

CHILDLINE is a project of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (GOI) in partnership with State Governments, NGOs, International Donors, the Corporate Sector, Concerned Individuals and Children.

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FEBRUARY 200

Dear Readers

Bringing you the last issue covering the 'happening' year that was 2005, which is also our 10th anniversary year!

This has been a year of trials, celebrations as well as introspection. CHILDLINE responded to children struck by disasters that caused major upheavals in India, namely the Tsunami in the Southern India, the Mumbai Floods that caused havoc on 26 July and the days that followed and of course the Earthquake in Jammu and Kashmir.

Multiple initiatives were launched at CHILDLINE for stock taking, capacity building and planning the way ahead, the Northeast Strategic Meet, Task Force Meets and Tele-Counselling Workshops just to mention a few.

With so much of innovation, ideas and energy flowing, it is inevitable that 'Hello CHILDLINE' should get more interesting! We would like to share here some of the excitement we plan to bring into the forthcoming newsletters. Hello CHILDLINE is all set to embrace a wider readership including that of students and colleges of social work, social work personnel, corporate sector/ donors and government bodies. In focus for the year shall be certain key themes – Child Participation, Child Trafficking, the Juvenile Justice System.

A regular trend analysis of CHILDLINE statistics will be introduced to cover issues of children, regional issues and linkages of these issues with their macro causal factors such as government policies, MLA funds, national and state budgetary provisions etc. This can be used for state, regional and national level advocacy for child protection initiatives.

'Hello CHILDLINE' will be more interactive, our readers get there very own space on the new 'pin-up' board where special messages for the network / other cities etc. from our readers will be featured. Moreover we are introducing with this issue an exclusive space for children. So CHILDLINE cities lets have the poems, letters, postcard, drawings pouring in!

This issue also contains various events and workshops that took place in the months of November-December 2005 and January 2006.

Readers are invited to send thematic articles on child rights, to <u>documentation@childlinindia.org.in</u>. All contributions will be duly acknowledged. Looking forward to your proactive participation! Readers can also write in to the same mail id to let us know what you think of the new issue of Hello CHILDLINE!

Happy Reading!

What is CHILDLINE?

CHILDLINE is a national, 24-hour, free, emergency telephone helpline and outreach service for children in need of care and protection. The **CHILDLINE** number 1098 is a toll free number that is common in all the cities of India. Initially started in Mumbai in June 1996, **CHILDLINE** is currently operational in 67 cities. **CHILDLINE** aims to reach out to the most marginalised children between the age group of 0-18 years, and provides interventions of shelter, medical, repatriation, rescue, death related, sponsorships and, emotional support and guidance.

So if YOU see a child in distress, call 1098!

CHILDLINE is ringing in 67 cities of India:

Agartala, Ahmedabad, Ahmednagar, Akola, Allahabad, Alwar, Amaravati, Aurangabad, Baroda, Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Coimbatore, Cuttack, Cuddalore, Delhi, District South 24 Parganas, East Medinipur, Goa, Gorakhpur, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Imphal, Indore, Jaipur, Jalpaiguri, Jammu, Kalyan, Kanchipuram, Kanyakumari, Karaikkal, Kochi, Kolkata, Kollam, Kota, Kozhikode, Lucknow, Madurai, Mangalore, Mumbai, Murshidabad, Nadia, Nagapattinam, Nagpur, Nasik, Patna, Port Blair, Pune, Puri, Ranchi, Rourkela, Salem, Shillong, Sholapur, Thrissur, Thirunelveli, Thiruvananthapuram, Trichy, Udaipur, Ujjain, Varanasi, Vijaywada, Vishakapatnam, Wayanad, West Medinipur.







City Highlights and Happenings!

An Self-Awareness and Health Management training was conducted for 65 children such as street children, children from slums and children living on platforms and bus terminals. This training was organised by CHILDLINE Patna on 25th December Children were explained the importance of personal hygiene, preventive measures aaainst HIV/AIDS. information about physical/emotional evolutionary stages adolescence and ways of handling the same in a healthy fashion. resource persons for the training were Mr. Michel William and Ms. Manisha Tigga, Community Health Centre, Kurjee Holy Family Hospital, Patna.

At the court hearing of the Anchorage Case on 19th and 20th December, two out of the five witnesses spoke about the abuse they had been subjected to at the Anchorage Shelter. The statements of both boys were consistent through out the cross-examination. The boys identified Duncan Grant the main accused, his accomplice Alan Waters, and also William D'souza, the Shelter manager.

'Chalo Jalayen Deep Jahaan Andhera Ho' a awareness drive launched by CHILDLINE Ujjain during the Diwali festival for destitute children provided an opportunity to 40 street and children living on the railway platform to celebrate Diwali. These children also received sweets and new clothes.

CHILDLINEreceived 300 Calendars
published by BSNL free of

cost. These calendars display information about CHILDLINE in Marathi as well as in Hindi. MSW students volunteering for CHILDLINE Solapur helped self these calendars to raise a total of Rs. 3,500/- raised for CHILDLINE activities.

On 17th December 2005. CHILDLINE Visakhapatnam conducted an open house attended by 40 street children. Three children said they wanted to go home. Most of the children present at the open house were suffering from various ailments, while some were given First-Aid, others reauirina professional medical attention were taken to the public hospital after the open house was concluded. Children living on the railway station requested CHILDLINE for a First-Aid box, which was provided to the children. These children have agreed to meet twice a month with CHILDLINE team members, to discuss their problem, look for solutions, also agreed to act as CHILDLINE volunteers by referring a new child or a child in need of care and protection to CHILDLINE.

On 30th November 2005, Chandigarh CHILDLINE conducted their Child Participation meet successfully and received a lot of media coverage. A Children's Charter prepared. was On December 2005, a meeting was held with the Home Secretary, Chandigarh and the Director, Social Welfare Department during which issues related to Education, Sanitation, JJ Act, Shelters etc. were discussed since they had emerged during the Child Participation meet. Some developments positive

resulting from this meet include:

Government of Chandigarh has asked the CHILDLINE partner organisation to start a night shelter facility for children.

CHILDLINE Wayanad, with help from the Labour Department, rescued 4 children employed in a brick kiln on 26th December 2005. The rescued children are from Karnataka and are presently staying at shortstay home. Their parents have been traced and intimated. The children shall be repatriated soon. A case has been lodged against the brick-kiln owner.

CHILDLINE Goa successfully set-up a stall at the Navelim Festival for three days. The Navelim festival is widely popular and attended even by people living in remote areas villages of and Goa. Awareness about CHILDLINE was created through announcements on loudspeaker, slogans, group exercises and one-to-one interaction. Children and youth visited the CHILDLINE stall in large numbers. Stickers and pamphlets were also distributed.

