

BALAKNAMA

UNIQUE NEWSPAPER FOR AND BY STREET CONNECTED CHILDREN

Balaknama is the newspaper presented by Street and Working children themselves to fight for their own rights and problems because they are being completely ignored.

WHY STREET & WORKING CHILDREN DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL?

Reporters Kishan, Aslam, Sangeeta, Aanchal, Ravi

Education is such a weapon, due to which you not only become sharp mentally but also due to the awareness gained through education, you also flourish physically and financially. Every child wants to go to school whether their parents are educated or not. Most parents also want their children to do a good job after being educated and earning a lot of fame in the future. In this desire, even after earning less, parents get their children enrolled in good schools. But the trouble does not end here and they have to work hard for it. But even after that when the problems start increasing, the same parents are forced to withdraw admission of their children from school even if they don't want to.

We are going to talk about those streets and working

children who were already enrolled in the school, but are forced to leave the school for one reason or the other. Reporters of Balaknama talked to many street & working children from Lucknow, Agra, Delhi, Haryana, and Jaipur and tried to know why they had to drop out of school. Sadhvi (name changed), who lives in Noida's Sector 70, was asked about her reason for leaving school. Sadhvi said that she used to come to study at a mobile education van called "NanheParinde run by Chetna NGO for the last year and gradually she started liking studies. Chetna team members talked to the parents of the child and explained about getting the child admitted to the school. After which the parents agreed and the girl was admitted to the school. But due to the distance from the school, the parents had to drop the child at the school.



For a few days, the parents did this work, but after that, they gradually stopped dropping the child to school as their work timing was clashing with the child's school time and the parents worked as daily wage workers. The school was situated at a distance of about 3-4km. Because of this, the child was unable to go to school alone. This distance became the reason for the girl to drop out of school.

Himesh (name changed) who lives in Lucknow said that he also used to go to school before the COVID pandemic, but during the pandemic, the schools were closed and he missed his studies. During the pandemic, due to a lack of money in the house, the father could not run the household expenses and he had to take loans from many relatives and neighbours. After years when the lockdown lifted up and

school got open I shared with my father that I want to resume my studies then father said that son after the lockdown there is so much debt that how will I be able to repay it alone? And after the lockdown, you have not been able to study well, so now do one thing that not go to school. I will put you to some work. With the money that will come, we will be able to repay the loan. During this time my father made me work at the shop and due to this, I missed school.

Adil (name changed), living in Jaipur, said that during the Corona pandemic, my father started drinking a lot, due to which he died due to a sudden deterioration in his health. I used to go to school when my father was there, but after the death of the main member of the house, the condition of the house became very bad and there were many problems in

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CHILDREN TRAPPED IN DOMESTIC PROBLEMS

From 9:00 am in the morning to 9:00 pm in the evening, they sell slippers on carts

Talkative reporter Kamini
Reporter Sangeeta Lucknow

Everyone has to do some work to feed himself. This is a similar condition of our children in Lucknow. When our Balaknama journalist tried to know the problem of the children, two small children discussed their problems and told that our father is a barber and also set up a sandal shop there, in which we help our father. We leave at 9:00

am in the morning and come only at 9:00 pm in the evening. Earlier, when it was hot, we used to do this work, but now the cold has started, due to which we face even more problems because we sell slippers in the open. That's why we feel very cold when the wind blows. But what to do, it is a compulsion and we have to help our father to run the household expenses, due to which we are not even able to go to school.

WILL GUDDU BE ABLE TO GET RID OF THE MONKEYS?

Talkative reporter -Mukhtiar
Balaknama Reporter -Aslam

If you want to live life, then you have to work for it, whether you are living on the streets or in bungalows. The only difference is that our street and working children are snatched away from their childhood and put to work. Our Balaknama reporters visited the slums of PaldaDhani and saw that a child named Guddu (name changed) along with his mother used to run his household by selling vegetables on a cart. His life was going well. He would go to sell vegetables at 3:00 pm in the evening and return home at 10:00 pm in the night. He was also earning well by selling vegetables. But his happiness did not last long. One day when Guddu and his mother were sleeping, many monkeys attacked their house together and ran away with vegetables like tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, radishes etc and destroyed all the vegetables.



When the reporters ask him why didn't drive away the monkeys? Guddu said, brother, both me and my mother used to drive away 2 to 4 monkeys together, but when 10 to 11 monkeys came together, then my mother and I got very scared. The journalist said you didn't ask anyone for help. Guddu said, we have spoken to high-ranking officers in this matter, so these people say that in the place you're living right now, earlier there was a forest here, that's why monkeys come

here. You live at their place, so monkeys dispersed your vegetables and trouble you. Then Guddu said, brother, these people just tell us this thing, but these people do not see that monkeys ruin our carts, spread our vegetables and even harm us. Journalists asked Guddu, "If you get a chance, what would you like to be, then Guddu said, brother, if someone helps us to get rid of these monkeys, then I would like to become a big businessman of vegetables.

WHEN WILL THIS SOCIETY BE FREE FROM GENDER DISCRIMINATION?

Balaknama Reporter-Aslam

The issue of gender discrimination is a social issue in our country India. Gender discrimination refers to discriminating against any person in society on the basis of their gender identity. Our reporters spoke to 50 girls from Bhubaneswar about their problems related to gender discrimination. To know from them what are the problems girls have to face? During the conversation, some talked about religion, some on caste disputes, if there is a girl, her right is prohibited to roam



outside, she is not allowed to play, etc. Rani said, if a boy is born in someone's house, it is celebrated with immense

pleasure. Tents are set up, sweets are distributed and every villager is invited for a meal. But if a girl is born in

someone's house, then no one even gets to know that a girl has been born in their house. And there are some other people who kill girls as soon as they are born because boys are the heirs of the next generation, not girls. Saumya (changed name) said that there is a lot of discrimination between girls and boys in our schools. In our schools, girls and boys are made to sit separately. There are dilapidated toilets for girls in which boys also go. When there is any sports competition in our school, only boys play the sports and there is no participation from

girls. Sometimes in a game like a kho-khowich even boys are playing these days, they get a chance to play only in that. We are girls, we also have to play games like cricket, but we are not given a chance and why are we discriminated against so much? Journalists told the girls if you get a chance, what would you all like to become, then some girls started saying brother, we will become collectors, some girls doctors, and some girls started saying brother, we want to change the thinking of the society so that no person does not discriminate between girls and boys.



STREET AND WORKING CHILDREN ARE PLEADING FOR HELP

If the board exam fees will not be deposited on time, then they will not be able to give the 10th-grade exam

Talkative Reporter- Aakash
Balaknama Reporter-Aslam

It is true that without education no one can be successful. The ladder of success can be achieved only through education. You can do anything on the basis of education. But what about those children who want to get an education but do not have money for their studies. When our Balaknama journalist visited Badshahpur, he met street and working children and interacted with them. During the conversation, it was revealed that the children are in a very serious trouble because the Haryana government is charging fees every month from class 9th onwards and the board fees for class 10th are very high. Our street and

working children do not have enough money to study in private schools, so they study in government schools. Now the children who are in class 10th have to pay the board fee of Rs.850, but the parents of the children cannot pay this fee because they spend what they earn daily for daily expenses and food. Whatever is left is used for the education of the children. Street and working children are very upset due to the non-payment of board fees. If the fees for the board examination of the children are not deposited on time, then they will not be able to give the 10th examination. Government school teachers are not giving their roll numbers to street and working children due to non-payment of board fees.

YOU HAVE TO RUN YOUR HOUSE BY SHOWING YOUR TALENT, IF THIS IS NOT DONE THEN WHO WILL SUPPORT THE PARENTS?

Talkative reporter Purania
Kamini and Balaknama reporter
Aanchal

Nowadays, every person has some or the other talent due to which he has the ability to do some work or the other. Some of our street and working children are like this, there is some or other talent is hidden inside them, using which they make arrangements to fill their stomachs. At the same time, they help their parents in taking care of their home. So let us introduce you to some such children today who can be found anywhere in the city of Lucknow. Our Balaknama journalist from Lucknow met a child performing a circus in a slum who does this work to earn money.



