to alleviate these challenges and ensure the well-being and educational rights of this vulnerable demographic.

Comprehensive Health Camp for Migrant Children and their Families

Overview Migrant laborers employed in brickyards and sugarcane fields, along with their children, often face a range of health challenges, including low hemoglobin levels, iron deficiency, skin

diseases, and bone pain. To address these issues, Avani Sanstha organized a comprehensive health camp targeting both migrant laborers and their children.

Objectives

- To conduct thorough health assessments for migrant laborers and their children.
- To provide specialized care and treatment for nutritional deficiencies, skin ailments, and bone pain.
- To offer tailored guidance and support to improve the overall health and well-being of migrant families.

Key Activities

Health Assessments Medical professionals conducted comprehensive health assessments to identify prevalent health issues among migrant laborers and their children.

Specialized Care Tailored treatments were provided to address nutritional deficiencies, skin diseases, and bone pain, targeting the specific health needs of each individual.

Guidance and Support Participants received personalized guidance and

support from medical professionals to manage and alleviate their health concerns effectively.

Achievements and Impact The holistic health camp successfully addressed the intertwined health challenges prevalent among migrant laborers and their families. By targeting low hemoglobin levels, iron deficiency, skin diseases, and bone pain, the camp aimed to improve the overall health and well-being of both parents and children. Through personalized care and guidance, Avani Sanstha endeavors to enhance the resilience and health outcomes of these vulnerable communities.

Conclusion The comprehensive health camp organized by Avani Sanstha exemplifies a proactive approach to addressing the health challenges faced by migrant laborers and their families. By providing specialized care and guidance, the camp aimed to mitigate the impact of nutritional deficiencies, skin ailments, and bone pain, ultimately contributing to the improved health and well-being of migrant communities.

Nutritional Mid-day Meal for Students

Implementation of Nutritional Mid-Day Meal Program for Students

Current Situation Migrant workers and their families, primarily from Marathwada districts, relocate to regions such as Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara, engaging in labor-intensive activities like sugarcane cutting and brick kiln work. However, the demanding nature of their work often leads to neglect of their children's nutritional needs, resulting in a high prevalence of malnutrition among these youngsters.

Actions Taken In response to the pressing issue of malnutrition among migrant children in brickyard and sugarcane factories, Avani Sanstha initiated a nutritional intervention program. The program introduced nutritious meals to children through daycare centers established in 10 brickyard locations across the Kolhapur division. The menu included wholesome dishes such as Khichdi-bhat, Soyabean Usal, Puri Bhaji, Bhat Amti, Suji, Banana, and Rajigira Ladu, rich in essential

nutrients.

Additionally, the Integrated Child Development Department supplemented this effort by providing nutritionally dense dry food items like rice, wheat, pulses, oil, turmeric, salt, and chutney at 22 locations. Furthermore, food distribution initiatives were extended to Ankli-Dhamani in Sangli and Varunji Gote in Karad, benefiting a total of 123 children. Ramesh Agarwal sir, the vice chairman of M.S.S.O, has been a key supporter of this program.

Achievements and Impact

- The implementation of a nutritious diet significantly contributed to the health and vitality of the children, fostering their physical development.
- Improved nutrition led to increased school attendance among the children, indicating enhanced overall well-being and engagement in educational activities.
- The incidence of malnutrition among the children was effectively mitigated, demonstrating the positive impact of the nutritional intervention program implemented by Avani Sanstha.

Collaborative Workshop on Enhancing Welfare of Migrant Children

Current Situation A workshop was convened in Pune with Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch (MAKAAM), an organization focusing on the welfare of migrant children from sugarcane worker families.

Actions Taken Avani Sanstha, in collaboration with MAKAAM, organized the meeting to address various educational concerns regarding migrant children. The agenda included tasks such as compiling a roster of women sugarcane laborers, identifying pregnant and lactating mothers, and planning dialogues with Social Welfare Officers and Factory Administration Collectors. The discussions encompassed initiatives like healthcare camps for sugarcane workers and sessions with contractors, aiming to tackle pertinent issues affecting this demographic.

Achievements and Impact The collaborative efforts between Avani Sanstha and MAKAAM organization led to significant progress in enhancing the

welfare of migrant children from sugarcane worker families.

Several concrete outcomes emerged from the workshop:

Actionable Strategies Practical strategies were devised to address educational challenges, including compiling rosters and planning dialogues with authorities. These initiatives laid the foundation for systematic interventions.