NEW CHILDLINES!!

CHILDLINE Car Nicobar started ringing from 13th December 2005. The Collaborative Organisation for the same is Church of North India while CHILDLINE India Foundation is the Nodal.

Since 8th December 2005, the second collab. in Goa is ringing in **Jan Ugahi, Margao, Goa.**

CHILDLINE Jammu started ringing on 28th December 2005.

On 14th November, celebrating Children's Day, CHILDLINE Delhi organised a Child Rights Awareness rally to sensitise public on children's issues and concerns. The rally started from Don Bosco Ashalayam at 10.00 am and passed through various public places. The rally was vigorous, colourful, joyous and energised by children's enthusiasm, resonating with their laughter and voices raising slogans. songs. Street plays by children on issues affecting them only added to the fervour. 15 CHILDLINE team members and volunteers accompanied 150 children during the rally. The rally was concluded at Don Bosco Ashalayam. Thereafter lunch and clothes, sponsored by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, were distributed among the children.

As a follow-up to the City Level Child Participation Meet, on 19th November 2005, CHILDLINE Thrissur organised an interactive session between school children and owners/staff of Private Transport Contractor. 70 students from different schools across the city participated in this program. Bus Operators Association, drivers, conductors and cleaners also participated. Children shared their experiences and grievances. Private Transportation **Owners** assured greater sensitivity towards children using their vehicles. The program received ample coverage from the local media.

Connectivity from Private Telecom Providers

Presently 1098 connects from BSNL cellular service network only in Panjim area of Goa.

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Additionally efforts are on to ensure connectivity from all over Goa. Meanwhile Airtel and Idea already connect to CHILDLINE GOA!

CHILDLINE Varanasi has successfully ensured connectivity to 1098 from HUTCH and AIRTEL cellular service providers. However 1098 has to be dialled after dialling the Varanasi code and the service is not toll free at the moment. Efforts are being made to ensure toll free connectivity to 1098 from these providers.

CHILDLINE Trivandrum as part of the Anti-Child Beggary displayed Campaign, awareness slides discouraging the public from giving alms in leading movie halls. The Chief Judicial Magistrate, Joint Director of Social Welfare Department are collaborating with CHILDLINE Trivandrum in dealing with cases that have come up as

In a meeting with Mr. K.

Joyraman, Superintendent of

Railway Police, Howrah,

issues concerning children

living and working on railway

platforms were discussed, it

was felt that education was

Education was also identified

as effective tool to curtail

children's involvement in

Illegal activities. Mr. Joyraman

informed CHILDLINE Kolkata

he would hold a meeting with

members from these NGO's

working with children, so as to

chart out a plan of action for

redressal of the children's

problem and their proper

On 5th November 2005, when

the new Mayor T. Sakunthala

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rehabilitation.

Vijayawada

Kolkata

a result of the campaign. The Social Welfare Department will be sponsoring posters raising awareness against child beggary, with 1098 as the referral number!

On December 12th 2005. CHILDLINE Delhi along with other Non Government **Organisations** (NGO's) observed the International Anti-Trafficking day bv setting up two awareness booths at the New Delhi railway station. 20 youth volunteers from various colleges across the city helped CHILDLINE team members raise awareness among porters, vendors, PCO owners, auto and taxi drivers as well as among police officials.

CHILDLINE Port Blair celebrated Children Day on 14th November 2005 along with children from various communities and children from Government Homes in the South Andaman. Around 1500 children were part of the celebrations. The day's events included singing, group dance performances, fancy dress competitions etc. Two days prior to the children's day celebrations drawing а competition was also conducted and prizes were distributed to the winners during the children's day celebrations.

The South Zone Tele-Counseling workshop was held for two batches of 25 participants each on 26th -27th and 28th - 29th January 2006 respectively.



Children perform at the Children's Day Celebration organised by CHILDLINE Port Blair

Advocacy

Garu was handed over the Presidency of the Forum for Child Rights, CHILDLINE Vijayawada briefed the Mayor and other members of the forum about CHILDLINE, activities and experiences.

Tirunelveli

National Child Labour Project has provided free space for CHILDLINE digital banner on their website. Additionally CHILDLINE Tirunelveli will be working closely with the Labour Department, Police and officials of the National Child Labour Project to address issues resulting from poverty in Tirunelveli.

Sub Division Police Officer (SDPO) of Lalbagh, Murshidabad District (a source area of crossborder trafficking) has offered his support to CHILDLINE Murshidabad rescuina and rehabilitating children with help from the Border Security Force.

Initiatives

- Border Security Force has invited CIF and CHILDLINE partners in Murshidabad to conduct an orientation program for its officers on Child Protection Issues that require their intervention and on CHILDLINE, during the last week of December.
- iii. CIF representatives visited some of the sweatshops of the Bidi industry in Aurangabad, Murshidabad District. The General Manager of

- one of the reputed bidi factory assured support to CIF and CHILDLINE partners in exploring other alternatives that would help in rehabilitation of children in this industry.
- After a meeting with CIF representative CHILDLINE partners, the District Medical Officer has agreed to provide free medical attention to children referred by **CHILDLINE** to the Murshidabad Sadar Hospital. He has also assured **CHILDLINE** Murshidabad that he would send a letter requesting various government hospitals and clinics at the block level to extend support CHILDLINE.

CIF's Initiative in Murshidabad





Innovations at CHILDLINE!!

1st December 2005 was World AIDS Day. **CHILDLINE Puri** arranged an awareness programme aimed at sensitising the public on the struggle, pain and special needs of children affected by/suffering from HIV/AIDS.

On 12th November 2005, **CHILDLINE Patna** along with volunteers from Hartmann Girl's High School and Daffodils Academy raised awareness about CHILDLINE among 150 students as well as other visitors, who had come to the Zoo.

Capitalising on the annual festival called Bali Yatra held in the month of November, **CHILDLINE Cuttack**, Orissa put up an awareness stall for the seven days festival. This festival is very popular and is also attended by people from the neighbouring states.

On 10th December 2005, **CHILDLINE Mangalore**, in collaboration with Youth Focussed Health Education Project of YMCA & Education Department, conducted a debate competition on the topic "Should we allow children living with HIV/AIDS to get admitted to normal school" for school children. This programme was initiated to address the

social stigma attached to a person living with HIV/AIDS. 102 high school children from 28 schools participated in this programme. Debates were conducted in both English and Kannada. 3 winners for each section were awarded cash prize. While the rest of the participants received participation certificates.

Duggi receives an award from the President...

The June 2005 edition of 'Hello Childline' carried the story of young tribal girl child, called Duggi, who had defied age-old traditions, the child had run away from home when her family tried to get her married to a 50-year-old man. She wandered alone in a nearby jungle for 7 days, eating wild fruits and roots to satiate her hunger until she remembered an aunt who had supported her on an earlier occasion. The child contacted the aunt who then filed an FIR at the local police station. **CHILDLINE Cuttack** received a call from the police station seeking help for the child. She has since been staying in a CHILDLINE support organization's shelter home. The guilty members of her family and the 50-year-old man are now behind bars.

We are proud to inform you that this courageous young girl, all of 14 now received the bravery award from the President of India on the 26th January 2006. Duggi was also interviewed by CNN.

Pin-up Board

Vest Zone Tele-is

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In the East Zone, the Tele-Counselling workshop shall take place between 11th and 12th April at Kolkata. 40 team members from CHILDLINEs' across the East and Northeast region are scheduled to workshop. attend the Renowned Psychologist and Head of Department of Psychology at Kolkata, Dr. Nilanjana Sanyal along with her resource team shall facilitate the workshop.

Workshop in the North

April in the month

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CHILDLINE stimated

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facilitate the workshop.

Hey readers this pin-up board is exclusively for you! So send your special messages for the network / other cities etc. to documentation@childlineindia.org.in to have your messages posted here in the upcoming newsletters. Please note that all the messages need to be sent in by the 10^{th} of every month to ensure that the information is displayed on time.

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Advocacy Initiatives (Contd...)

As a result of CIF's recent efforts towards convergence between the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Department of Women & Child Development, GOI is that Mr Sundeep Khanna, Additional Secretary, Ministry Social Justice Empowerment has issued a circular dated 20th October 2005, to the Secretaries of Social Welfare Departments/ Departments of Women & Child Welfare/ Departments Social lustice

Empowerment/ and Departments Social of Security. The circular requests the concerned departments to initiate steps to develop a Child healthy Protection System in the concerned state. The steps recommended in this document to improve the conditions of children in need of care and protection are as follows:

Initiation of necessary steps to ensure the full implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2000

- Provide budgetary allocation at the local level for initiating CHILDLINE's in new locations
- Encouraging the local administration to set up CHILDLINE Advisory Boards at the city/district level followed by regular meetings of this body.
- Provision for free transport facilities for

restoration of children to their families

- Representation of CHILDLINE in any committee at the district/ state level dealing with child related issues
- Free and on priority medical treatment to all children referred by CHILDLINE in all government hospitals

The National Children's Meet (NCM)

Commemorating ten years of CHILDLINE in India, The National Children's Meet (NCM) is set to happen in the month of June, 2006 as a culmination of year-long city and state level CHILDLINE Children's Meets happening across the country. The theme for the National Children's Meet is "CHILDLINE Calling....... is India listening?"

Children's participation has been critical to planning and evaluating the CHILDLINE service. Through the city and state level meets, children have effectively interfaced with the Allied Systems and have been immensely successful in giving the local administration insights into their issues and problems encountered during their interaction with the Allied Systems. The National Children's Meet aims at facilitating interaction of children at a common national forum to present their local issues, concerns and also share their vision of an Ideal India.

Going an extra mile for CHILDLINE!

The Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon, 2006 was held in Mumbai on January 15, 2006. Over 20,000 people ran in the Marathon, Half Marathon and the 7 km Dream Run to raise funds from colleagues, friends and family for the charity they chose to run for.

However, the marathon at CHILDLINE India Foundation (CIF) began four weeks before the real event in January 2006, when the Awareness & Advocacy team first woke up to the then upcoming Mumbai Marathon. Almost everybody at CIF was roped

in to raise pledges for CHILDLINE. An introductory letter explaining how the Mumbai Marathon operated for charities was prepared and sent, calls were made to corporates and individuals (mostly personal contacts of CIF members), prospective Dream Team runners were identified and contacted and the website had an added visual with the necessary information.

All the efforts and energy put into the Marathon paid off- and rather well at that- CHILDLINE received an overwhelming response from 9 corporates namely, – Bank of America, General Insurance Corporation of India, HDFC, Mphasis Software & Services (India) Pvt. Ltd., Sanofi Aventis, Star India Pvt. Ltd., Reliance Industries Ltd., Tata AIG General Insurance Company Ltd. and Tata Teleservices Ltd., ran the Corporate Challenge in support of CHILDLINE!

We also had 5 Dream Team runners who had committed a lakh each towards the cause – Mr Nawshir Mirza, Mr Ashish Kacholia, Mr Atul Sud, Mrs Neeta Dharnidharkara and Mr Madhu Sudhan. Former Ms. World (2001) Aditi Gowitrikar also ran for CHILDLINE.

There were also several Pleaders, United runners running for CHILDLINE including several members from CHILDLINE India Foundation (CIF). Added to this a fair enough acknowledgment for the collective efforts of CIF members was an award from PROCAM International for the second highest funds raised by an NGO!

This will go some way in supporting the yawning gaps that CHILDLINE has in funding.









Task Force Meet–Networking and Advocacy Strategies

The first meeting of the task force on 'Networking and Advocacy Strategies' was organised on 15th and 16th of December 2005.

Some of the areas of discussions during this meet are mentioned below (based on which certain recommendations evolved):

- The common understanding on Networking and Advocacy
- Role of CHILDLINE in Networking and Advocacy
- Core issues that need advocating
- Basic framework for Advocacy and Networking

- Advocacy and Networking Model for CHILDLINE
- Strategising advocacy: principles-lobbying and documenting

The group also discussed and decided three priority areas where the CHILDLINE Network needs to initiate advocacy initiatives across the country. These areas are include -Child Labour, Child Trafficking, Implementation of JJ Act, 2000.

Through small group discussions followed by this, evolved the basic mechanisms for institutionalising the advocacy practices in the network. Further brainstorming on

various mechanisms vis-à-vis the existing model of CHILDLINE stimulated various issues that need an in-depth discussion and have direct implications over strategies.

The broad outcome of the meeting was:

- CHILDLINE India Task Force (CITF) should be set up as an anchoring committee to drive all the advocacy processes in country
- State Level Coordination Committee should be set up to implement and drive state level advocacy processes.
- Professionals with background in research

- to be involved in data processing and analysis at different levels. Moreover critical stake holders like representatives of media, judiciary, and bureaucracy to be directly involved in driving processes.
- Sub-groups were formed to develop issue based approach papers. These papers will form the base for next meeting of the taskforce.
- The strategic paper to be drafted by the PRAD team at CIF and to be circulated to the members for their comments and suggestions.

Tele-counselling Workshop

Two Tele-counselling workshops were conducted in Chennai in the month of January for CHILDLINE team members from all southern CHILDLINE cities.

The workshop was organised to refine the tele-counselling skills of team members to help them deal with the whole range of calls received at CHILDLINE. The workshop also aimed at identification of the barriers that affect the quality of interface between the child calling CHILDLINE and CHILDLINE team members and ways to minimise the same.

Resource persons for the first day of the workshop were drawn from Sneha – a Helpline service working with suicidal or stressed individuals. The first day was divided into two sessions. The first session was on Communication and Reflective Vocabulary. Concepts such as external and internal blocks, identification of types of communications, anticipated expectations of a caller, positive and negative feelings, importance of listening and qualities of a good listener were brought to the fore during this session.

The second session was on Counselling and Developing Communication Skills. Through role plays, group activities and brain storming sessions the participants were familiarised with the concepts such as communication skills, voice modulation, reflective vocabulary. The importance of internalising four qualities – compassion, acceptance, respect and empathy was also stressed.

On the second day, resource persons from TULIR an organisation addressing Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) conducted the sessions. The first session on the second day of the workshop focussed on Awareness and capacity building on child sexual abuse. Through story analysis, experiences and presentations the participants and the facilitators grappled with the concept of,

reactions to, appropriate handling of children affected by Child Sexual Abuse. This session highlighted services and programs for prevention and healing of CSA such as training and sensitisation of stakeholders, intervention and healing, research and documentation, advocacy and networking etc.

The session also dealt with types of CSA, Indian and international laws and covenants addressing CSA, preparing children to protect themselves against sexual abuse, effects of CSA and the role of CHILDLINE in dealing with a victim of CSA. This session was peppered with group activity, story analysis, etc.

Handbills with the definition of tele counselling and some do's and don'ts were distributed. CHILDLINE India Foundation (CIF) concluded the workshop with a reinforcement of the need for appropriate identification of all calls including those related to CSA, and ensure documentation to capture the finer details of every call received and case intervened in by CHILDLINE.



Team Members enact a play at the South Zone
Tele-counselling Workshop





Task Force Meet – Re-engineering and Growth

CHILDLINE INTROSPECT 2006

The Task Force Meet for Reengineering and Growth was held 8th and 9th February, in Mumbai. Kajol Menon, ED, CIF, started proceedings with a Curtain Raiser Presentation titled," Nose of the Dum Dum Bullet". The agenda of the meet was outlined as:

- Review of existing CHILDLINE model of partnerships at the city level.
- Review of operational issues.
- Analyze the existing intervention model with a view to enhancing quality of and number of interventions.
- Evaluate the various technology options for expanding reach of 1098.
- Benchmarking Performance on interventions & costs.
- Related aspects: Communication, HR, and Outreach.

The end goals for the Task force were:

 Recommendation on Partnerships structures at Rural, City, District and State level, with clear definition of roles and performance parameters.

- Roadmap on expansion of geographic coverage with benchmarks.
- Well-defined model of Social Intervention with clearly defined methods for evaluation and effectiveness measurement.
- Leveraging appropriate technologies at all levelsevaluation of technologies and recommendations.

The participants of this task force meet were divided into four groups- Technology, Coverage, Partnerships and Intervention- to deliberate on and recommend a clearly defined way forwards for each area. Each of the groups met several times and made a presentation during the final session. In between a Lateral Thinking Workshop, Thinking Hats, based Edward De Bono's work was conducted along with Dr. Phil's personality assessment test, providing the much-needed relief from the serious tone of the deliberations.

Highlights of the presentations from the teams:

Technology: Recommendations included adopting the centralized 24x7 Call Centre model in each city with tele counselling based out of the Central Call Centre and calls needing physical intervention

transferred to being the interventions teams Collabs/Support organizations. In addition, in outlying areas, which are a part of the economic zone of urban cities, activists operating out of homes wand connected with mobile phones would be effective both on speed and quality of intervention. For Rural areas, connectivity through existing ICT programs and through HAM radio network was presented. The need for connectivity on Mobile (voice and sms) and landline networks of Private Telecom Service Providers highlighted.

Coverage: The character diversity (demographic/ aeographic/historical trends) of each region in the country and existing patterns that were well known (natural calamity prone areas, child labour areas, pedophile areas, child labour areas, street and slum children areas, poverty prone areas, conflict prone areas, low economic development areas) are to be the key deciding criteria in planning out the growth of CHILDLINE centers in each state and prioritization over the country. In disaster / crisis prone states/areas special disaster management structures would be created which could immediately commence operations in the event of a disaster. Since coverage strategy and Partnership structures were so intertwined, it was decided that this group and the partnership group would be merged.

Partnership: The focus was on" strengthening the existing partnership through progressive alliance-building that will lead to greater commitment, compassion and compliance with action for Protection of Children' Rights" For this it was proposed:

- a Multi-point Contact Intervention (involving new technologies such as Ham radio, SMS, etc.)
- Focus on Outreach
- a child-centric communitybased preventive approach especially in rural areas
- Developing a watchdog mechanism within communities that will hold allied structures accountable
- Fill up and strengthen the gaps in the Child Rights system.

Intervention- In depth analysis of the micro level, middle level and macro level initiatives for intervention were analyzed and an outline of way forwards, for a performance benchmarked model allowing for a standardized quality of intervention at all levels, was presented.

Follow-up on the Aurangabad Intervention case..

In the last issue of Hello CHILDLINE, we had highlighted a case intervention involving **CHILDLINE Aurangabad** where it was discovered that the son of the president of the shelter home was sexually abusing the girls staying there. Sharing with you the latest developments here.

The Department of Women and Child Development, Maharashtra has appointed two lady officers for investigations. Police have registered a case under (Atrocity against scheduled caste and class) Act 1956, since the child belongs to a scheduled caste.

On 5th January 2006, the accused mother produced evidence her son was 17yrs and 9 months. Subsequently he was produced before the Juvenile Justice Board that directed medico-legal officials to determine the age of the accused. However, the accused who was released on bail is presently absconding.

On 8th December 2005, Student Federation of India (SFI) submitted a letter to the Ministry Of Women and Child Welfare requesting a CID enquiry into the matter.

Further, under orders from the State Government the shelter home is deprived of funds since 10th December 2005. Meanwhile it has been confirmed that the accused is 22 years old and an arrest warrant has been issued for him.

