

PROCEEDINGS

MULTI STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON DECENT WORK PLACE STANDARDS IN SEED SUPPLY CHAIN



2ND MARCH, 2020,

VENUE -HOTEL AVASA, HYDERABAD



(ENABLING CHILD AND HUMAN RIGHTS WITH SEED ORGANIZATION)

Background of ECHO Consultation

ECHO is a multi-stakeholder forum, a joint initiative of seed industry and NGOs — will work on addressing decent work place issues in hybrid seed industry. ECHO is established with an intent to seek consultation and address various social compliance issues like child rights, minimum wages, healthy and safe working conditions in the hybrid seed production industry. ECHO will work with seed companies and national and international bodies like seeds associations, ILO, FLA, UNICEF for implementing standardized strategies and protocols to handle the human rights issue in their supply chain. Thus, ECHO has wide range of stakeholders and partners through more than two decades experience of providing strategic solutions on Human Rights issues. The Executive Committee of ECHO felt the necessity of organizing a curtain raiser in early part of 2020 in Hyderabad with the following Objectives:

1. To share vision, mission and objectives of ECHO and to bring harmonization among members and other participants of meeting
2. To embrace importance of Human Rights with CEOs and top management of seed companies
3. To invite key Human Rights experts and representatives of other multi-stakeholder forums to deliver sessions on importance of Human Rights and to understand global scenarios
4. To understand best practices of few identified NGOS and other multi-stakeholder forums on Human Rights

Accordingly, ECHO multi-stakeholder consultation is organized with around 90 participants representing seed industry, academia, civil society, government bodies and detailed proceedings are hereunder.

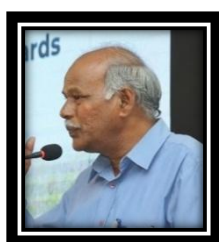
The Vice President, ECHO, UVL Ananda welcomed the participants and briefly explained the purpose of the consultation, journey of ECHO since its inception as CCP in 2005 and introduced the wide range of elite guests and participants attending the event duly explaining their background and experience in the field of child rights and other decent work place standards in agriculture and allied sectors



ECHO Consultation is launched formally and auspiciously through lamp lighting and graced by the key guests of the event



The President of ECHO, **Suhas Joshi** gave a broader picture and global view on importance of Human Rights for business in view of changing ecosystem around business operations due to social license norms to operate the business. The drivers for these changes to happen are technology, being sensitive to social norms, awareness on Human Rights, stakeholders' perceptions especially changing nature of capital for corporates. Also, the role of ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) in deciding the nature of capital and responsible investment is gradually increasing and a trend between 1995 to 2018 reveals that 25% total global investments are towards ESG in US. Morgan Stanley capital market Index (MSCI) for US between 2014-18 reveals that ESG investments giving huge returns against the benchmark. Further, ESG leaders index has given better returns as compared to the non ESG or benchmark index during 10 years period (except 3 years) hence ESG is not just charity but it gives profits. The Morgan Stanley survey (of 300 asset managers) also reveals that 75 percent endorse sustainability as key part of business and it grows over the years, 62 percent says ESG investment maximize the returns, 89 percent says continue to increase the resources or funds in sustainability investment. Further, supply chain ESG issues are very important for businesses and companies cannot take risk of reputation and loss of business at the cost of ESG non-compliances. Besides capital, moral responsibilities of MNCs and Indian companies being part of a society are very important and also as emphasized by ESG investors. Hence, it is the agenda for ECHO to formulate and to work together with corporates, academia, civil society and other relevant stakeholders as partners of ECHO multi-stakeholder platform to look up and to continually improve ESG performance of partnering companies. Overall, Suhas emphasized that **“the business of business is to do ethical business that gives profits”**



The Secretary and Director of ECHO, **Dr. Davuluri Venkateswarlu** and Vice President of ECHO, **UVL Ananda** and **Pramod Kulkarni** explained about evolution, vision, mission and objectives of ECHO. Dr. Davuluri mentioned that the first multi stakeholder meeting was held on 7th September, 2003 and CLEG (Child Labour elimination group) was formulated. That was the time, while hybrid seed industry was generating lot of revenue and employment opportunities, child labour became a social issue during early 2000s based on research studies thus got attention of media and social investors besides civil society organizations. So far ECHO finished almost 17 years of journey with great learnings, milestones (formation of CCP in 2007, formation of informal ECHO forum in 2015), consultations and achievements. In 2015, informal ECHO forum with 14 companies and 3 NGOs started focusing on minimum wages which is also considered as one of the important decent work place standards. Considering this broader agenda, CCP has been renamed as ECHO and formally registered under Telangana Society Act in December, 2019 with a structured agenda, executive body to strategize actions around achieving decent work place standards.



UVL Ananda, Vice President of ECHO explained about mission, vision and objectives of ECHO as a multi- stakeholder platform mainly focusing on developing strategies, policies, mechanisms and common actions of seed industry towards achieving decent work place standards.



In continuation of sharing ECHO's broader vision, Pramod Kulkarni, Vice President of ECHO sought serious participation of all participants in support of achieving ECHO objectives and further explained about agenda of the meeting. The agenda is structured so well to have panel discussions and group discussions on different topics followed by Q&A and these sessions are moderated by experts in respective fields.

Session 1 -“Industry perspective on ethical seed supply chain

A panel discussion titled “**Industry perspective on ethical seed supply chain**” conducted as moderated by **Dr. Ram Kaundinya** (Director General, Federation of Seed Industry of India -FSII) along with **Venkatram Vasanthavada** (Managing Director, Seed Works India Pvt Ltd), **Dilip Rajan** (Managing Director, East West Seeds India), **Dr.Chaluvaraju** (Global Head, Production, BASF Vegetable Seeds), **Jeff Bosch** (HM Clause) as speakers. Key discussion points and takeaways are –



Ram Kaundinya in his opening remarks said that phenomenal progress has been made since inception of CCP through **partnership** of different stakeholders (as envisaged in SDG 17) to achieve social norms. FSAI has also code of conduct on child labour and other Human Rights compliance. During the deliberations, below points are shared by speakers

1. Sensitization of small companies to comply with social norms and laws is important where ECHO have to strategize actions (Venkataraman)

2. Exploring other avenues for rural children like vocational training are to be explored (Venkataraman)
3. Access to Seeds Foundation, Netherlands rank the seed companies by conducting surveys on Human Rights Compliance. East West Seeds has been ranked first during 2016-19 assessment. ECHO can develop measurable KPIs in similar lines while making tailor made programs in Indian context. (Ram Kaundinya)
4. Robust audit system and advocacy of stakeholders are key for success in Human Rights (Venkataraman)
5. Piloting on minimum wages compliance would help while economic difficulties of Indian context are to be considered. All stakeholders have to make a journey together to achieve this. (Chaluva Raju)
6. Beyond India program of BASF envisaged on Responsible Sourcing code of conduct, intensive awareness and acknowledging field level issues and developing actions, learnings from western seed companies and keep sharing experiences through ECHO platform (Chaluva Raju)
7. HM Clause has been working on Human Rights issues through their CSR efforts and need to converge with different stakeholders and through constant sensitization (Jeff Bosch)
8. Cost of business due to ethical compliance cannot limit the companies and allow them to compromise on values and social norms. Top management has to consider these costs of compliance as integral component of overall cost of business (Dilip Rajan)

During Q&A Session, below points are also highlighted.

1. Respecting others Human Rights for decent living is very essential.
2. Human Rights should be part of employee KRAs and to be considered seriously in performance management system.
3. Doing right thing and building the reputation based on moral principles of the organizations, will determine and sustain companies irrespective of their size and revenues.
4. Right to Education Act and Child Labour Act should go in coherence for effective implementation. Community capacity building on statutes is very important to ensure compliance.
5. Big corn companies should consider compliance with minimum wages in corn detasseling operations as mandated by ECHO while technological advancements are happening to reduce manual labour requirement and legal statutes keep advancing.

Session 2

Decent work in agriculture supply chain – risk, challenges and opportunities

A panel discussion on “**Decent work in agriculture supply chain – risk, challenges and opportunities**” is conducted as moderated by **Prof KC Suri** (Professor, University of Hyderabad) with **Ranjith Prakash** (ILO, Delhi, National Project Coordinator, FPRW [Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work] in cotton supply chain) and **Devayani Hari** (Director –Programmes, Centre for Responsible Business) as speakers. Key discussion points and takeaways are –



Prof Suri shared his experience in social, economic and political studies in agrarian issues. Social responsibility is an integral component of business houses historically in India unlike in the west. Agriculture has been given a low position enterprise and mostly depend on small farms traditionally, hence complexities are unique. He also suggested to have representation from small farmers and farm labours in ECHO to listen to echo of their characteristics and features of farming. Cultural perspective of Human Rights is also to be considered along with legal approaches and related protocols while advocating solutions around human rights.

Ranjith of ILO had emphasized on

1. ECHO mandate on decent work standards is in alignment with ILO agenda
2. ILO believes in multi-stakeholder approach and has mandate to work with government, businesses and labour associations to implement any programs around decent work
3. ILO can facilitate for any social dialoguing with government bodies on decent work issues and ECHO can anchor upon ILO for this
4. While freedom of association/collective bargaining are difficult to comply at this moment in India, however need to focus on productive employment (minimum wages) and social protection which is beyond compliance with child labour
5. Age group and nature of work are criteria for ILO for employment as per convention 138 and 182 of ILO

Devyani of CRB indicated that

1. Companies to build a proper ecosystem to have constructive dialoguing with labour force
2. Stakeholders engagement is key for success of programs around social compliance
3. Companies to look at principles of sustainability around People - Planet – Profits. Reputation is at risk if Sustainability is not the agenda
4. International regulations are always creating alarming situations to comply with Human Regulations especially consumer awareness is increased
5. Human Rights in agriculture should cover “access to natural resources” as well besides rights of women farm labour to really impact on economy.
6. Due diligence and impact investment are key for Human Rights commitment for companies
7. Ministry of Corporate affairs is soliciting views on formulating action plan on business human rights issues and hence ECHO can consolidate and share views in this direction
8. Building trust among different stakeholders on seed and pesticide companies in India is also key factor while working on Human Rights issues.