Enhanced Coordination Collaboration fostered cooperation among stakeholders, maximizing impact and effectiveness in advocating for the rights of migrant children.

Comprehensive Approach Discussions covered a range of issues, enabling the identification of interconnected challenges and the development of integrated solutions.

Commitment to Action Stakeholders committed to translating discussions into tangible action, pledging to organize healthcare camps, conduct contractor sessions, and advocate for migrant children's rights.

Overall, the workshop marked a

significant step towards advancing the welfare and educational opportunities of migrant children. By fostering collaboration, generating actionable strategies, and reaffirming commitment to collective action, Avani Sanstha and MAKAAAM demonstrated dedication to effecting positive change in vulnerable communities.

Additional Activities

Enhancing Children's Learning Experiences through Special Events and Celebrations

In addition to its regular educational programs, Avani Sanstha curates various special events and celebrations aimed at enriching children's learning experiences while fostering a strong sense of community and cultural awareness.

Celebration of National Days Republic Day is commemorated with fervor and patriotism at Avani Sanstha. Children actively participate in flag-hoisting ceremonies, cultural performances, and informative presentations highlighting the significance of national observances. Engaging speeches prepared by the

children underscore the importance of these historic occasions, while the inclusion of parents and community members promotes unity and national pride.

Birth Anniversary Celebrations of National Leaders The organization pays tribute to eminent national leaders such as Mahatma Gandhi, Savitribai Phule, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on their birth anniversaries. Through special activities, discussions, and presentations, children gain insights into the profound contributions of these figures to society. These celebrations inspire children to embody the values and principles upheld by these revered leaders.



Field Trips and Educational Excursions Avani Sanstha organizes educational outings to historical sites, museums, farms, and other points of interest. These

field trips provide hands-on learning experiences, allowing children to explore and engage with their surroundings in meaningful ways. By immersing themselves in diverse environments, children broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding of the world.

These meticulously planned activities contribute significantly to the holistic development of the children at Avani Sanstha. By nurturing their academic, artistic, social, and cultural growth, these events instill values of patriotism, social responsibility, and respect for diversity. Through such initiatives, Avani Sanstha empowers children with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to excel academically and make positive contributions to society.

Evaluation of Student Performance

Evaluation of Day Care Centers for Children Aged 4 to 6 Years

Current Situation An evaluation was conducted for children aged 4 to 6 years attending Day Care Centers across 22



locations in Kolhapur, Sangli, and Satara divisions.

Actions Taken A thorough assessment was carried out for a total of 768 children to monitor their development and progress over a six-month period. The evaluation covered various aspects, including language development, numeracy skills, cognition, identity formation, campus studies, temperament, and overall health. Additionally, factors such as age, weight, and height were considered. The evaluation process involved meticulous observation and monitoring of each child's performance, aligning with the curriculum taught at the centers. Progress sheets were then distributed to provide detailed insights into each child's development.

Achievements and Impact The evaluations played a crucial role in assessing the progress and development



of the children attending the Day Care Centers. By evaluating different aspects of their growth and learning, the assessment offered valuable insights into individual strengths and areas requiring improvement. Furthermore, it provided meaningful feedback to educators and caregivers, enabling them to tailor their approaches to better support the children's holistic development.

As a recognition of their achievements, certificates were awarded to the children, serving as tangible evidence of their progress and readiness for continued education. These certificates are essential for ensuring the continuity of their educational journey upon their return to their home villages, districts, and states. By formally acknowledging their efforts and development, the certificates instill a sense of accomplishment and motivation in the children to pursue further

educational opportunities with confidence. Additionally, they serve as valuable documentation of their learning experiences, reinforcing the importance of education and garnering ongoing support from their families and communities.

Conclusion The 2023-2024 report demonstrates Avani Sanstha's dedication to uplifting migrant children from sugarcane worker families in Maharashtra. Through various initiatives, including advocacy for government support and organizing health camps, Avani ensures access to education and healthcare for these children. Collaborative efforts underscore a commitment to positive change, aiming to create an inclusive environment where every child can thrive.