After CHILDLINE'S intervention in this case, the District Women and Child Welfare Officer has been demoted to the post of Child Development Project Officer. Also, the State Human Rights Commission has taken cognise of the case. It was also discussed at the Maharashtra Cabinet Ministers meeting in Nagpur.



Play for Peace Workshops



Enabling CHILDLINEs to Reach out to The Children

In the month of December under the Tsunami response programme, workshops for capacity building of CHILDLINE members organised with resource persons from Play For Peace. workshops These were conducted for CHILDLINE team members from the South Zone with around 60 participants spread over two batches.

in Need through Play

Play is an integral part of childhood. Often the children who access the CHILDLINE service are children in distress. This workshop helped emphasise the role of play in de-stressing and rejuvenating children. The workshop aimed at capacity building of CHILDLINE team members to involve play in their interactions with children in situations like open houses,

awareness initiatives and out reach programmes. The resource persons for the respect others, and to break down generations of cultural barriers."



Team Members implement their learning from the Play for Peace workshop

workshop – Sam Tower, Sarah Tower and Imroz - were drawn from Play For Peace that locally "works through community leaders and youth facilitators to teach children, teens, and adults to trust and The training was designed to bring about a positive change by utilising the therapeutic value of Play. Through various games CHILDLINE team members learnt how Play can be used to teach children

values such as co-operation, absence of judgement, no winners no losers, safety first physical & emotional. inclusiveness - everyone is welcome to join, role modelling – do what I do and not do what I say, Fun (even facilitators must enjoy as they non-judgemental attitude. Participants also learned how to select and plan play sessions.

Inspite of the fact that, participant came from four different states of South India, language did not become a constraint. major participants enjoyed themselves completely and took back learnings already reflected in the activities stated in their monthly reports. There have been requests from other CHILDLINE partner organisations requesting a more localised workshop along the same lines for all their team members.

Bal-manch in Nagpur

On December 14th 2005, CHILDLINE Nagpur in collaboration of Dr. Upaddhyay, DIG (Prison, eastern region), and Mr. E.V.Kovekar, Social Welfare Officer held a 'special' children's meet in Nagpur city. This meet was held for children whose parents are in prison. Although most of these children reside outside the prison walls, they live a very stigmatised and oppressive existence. This meet was an attempt to create a space for these children to articulate their life experiences and concerns. Children shared their experiences of neglect and discrimination because their parents are prisoners. They also said that schooling for most of them was a painful experience as they were looked down upon by their peers and often derogatory and insulting comments were made about them. Consequently, Dr. Upaddhyay has volunteered to sponsor the education of 10 children up to the 10th standard. CHILDLINE Nagpur team members have also chalked out a plan of action for children's meet along the same lines for the entire Vidarbha region.



Children articulate their concerns during groupwork at the Bal-manch





Standing Ovation

As she passed the 'big house' on her way back from work Meena heard a child sobbing. On investigation, she found a little airl of not more than five years sitting on the porch. The house was locked from inside. Soon Meena struck gu conversation with the child and asked her why she was sitting there all alone so late in the evening (it was 8 pm). The child said she worked for the residents of the 'bia house' and that her employers had beaten her and thrown her out of the house because she had not completed her tasks on time. Meena immediately called her colleagues at CHILDLINE. Together they lodged a complain at the local police station and were given custody of the child.

From the police station the CHILDLINE team members made their way to the hospital. During the journey, the child began to cry inconsolably. All attempts to pacify her were fruitless. Team members decided to stop for a meal. With her tummy full the child seemed content and for the rest of the journey she communicated little.

At the hospital the child's multiple bruises were treated. She was also diagnosed as suffering from malnourishment. With care affection and a wholesome diet Anu began to regain her health after a while. Team



CHILDLINE team members pose for a photograph

members were conscious that for the visible and invisible marks of her trauma to be heal and for the child to experience a carefree childhood would require a sustained nurturing environment and relationship. Team members soon discovered that the child was a orphan.

Anu was presented before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). Under it's directives Anu is presently placed under the care of an adoption agency and is awaiting a loving family and a cozy home to make her a part of them.

Can we just give a big round of applause to Meena who walked passed a certain house, tired after a full days work, on that fateful day and thought the cry of a child was important - it touched the chords of her heart -and she answered call such that she managed to change the course of a life which was doomed to perish unmourned............

Meet our team members - Like Anu there are many who could think of an angel in their lonely lives. Many children all over the country have met them - have we? They are the stars of the CHILDLINE family - it is they who touch the lives of children and etch compassion into this program. If not for their alertness and their commitment CHILDLINE would never have reached the heights, for it is these Samaritans who toil all the time and build those bridges between the children and the service. They are the lifelines of CHILDLINE.

They are the roots of the CHILDLINE program and it is their work that gets the bloom on the CHILDLINE tree. Their work extends beyond

the call of duty beyond the calls and the outreach and the open houses. They remain the unsung heroes (gender bias not intended) of the program.

While many a CHILDLINE team member joins the program looking for a niche for survival. Soon s/ meraes into program growing stronger and more dedicated to the well being of children and a firm believer in their riahts with experience of making a difference. Many of them may not be qualified or finished even schoolina – vet havina faced difficult life situations themselves they empathetic to the plight of children. Sometimes they are street youth who as children have themselves been the beneficiaries of CHILDLINE.

We invite CHILDLINEs' across the country to share their team member's intervention in your city – which requires commendation – to recognize the hard work and effort that they put into 'being there 24 hours for children'!

^{*} All original names have been changed





Making

a Difference - CHILDLINE Intervention

Three CHILDLINEs' rescue a trafficked child...

On 1st September 2005, 14vear-old Vanita was sold to a local trafficker so that her father could repay his loan. After cutting a deal with the agent and receiving money parents Vanita's were making their journey back home in Sangamner in a hired vehicle. During their journey the driver overheard their conversation while they discussed the details of the deal. He called CHILDLINE Nashik at the first opportunity he got.

On investigation it was found that Vanita belonged to a small tribal community, living 7km away from Sangamner, most of the members of this community were illiterate and made a living by brewing and selling country liquor. Vanita's father had borrowed 3 Lakhs from a local moneylender, unable to pay back the same Vanita's father sold her to an agent hailing from Sangamner but based in Mumbai called Banu. Banu had been actively involved in trafficking minors to brothels, hotels and dance bars. She maintained close contacts with members of this community who were always under financial strain and found their children to be disposable assets.