We saw that sometimes the child was walking on a rope and sometimes he was dancing with a glass bottle on his head.

When we had a conversation with that child, that child told us that we had learned to do this work since childhood. Our parents work to show the circus, so we have grown up seeing those people only. Since then, we too have had to do this circus work. During the conversation, we also asked that child; do you not feel like studying? The child said, "How can we study? You see how we fill our stomachs by earning money. We, children, support our parents, so if we start studying then what will we eat? This means after talking to that child, it was known what kind of dilemma that child is in and his family condition is very bad and he helps his parents in this work by being troubled by these circumstances.

THIEVES ALSO CHANGED THEIR WAY OF STEALING

Bureau Report

Friends, we all know that nowadays crime is increasing day by day. The places where CCTV cameras and guards etc. are stationed, thieves are able to steal. Then, what to talk about that street and working children

Targeting street and working children who are living alone at home



who are living on roads? There are neither cameras nor any guards deployed for their protection. For this reason, nowadays thieves have also changed their method of stealing. And now they are preying on the street and working children who are left at home alone after their parents go to work. Yes, you read absolutely right, we are talking about children only. This incident happened with two real sisters living in Noida Sector 52. When the parents of those two girls went to work, during that time an unknown person comes to their house and tells them that your father

has sent me and he has ordered the phone and cylinder. Hearing this, both the girls came under his influence and gave the phone and the big cylinder to that person. After that person takes both the things and leaves from there very comfortably. In the evening, when the parents of those girls came back from work and did not see the mobile and cylinder, they asked both the girls. Then the girls said that it was you who had ordered both the things by sending a man to the house in the afternoon. On this, the children's father said that he had not sent any person home, and then the truth came to light. Through this news, we want to tell all the children and elders who read Balaknama that they must also tell their children and all the children to their sisters and brothers about this incident so that they too remain aware of such incidents. And in future, before giving anything to any such unknown person, do ask your family members once and if in doubt, immediately take help from the people around you.

WHY STREET & WORKING CHILDREN DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL?

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managing the expenses. Now instead of going to school, I do water supply work and earn Rs.600 a month.

10 years Manish (name changed) told that he lives in Gurugram, Haryana. He used to go to school in the year 2018, but most of the children living in my slum now go to the streets to collect rags. With the money they got, they used to eat nice things, seeing which I used to get greedy. I used to think that even if I had this much money, I would have been able to eat. Thinking about this, I could not concentrate on my studies and I kept falling behind in my

studies. I asked my mother to withdraw my name from the school. Then I also started going to pick up the junk and I too would get 100 to 150 rupees a day. I got engaged in a scrap shop. Now I work in a scrap shop and earn Rs.400 a day.

Asma (name changed), a resident of Noida Sector 52, told that she used to come to study on the Nanhe Parinde Mobile Education bus. Gradually, she started liking studies, after which the girl's parents expressed their desire to enrol her in school. Chetna's team member talked to the school members and somehow got the girl admitted. According

to the age of the girl, she was admitted to class 6. For some days she went to school very happily. If ever the child had any minor problem, the workers and the parents of the child would explain to her. But the girl told that her school teacher used to make the girl stand in the class and ask questions and she was a little weak in studies as well as a little shy, that's why she could not answer the questions asked by the teacher. On which the teacher used to scold and punish the child. The girl started feeling bad about this and then one day it happened that the girl stopped going to school.

GIRLS FEEL INSECURE DUE TO THE MISBEHAVIOUR OF DRUG ADDICTS



Bureau Report

We definitely see grown children getting intoxicated on the streets and on every corner. The age of these children ranges from 14 to 17 years. These children misbehave with the girls coming and going on the streets. Deep-ti (Changed name), living in Noida Sector 49, said that whenever we go to the park or

tuition from our house to do some important work, we see other older children taking drugs on the streets. He stares at the girls and if the girls say something to him, he starts abusing them and chasing them. One day we were also coming back from our tuition and at that time I had a friend with me. My friend and I were walking comfortably towards home without any fear of the

road. A friend of my friend bumped into her on the way and my friend started talking to that friend. Then I saw that where our friend was standing and talking to her friend, a 17-year-old boy was getting intoxicated by applying suasion to his cloth. I was scared that he did not start misbehaving with us. He was staring at me in the wrong way and making the wrong gestures. Then I told this my friend and we left the place without saying anything. Then that drunken boy started chasing us, so we started running. Many people were watching this on the way but no one helped. Somehow that day we were able to escape from there after saving our lives. These drug-addict children harass the girls on the way every day. Even when we go to the shop to buy things, we girls face these problems and find it difficult to step out of the house.



DUE TO THE POOR ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE HOUSE, CHILDREN GOT DEMOTIVATED

Talkative reporter Babita and Reporter Sangeeta Lucknow

As we all must have heard that our street and working children want to study but due to the poor economic condition of the house, they are not able to do their studies and remain stuck in household chores. Our children of Lucknow also have the same problem. When our newspaper reporter met the children and asked how many children go to school, most of the children said that they go to

school. A child stating his problem said, I am not able to go to school because I work as a garbage collector. There is a huge building, in which I go to collect garbage and also go to some other houses to collect garbage. Because of this, my whole time goes like this and I do not know how to go to school. When I see any child going to school, I also feel like going to school so that I too go to school and do some good work by studying. But due to problems at home, I am forced to do this work.



CHILDREN DEPRIVED OF THE BASIC AMENITIES OF LIFE

Talkative reporter Megha Reporter Sangeeta Lucknow

Our street and working children have to face one or the other trouble every day. They neither get a good place to live nor enough food to eat. Even if they get a place to live, they have to face many kinds of problems there. The same is the condition of the children of our slum areas in Lucknow. When our Balaknama journalist spoke to the children and tried to know their problems, the children told that there

is no facility where they live. There are no public toilets and no lighting facilities. Moreover, there are many problems related to water. To fill water, we have to go far away and where we go to get water, the people of that place take 10 rupees from us every day and only then let us fill the water. Otherwise, they send us back and do not allow us to fill the water. Like sometimes we don't have money, so we don't let people fill the water. Due to which we have to face a lot of problems, now what should we do?

CHILDREN URGED:- WE SHOULD NOT BE INSULTED DUE TO OUR POVERTY

Bureau Report

Everyone is well aware of this fact that due to the increase in population, our street and working children are facing a lot of problems. Most of the parents of our street and working children, being illiterate, send them to work instead of sending them to school. When our Lucknow-based newspaper journalist talked to our street and working children about this topic, the children told that sister, you also know that we go outside to work in homes. But sometimes it happens, if we are not able to go to work for any reason, then the people there say very bad things to us. It is a shame that we cannot even say anything to them. The children also told that, we do not like when those people abuse us. Sometimes we feel that we do not have any identity in this world. Balaknama journalist asked the child why don't you tell all these things to your parents? So none of those children told all these things to their parents. Rather,



they are afraid that if they tell, they may lose their job. Due to this fear, children do not tell their parents. The journalist explained to the children that if any kind of accident happens to you, first of all you have to tell your parents. If he doesn't

say anything then you have to take immediate action and explain to your parents that this is not going well with us. When you go to people's house to work, then they give you money, so they don't have the right to insult anyone.

**CHILDREN'S HELP
LINE NUMBERS**

**CONTACT THESE TOLL FREE
NUMBERS IF YOU FACE ANY
PROBLEM.**

Child line Number

1098

Police Helpline Number

100

CHILD GANG IS ACTIVE IN WEST DELHI SLUMS

Bureau Report

Everyone is a lion in his area, you must be knowing this. We are talking about those children who form gangs at a young age. They do the work of killing each other by taking bribes. This news is about the children living in West Delhi. A child told we live in this place, and there is a gang of

children in the streets around us. There are 10 children in that gang and these children are in the age group of 11 to 17 years. All these children are popular in their areas and everyone is afraid of them. All the children in this gang take different types of drugs and they remain so intoxicated that they fight with anyone. The parents of these children know

