

*Objectives of the CACL include:*

- mobilisation of public opinion through media based awareness programmes.
- ensuring diversity of constituents to the Campaign and linking with other issues, movements,
- highlighting violations and abuse of children through intervention in specific cases,
- examining implications of national and international initiatives on child labour,
- popularising the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989, and ILO Conventions on Child Labour.

In the past four years CACL has been involved in building a network among organisations keen to work on the issue; creating awareness by utilising the media; strengthening grassroots efforts; building alliance with other movements; highlighting instances of abuse of children as violation of laws relating to child labour, reviewing present conditions including policies, programmes and legislation that influence and impact on child labour, etc. Presently CACL is active in 12 state, with involvement of seven hundred groups individuals.

CACL has been conducting State and National Convention once in two years to highlight the evils of child labour with the participation of children in workforce. First National Convention was held at Chennai in December 1994. 1000 children working in different sectors of employment came together from different parts of the country and it was an experience of sharing and understanding themselves and a three days off from their drudgery of employment. The second National Convention was held at Delhi On March 30, 31 & April 1 1997. Before the National Convention all the State units of CACL conducted State level Convention and a public hearing with eminent people from different walks of life as Jury. Similarly at the National level also a National Public Hearing with 12 eminent people at National level including two retired judges of the High Court, former foreign secretary, former secretary, ministry of labour, an editor of leading English magazine, Supreme Court lawyers, Retired officials from the education department, Chairman of the Committee appointed for revising the school curriculum. 10 children working in different sectors, organised an unorganised deposed before the Jury, their conditions of work, their family background and the cause for their condition. Based on their depositions and other materials the Jury gave the following verdict: