

## REPORT

The Centre for Lifelong Learning (CLL) under the aegis of School of Vocational Studies conducts various skill development programmes through its study centres across the state. Recently, the CLL launched short-term MOOCs on various value added subjects. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle, about 478 participants took admission in the MOOC of Child Rights and Protection. The course aims to develop a trained resource pool who works at the field level.

Children around the world are routinely engaged in paid and unpaid forms of work that are not harmful to them. However, they are classified as child labourers when they are either too young to work, or are involved in hazardous activities that may compromise their physical, mental, social or educational development. Almost one in ten of all children worldwide are in child labour. While the number of children in child labour has declined by 94 million since 2000, the rate of reduction slowed by two-thirds in recent years. Target 8.7 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals calls for an end to child labour in all its forms by 2025—UN. The international Labour Organization (ILO) declared the World Day Against Child Labour on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2002.



The ILO and other international and national agencies are working prevent the child labour across the globe and it is time that the COVID-19 crisis threatens to the measures taken to prevent child labour. The Centre for Lifelong Learning organized the special lecture on child rights and their protection on the World Day Against Child Labour on 12 June 2021 aiming to raise awareness and activism to prevent child labour. 282 participants from across the state of West Bengal and Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu attend the programme on zoom platform. Dr. Anirban Ghosh, Director, SVS in his welcome speech highlighted the main objectives of the MOOCs on Child Rights and also

discussed the theme of the lecture. He also elaborated the problem of child labour in our society. Dr. Ghosh highlighted the possible causes of child labour in Indian context.

Shri Sukhendu Bank, Monitoring and Evaluation Manager at CIF and Guest Faculty, St. Xavier's University acted as the Resource Person of the programme. Shri Bank started his lecture with the definition of child as defined in the International and National laws. He discussed why the child rights need to be protected. Various provisions of child right protection were discussed in detail. During deliberations, Sri Bank shared his field experiences with the participants.

At the end of his lecture, during the Q/A session, participants interacted with Sri Bank and clarified their doubts on various issues like child rights, child marriage, child labour and the government machineries available to ensure the child rights.



The programme ended with formal vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Premananda Jana, Regional Director, Kalyani RC, NSOU

## **Programme Schedule**

7.30pm: Welcome Address by Professor Anirban Ghosh, Director (i/c), NSOU

7.45pm: Keynote Address by Shri Sukhendu Bank, Monitoring and Evaluation Manager at CIF and Guest Faculty, St. Xavier's University

8.30pm: Interaction with the participants

9.00pm: Vote of thanks by Dr. Premananda Jana, Regional Director, Kalyani RC, NSOU