Session 3

Child labour and minimum wages issues in hybrid seed supply chain – findings from recent research and field level implementation projects”

A panel discussion on “**Child labour and minimum wages issues in hybrid seed supply chain – findings from recent research and field level implementation projects**” is done and moderated by **Nagesh Vuda** (Supply Chain Lead, Asia Pacific, UPL – Advanta) and Dr. **Davuluri Venkateswarlu** (Glocal Research) and **Subhadra Gupta** (Regional Manager, FLA – South and East Asia) as speakers. Key discussion points and takeaways are –



1. Nagesh Vudawhile moderating the session, appraised participants that UPL is committed to UN SDG goal 1 and 2 in the journey of achieving sustainability. UACL (United Action on Child Labour) program has been launched and followed by Advanta Seeds as a comprehensive program around decent work place standards
2. FLA Syngenta recent pilot project on minimum wages reveals that
 - a. Less awareness on minimum wages
 - b. Gender discrimination on minimum wages compliance
 - c. It requires a multi stakeholder engagement to drive this project
 - d. If minimum wages are not complied, it is a case of forced labour as per Article 23
3. Dr. Davuluri research follow-up study on progress made for last 5 years in terms of Human Rights compliance by companies post release of 2 reports by GLOCAL Research Services, indicated that
 - a. Study is executed in a sample size of 630 farms and with 1000 farm workers across 6 states
 - b. Child labour compliance is improved to a great extent (17% and 10% respectively) as compared to 25% and 17% child labour percent in cotton and vegetable farms respectively. This is due to serious view and interventions taken up by companies in collaboration with different stakeholders. Gujarat remains to be a challenge due to relocation of production to remote tribal areas.

- c. Progress with regard to minimum wages is very minimal and there is much to do. Government, industry and civil society has not paid much attention to this issue, however initiated a deliberation among different stakeholders.
4. For Child labour age criteria, minimum to be followed is law of the land i.e., 14 years age as criteria. Companies can follow still stringent norms as per their internal policies and global commitments.
5. Recent exemptions given in Child labour Act for excluding school going children and children working during holidays, caused lot of monitoring challenges due to misinterpretation of law by farmers.

Session 4 - Sharing field level experiences and learnings – NGOs

A session on “**Sharing field level experiences and learnings – NGOs**” is organized and moderated by Saiket De. NGOs such as **MVFoundation, Action Aid, Save the Children Fund, BBA, CHD, Social Frontier Foundation, Sadhana, PRDIS, Bachpan Bachao Andolan** shared their perspective around decent work place standards in agriculture. Key discussion points and takeaways are –



Dhananjay, MV Foundation –As an advocacy body, MV Foundation engages mainly with government to enforce Right to Education for 8 years of free education as a child right. Establishing proper social norms around child labour is the challenge based on experience of MVF working in 6300 villages around India. To eradicate child labour, supplier of child labour (parents) are to be engaged and counselled and end the demand from employer side. Task force teams (labour officer, Police officer, village representative and NGO) helped to handle village level child labour issues in initial stages of cotton hybrid seed production in 2003 in Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh which later formulated in to CLEG through industry partnership. Later CLEG has been instrumental in controlling child labour incidences over the years.

Vocationalisation of education is not good as children has to be given that choice to grow gradually as per their rights of education.



Sri Laxmi, PRDIS –PRDIS (Participatory Rural Development Initiative Society) in partnership with Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) worked as implementing partner for ethical compliance of commercial cotton cultivation in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana States to ensure decent work place standards in around 24000 farms. The program involves capacity building, field audits through a dedicated team. Women participation in farming is encouraged to take appropriate crop agronomy related decisions. Also focusing on safety of farmers during different cotton growing operations.



Dr. Edmond Fernandes, CHD –CHD works in the space of health in collaboration with government, visionary corporates and international bodies like UNICEF. Occupational health and safety of farming community are very important areas to focus as farmers continuously feed the society. Sectorial convergence is possible through ECHO for many corporates to work in the space of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).



Vara Prasad, Action Aid –Action Aid is an international NGO. There is a huge opportunity to improve education standards as per ACER reports due to ineffective education system in India. This is also leading to many school drop outs and increased incidences of child labour. Child labour is attributed to extreme poverty and poor-quality education facilities in schools. Girl children are more prone to these situations. Action Aid aims at poverty eradication by ensuring compliance with Human Rights. Action Aid involved in rescuing child labour from brick kilns, tea gardens and rehabilitated them.



