

ELECTIONS 2014

What Political Parties must commit to children



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A Children's Manifesto

Children are important because they are *Citizens of Today* and *Voters of Tomorrow*. All elected representatives represent them too. All children need political social and economic commitment. As adults in the making, this is the time to determine their and the country's future.

The National Policy for Children 2013 emphasizes that "*rights of children are interrelated and interdependent and each one of them is equally important and fundamental to the well-being and dignity of the child*". It is time to translate documents into action so that we can make a significant change in the lives of our children.

What children need are effective institutions, equitable services and adequate resources, combined with political will and accountable leadership. This is what political leaders can promise them.¹

In General:

1. All rights for all children upto the age of 18 years

Explanation: All human rights are children's rights too. Children need to be given equal opportunities as has been guaranteed in the Constitution of India. **Children must be put at the centre of development and governance. This must be made non-negotiable.**

This would need special attention to ensure that dalit children, tribal children and children of religious minorities, children with disabilities are paid special attention.

THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTION THAT IS PROPOSED IS BRINGING IN THE DEFINITION OF CHILD AS PERSON UPTO 18 YEARS IN THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA THROUGH AN AMENDMENT.

2. Creating a Protective Environment for ALL Children wherever they are

Explanation: This was first recognized in the eleventh five year plan and reiterated in the twelfth five year plan. Given the high levels of crimes against children and their increasing vulnerability to violence and exploitation this is an area that will be given special attention.

This will require examination of laws, programmes and infrastructure; commitment for all person including elected representatives at all levels to take it up as their mandate.

In the eleventh five year plan GOI had designed a scheme called the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS). The implementation of ICPS is struggling with lack of supportive

¹ PLEASE SEE APPENDIX FOR DETAILS ON STATUS OF CHILDREN

mechanisms. There are not enough trained counsellors, social workers or probation officers. Most of them have been appointed on short term contracts with very low emoluments (some at the level of social workers do not receive even the minimum wages laid down by government, leading to de-motivation and attrition).

3. Children must be a priority on development agenda

Explanation: Impact on children or the outcomes of government's initiatives is never an indicator in determining a development project or agenda- be it a mining project, an environmental intervention or infrastructure project. Similarly, Children's issues cut across ministries and departments that are often identified with them, it is critical that child rights is adopted as a development indicator by all ministries (the situation of children of farmers who have committed suicide as a result of agricultural programmes and policies is a case in point). **Pre-project evaluation or the determination of the success of a project must include indicators for children.**

4. Mainstreaming children's issues into all levels of governance and all governmental action and Strengthening Governance

Explanation: Children's issues are always implemented through vertical mechanisms which are specific to implementing children's issues only. Unless there is a horizontal convergence with other issues, children's issues will not be addressed holistically. **To get the best results there has to be a convergence of all government machinery at all levels.**

Good governance for children must be based on principles of transparency and accountability with monitoring of programmes and schemes through social audits.

5. Strengthening of Institutions

Explanation: The biggest challenge to the implementation and realisation of child rights is the process of setting up and the functioning of institutions.

The status of **Ministry of Women and Child Development needs to be upgraded and higher priority accorded to it.**

The commissions for protection of child rights need to be constituted in the states wherever they haven't been set up.

The **selection process for the members of the National Commission for protection of child Rights and State Commission for Protection for Child Rights** has to be fair and transparent. They have to be adequately resourced and supported.

Selection to the **Child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Boards** need to be fair and transparent. Their sitting fees have to be enhanced and made commiserate to the status of these bodies so that they attract good candidates.

The government had passed a law for the **creation of Special Courts for Children**. These **have to be constituted with adequate training for the judges and other staff placed in them**.

6. Harmonise laws in keeping with the principles of non-discrimination and best interest.

Explanation: Laws have to be designed to protect children. Hence while the age of 18 must be maintained for laws relating to juvenile justice, making sex up to the age of 18 years (POCSO Act) is leading to criminalisation of sexual interaction and sexual exploration between adolescents. This needs to be corrected. Also inclusion of mandatory reporting and penalty for false reporting deters reporting in a country (especially when the reporting is very low and investigation and conviction are both poor).

7. Ending Malnutrition and Preventing Hunger

Explanation: India has the largest number of malnutrition and hungry children in the world despite its nutrition and mid-day meal schemes. Children still die of the most preventable diseases and even hunger in a country that has surplus food and a growing economy. This is a matter of shock and shame.

Malnutrition cannot be eradicated if childhood anaemia is not addressed through the **universal and effective iron supplementation programmes**. It also requires **universal entitlements to community based management of malnutrition and a high level full-time oversight mechanism for malnutrition**.

Today India has the Right to Food Act. **There is a need to ensure that through this Act and the different schemes as nutritional security is endured at the household level for all marginalised and excluded populations, especially children.**

8. Continuum of physical and mental health for all children from 0-18 years

Explanation: India must declare **Right to Health as a fundamental right**. This is absolutely essential for it to get the priority it needs.

The government's reporting on child health is largely confined to the young child. **There is little or no information on the adolescent or the older child**. This is also reflected in the lack of data available for these age groups and what they suffer from, and any planning or intervention for them. For example, there is neither information nor services made available for the increasing number of children being affected by diseases such as TB, cancer, diabetes or mental health problems. **Similarly, while we know that there is a falling sex ratio in the 0-6 age group, there is no such information for the older children.**

There needs to be a concerted effort to **ensure a free and *universal seamless comprehensive continuum of care* for all children from 0-18 years, including drugs,**

investigation, referrals, out and in- patient care. For this there is need to accord high priority to a non-targeted comprehensive approach.

Mental health services and trained personnel are highly inadequate. (There are only 0.4 psychiatrists and 0.02 psychologists per 100,000 people, and 0.25 mental health beds per 10,000 population²). The increasing suicides or violence among the young are but only two indicators of the crying need for these services both for children in the community as well as those in institutions.

What we need is multi-tier professionals working with a cross- disciplinary approach with children in difficult circumstances. The focus must be on the multi-faceted development of the child, moving beyond only treatment based on psychiatric diagnosis.

9. Universal, Equal and Quality Education for All children upto 18 years

Explanation: Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 guarantees free education was a welcome enactment. However its implementation shows huge gaps.³ While enrolment may have gone up, retention remains a challenge as is the quality of education imparted. The implementation of RTE remains tardy with only 10% schools having complied with the minimum norms of the Act.

What is more **there is need to make an investment of atleast 6% GDP in education.** The current investment is much lower.

The RTE Act too needs review. It is only to the children in the age group of 6-14 years thus leaving out children below 6 and above 14 years. Both ends require strong support.

With regard to the **under sixes** the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) policy provides a clear direction and needs full implementation. **Ending education at 14 years leaves the children over 14 years as “nowhere children”.** It does not make them eligible for admission into any other skill or higher education that can help them get a job. In effect it pushes them into the unskilled labour market. There is a need to raise the level of education to which children have a rights that harmonise it with the level of education that allows for children to gain admission to the next level of technical training etc.

Currently **privately run play schools are completely unregulated. This is an area that needs urgent attention.**

² <http://infochangeindia.org/agenda/access-denied/less-than-1-of-our-health-budget-is-spent-on-mental-health.html>

³ ASER Reports <http://www.asercentre.org/>

PAISA Reports <http://www.accountabilityindia.in/paisa-planning-allocations-and-expenditures-institutions-studies-accountability>

10. Identity and nationality

Explanation: Birth Registration is still falling short by over 25%. Registration does not necessarily ensure birth certificate, which is the document that provides a name, nationality and identity to the child. **The procedures remain cumbersome and registration of homeless or institutionalization of children is a challenge. In the absence of a birth certificate, access to basic rights becomes difficult.**

11. Adequate and appropriate allocations and spending for children

Explanation: The ministry of Women and Child Development has been undertaking children's budgeting since 2003. Since 2007 the Union Budget includes a separate Expenditure Budget Statement (No.22) for children. These are welcome moves. However **Child budgeting must be initiated and undertaken by the state governments.**

Further, as the Government of India has itself admitted "the proportion of child budget in the Union Budget seems inadequate"⁴. Children receive only about 5 per cent of share in the total budget. **The share for health (0.33%) and protection (0.03%) sectors in disproportionately low**, despite government's own recognition and interventions of the need to create a protective environment for children

What is more, **what is allocated is not spent.** Moreover, while the children's share in allocations has gone up, the utilisation of resources has gone down.