Respectfully submitted,



Anuradha Bhosale
President, Avani

पुण्य नगरी



'अवनि' तर्फे बालकांना फराळ वाटप

कोल्हापूर : अवनितर्फे कसबा बावडा येथील राजाराम सहकारी साखर कारखाना परिसरात आलेल्या ऊसतोड कामगारांच्या बालकांना दिवाळी फराळचे वाटप करण्यात आले. बीड, औरंगाबाद, अहमदनगर, जालना, उस्मानाबाद या जिल्ह्यांतून हंगामी कालावधीकरिता ऊसतोड कामगार येथे स्थलांतरित झाले आहेत. साधारण २५० बालके या मजुरांसोबत आली आहेत.

फराळ वाटल्यामुळे मुलांमध्ये आनंद ओसडून वाहत होता. या फराळासाठी विशेष सहकार्य महाराष्ट्र सेवा समिती कॅनडा, के एस वाणी ट्रस्ट यांचे विशेष सहकार्य लाभले. संस्थेचे अध्यक्ष अनुराधा भोसले यांच्या मार्गदर्शनाखाली या उपक्रम झाला. या उपक्रमाचे संयोजन सात्ताप्पा मोहिते, अमर कांबळे, रवी कुराडे इमरान शेख, सारिका पाटील यांनी केले.

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हजारांवर सावित्रींच्या लेकी शिक्षणापासून वंचित

जिल्ह्यात वीटभट्टी, ऊसतोड कामगारांच्या मुली अजूनही शाळाबाह्य

कोल्हापूर : प्रवीण मस्के

आजच्या स्त्रिया शिकल्या-सावरल्या, रेल्वे - विमानापासून देश चालवत्या झाल्या. परंतु अजूनही वीटभट्टी व ऊसतोड कामगारांच्या मुली शिक्षणापासून वंचित आहेत. जिल्ह्यात अशा एक हजारांहून अधिक सावित्रीच्या लेकींना शिक्षण मिळणे दुरापास्त झाल्याचे चित्र आहे.

दरवर्षी ऊसतोड आणि वीटभट्टी हंगामात बीड, अहमदनगर, छत्रपती संभाजीनगर, धाराशिव, जालना जिल्ह्यातून ऊस तोडणीसाठी हजारो कुटुंबे कोल्हापूर जिल्ह्यात स्थलांतरित होतात. या कुटुंबांसमवेत त्यांची लहान मुलेही स्थलांतरित होतात. त्यांच्या शिक्षणाचा मूलभूत



**सावित्रीबाई फुले
जयंती विशेष**

प्रश्न अजूनही सुटलेला नाही. अवनि संस्थेच्या वतीने नोव्हेंबर-डिसेंबरमध्ये केलेल्या सर्वेक्षणामध्ये ७ ते १८ वयोगटातील ऊसतोडीवर ६३७ तर वीटभट्टीवर १८९ पेक्षा जास्त मुली शाळाबाह्य आढळून आल्या आहेत. या मुलींना इतर लहान भावंडांचा सांभाळ

“

गावांमध्ये ऊसतोडी टोळ्या येतात, १३ ते १७ वयोगटातील मुलींचे प्रमाणे अधिक आहे. त्यांना शिक्षण व आरोग्य सुविधांपासून वंचित राहावे लागते. मुलींना त्यांचे मूलभूत हक्क व अधिकार मिळवून देण्यासाठी शासनाने प्रयत्न करावेत.

- साताप्या मोहिते,
जिल्हाध्यक्ष, बालहक्क अभियान

करण्यासाठी आणले जाते. स्वयंपाक, घरकामे, जनावरे सांभाळण्याची जबाबदारी दिली जाते. त्या शाळा सोडून अशी कामे

करताना दिसतात. वीटभट्टीवर, ऊसतोडणीची कामेही मुलींना करावी लागतात. वयात येणाऱ्या मुलींना कुठे ठेवायचे याची मोठी अडचण असल्याने पालकांकडून बालविवाह लावले जात असल्याची माहिती समोर आली आहे.

ऊसतोडी, वीटभट्टीवरील मुलींच्या आरोग्याकडे म्हणावे तसे लक्ष असत नाही. त्यांच्या शरीरात हिमोग्लोबिन, कॉल्शियमचे प्रमाण कमी आढळते. मासिक पाळीसह आरोग्याच्या समस्यांना सामोरे जावे लागते. शिक्षण विभाग शाळाबाह्य मुले नसल्याचे सांगते. प्रत्यक्षात तपासणी करणे गरजेचे आहे. मुलींना शिक्षणप्रवाहात आणण्याचे आव्हान आहे.