that the children are spoiling and doing hooliganism. These children do not understand the words of their parents and speak rudely to them. If one child from the gang of these children gets beaten by a person alone, then this lone child comes there after getting beaten up, then he goes again with his gang and they return only after taking revenge. Most of

the other children keep fighting in the surrounding. If they want to take revenge on them, then those children come to the gang of these children. These children are shown photographs and told where to kill. He gives all the information and all these gangs together go to attack him. If they get trapped for some reason, they have different types of weap-

ons, such as a small axe and which also comes in a hand and pocket. These people talk to them with buttons, buttons are very dangerous weapons, which are very sharp and once hit in the stomach and then taken out, a person dies. After doing their work, they also get money and all the children distribute this money among themselves.

CHILDREN STEALING GOODS FROM MOVING TRAINS



Bureau Report

Journalists met the children of the slums of West Delhi. The children told that there is also a railway track coming out next to the slum, in which a train keeps coming and going every 2 to 5 minutes. Many types of goods come in trains, such as iron, fruits, vegetables, pulses, rice, coal etc. Thefts

are also done from the goods vehicles brought by the goods train. Children do this work together with adults. There is a gang of these children and elders, which consists of 12 to 15 people. When goods trains arrive, 8 people get into that moving train and they keep throwing down all the goods that are in the train and whatever companions they have

outside, they keep that thing aside. These people start doing this work anytime, be it day or night. Most of the people living in the slum keep watching these people and this thing is known to the people and children living in every slum. But he could not say anything. If someone even complains about these people, then these people attack him and start killing him. All the children who work in this gang, all these children are made to work. There is a big boss of these gangs, he gives money to all of them and gets them to work. After removing all these things from the train, they go to the shops and sell them at a cheap price and give the money that comes to their owner. The owner then gives Rs.500 to all of them. The parents of the children also know that our children do this work but still, they do not say anything to them.



CHILDREN ARE ALSO TROUBLED BY HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES

Talkative reporter Megha and reporter Sangeeta Lucknow

As it is known to all that when the economic condition of the house is bad, the parents are not only worried, with them their children also get very upset. Not only this, he starts working to help his family. Such is the condition of the children of our slum in Lucknow. When our Balaknama journalist talked to the children in the reporter's meeting and tried to know their problem, a child told them his

problem and said that I work to sell balloons. Due to this, I am not able to go to school. I have to look after the daily expenses at my house. Where my father works, he gets money after one month and my mother also goes outside to sweep the houses, then she also gets money after one month. Due to this, there is a lot of difficulty in running the expenses of the house. When we go to sell balloons every day, only then our household expenses are met. This is the reason why we cannot go to school.

CHILDREN ATTACK EACH OTHER AND ARE BEATEN TO DEATH

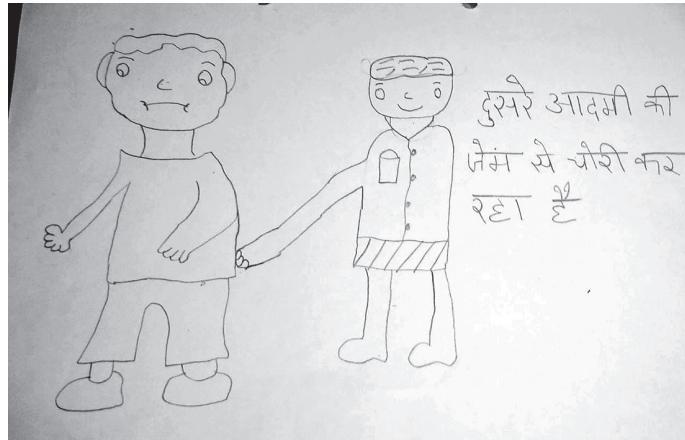


Bureau Report

Dev (Changed name) told that he lives in Delhi and goes to the mosque daily. He also studies in that mosque. Every Friday, on Jumma, the children go to the Masjid and all the children and adults who come to the Masjid collect donations in the Masjid. The person who has to give as much money in the donation gives that much money and this money is used for those works of the mosque like non-availability of water pipes, breakdown of motor, problem in light, non-availability of mat etc. A child also

comes to that mosque that is 12 years old. Whenever he comes, he steals some of the money donated. One day another child saw that child stealing and that child went and told Hafiz ji that this child was stealing, and Hafiz ji talked to that child. That child was handed over to the children present in the mosque and told the children to go to his house and complain about him. But those children took that child on the way and hit him so much that he was injured and his head started bleeding. When this thing came to know at that child's house, the child's parents went to the mosque and talked to Hafiz ji. But Hafiz ji did not know that the child was hit so hard that he was injured. Hafiz ji explained to all the children. But other children say that what happened to that child was wrong and Hafiz ji should take strict action on this so that this does not happen to any other child in the future.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATE IN UNKNOWN PROCESSIONS, DOING PICKPOCKETING



Talkative reporter Rampal and reporter Kishan

As it is known that in marriage procession people dance a lot on DJ and have a lot of fun. But some such incident also happens to them, which they are not aware of. Parivartan Naam Dev, who lives in Delhi, told that in the slum where we live, processions keep coming and going in the streets every day. And we have a gang of

street kids consisting of 9 people. When the wedding procession comes, these children go to the wedding procession uninvited and they go well dressed, wearing nice clothes and being clean. So that no one can recognize them. If anyone sees him, he should understand that he is a person from the procession. When children and adults are dancing with enthusiasm on the DJ, these children also join in

the dance and entertain themselves with fun. While dancing and dancing with the baraatis, these people take out wallets and money from the pockets of those people. Not only this, there is also a gold chain and a gold ring in their hands and neck, so they remove it in such a way that it does not even get a clue. When they cut these pockets, these children have blades, which they hit in the pockets of dancing people and they are not able to know at all and easily take out the wallet. If ever they are caught doing this, then these children are taken to the side of the girls and inquired from them whether they are your relatives. If he refuses, he is completely caught. Those who are his gang mates do not support the caught child at all because if he speaks something, he will also be caught and then he is released after beating and then starts doing the same thing again.

THE TEMPLE IS MY HABITAT

Reporter Sabir

Balaknama reporter saw a child standing on the temple and tried to talk to him, then came to know that the child could not speak. The boy's friend who understands their language very well told the reporter that the boy has been living on the street for many years. This child has parents but they have left him at this place. They never come

to meet this child, because they think it cannot speak and it is of no use to us. That's why this child stays at this place only. People give some money to this child while coming and going throughout the day. When people ask this child to do any work like bringing vegetables, some goods from the shop, then he does this work for them and that child also gets money for this work. It does the

work of begging by sitting on the temple for the whole day. While coming to the temple, people also give him food. This boy also works for some time in a samosa shop filling chokha in samosas. He goes daily for 4 hours and gets up to 100 rupees for 4 hours, which covers his expenses. After working, he comes back to the temple and when it gets cold, he sleeps inside the temple.



CHILDREN PICK BRICKS FROM THE DEBRIS AND SELL THEM

The money received from him runs the expenses of his house

Reporter Sabir

When journalists talked to working children, a 10-year-old boy said, "We children come with our parents from 8 in the morning to 5 in the evening to collect debris. I do the work of picking bricks. In this place, most of the children do the work of picking bricks. Everyone wants to get more bricks, so the children while walking climb on top of the tractor and truck and they

quickly- Quickly find bricks. As soon as they find a brick, they throw it under the tractor. The parents of us children who stand under the truck tractor pick up those bricks. 10 times a day Tractors and trucks come 12 times from here. Out of which we children and parents together collect 300 bricks in a whole day. After collecting the bricks, we keep them in one place. So, they contain cement. While cleaning the bricks, there is an injury to the

hand and after getting it, the hand also swells. Still, we have to do this work. After cleaning the briquettes, we sell them to other people. One brick is sold for Rs.5. When we sell bricks to other people, they do not give us full money and say that half of our bricks are bad. Because of this, we have to give those bricks at a lower price. This money is used for our household work, which takes care of our expenses and that of our entire family.