Public Financing must be the priority for services for children. Private sector involvement must not lead to abdication of state responsibility, instead should be additional resources. There must be strict regulation of private sector investment so that there is no commercialization and profit motive.

In the **absence of adequate checks and balances**, there are no mechanisms for ensuring accountability from the private sector. With the new Corporate Social Responsibility Bill in the offing, a huge sum of money will be available from Companies. This should not lead to replacement of government by private sector. **Financial resources made available by the private sector must be part of the pool or resources available to the government to be used to augment, AND NOT SUBSTITUTE, its own resources. Government must be accountable for utilisation of these resources.**

12. Giving a voice to children

Explanation: Children's participation is the best mechanism to recognise children's need for respect and recognition thereby giving them responsibility of taking decisions. Children's voices must be heard in the process of developing and drafting policies and plans. In the past, Karnataka has initiated Makkala (children) Gram Sabhas, wherein children

⁴ Govt Of India. Ministry of Women and Child Development. India_ Third and Fourth Combined Periodic Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child 2011

interact directly with the local government which are modelled on the adult Gram Sabhas. Such practices must be replicated all across the country.

There is provision in laws for participation of children in School Management in the Right to Education Act and in home management for children in institutions in the Juvenile Justice Act. These need to be promoted and implemented.

So, it is important that **children's right to participation must be promoted and nurtured and seen in the developmental discourse.**

13. Right to Play- Providing safe play spaces for leisure and recreation-

Explanation: It has been found that increasingly there is no space for children to play. Lands earmarked for parks are often taken away from children as play spaces. This has been recognized internationally as a basic right. In India too this is an area that is gaining recognition.

All building plans, master plans for urban areas must clearly allocate play fields/ areas for children to which they have free access. At the village level this must be done by the Gram Panchayats.

In Particular

1. Save the girl child

Explanation: The declining sex ratio has created alarming concerns over protection of girl child despite the PCPNDT Act and all the cash transfer programmes initiated. It clearly needs political and social attention at all level and is linked to the lower status of girls and women in society. What is more, falling sex ratio is leading to trafficking of minor girls for marriage into the states that have lesser number of girls and women.

There is a need for comprehensive protection mechanism to protect girl child right from the conception till they cross 18 years with various interventions at institutional delivery system, health system, nutritional needs and educational needs.

2. Special focus on the young child through implementation of ECCE policy and Restructured ICDS and quality child care services

Explanation: For the most neglected age group children under six, two significant action have been taken - the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) policy passed in September 2013 and the Restructuring of the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) as part of 12th Five Year Plan. These require special commitment and thrust if a substantial change is to take place for all children in India. **Three core areas that are interlinked and need urgent attention are: 1) food and nutrition; 2) health services and 3) child care with**

age specific interventions. At least 3% of the Gross Domestic Product amount to be spent on this critical age group of young children.

The safety and protection for under- sixes need to be urgently addressed; In the context of poverty and vast number of working women in paid and unpaid work, every child must be provided with quality **Day Care and Crèches** through ICDS, Statutory Creches including those under MNREGA. There is need for scaling up all these to ensure universal coverage. There needs to be regularization of work force and legal guarantees for standards. Anganwadi's may be constructed on land given by panchayats with labour from MNREGA.

Early childhood care is closely linked to **Maternity Entitlements for all Women**- especially women in the informal sector should be ensured to enable breastfeeding, rest and recuperation and care of infant, all vital to prevent malnutrition.