जिल्ह्यात २१६५ बालमजूर

'अवनि'चे सर्वेक्षण: साखर कारखाने, वीटभट्टीवर करपतेय बालपण

कोल्हापूर : प्रतिनिधी

स्थलांतरित बालकांचा शोध घेणाऱ्या अवनि संस्थेने नुकत्याच केलेल्या सर्वेक्षणामध्ये ११ साखर कारखाने व ८ वीटभट्ट्यांवर ४ ते १८ वयोगटातील २१६५ बालके मिळून आली आहेत. यापैकी बहुतांश बालकांना प्राथमिक शिक्षणाचा हक्क मिळवून देण्यासाठी संस्थेने प्रयत्न सुरू केले आहेत. मात्र सध्यातरी या बालकांचे बालपण करपून जात आहे.

दरवर्षी बीड, अहमदनगर, छत्रपती संभाजी नगर, धाराशिव व नाशिक, जालना या जिल्ह्यातून ऊस तोडणीसाठी हजारो कुटुंबे स्थलांतरित होतात. या कुटुंबांसोबत त्यांची लहान मुलेही स्थलांतरित होतात. त्यामुळे त्यांच्या शिक्षणाचा मूलभूत प्रश्न निर्माण होतो. या हंगामी स्थलांतरित बालकांना मजूरीच्या विळख्यातून मुक्त करण्यासाठी अवनि संस्था गेली

बालकांच्या शिक्षणासाठी प्रयत्न

स्थलांतरित व हंगामी शाळाबाह्य बालकांना हक्क मिळवून देण्यासाठी शिक्षण, एकात्मिक बाल विकास सहाय्यक कामगार आयुक्त, तहसीलदार, आरोग्य हे सर्व विभाग तसेच साखर कारखाने व वीटभट्टी मालक यांच्या सहकार्याने संस्था प्रयत्नशील आहे. यासाठी साताप्पा मोहिते, अमर कांबळे, रवी कुराडे, शिवकिरण पेटकर, अक्षय पाटील यांच्यासह २५ कार्यकर्ते परिश्रम घेत आहेत. - अनुराधा भोसले, अध्यक्षा अवनि

तीस वर्ष प्रयत्न करत आहे. संस्थेने केलेल्या सर्वेक्षणामध्ये ४ ते ६ वयोगटातील ६०१ बालके, ७ ते १४ वयोगटातील ८८५ बालके, १५ ते १८ वयोगटातील ६७९ बालके एकूण २१६५ बालके आढळून आली. यापैकी ६ साखर कारखाना कार्यस्थळावर कारखाना आणि शासनामार्फत साखर शाळा सुरू आहे. त्यामध्ये जवळजवळ २५० ते ३०० बालके शिक्षण घेत आहेत.

अवनिमार्फत ३ कारखान्यावर ४ ते ६ डे केअर सेंटर सुरू आहेत. परंतु इतर ६ कारखाने व ८

वीटभट्टीवरील १८६५ शाळाबाह्य बालकांना बालकामगार म्हणून काम करावे लागत आहे. प्राथमिक शिक्षणाच्या मूलभूत अधिकारानुसार त्यांना दर्जेदार शिक्षण मिळणे गरजेचे आहे. संस्थेमार्फत ४ ते ६ वयाच्या मुलांना शासनातर्फे पूरक पोषण आहार मिळवून देण्यासाठी प्रयत्न करण्यात येत आहेत. ७ ते १८ वयोगटातील मुलांना शिक्षणाच्या प्रक्रियेत आणण्यासाठी बालमजूर म्हणून कामे न लावता, त्यांना प्राथमिक शिक्षणाचे धाडे मिळावेत, यासाठीही प्रयत्न सुरू आहेत.