CHILDLINE Mumbai with help from the Divisional Police Chief of Sangamner, got Banu and ten other arrested. A case was registered under the Prevention of Immoral Trafficking Act 1986. During interrogation Banu revealed that Vanita had been sent to a brothel in Kolkatta.

CHILDLINE Kolkata was contacted and details about the child were shared. CHILDLINE Kolkatta with help from the local police traced the brothel and rescued the child.

Banu's colleagues operating in Kolkata were also arrested and cases were filed against them. The child was presented before the CWC and has been referred to a shelter home.

CHILDLINE prevents a child marriage...

Tikli, a 15-vear-old orphaned girl, was being forced into marriage by her cousins who wanted to appropriate the property that was in her name. Her cousins conspired to get her married to an illiterate man who was 12 vears older than her. A concerned adult called CHILDLINE Ahmednagar, on 15th December 2005, and informed that this marriage was scheduled to take place the next day at the Police Recreation Hall. CHILDLINE immediately called the Sub-Inspector of Police and briefed him about the case. CHILDLINE team members obtained a copy of the child's birth certificate and arrived at the marriage venue early the next day accompanied by police personnel. The child's relatives put up some resistance but were finally dissuaded by the police and a written statement was taken from them that they would not make the child marry before she turns 18 and that they would not force her to marry against her wishes. CHILDLINE is pursing the matter with higher police officials.

A child gets justice...

On 15 January 2003. **CHILDLINE Delhi** rescued an 8-year-old girl child who had been raped by her father. The child along with her two sisters was put in a Government Shelter home. During the trail, the child expressing her sense of violation and anger said she wanted her father to be hanged. On 11th November 2005 the father was given life imprisonment. The Judge applauded CHILDLINE and the case received ample media coverage.

Raghu gets yet another chance to live...

"I will die soon. But I don't want to stay at home to see my mummy and my little brother starving", Raghu, 11, moaned as he unraveled his heartache at a counselling session with **CHILDLINE Bangalore.**

Raghu hailed from Hosur, Tamilnadu. He was suffering from heart ailments since birth. His mother a coolie worker desperately wanted to save her child. Whenever the pain became acute, she used to take him to a nearby Government Hospital. Raghu's father died two years ago. Apart from Raghu, his mother had three more children to feed. When Raghu's ailments got worse the family's meagre resources were further stretched to meet his medical bills. Unable to see his family struggle Raghu quietly left home.

The child made his way to the Bangalore City Market. By this time, he face and legs had swollen. To feed himself, Raghu pleaded with many hotel owners to give him a job, however no one listened. A disappointed Raghu finally sat in a corner of the market area, wondering what to do next. This was when he was seen by a concerned adult who referred him to CHILDLINE Bangalore.

CHILDLINE contacted the child's mother who requested CHILDLINE to provide medical attention. After referrals to various hospitals, it was at Manipal Hospital, that the child was finally diagnosed and a open heart surgery urgently recommend by the doctors. In December 2005 the child was successfully operated upon.

The money needed for the operation, costing more than one lakh ten thousand Rupees was raised locally. Contributions from the well-to do, hospital authorities, police officials, public figures and middle class families made the operation possible

Raghu's mother visits him often as he recuperates in the hospital. She is extremely grateful to all those who made the possibility of life a reality for her child. CHILDLINE team members are ecstatic.

Providing Shelter for an abandoned child...

On 28th December 2005, CHILDLINE Coimbatore received a call from the Director of a Special School to inform CHILDLINE about an infant abandoned on the steps of the school. The child was brought to the CHILDLINE centre provided milk and allowed to rest. The District Social Welfare Officer was informed about the baby. The





child was provided temporary shelter at PEACE Society, a licensed adoption agency in Coimbatore. The same day the child was produced before the Child Welfare Committee, that handed over to PEACE Society for further care. Meanwhile. the registration procedures for adopting a child were published in dailies. CHILDLINE received several calls seeking guardianship or adoption of the for abandoned child. There was a lot of media coverage from print and electronic media and the case was shared on FM Radio.

Providing shelter to a stigmatised child...

On 2nd November 2005 **CHILDLINE Jalpaiguri** was informed about Marina, a 16 year old girl who had been hospitalised after being poisoned by her father. Her father had poisoned her because she was expecting a child outside wedlock. Although Marina's life was saved, the baby did not survive. Marina was shocked. scared and distrustful. Her only visitors were CHILDLINE team members who, over several visits, were able to build up her confidence in them.

Maina told CHILDLINE that she did not want to go back to her father but would fight against the injustice meted out to her. CHILDLINE referred the child to the Child Welfare Committee, who directed Marina to be sheltered at a short stay home for Destitute Girls & Women.

CHILDLINE, in collaboration with the short stay home, is all set to file a case on behalf of Marina. At present Marina

is recuperating at the shelter home and has involved herself in the day to day activities at the shelter.

Facilitating a child's quest for justice...

On 11th November 2005, Mariam called **CHILDLINE Shillong** and said her neighbour had sexually abused her. This neighbour a 35-year-old man warned her not to tell her mother about it constant touch with the girl and her family and court proceedings are attended regularly.

A girl child returns home...

CHILDLINE Alwar found a 15-year-old girl, Amrita all by herself in Alwar city area. During their consequent conversation with the girl, CHILDLINE team members found that Amrita had been

CHILDLINE team members found that Amrita had been

Team Members from CHILDLINE Delhi prepare for the Anti-Trafficking Rally

रात २४ घन्टे चाइन्ड लाइन व

and threatened that he would kill her father if she did. However, Mariam told her friends who asked her to call CHILDLINE.

The team members rushed to the spot and met the girl and her mother. An FIR was lodged in the local police station, the child was then taken to a hospital for a medical examination. There the doctor suggested for an X-ray and dental test for age determination, a woman police constable collected the child's clothes to be sent for forensic test. The perpetrator was arrested that evening. The child's statement was recorded before the district court the following day.

The accused is presently behind bars. CHILDLINE is in

working as a domestic servant and had runaway from her employers when the physical abuse became unbearable.

The child was told about 1098 and the services CHILDLINE provides, she agreed to come to the CHILDLINE Center. Amrita told CHILDLINE that she was originally from Paschim Medinipur district in West Bengal and that she had been brought to work as a domestic help by a resident of her village. Thereafter, **CHILDLINE Paschim** Medinipur was briefed about the child so that her parents could be traced.

Meanwhile CHILDLINE Alwar presented Amrita before the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), which directed that the child be sheltered at a short stay home till she can be repatriated.

CHILDLINE Paschim Medinipur successfully traced Amrita's family. It was found that the person who had brought Amrita to Raigsthan routinely trafficked children to various destinations. CHILDLINE lodged complaint against this person at the local police station. CHILDLINE Alwar was informed that Amrita's parents had been found.