3. Prevention of Child Sexual abuse and justice for victims/ survivors

Explanation: It has to be recognized that child abuse and exploitation cuts across socio-economic categories. Hence the first is the creation of a protective environment in children so that they are protected wherever they are-at home, in the community, on playgrounds, on the roads in schools and in religious places. Especially vulnerable children have to be identified and specific measures undertaken for them.

The recognition of child sexual abuse (CSA) as an area that needs attention and the enactment of a law that addresses it (the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012) is a very important step. The increasing reporting on CSA is also very important. But this also means **that there is a greater expectation from children and their families for better access to justice.**

4. Prevention of Child Labour

Explanation: It has taken 65 years, but **finally there seems to be a change in the understanding of child labour and to that extent the discussions around the Child & Adolescent Labour (Prohibition) Bill 2012 are welcome move.** As a country that is claiming to be super-power, it cannot do so on the backs of its children. We cannot continue to justify the existence of child labour as a consequence of poverty. We have to recognize it as a consequence of faulty and inequitable economic growth, poor distribution of resources and lack of access and retention in education. Across the industrialized world, child labour was addressed simultaneously with economic growth and education for children was promoted.

5. Prevention of child marriage

Explanation: Despite recognition of child marriage as a "social evil" for over a hundred years it continues to persist. Earlier it was seen only as cultural and social phenomena.

Today communities justify early marriage as a way to 'protect' their girls from abuse and exploitation or having to pay lower dowry.

The faulty formulation of the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 which does not make child marriage illegal, once it has taken place, has not been able to address the issue in its entirety. The commitments made under the Eleventh Five-Year Plan 2007-2012 calls for the compulsory registration of marriages and verification of age at the time of marriage, which has not yet been implemented and it has also found mention in the 12th Five Year Plan.

In order to curb child marriage, compulsory registration of marriages and verification of age at the time of marriage must be made mandatory. Also, there is a pressing need to amend the existing law.

6. Preventing and protecting children from trafficking

Explanation: It is an important and encouraging development that the understanding of child trafficking is no longer confined to trafficking for prostitution/commercial sexual exploitation. But this is still only the first step. Children continue to be trafficked within the country and also inter-country. This needs attention and interventions at the source areas as well as at the destination. **Most important, lack of attention to rehabilitation and reintegration leads to re-trafficking, pushing the children into even more vulnerable situations.**

Adoption of children is a wonderful form of alternative care. Unfortunately over the years it has degenerated into a trafficking racket where **children are sold into adoption (using the legal methods and paperwork), most often through inter-country adoption.** This has become a racket and needs to be addressed urgently.

The child tracking system under ICPS must be made effective to ensure that the data related to trafficked and missing children are available which will further ensure effective monitoring of implementation of child protection schemes.

7. Implementation of Juvenile Justice

Explanation: Currently there is a debate on the Juvenile Justice Law in the country with a debate on both age and punishment. The failure of the JJ system is not the result of a faulty law- but a tardy and apathetic implementation of its provisions. The infrastructure is lacking as are the human resources. But would it be fair to penalize children because they have not been attended to as was promised in law?

It is important to ensure that the JJ Act continues to comply with the international standards and children are not brought into the adult system at any age. The focus must remain on the offender and not the nature of offence. What is required is proper and concerted implementation of the law in its letter and spirit with strong focus on individual care plans and rehabilitation measures. Without doing so, it would be premature to attempt changing the law.

8. Special attention to children living in institutions

Explanation: The JJ Act provides remedies broadly to the children who are either in conflict with law or in need of care and protection. Many of those children either do not have fit parents, or are abandoned by their parents or abused in their family sphere etc. For such children, children homes become the last resort to receive care and protection in the institutionalised set up. Often, there have been incidents highlighting the rampant sexual abuse and exploitation and general deplorable condition of children homes.

In such scenario, there is need to ensure that these institutions are made abuse and violence free by ensuring minimum standard of care and protection. The first step towards this must be taken by registering all children's institutions under the JJ Act.

