

VIDYAVARDHAKASANGHA®

VIDYAVARDHAKA LAW COLLEGE

SHESHADRI IYER ROAD, MYSURU- 1

BRIEF REPORT ON CELEBRATION OF WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

Vidyavardhaka Law College Mysore celebrated World Day against Child Labour on 12th June 2024. Sri Lokesh, Advocate, Mysore Bar Association, addressed the students. He said child labour is present everywhere even today. Poverty, economic necessity, cultural and social norms are the main causes of child labour. Children suffer from both mental, physical illnesses and also experience educational disruption because of it.



It began in the 18th century during the Industrial revolution. Prussia, the present Germany, in 1839 passed laws to restrict child labour. In India, however, there is a mention in Arthashastra in the 3rd century that children were purchased for household work.

In 19th century India, Industrialisation was still in its rudimentary form. There were no laws to prevent child labour in India. Factories Act, 1948 was passed to provide a structure for children working in factories as children were employed in Cotton Mills for small-scale jobs without any assurance or protection. Age certificates were to be authenticated by medical officers and were entered in the register.



In 1922, India became the permanent member of International Labour Organisation, in 1988, National Child Labour Policy was introduced in 271 districts of India. Samagra Shikshana Abhiyan led to introducing Article 21A in the constitution of India which provided free and compulsory education for children between the age of 6 to 12. The Constitution has also emphasized on prohibition of Child Labour.

Factories Act, 1948, prevented child labour in 18 occupations and 16 hazardous processes. In 1998, Satyarthi conceived and led the Global March Against Child Labour which was an 80,000 km long march across 103 countries against worst forms of child labour. In 2016, Kishore Avasthe Scheme was introduced by the Karnataka Government to combat child labour.



Still today, 218 million children are working as labourers, out of which 152 millions are working in hazardous conditions. Highest number of child labour can be seen in African countries. He concluded by stating that today's children are citizens of tomorrow, their childhood should be protected by providing access to education and opportunity, if this is achieved only then can they contribute for the development of our nation.

The programme concluded with oath taken by students on prevention of child labour followed by vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Sridevi Krishna



Oath by students