Lal Saheb, ARD –ARDSociety worked in seed production areas in Karnakata (Koppal). Organized residential bridge curriculum (RBC) schools and rescued around 250 child labour in Karnataka. Also promotes vocational training for rural girls in tailoring who are employed locally.



Sumathi, Bachpan Bachao Andolan–Making child friendly society is the vision of BBA. It is India's largest grass root movement “Global March Against Child Labour” organized by BBA. Also works on other issues like child trafficking, rescue and rehabilitation in collaboration with government departments. Developed a concept of developing villages as “Balamithra grams” where children are ambassadors on child rights.

The session felt the need of convergence with civil society organizations by all corporates as strengths of NGOs is unique in terms of engaging communities and having abilities and skills to work at gross root level.

SESSION 5: GROUP DISCUSSION



An elaborate group discussion on below topics is done as conducted by Madhav and under guidance of respective subject matter experts as moderators by dividing whole group in to 4 teams and their views are presented in the meeting as mentioned hereunder against each topic.

Topic 1: Minimum wages – Challenges and way forward



1. **Challenges:** Challenges with commercial crop, resistance from seed growers, local and small companies account for more than 60 percent of seed production
2. **Opportunities:** Awareness among growers and communities through local NGO partners, Pilot projects through ECHO member companies, Home farm concept to ensure better compliance, Seed industry association has to set some guidelines around social compliance duly involving small/local companies, ECHO to approach other seed industry associations, Contracting labour on hourly basis and pay them pro-rata, Mega farms or co-operative farming system, government to enforce on minimum wages compliance



Topic 2: National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights

1. **Challenges:** Fragmented agriculture and uncontrolled environment leading to implementation challenges, Social and economic condition of farmers and communities, Complexities around minimum support price for produce, Differential agenda for small companies
2. **Opportunities:** Government support and incentive to farmers to making farming remunerative, Bringing small companies under ECHO umbrella, ECHO advocacy with government on social compliance on behalf of seed industry, ECHO to enrol more seed companies as members, Influencing seed industry by creating and showcasing benchmarks by ECHO, Awareness and advocacy at village panchayat level on social compliance



Topic 3: Linking Human Rights with CSR and SDGs

1. **Challenges:** Lack of awareness on convergence opportunities, No government guidelines to corporates on implementation of SDGs
2. **Opportunities:** Mandatory CSR programs of corporates to align with Human Rights initiatives, Collaboration with government schemes on education, health etc., Participation in relevant forums/conferences on SDGs and CSR platforms of government (AP Connect, Telangana Social Impact Group), ECHO to organize local/regional consultations and prepare action plan for each state and arrive at short term and long term actions, ECHO to collaborate with relevant bodies on SDGs, ECHO develop mechanisms for implementation and evaluation of CSR/SDG related projects



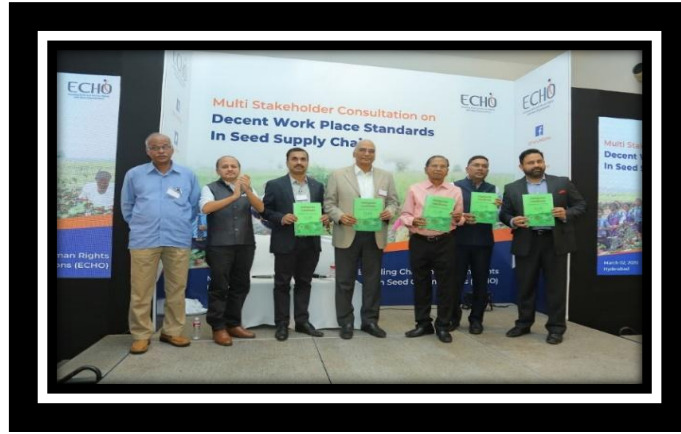
Topic 4: Child labour – Risks and Mitigation measures

1. **Challenges:** Poor literacy rates in rural locations, losing livelihood opportunities, impacted rural economy due to lack of new generation farmers, Impacted health of children
2. **Opportunities:** Capacity building on child rights, showcasing best practices and role models, School dropouts bridge schooling and enrolling them back to schools, creating livelihood opportunities for rural youth, Building better education ecosystem, convergence with government and other organizations



Dr. Davuluri Venkateswarlu, General Secretary of ECHO summarized the key proceedings of the event (such as organizing more common training programs/consultations by ECHO, enrolling more companies and other stakeholders in ECHO, continuing pilot projects on minimum wages duly considering the deliberated challenges by few more companies, drive common actions of ECHO as deliberated) and also expressed vote of thanks to all participants, guest speakers and organizers of the meeting

ECHO Compendium booklet, portraying pictures of various events since its inception from 2005, is officially launched by **BK Naidu** (Cease - Child Labour) along with other key guests from seed industry.



A display of safety and occupational health tools and PPE related to seed industry operations is also organized and many participants witnessed them.



Few other glimpses of ECHO consultation:







Media Coverage:



Empowering society

The Enabling Child and Human Rights with Seed Organizations (ECHO) was inaugurated formally by hosting a multi-stakeholder consultation on decent workplace standards in the seed supply chain. The consultation has sessions on topics such as 'Decent work in the agriculture supply chain – risk, challenges, and opportunities,' 'Child labour and minimum wages issues in the hybrid seed supply chain: findings from recent research and field level implementation projects,' Field level experiences by experts.

విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో మార్పు రావాలి



జ్యోతిప్రజ్వలన చేసి కార్యక్రమాన్ని ప్రారంభిస్తున్న బీకే నాయుడు, కేసీ సూరి, వెంకటేశ్వర్లు తదితరులు

హాఫీజ్ పేట్, మార్చి 2 : విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో మంచి వాతావరణం నెలకొల్పడంతోపాటు బాలకార్మిక వ్యవస్థ నిర్మూలనే లక్ష్యంగా ఎనేబ్లింగ్ చైల్డ్ అండ్ హ్యూమన్ రైట్స్ విత్ సీడ్ ఆర్గనైజేషన్ ఆధ్వర్యంలో మాదాపూర్లోని ఆవాస హోటల్లో సోమవారం అవగాహన సదస్సు జరిగింది. ఈ సందర్భంగా వ్యవసాయ సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో ఎదురయ్యే పెను సవాళ్లు, అవకాశాలు, సంకరజాతి

విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో బాలకార్మిక వ్యవస్థ, కనీస వేతనాలు, ఇటీవల కాలంలో చేపట్టిన అధ్యయనాలు, వెల్లడైన ఫలితాలు, నిపుణుల క్షేత్ర స్థాయి అనుభవాలు వంటి అంశాలపై చర్చలు జరిగాయి. ఈ సందర్భంగా గ్లోకల్ రిసెర్చి డైరెక్టర్ దావులూరి వెంకటేశ్వర్లు మాట్లాడుతూ దేశంలో సంకరజాతి విత్తనోత్పత్తి పరిశ్రమల్లో బాలకార్మికులు, కనీసవేతనాలు వంటి సామాజిక ఆర్థిక సమస్యలు కొన్ని దశాబ్దాలుగా పేరుకుపోయి ఉన్నా

యని ఈ సమస్యల పరిష్కారానికి కొన్ని విత్తన కంపెనీలు, ఎన్జీవోలు కలిసి పూహాలు రూపొందించుకునేందుకు ఈ వేదిక ఏర్పాటుచేయబడింది. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో ప్రొఫెసర్ కె.సూరి హైదరాబాద్ యూనివర్సిటీ, రంజిత్ ప్రకాష్ ఐఎల్ఓ సౌత్ ఏషియా, డేవ్ యానిహారి(సీఆర్బీ), జె.శ్రీనివాస రావు, తెలంగాణ స్టేట్ కమిషన్ ఫర్ ప్రొటెక్షన్ ఆఫ్ చైల్డ్ రైట్స్ ప్రతినిధులు తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

ఎనేజ్లింగ్ చెల్ట్ అండ్ హ్యూమన్ రైట్స్ విత్ సీడ్ ఆర్గనైజేషన్స్ ప్రారంభం



జ్యోతి ప్రజ్వలను చేస్తున్న రీసెర్చ్ డైరెక్టర్ డాక్టర్ దావులూరి వెంకటేశ్వర్లు. తదితరులు

హైదరాబాద్, మార్చి 2 (ప్రభ న్యూస్) : విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో మంచి కార్యస్థల ప్రమాణాలను నెలకొల్పడంపై సంబంధితలతో చర్చలు జరపడం ద్వారా ఎనేజ్లింగ్ చెల్ట్ అండ్ హ్యూమన్ రైట్స్ విత్ సీడ్ ఆర్గనైజేషన్స్ (ఈసిహెచ్ఓ) ప్రారంభమైంది. ఈ సందర్భంగా గ్లోకల్ రీసెర్చ్ డైరెక్టర్ డాక్టర్ దావులూరి వెంకటేశ్వర్లు మాట్లాడుతూ... దేశంలో సంకరజాతి విత్తనోత్పత్తి పరిశ్రమలో

బాలకార్మికత, కనీస వేతనాలు వంటి సామాజిక - ఆర్థిక సమస్యలు దశాబ్దాలుగా వేళ్లానుకు పోయాయన్నారు. ఈ సమస్యల పరిష్కారానికి సంబంధిత వర్గాల నుంచి గట్టి ప్రయత్నాలు అవసరమవుతాయన్నారు. విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో ఈ సామాజిక అంశాలతో వ్యవహరించేందుకు సంబంధిత వర్గాలు చర్చించుకునేందుకు, వ్యూహాలు రూపొందించుకునేందుకు