Also, physical infrastructure in terms of buildings and facilities and human resources are inadequate in the existing homes as children require support services for education, skill training, counseling of victims of sexual abuse and children in conflict with the law.

9. Special Attention to children in emergency situations and conflict areas

Explanation: Children are one of the most vulnerable groups to be targeted at the very outset during an emergency situation or in a conflict area. Often, they are subjected to gross human rights violations, physical and sexual violence, psychological trauma, trafficking and migration. Schools in such areas become camps for para-military forces leaving children nowhere to go for education. Children in the conflict affected areas are subjected to arbitrary arrest and detention including under the national security laws, torture, extrajudicial executions and sexual violence⁵. **Children growing up in conflict areas need to be given special attention as they are denied of their fundamental rights and them being used as child soldiers.**

Children who need special attention

1. **Children with Disability:** These children are excluded from all programmes and schemes for all children. Rehabilitation services do not reach even a small number of children with disability because of the way they are designed.

Even though the RTE Act 2009 makes specific mention of children with disability; the education system is still not designed to include them. Specific and concerted efforts and strategies need to be made to ensure that these children are included.

There has to be multi-disciplinary services for children with disabilities atleast at the district level for both detection and support.

2. **Mapping of Minorities needs to be done geographically and based on ethnicity and religion:** This will lead to identification of vulnerable children of various vulnerable sections of the society, who often get left behind in the present definition of minorities.

⁵ "Nobody's Children: Juveniles of Conflict Affected Areas"; published by Asian Centre for Human Rights

3. **Street Children and children on railway platforms** must be brought into the protective net. Child Protection Committees or similar structures must be put in place at all railway stations across India.

ANNEXURE 1

Status of the Children in India at a Glance

Child Population in India: While an absolute increase of 181 million in the country's population has been recorded during the decade 2001-2011, there is a reduction of 5.05 millions in the population of children aged 0-6 years during this period. The decline in male children is 2.06 million and in female children is 2.99 millions.

The overall sex ratio of the Country is showing a trend of improvement, whereas the child sex ratio is showing a declining trend. During the period 1991 -2011, child sex ratio declined from 945 to 914, whereas the overall sex ratio showed an improvement from 927 to 940

- India is home to the world's largest number of children with nearly 40 per cent of its estimated 1.27 billion populations under the age of 18.6
- Census figures show a continued decline in child sex ratio (0-6 age group), from 927 girls per 1,000 boys in 2001 to 914 girls in 2011.
- Though, the child sex ratio in rural India is 919 which is 17 points higher than that of urban India, the decline in Child Sex Ratio (0-6 years) during 2001-2011 in rural areas is more than three times as compared to the drop in urban India.

Child Health and Survival: India contributes to more than 20 per cent of the world's child deaths, with approximately 1.73 million ⁷children dying annually before completing their fifth birthday. Though, infant mortality is showing a declining trend over the years, the progress is slow. It has been observed that, Infant mortality among female children is higher.

- India continues to lose more than 400,000 children to Pneumonia and Diarrhoea before their fifth birthday due to these two preventable diseases. ⁸
- Polio cases in India fell from 559 in 2008 to no case in 2012. ⁹
- In 2010, IMR is reported to be 47 at the national level, and varies from 51 in rural areas to 31 in urban areas. ¹⁰
- SRS based U5MR in India for the year 2010, stands at 59 and it varies from 66 in rural areas to 38 in urban areas. The Under five mortality rate (U-5MR) is higher for females than males as in 2010, U5MR stood at 64 for females whereas it is 55 for males.
- As per Coverage Evaluation Survey, 2009, at national level, 61% of the children aged 12-23 months have received full immunization. The coverage of immunization was higher in urban areas (67.4%) compared to that in the rural areas (58.5%). ¹¹

⁶ Provisional figures, Census 2011

⁷ UNICEF, *The State of the World Children's Report 2012: Children in an Urban World*.