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वर्ष ३१ वे अंक ५

शनिवार दि. १९ ऑगस्ट २०२३

पोस्टल दि. २० ऑगस्ट २०२३

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पाने ८ किंमत



बीडच्या ऊसतोड मजुरांचे कोल्हापुरात १९०० शाळाबाह्य मुले

अवणी संस्थेचा सर्वे ऊसतोड मजुरांच्या मुलांचे स्थलांतर रोखण्यासाठी करणार प्रयत्न

बीड(रिपोर्टर): ऊसतोड कामगारांचा जिल्हा म्हणून बीडची कायम ओळख आहे. मात्र यामुळे ऊसतोड मजुरांच्या मुलांच्या शिक्षणाचे वाटोळे होत आहे. शासन काखान्यावर साखर शाळा सुरु करतात, मात्र ऊस तोडणारे मजूर हे त्या शाळेपासून १५ ते २० कि.मी. लांब असतात. त्यामुळे त्यांची मुले तिथे शिकवली जात नाहीत. कोल्हापूरच्या अवणी संस्थेने नऊ कारखान्यांवर केलेल्या सर्वेनुसार बीड जिल्ह्यातील १९०० शाळाबाह्य मुले आढळून आले आहेत. हा सर्वे केवळ त्यांनी कारखाना परिसरात केला. प्रत्यक्षात मात्र शाळाबाह्य विद्यार्थ्यांची संख्या मोठी असणार असल्याचे अवणी संस्थेच्या अनुसंधानात भोसले यांनी बीडमध्ये आयोजित पत्रकार परिषदेमध्ये माहिती दिली.



या पत्रकार परिषदेला अवणी संस्थेच्या अनुसंधानात भोसले, महिला उद्योग कमगार संघटनेच्या मनिषा तोकले, छत्रपती राजर्षि शाहू महाराज प्रतिष्ठानचे तालवशीत कांबळे उपस्थित होते. बीड जिल्ह्यातून मोठ्या प्रमाणात ऊसतोड मजूर रचला तरीत होत आहेत. आपल्याच महाराष्ट्रात स्थलांतर होणाऱ्या ऊसतोड मजुरांच्या पाल्याला शिक्षण मिळत नाही, तर महाराष्ट्राबाहेर जाणाऱ्या ऊसतोड मजुरांच्या शिक्षणावर न बोललेलख बरं, कारण मराठी शाळा तिथे असण्याचा प्रश्नच नाही. कोल्हापुरात अवणी संस्थेच्या अनुसंधानात भोसले यांनी

नऊ कारखान्यांच्या परिसरात ऊसतोड मजुरांच्या मुलांच्या शिक्षणाबाबत सर्वे केला. त्यांना तब्बल १९०० मुले हे शाळेबाहेर असल्याचे आढळून आले. त्यांनी प्रत्येक मुलाचे नाव, गाव, परत येऊन आज बीडमध्ये आल्या. त्यानंतर त्यांनी पत्रकार परिषद घेत या १९०० मुलांना बीडमध्ये शिक्षण मिळावे, अशी मागणी केली. त्यासाठी बीडमध्ये सुरु असलेल्या संत भगवानबाबा वस्तीगृहात या विद्यार्थ्यांना प्रवेश मिळावा, अशी मागणी केली. बीड जिल्ह्यातील सहाही मतदारसंघात प्रत्येकी दोन संत भगवानबाबा वस्तीगृह उभारण्यात आले

आहेत. हे वस्तीगृह केवळ ऊसतोड मजुरांच्या मुलांचे वस्तीगृह आहेत. पाचवी ते पोस्ट ग्रंजपूरेशनपर्यंत शिक्षण घेणाऱ्या विद्यार्थ्यांना प्रवेश मिळतो तर पहिली ते चौथीपर्यंत प्रत्येक गावात हंगामी वस्तीगृह शासन सुरु करत आहे. त्यामुळे बीड जिल्ह्यातील ऊसतोड मजुरांच्या मुलांना येथेच शिक्षण मिळावे यासाठी महिला ऊसतोड कामगार संघटनेच्या मनिषा तोकले, छत्रपती राजर्षि शाहू महाराज प्रतिष्ठानचे तालवशीत कांबळे हे प्रयत्न करणार आहेत.

स्थलांतरित ऊसतोड मजुरांच्या बालकांचे 'अवनि'तर्फे सर्वेक्षण

सकाळ वृत्तसेवा

कोल्हापूर, ता. १ : ऊसतोड हंगाम आणि वीटभट्टी सुरू झाल्या आहेत. या कामासाठी धाराशिव, बीड, जालना, अहमदनगर, छत्रपती संभाजीनगर तसेच कर्नाटकातून अनेक कुटुंबे स्थलांतर करतात. सोबत एक किंवा दोन लहान मुलेही असतात. त्यांचे 'अवनि'तर्फे सर्वेक्षण सुरू करण्यात आले.

ऊसतोड आणि वीटभट्टीवरील मजुरांच्या मुलांच्या शिक्षण, आरोग्य आणि सुरक्षितेचा प्रश्न निर्माण होतो. तसेच येथील बालके शाळाबाह्य व बालकामगार म्हणून काम करण्याची



कोल्हापूर : स्थलांतरित मजुरांच्या बालकांचे सर्वेक्षण करताना 'अवनि'चे कार्यकर्ते.