On 29th December 2005, a team member from CHILDLINE Alwar along with a lady police

constable handed over the child to CHILDLINE Paschim Medinipur. Amrita, then was repatriated to her village by CHILDLINE Paschim Medinipur and handed over to her parents in presence of the Panchayat Pradhan and other Panchayat members.

Rescuing trafficked children...

During an outreach programme conducted at the Shahdra railway station on December 2005 CHILDLINE found 12 children who were being trafficked. On questioning the only adult accompanying them. CHILDLINE found him to be elusive. CHILDLINE team members then spoke to the children who said that the man accompanying them was an uncle who had brought them to Delhi for a CHILDLINE visit. team immediately members contacted the nearest police station where the trafficker was taken. During interrogation he revealed that he had brought the children from Rampur to Delhi and that he earned Rs. 300 per





child per month but since these children were not working properly he was taking them back home. The trafficker was put behind bars. While the children were provided temporary shelter until their parents could be traced.

Providing shelter for a victim of abuse...

12-year-old Munni, orphaned child, faced severe abuse at the hands of her employers for whom she worked as a domestic help. Munni not only took care of the employers two children aged 4 years and 2 years respectively, but also did all the other household chores. She was often beaten and even had hot water thrown at her. One day finding an opportunity Munni fled her employer's house and found herself in Panjim, Goa. She immediately called her older

Munni's sister sister contacted CHILDLINE Goa. **CHILDLINE** lodaed a complaint against the employers at a Women's Police Station. Munni's sister was married and worked as a domestic help. she expressed her inability to take care of Munni and requested CHILDLINE to provide a shelter for the child. CHILDLINE produced the child before the Child Welfare Committee which directed that the child be sheltered at a local temporary shelter home till further arrangements are made .The case against the child's former employers is being pursued by CHILDLINE Goa.

Rescuing a child from abuse...

On 15th November 2005, **CHILDLINE Baroda** received a call from a concerned adult informing them about a child who had been locked inside

the house for three days by her employers. After taking down details about the location. CHILDLINE team members rushed to the spot and found the girl at the window . CHILDLINE team members struck up a conversation with the child who told them that she had working for the been employers since the last 5 vears and was often subjected to verbal and physical abuse. The team members later spoke to the employer's neighbours who confirmed the child story. The child said she was often locked in the house when her employers went out of town. The child however was reluctant to be rescued since she feared the wrath of the house-mistress. She had not eaten anything in the last three days so the team members provided her something to eat through the Gradually window.

became more comfortable and was willing to be rescued. CHILDLINE team members contacted the local police station. After the initial reluctance, the police rescued the child after they spoke to the child and got a written statement saying that she wanted to be rescued. The child was then brought to the CHILDLINE centre, during the consequent counselling session the child said that she did not know anything about her family but knew that she originally hailed from Palej. The child was provided temporary shelter at the 'State Home for Women'.

Medical records showed that the child was in the age group of 13 to 15 years. A case has been registered against the employers. Presently the child is staying at the State Home for Women and seems happy.

* All original names of children have been changed

Commonwealth Telecommunication Conference (Cochin)



CONNECTING RURAL COMMUNITIES - Emerging Technologies and Best Practice Solutions for Rural ICT Access

This global summit was organized by the Commonwealth Telecom Organisation in conjunction with Centre for Telecom Policy Studies, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad and hosted by BSNL at the spectacular Le Meridian Resort &

Convention Centre, Cochin between the 30^{th} of Jan and 2^{nd} of Feb. 2006.

CHILDLINE was invited to make a presentation to highlight the issues faced by a nationwide tele-helpline. The objective was to draw the attention of all the key telecom stakeholders in India- TRAI, BSNL, MTNL, DOT, Private Telecom Service Providers, and Rural ICTs on the need to support helplines like CHILDLINE 1098.

The presentations demonstrated the progress in telecom technology and many innovative case studies of Rural ICTs were presented.

The presentation on CHILDLINE 1098 made the point, about the need for greater support from telecom sector, effectively. The organizers made it a point to address it in the concluding session. Offers of support came from DOT, TRAI, World Space Radio, Intel, Singtel, and many of the delegates. Delegates from Africa wanted to come over and study our model in order to implement similar structures in their own country.





Children Voice's

चाइतः लाइन सा कोई नहीं

बाइतड लाइन का हर कीन, कल्पवर, सा खुंहाना है।
कीन करने वाला जिसे, हर अच्चा महताना है।
अच्चे अच्चे के मन में, 1098 का ठिकाना है।
अस्य असहारा अच्चे का, साइल्ड लाइन प्रराना है।
लिखी किवता जिसने मारों, वह भी साइल्ड लाइन कोंग्र का मस्ताना है।
करे मदद हमें ज्ञा अच्चे की, मह तो वह दिवाना है।
साइल्ड लाइन सा कोई नहीं, अच्चे का मही सहारा है।
साइल्ड लाइन सा कोई नहीं, अच्चे का मही सहारा है।
हो के दे उदाला सबकी, ऐसा कीम जलाना है।
हम स्माति साइल्ड लाइन की, दुनिमा में फेलाना है।
साइल्ड लाइन की दुनिमा देखी, हीप इन्द्र सा सहाना है।
साइल्ड लाइन की दुनिमा देखी, हीप इन्द्र सा सहाना है।
साइल्ड लाइन की दुनिमा देखी, हीप इन्द्र सा सहाना है।
साइल्ड लाइन की हिनमा देखी, हीप इन्द्र सा सहाना है।
साइल्ड लाइन का हर कीन, कल्पत्र सा सहाना है।
कोन करने वाला जैसे हर अच्चा महताना है।



A child pens a poem for CHILDLINE Kota

CHILDLINE has another listen opportunity to first-hand children articulating their problems, concerns. issues, opinions and suggestions. Here introduce this space for children to voice their opinions and share their feelings not just about CHILDLINE service but life as they experience it. CHILDLINE cities are also requested send any communication from children to CHILDLINE postcards, vis-à-vis drawings, poems, letters etc.

Status Of Children In Brand India

- One third of India's children are below 18 years, constituting 19% of the worlds children.
- One out of 16 children in India die before they attain the age of 1 year and one out of 11 die before they attain the age of 11.
- 35% of the worlds low birth weight babies are born in India.
- · One in every three malnourished child lives in India.
- Of Every 100 children who drop out of school 66 are girls
- 65% of girls are married by the age of 18 and become mothers soon after
- · India is home of the highest number of Child Labourers in the world
- India has the largest number of sexually abused children with a child below 16 years being raped every 155th minute (approx every 9 hours) a child below 10 every 13th hour, and one in every 10 children being sexually abused at any point in time
- 46% children from scheduled tribes and 38% children from scheduled caste continue to be out of school.





In the News

दो बच्चों को मिला आसरा

इंदौर। चाइल्ड लाईन द्वारा रोजगार की तलाश में आए दो बच्चों को अपराध जगत के चंगुल से बचाया गया। समाज में बढ़ते अपराधों को देखते हये चाइल्ड लाईन के कृत्य की जितनी तारीफ की जाए कम हैं। प्राप्त बालकारी के अनुसार खण्डवा निवासी शेख सिफक तथा जमीद इदौर नौकरी करने आए हुए थे किन्तु कम आय तथा कुशलता के अभाव में उन्हें रोजगार हासिल नहीं हुआ इस पर उन्होंने बस स्टेण्ड पर चोरी का प्रयास किया। सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता कमल किशोर को जब इसकी जानकारी मिली तो उन्होंने चाइल्ड लाइन को दूरभाष पर जानकारी देते हुये बालकों को संस्था के

संरक्षण में लेने का आग्रह किया। इस पर चाइल्ड लाइन ने अपने कार्यकर्ता रामकृष्ण यादव को छोटी ग्वालटोली थाना भेजा जहाँ से यह बालकों को संस्था कार्यालय ले आए। दोनों बालकों ने बताया कि वह खंडवा के रहने वाले हैं तथा इंदौर काम करने के लिये आयें थे। इंदौर आकर उन्होंने कुछ दिनों होटल पर काभ किया। लेकिन फिर उन्हें काम नहीं मिलने के कारण छोटी-मोटी चोरी करने लगे तथा पुलिस द्वारा पकड गयें। पुलिस उन्हें थाने ले गई एवं वहां से चाइल्ड लाईन के सुपूर्व किया गया। बालकों की आपराधिक स्थिति को देखते हुये चाइल्ड लाइन द्वारा उन्हें बाल संप्रेक्षण गृह परदे शीप्रा में आश्रय प्रदान किया गया।

Inauguration of 'Bal Manch' today

E Staff Reporter

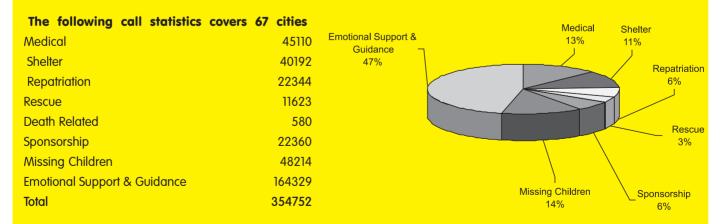
'BAL Manch' for the children of prisoners will be inaugurated on Wednesday, December 14, at 12.30 pm at Pune Sewa Sadan Society, opposite Matru Sewa Sangh, Jhansi Rani Square, Sitabuldi.

The manch is being organised by Childline. Nagpur. in collaboration with the office of Deputy General of Inspector Prisons, (Eastern Region), Central Prison. informed Keshav Walke at a press conference. During the day-long activity, sessions on value education, panel discussion on the issue of child exploitation and development, health check-up camp, interaction with parents and a 'Anand Mela' will be held. Walke informed that children below 18 years of age will be given educational material and prizes on the occasion. Doctors from Government Medical College (GMC) under the guidance of Dr Dipti Jain and social workers will conduct medical check-up and blood grouping. The programme is being held to provide the children of prisoners an opportunity to express their issues and concerns and to identify specific problems.

Dr Bhushan Kumar Upadhyay, DIG (Prisons), Ashvini Kumar, Commissioner, Women and Child Development, Dr Sanjay Mukherjee, Collector, Jimmy Rana, MD, Dinshaw's, and other dignitaries will be prominently present on the occasion.

H D'souza, C N Khedkar, R Thorat and others were also present at the press conference.

Percentage of Intervention* Calls from inception to December 2005



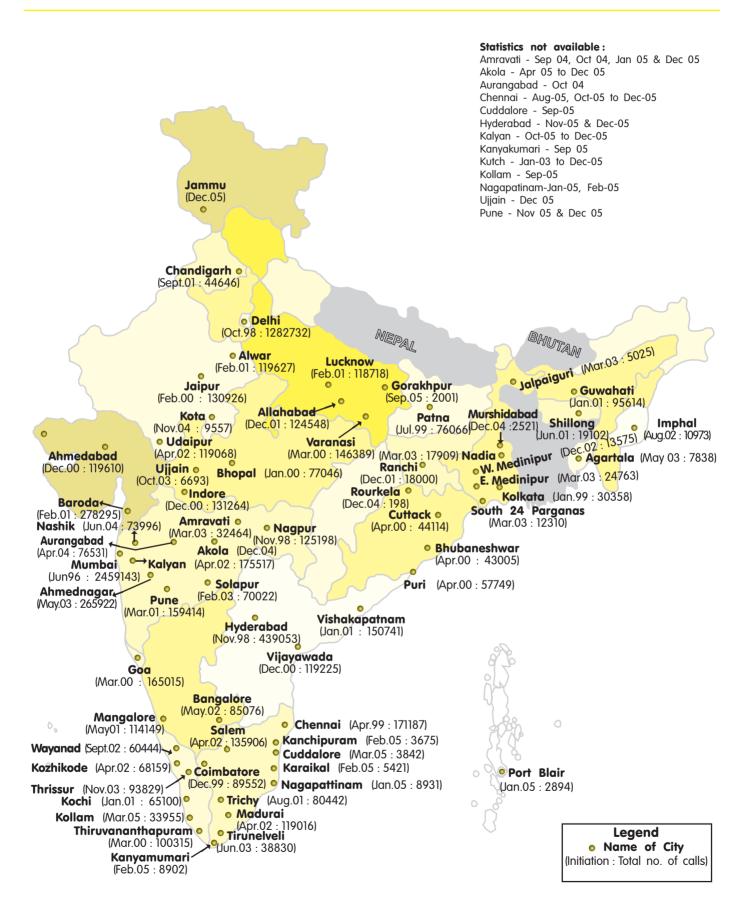
* Of the total number of calls received on 1098 the above mentioned categories comprise intervention calls







CHILDLINE has recorded a total number of 91,55,926 calls from inception till December 2005







The CHILDLINE Family

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Health, Railway Ministry, Department of Women and Child Development, Department of Social Defence / Social Welfare.

NGO PARTNERS

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