ఒక వేదికను అందించడం ఈసిహెచ్ఓ ఆశయమన్నారు. బాలల హక్కులు, కార్యక్షేత్ర సంబంధిత అంశాలకు సంబంధించి సుస్థిర దాదాపుక పరిష్కారాలు ఈసిహెచ్ఓ రైతులకు అందిస్తుందన్నారు. ప్రొఫెసర్ కేసీ సూరి (యూనివర్సిటీ ఆఫ్ హైదరాబాద్), రంజిత్ ప్రకాష్ (నేషనల్ ప్రాజెక్ట్ ఆర్డినేటర్, ఎఫ్పీఆర్ డబ్ల్యు ఇన్ కాటన్ నష్యుల్ చెయిన్, ఐఎల్ఓ డీసెంట్ వర్క్ టీమ్ ఫర్ సౌత్ ఏషియా

అండ్ కంట్రీ ఆఫీస్ ఫర్ ఇండియా), దేవ్ యాని హరి (సెంటర్ ఫర్ రెస్పాన్సిబుల్ బిజినెస్ - సీఆర్బీ), జె.శ్రీనివాసరావు (చైర్ పర్సన్, తెలంగాణ స్టేట్ కమిషన్ ఫర్ ప్రొటెక్షన్ ఆఫ్ చైల్డ్ రైట్స్, నాగేశ్ ఉదా, నష్యుల్ చెయిన్ హెడ్, ఏషియా పసిఫిక్, యూపీఎల్ - అడ్వాంటా), సుభద్ర గుప్తా (రిజనల్ మేనేజర్, సౌత్ అండ్ ఈస్ట్ ఏషియా, ఎఫ్ఎల్ఏ), డాక్టర్ విజయ్ కుమార్ (ఎంపీ ఫౌండేషన్) లు పాల్గొన్నారు.

విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో వర్క్ షేప్ లో ప్రమాణాలు

ప్రజాపక్షం / రంగారెడ్డి : విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో మంచి కార్యస్థల ప్రమాణాలను నెలకొల్పడంపై సంబంధితలతో చర్చలు జరపడం ద్వారా ఎనేజ్లింగ్ చెల్ట్ అండ్ హ్యూమన్ రైట్స్ విత్ సీడ్ ఆర్గనైజేషన్స్ (ఇసిహెచ్ఓ) ప్రారంభమైంది. 'వ్యవసాయ సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో సరైన రీతిలో పనులు - ముప్పు అంశాలు, సవాళ్ళు, అవకాశాలు', 'హైబ్రిడ్ విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో బాలకార్మికత, కనీస వేతనాల అంశాలు: ఇటీవలి అధ్యయనం మరియు క్షేత్రస్థాయిలో అమలైన. ప్రాజెక్టుల నుంచి వెల్లడైన ఫలితాలు', నిపుణులచే క్షేత్రస్థాయి అనుభవాలు, 'పత్తి సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో కార్యస్థలాలలో ప్రాథమిక హక్కులపై ఐఎల్ఓ ప్రాజెక్ట్ - దృక్పథాలు' వంటి అంశాల్లో ఈ చర్చలు జరిగాయి. ఈ సందర్భంగా గ్లోకల్ రీసెర్చ్ డైరెక్టర్

డాక్టర్ దావులూరి వేంకటేశ్వర్లు మాట్లాడుతూ, "దేశంలో సంకరజాతి విత్తనోత్పత్తి పరిశ్రమలో బాల కార్మికత, కనీస వేతనాలు వంటి సామాజిక - ఆర్థిక సమస్యలు దశాబ్దాలుగా వేళ్లానుకు పోయాయి. ఈ సమస్యల పరిష్కారానికి సంబంధిత వర్గాల నుంచి గట్టి ప్రయత్నాలు అవసరమవుతాయి. విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో ఈ సామాజిక అంశాలతో వ్యవహరించేందుకు సంబంధిత వర్గాలు వారు కలుసుకొని, చర్చించుకునేందుకు, వ్యూహాలు రూపొందించుకునేందుకు ఒక వేదికను అందించడం ఇసిహెచ్ఓ ఆశయం. బాలల హక్కులు మరియు ఇతర కార్యక్షేత్ర సంబంధిత అంశాలకు సంబంధించి సుస్థిర దాదాపుక పరిష్కారాలను ఇసిహెచ్ఓ రైతులకు అందిస్తుంది" అని అన్నారు.