शक्यता असते. त्यांना शाळेच्या प्रक्रियेत आणण्याकरिता अवनि संस्थेने सुरू असलेल्या स्थलांतरित विकास प्रकल्प व वीटभट्टी व साखर शाळा, डे केअर सेंटर

उपक्रमांतर्गत कोल्हापूर, सांगली आणि सातारा जिल्ह्यातील ऊस कारखान्यावर सर्वेक्षण सुरू केले आहे. छत्रपती राजाराम सहकारी साखर कारखाना,

कुंभी सहकारी साखर कारखाना कुडिने, शरद नरंदे, गुरुदत्त टाकळी, पंचगंगा इचलकरंजी, दत्त आसुर्ले, शाहू कागल, जवाहर हुपरी दत्त शिरोळ, हमीदवाडा या कारखान्यावर प्रामुख्याने ही प्रक्रिया राबण्यात येत आहे. करवीर तालुक्यातील वीटभट्टीवरही सर्वेक्षण सुरू आहे. मुलांची व पालकांची माहिती घेतली जाते. गरोदर माता, स्तनदा माता, शून्य ते अठरा वयोगटातील बालकांचा समावेश असतो. साताप्पा मोहिते, अमर कांबळे, शिवकरण पेटकर, रवी कुन्हाडे, अक्षय पाटील, शाहरूख आटपाडे, केदार पाटील यांनी मोहीमेत सबभाग घेतला आहे.

पुण्य नगरी



हंगामी कामगारांच्या मुलांच्या शिक्षणाची शासनाची जबाबदारी

कोल्हापूर : प्रतिनिधी
मराठवाडा, विदर्भ येथून कोल्हापूर, सांगली, सातारा या जिल्ह्यांमध्ये ऊसतोड व वीटभट्टीवर काम करण्यासाठी मजूर ऑक्टोबर ते मे या कालावधीमध्ये येतात. जिल्ह्यात ८० ते ९० हजार हंगामी मजूर स्थलांतरित होत असतात. त्यांच्यासोबत ० ते १८ वयोगटातील एक लाखापेक्षा जास्त बालके स्थलांतरित होत असतात. या बालकांना शिक्षणाचा मूलभूत अधिकार मिळावा याची जबाबदारी शासनाची

'अवनि' तर्फे आयोजित बैठकीमध्ये कार्यकर्त्यांची भूमिका

आहे, अशी भूमिका समविचारी संघटना व सामाजिक कार्यकर्ते यांनी बैठकीत मांडली.
हंगामी कामगारांबरोबर जी बालके मूळ गावाहून स्थलांतरित होतात, त्याठिकाणी संत भगवानबाबा शासकीय वसतिगृहाची अंमलबजावणी होताना दिसत नाही. त्यामुळे तेथील

प्रशासनाशी समन्वय साधून ती बालके वसतिगृहामध्ये शिक्षण घेतील, याची काळजी घेतली पाहिजे. बालकामगार म्हणून बालके वीटभट्टीवर, ऊसतोडीवर काम करतात. त्या ठिकाणच्या मालकांवर गुन्हे दाखल करावे. प्रसंगी स्थलांतरित बालकांना न्याय मिळवून देण्यासाठी ह्याकोर्टात याचिका

दाखल करण्याची तयारी करण्यात आली. वीटभट्टी व ऊसतोड कामगार यांच्यासोबत समन्वय साधावा, तसेच शिक्षणाबाबत जनजागृती करावी. शिक्षणासाठी जिल्हा नियोजनमधून आर्थिक तरतूद करावी, असे ठरावही करण्यात आले.
या बैठकीला व्यंकप्पा भोसले,

पंडित कंदले, संजय पोवार, प्रा. डी. के. सलगर, आर. वाय. पाटील, रवी देसाई, गीता हसूरकर, डॉ. प्रमिला जरग, ललित चाबर, शिवकिरण पेटकर, अक्षय पाटील, मनोषा सानप, सविता नवणे, जयश्री कांबळे तसेच वीटभट्टी व ऊसतोड कामगार उपस्थित होते. बैठकीचे संयोजन 'अवनि'च्या अध्यक्ष अनुराधा भोसले, साताप्पा मोहिते, अमर कांबळे, रवी कुराडे व सुभाष पाटील यांनी केले.