

## **National Consultation on Right of Children to Safe and Quality Education**

Bhubaneswar (01-11-2018) Quality education is both a fundamental right for all, and an essential enabler for the achievement of other rights. States are obliged, collectively and individually, to make quality education available to all, at all levels, free of charge. Every child in whatever educational setting has the fundamental right to safe & quality education provided by quality teachers.

One day National consultation on Right of children to safe and quality Education organised by People's Cultural Centre [PECUC], NACG –EVAC, Odisha & Odisha Alliance for Child Rights, collaboration with National Action and Coordination Group for Ending Violence Against Children [NACG-EVAC] India, & AEIN & TDH[G]. More than 100 Participants from Assam, West Bengal, Nagaland, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Telangana, Tamilnadu, Pandichery, Delhi, Gujrat, various parts of Odisha, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh were participated in the programme at gave their suggestions.

Children's Right to Education includes children's Right to safe education & children's right to quality education said by Director General, SAIVAC, Dr Rinchen Chopel, Chief Guest on the National consultation on Right of Children to safe & quality Education at Bhubaneswar on the occasion. He gave emphasis that opportunity should be created to bring the children to the mainstream of education who are left out. Universalisation of education, access to education can ensure the rights of children.

Mr. Ranjan Kumar Mohanty, Secretary, PECUC and Convenor, NACG, Odisha gave the welcome address and introductory note that on Right of children to safe & quality education is to discuss on various issues & challenges along with recommendations & call of action for ensuring safety of children in school setups & their rights to quality education. He also emphasised on safe school campaign in schools.

Dr. Chiranjeeb Kakoty, Chair- NACG EVAC, India emphasized on the quality of teacher in the present scenario. Child Protection can be ensured in side school by background checks of the teachers and parents & children awareness too.

Mr. Michael Pradhan, Vice Chair, NACG EVAC India, draw our attention beginning with, "education starts at home", education is a collective responsibility of each citizen. Stated the figures of a study report by the ministry of women and child department reveals 1 out of 2 children are sexually abused. 52% could express in case of severe and moderate forms of abuse. 92% are perpetrators (mostly the children trust).

Chairing the inaugural session (Prof) Dr. Prabir Patnaik, Dean National law Institute SOA University gave emphasis that the initiative should be taken to measure the quality of teaching and teachers. Mr Prakash Rath, Co-convenor NACG EVAC-Odisha gave vote of thanks in the inaugural session.

In the panel discussion on safe & quality education Smt Rashmi Ranjan Sahoo, OAS, Officer on special duty Mo School Abhiyan & Deputy Secretary Govt of Odisha presided over the panel and said on "Mo School Abhiyan. The panel speakers are Smt Kasturi Mohapatra, Former Chairperson state Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Dr Amiya Mohanty, National Convenor, Joint Forum for Movement on Education, Mr P. Joseph Victor Raj, National Convenor, Campaign Against Child Labour [CACL], Mr Sanjay Gupta, EC Member NACG EVAC, India, focused on various aspects of the situation & recommendations i.e. universalisation of education, teachers scarcity, teachers training on child protection issues & standards, Right of education upto 18 years of age, quality teaching in schools, child friendly environment in schools, Life skill education in schools, disable friendly schools etc. Mr K.K SWAIN, NACG EVAC, Odisha gave vote of thanks in this session.