ఎనేజింగ్ చైల్డ్ అండ్ హ్యూమన్ రైట్స్ రైట్స్ విత్ సీడ్ ఆర్గనైజేషన్స్ ప్రారంభం

హైదరాబాద్, మార్చి 3, మనం న్యూస్ : విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో మంచి కార్యస్థలను నెలకొల్పడంపై సంబంధితులతో చర్చలు జరపడం ద్వారా ఎనేజింగ్ చైల్డ్ అండ్ హ్యూమన్ రైట్స్ విత్ సీడ్ ఆర్గనైజేషన్స్ (ఇసీహెచ్ఓ) ప్రారంభమైంది. ఈ సందర్భంగా గ్లోకల్ రీసెర్చ్ డైరెక్టర్ డాక్టర్ దావులూరి వెంకటేశ్వర్లు మాట్లాడుతూ దేశంలో సంకరజాతి విత్తనోత్పత్తి పరిశ్రమలో బాలకార్మికత, కనీస వేతనాలు వంటి సామాజిక ఆర్థిక సమస్యలు దశాబ్దాలుగా వెళ్లునుకు పోయాయన్నారు. ప్రొఫెసర్ కెసి సూరి (యునివర్సిటీ ఆఫ్ హైదరాబాద్ రంజిత్ ప్రకాష్, నేషనల్ ప్రాజెక్టు కో ఆర్డినేటర్ ఎఫ్పీఆర్ డబ్ల్యుఇన్ కాన్ సప్లయ్ చెయిన్, ఐఎల్ఓ డిసెంట్ వర్క్ టీమ్ ఫర్ సౌత్ ఏషియా అండ్ కంట్రీ ఆఫీసర్ ఫర్ ఇండియా దేవ్ యానిహరి (సెంటర్ ఫర్ రెస్పాన్సిబుల్ బిజినెస్ సిఆర్బి జె.శ్రీనివాసరావు (వైర్పర్సన్ తెలంగాణ స్టేట్ కమిషన్ ఫర్ ప్రొటెక్షన్ ఆఫ్ చైల్డ్ రైట్స్ నాగేష్ ఉడా, సప్లయ్ చెయిన్ హెడ్ ఏషియా పసిఫిక్ యూపిఎల్ అడ్వాంటేజ్ సుభద్రగుప్త, స డాక్టర్ విజయ్ కుమార్ పాల్గొన్నారు.

బాలల హక్కుల రక్షణ కోసం 'ఎకో' ఏర్పాటు..

సాక్షి, సిటీబ్యూరో: వ్యవసాయ అనుబంధ పరిశ్రమల్లో బాలల, మానవ హక్కుల పరిరక్షణ కోసం చైల్డ్ అండ్ హ్యూమన్ రైట్స్ విత్ సీడ్ ఆర్గనైజేషన్స్ (ఇసీహెచ్ఓ) ఏర్పాటైంది. బుధవారం నగరంలో నిర్వహించిన ఓ కార్యక్రమంలో లాంఛనంగా ప్రారంభించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా సదస్సుల నిర్వాహక సంస్థ గ్లోకల్ రీసెర్చ్ డైరెక్టర్ డా.దావులూరి వెంకటేశ్వర్లు మాట్లాడుతూ దశాబ్దాలుగా దేశవ్యాప్తంగా విత్తన పరిశ్రమలో పరిశ్రమలో పని చేస్తున్న బాల కార్మికులు, కనీస వేతనాలు సమస్యకు అందరూ కలిసి పరిష్కారం వెదికే దిశగా ఈ ఎకో ఏర్పాటు ఉపకరిస్తుందన్నారు.

మెరుగైన ప్రమాణాలకు ఇసిహెచ్ఓ.

హైదరాబాద్, మార్చి 3, ప్రభాతవార్త: విత్తన సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో మంచి కార్యస్థల ప్రమాణాలను నెలకొల్పడంపై సంబంధితులతో చర్చలు జరపడం ద్వారా ఎనేజింగ్ చైల్డ్ అండ్ హ్యూమన్ రైట్స్ విత్ సీడ్ ఆర్గనైజేషన్స్ (ఇసీహెచ్ఓ) ప్రారంభమైంది. వ్యవసాయ సరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో సరైన రీతిలో పనులు, ముప్పు అంశాలు, ఇటీవల అధ్యయనం, క్షేత్రస్థాయిలో అమలైన ప్రాజెక్టుల నుంచి వెల్లడైన ఫలితాలు, నిపుణులచే క్షేత్రస్థాయి అనుభవాలు, పత్తిసరఫరా వ్యవస్థలో కార్యస్థలాల్లో ప్రాథమిక హక్కులపై ఐఎల్ఓ ప్రాజెక్ట్ 'దృక్పథాలు' వంటి అంశాలపై చర్చలు జరిగాయి. ఈ సందర్భంగా గ్లోకల్ రీసెర్చ్ డైరెక్టర్ డాక్టర్ దావులూరి వెంకటేశ్వర్లు మాట్లాడుతూ దేశంలో సంకరజాతి విత్తనోత్పత్తి పరిశ్రమలో బాల కార్మికత కనీస వేతనాలు వంటి సామాజిక-ఆర్థిక సమస్యలు దశాబ్దాలుగా వెళవేళ్లునుకుపోయాయన్నారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో యూనివర్సిటీ ఆఫ్ హైదరాబాద్ ప్రొఫెసర్ కెసి సూరి, రంజిత్ ప్రకాష్, దేవ్ హాని హరి, జె.శ్రీనివాసరావు, సుభద్ర గుప్త, డాక్టర్ విజయ్ కుమార్ ఎంవి ఫౌండేషన్ తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.