⁸ International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC) Pneumonia and Diarrhoea Progress Report 2013. Available at <http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/ivac/resources/IVAC-2013-Pneumonia-Diarrhea-Progress-Report.pdf>

⁹ National Polio Surveillance Project.

¹⁰ http://mospi.nic.in/mospi_new/upload/Children_in_India_2012.pdf

¹¹ Ibid

Child Education

Right to education is guaranteed as a fundamental right under Article 21 A. But still India fails to have 100 % enrollment and literacy rate.

- Eleven million more children are now enrolled in elementary schools from 2009-10 to 2011-12.¹²
- According to the trend exhibited during 1991 -2001 (1991: 61.9% and 2001: 76.4 %), India is likely to attain 100% Youth literacy (Literacy rate of 15-24 year olds) by 2015.¹³
- Nationally, the proportion of children (age 6 to 14) who are not enrolled in school has gone up slightly, from 3.3% in 2011 to 3.5% in 2012.¹⁴
- Percentage of SC & ST enrolment in the primary level in 2011-2012 is SC 19.80 % and ST 19.92% of the total enrollment.¹⁵
- Drop-out rate in India is 40.6 % in 2010- 2011.¹⁶

Child Development: The 2011 census estimates the population of children below 6 years at 158.8 million. Nearly 40 % of these children are undernourished that is more than 63 million children are suffering from malnutrition. Nutritional problems are substantial in every state in India.

- There has been a significant improvement in the last few years with birth registration going up from 74% in 2005-06 to 81.1% in 2009.¹⁷
- As per NFHS 3, 48% of children under age five years are stunted (too short for their age) which indicates that, half of the country's children are chronically malnourished.
- District level Household Survey (DLHS -3 2007-08) shows only 40.5% children are fortunate to be breastfed within one hour of child birth.
- Severe anaemia was reported for 3.2 % male children and 2.7% female children. Anaemia was more prevalent in rural areas (71.5%), than urban areas (63%).¹⁸

Child Protection: It is alarming that, in 2011, the Crimes against children reported a 24% increase from the previous year with a total of 33,098 cases of crimes against Children reported in the country during 2011 as compared to 26,694 cases during 2010.

¹² The Hindu: *No High five for RTE*, Louis George Arsenault (UNICEF Representative in India) April 1, 2013 Available at <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/no-high-five-for-rte/article4567385.ece>

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ Ibid

¹⁵ District Information System for Education (DISE)

¹⁶ http://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NLES%20-%20At%20a%20Glance.pdf

¹⁷ Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. Annual Report 2012-13, p 191. Available at: [http://mha.nic.in/pdfs/AR\(E\)1213.pdf](http://mha.nic.in/pdfs/AR(E)1213.pdf)

¹⁸ http://mospi.nic.in/mospi_new/upload/Children_in_India_2012.pdf

- A total of 38172 crimes against children were reported in 2012, reflecting a 15.3 variance over 2011.¹⁹
- As per the Crime in India statistics of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), there has been a 253% increase in crimes against children between 2001 and 2012.
- Child marriage remains a huge problem in the country, with poor implementation of the law. The overall percentage of child brides in India is 42.9%.²⁰
- Around 13% of married women aged 15-19 years had experienced sexual violence in comparison to 8% in the 40-49 year age group.²¹
- The 2001 Census reports roughly 12.6 million children as being involved in labour, a 2011 UNICEF²² report stated a figure of 28 m. Despite the discrepancy, India continues to be home to the world's largest number of child labourers.
- Calculations made by the Asian Centre for Human Rights (ACHR), based on the various notifications put out by the government gives a figure of 197 districts being affected by armed conflict.²³
- There are at least 3,000 child soldiers in areas of armed conflict in North-East and J&K.²⁴
- An average number of 150 reported missing children per district (from available data) is extrapolated to all 640 districts in the country, the total number of missing children in India every year would come to the tune of 96,000. In the same way, if an average number of 54 untraced children per district is extrapolated to all districts including GRPFs in the country, the total number of untraced children in the country in a year would be 34,500.²⁵

¹⁹ National Crime Records Bureau, Crimes against children 2012

²⁰ UNICEF: *Child Marriage in India (An analysis of Available Data 2012)* Accessed on November 6, 2012. Available at <http://www.unicef.in/documents/childmarriage.pdf>

²¹ UNICEF: *Child Marriage in India (An analysis of Available Data 2012)* Accessed on November 6, 2012. Available at <http://www.unicef.in/documents/childmarriage.pdf>

²² United Nations Children's fund (UNICEF) *The situation of children in India: A Profile*. Accessed on November 18 2013, Available at http://www.unicef.org/sitan/files/SitAn_India_May_2011.pdf

²³ Asian Centre for Human Rights (ACHR), India's Child Soldiers: Government defends officially designated terror groups' record on the recruitment of child soldiers before the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, A Shadow Report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, p 5, March 2013.

²⁴ Asian Centre for Human Rights (ACHR), India's Child Soldiers: Government defends officially designated terror groups' record on the recruitment of child soldiers before the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, A Shadow Report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, p 5, March 2013.

²⁵ Bachpan Bachao Andolan, *Missing children of India*, 2012 Available <http://www.bba.org.in/sites/default/files/Synopsis.pdf>

ANNEXURE 2

INDIA'S RANKING IN DIFFERENT GLOBAL INDICES

As of November 2013

INDEX	INDIA'S LATEST PERFORMANCE/RANKING	REFERENCES/ SOURCES
<p>The Kids Right Index 2013</p> <p>This index is the first to provide insight into how 165 countries all over the world score in the field of implementing children's rights in five different domains: The right to Life, Health, Education, Protection and Child rights environment.</p>	<p>165 countries were assessed, and the rank was 114, with an overall score of 0,563 and scores of 0,66 0,56 0,56 0,66 0,42, on Life, Health, Protection and Environment respectively.</p>	<p>http://www.kidsrightsindex.org/</p>
<p>Birth Day Risk Index 2013:</p> <p>To determine in which country a baby is most likely to survive, <i>Save the Children</i> has calculated their first ever "Birth Day Risk Index" to identify the safest and most dangerous places to be born across 186 countries</p>	<p>India has been rated the 26th most dangerous country in the world for a child to be born, with 11 deaths per 1,000 live births.</p>	<p>http://www.healthynewbornnetwork.org/sites/default/files/resources/Birth%20Day%20Rate%20Index.pdf</p>
<p>Mothers Index 2013:</p> <p>This annual Mothers' Index assesses the well-being of mothers and children in 176 countries – more countries than in any previous year</p>	<p>A rank of 142 with several of its South East Asian Nations like Pakistan, Nepal, Bangaldesh, Indonesia, having better rankings.</p>	<p>http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/images/State_of_World_Mothers_2013.pdf</p>
<p>Human Development Index</p> <p>A composite statistic of life expectancy, education, and income indices used to rank 187 countries into four tiers of human development</p>	<p>A rank of 136 among 187 countries evaluated.</p> <p>India's HDI value for the last year at 0.554, placing it in the medium human development category</p>	<p>http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/undp-brackets-india-with-equatorial-guinea-in-human-development-index/article4510390.ece</p> <p>http://hdrstats.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/IND.html</p>

INDEX	INDIA'S LATEST PERFORMANCE/RANKING	REFERENCES/ SOURCES
<p>Child Development Index:</p>	<p>India's score is 26.62, with a ranking of 112 as of the year 2012.</p>	<p>http://chartsbin.com/view/gqm http://www.downtoearth.org.in/content/india-s-child-development-index-ranking-drops http://www.governancenow.com/views/think-tanks/indias-child-care-standards-dropping-report http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Child_Development_Index_2012_UK_low_res.pdf</p>
<p>The Child Development Index is made up of three indicators of three areas of child wellbeing- Health, Nutrition and Education, and surveyed 141 nations.</p>		
<p>Child Labour Index 2014:</p>	<p>Featured among the 83 countries rated 'Extreme Risk'</p>	<p>http://maplecroft.com/portfolio/new-analysis/2013/10/15/child-labour-risks-increase-china-and-russia-most-progress-shown-south-america-maplecroft-index/</p>
<p>In this Index ranking 187 countries, the frequency and severity of reported child labour incidents is evaluated, as well as the performance of governments in preventing child labour and ensuring the accountability of perpetrators. It has been developed to enable companies to understand and identify risks of children being employed within their supply chains in violation of international standards on minimum age of employment or in occupations that limit or damage their overall development.</p>	<p>In September 2013, the International Labour Organization (ILO) estimated that the rate of 5–17 year-olds engaged in child labour has decreased globally from 13.6 per cent in 2008 to 10.6 per cent in 2012. The number of children involved in the worst forms of child labour has also decreased from 115 million to 85 million during this time.</p>	<p>http://reliefweb.int/report/world/south-america-leads-battle-against-child-labour-russia-and-china-lagging-%E2%80%93-maplecroft</p>

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<p>Global Index of Health Inequality for Children 2013:</p> <p>World Vision's Global Health Gap Index ranked 176 countries according to the size of the gap between their health rich and health poor using four indicators: Life Expectancy, Personal Cost of using Health Services, The Adolescent Fertility Rate & Coverage of Health Services</p>	<p>A ranking of 135 out of 176 countries, with a Total Score of 416, while its neighbours like Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh all fared better with rankings of 60,100, 124 and 128 respectively.</p>	<p>http://www.worldvision.org/sites/default/files/The%20Killer%20Gap%20report%20FINAL.pdf</p>
<p>Global Hunger Index:</p> <p>2013 focus- Building resilience to achieve food and nutrition security. 120 countries were assessed.</p>	<p>Ranking of 63, moving from a position of 65 in 2012.</p> <p>The score for India has improved slightly from 22.9 in 2012 to 21.3 in 2013. This still puts India's score in the category of 'Alarming'</p>	<p><a href="http://www.jagranjosh.com/current-affairs/global-hunger-index-report-2013-india-ranked-at-63<sup>rd</sup>-position-1381841154-1">http://www.jagranjosh.com/current-affairs/global-hunger-index-report-2013-india-ranked-at-63rd-position-1381841154-1</p> <p>http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ib79.pdf</p>
<p>Global Food Security Index 2013:</p> <p>An annual measure of the state of global food security, measuring 107 countries in 2013</p>	<p>Rank of 70 and a score of 44.4 with 100 being most favourable.</p>	<p>http://foodsecurityindex.eiu.com/Index</p>
<p>Global Slavery Index:</p> <p>The Global Slavery Index also provides insight into the estimated absolute numbers of people in modern Slavery, in 162 countries.</p>	<p>India has ranked 4, with a weighted measure of 30.84. The country with the largest estimated number of people in modern slavery is India, which is estimated to have between 13,300,000 and 14,700,000 people enslaved.</p>	<p>http://www.globalslaveryindex.org/report/</p>

INDEX	INDIA'S LATEST PERFORMANCE/RANKING	REFERENCES/ SOURCES
<p>Gender Inequality Index:2013</p>	<p>136 out of 186 countries with a value of 0.610</p>	<p>http://hdr.undp.org/hdr4press/press/report/hdr/english/HDR2013_EN_Statistics.pdf</p> <p>http://www.indianexpress.com/news/hdr-india-still-ranks-low-in-gender-inequality-index/1088274/</p>
<p>A new index for measurement of gender disparity that was introduced in 2010. In 2013 it measured 186 countries. It reflects gender-based inequalities in three dimensions – reproductive health, empowerment, and economic activity</p>		
<p>The Education for All Development Index:</p>	<p>As of 2012,India ranked in the low category (EDI<0.80)</p>	<p>http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/ED/pdf/gmr2012-report-edi.pdf</p>
<p>A composite index that provides a snapshot of overall progress of national education systems towards Education for all, covering 127 countries.</p>		