Enabling Child and Human Rights
with Seed Organisations

MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION ON DECENT WORK PLACE STANDARDS IN SEED SUPPLY CHAIN

Hotel Avasa, Hitech City, Madhapur, Hyderabad

Participants Registration	09:15 am	09:45 am	Srinivasa Reddy / Raviraj
Welcome and Opening remarks	09:45 am	10:00 am	Suhas R Joshi
Sharing ECHO Aspirations - Evolution, Vision, Mission and Objectives	10:00 am	10:20 am	Dr Davuluri Venkateswarlu, Pramod Kulkarni and Ananda UVL
SESSION – I: INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE ON ETHICAL SEED SUPPLY CHAIN			
Chairperson: Dr Ram Kaundinya, Director General, Federation of Seed Industry of India			
Venkatram Vasantavada	10:20 am	10:30 am	Seed Works International Pvt Ltd Managing Director
Dilip Rajan	10:30 am	10:40 am	East-West Seeds India Managing Director
Jeff Boscher	10:40 am	10:50 am	HM. Clause India Managing Director
Dr G Chaluvaram	10:50 am	11:00 am	Global Head, Production, BASF Vegetable Seeds
Chairperson remarks and discussion	11:00 am	11:15 am	
Tea Break	11:15 am	11:30 am	
SESSION – II: DECENT WORK IN AGRICULTURE SUPPLY CHAIN – RISK, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES			
Moderator: Prof KC SURI, University of Hyderabad			
Insights – ILO Project on Fundamental Rights at Work Place in Cotton Supply Chain	11:30 am	11:40 am	Ranjith Prakash, ILO, Delhi National Project Coordinator, FPRW in Cotton Supply Chain
Perspective on Responsible Global Agri-supply Chain	11:40 am	11:50 am	Devayani Hari, Director (Programmes) Centre for Responsible Business (CRB)
Child Rights and Decent Work in Agriculture	11:50 am	12:00 pm	J Srinivas Rao, Chairperson, Telangana State Commission for Protection of Child Rights
Q & A Session	12:00 pm	12:15 pm	
SESSION – III: CHILD LABOUR AND MINIMUM WAGES ISSUES IN HYBRID SEED SUPPLY CHAIN: FINDINGS FROM RECENT RESEARCH AND FIELD LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS			
Moderator : Mr Nagesh Vuda, Supply Chain Head, Asia Pacific, UPL-ADVANTA			
Child labour and MW Compliance in Seed Industry: Observations from a follow-up study to assess the progress since 2015	12:15 pm	12:30 pm	Dr Davuluri Venkateswarlu Global Research

Importance of Stakeholders Engagement in Relation with Workers Perspective (learning from FLA-Syngenta Pilot Project on minimum wages)	12:30 pm	12:45 pm	Subhadra Gupta, FLA Regional Manager, South and East Asia
Q & A Session	12:45 pm	01:00 pm	
Lunch Break	01:00 pm	02:00 pm	
SESSION – IV: SHARING FIELD LEVEL EXPERIENCES AND LEARNINGS – NGOs Moderator: Dr Vijay Kumar			
NGO Perspective on Decent Work	02:00 pm	02:45 pm	MVF, Cease Child Labour(BK Naidu), Action Aid, Save the Children fund, BBA, CHD, Social Frontier Foundation, Sadhana, PRIDS
SESSION – V: GROUP DISCUSSION			
Group Discussion Topics Briefing	02:45 pm	03:00 pm	Radha Madhav
Topic 1: Minimum wages – Challenges & Way Forward	03:00 pm	03:45 pm	Saikat De and Lakkiseti Rambabu (Facilitators)
Topic 2: National Action Plan(NAP) on Business & Human Rights			Devayani Hari and Mr Mahesh Chandak (Facilitators)
Topic 3: Linking Human Rights with CSR and SDGs			Dr Jacob Kalle and Rama Rao (Facilitators)
Topic 4: Child labour – Risks and Mitigation measures			H Ramesh and Satish Hegde (Facilitators)
Tea Break	03:45 pm	04:00 pm	
Group discussion presentations	04:00 pm	04:30 pm	
Summarizing future course of actions of ECHO	04:30 pm	04:50 pm	Dr Davuluri Venkateswarlu
Closing remarks/ Vote of Thanks	04:50 pm	05:00 pm	Rama Rao

ADD PARTICIPANTS LIST IN WORD FILE