GIRLS UPSET DUE TO LIQUOR CONTRACT NEAR THE TOWNSHIP, HARD TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE

Talkative reporter Lakshmi and Balaknama reporter Aanchal

In the city of Lucknow, you will find thousands of such children who are suffering from one or the other problem. When Balknama journalists from Lucknow met such children, the news came to the fore that there are some such places here, where children live on the side of the footpath by making their settlements. Due to this, they have to face many problems. When we talked to those children, they said that there are many problems here, but the biggest problem for us is the liquor vend built here. We face a lot of problems because of this

liquor contract here. Because of this contract, we are neither able to take bath, nor are we able to wash clothes. Along with this, the children also told us that this contract remains open from morning till evening, due to which it becomes difficult for us to get out of the house. Some children also said that they are afraid of doing small work outside like I have to put clothes to tailor for stitching, but we are not able to put them. Because of the street in which there is a tailor, that contract shop is located on the same street. We are very upset with this kind of environment where we girls have no security and freedom.

IS IT IMPORTANT TO WORK AT HOME OR STUDY AT SCHOOL?

Bureau Report

Journalists of Balanknama were on a visit to Noida, and then the journalists saw that a girl was standing silently in one place, and she was looking very sad. Journalists went and talked to the girl and after knowing the reason for her sadness, it was found that the girl is 13 years old and lives in a rented house with her parents in Noida. The girl used to go to tuition every day for three months, but she could not go to school. Because the housework had to be done. One day father talked to the uncle of the neighbourhood to get him to work in Kothi and the father got angry with the mother and said that now the daughter will go to work instead of going for tuition. When I came to know about this, she became very sad. His mother told him that now he will not go to tuition and go



to work and then got his name removed from tuition. Now she goes to work at Kothi every morning at eight and comes home by six in the evening. After cleaning the closets, and

washing utensils, he gets 9000 rupees every month, which his parents take. But the sadness of that girl is that she wants to study but her parents broke her ties with her studies.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO STUDY BUT DUE TO LACK OF MONEY HOW CAN CHILDREN COMPLETE THEIR STUDIES



Reporter Kishan

Education is very important in our life. But some such situations come that we are forced to leave the school. During the conversation with Dinesh (changed name) living in Gurgaon, it was learned that Dinesh is 15 years old. Dinesh goes to school every day. The school is 4 km away from Dinesh's house. Dinesh is very interest-

ed in studies and he wants that he should not take a single day off and go to school every day. Dinesh's mother stays at home and does household chores and Dinesh's father works as a janitor. Dinesh used to take 20 rupees daily from his father to go to school and used to go to school by tempo or rickshaw with the same money. But due to Dinesh's father not getting the money for his work soon;

he refused to give money to Dinesh for a few days. Dinesh was very sad because of this. He was neither able to go to school nor meet his friends. For this reason, he started working in a grocery store shop. He used to go to school in the morning and after coming from school, after having food, he would work at the grocery store till 10 in night and with the money he got, he would go to school by paying rent. He went to school continuously for a month with this money but he was not able to concentrate well on his studies along with work. Because of this Dinesh missed school. Now Dinesh works in a grocery store shop. Dinesh says that there are many children like me who miss school for one reason or the other. I want that some such facility should be made in the school so that children can go to school daily.

TO GET INTOXICATED, THEY STEAL GOODS FROM TRUCKS PARKED ON THE FLYOVER



Talkative Reporter Tohid and Reporter Kishan

Drugs are so important that street and working children are so compelled to use drugs that they fall into wrongdoing. The 17-year-old boy told his brother, there is a flyover next to my house. Big trucks stand on those flyovers and they are filled with fruits, vegetables, sewing machines, etc. Some of the trucks that park on the flyover at night have a means of closing them and some do not. The children who live near this flyover come near the vehicles and steal these goods by boarding the vehicles at night. The drivers of the truck who sleep so deeply at night that

they do not have their senses because they drive vehicles on the roads throughout the day and sleep by parking their vehicles on the flyover to rest at night. When these children are stealing from a person's truck, then the truck standing behind this truck, the person in that truck also sees these children stealing but he does not say anything. If he says something, these children throw stones at him and run away and break the glass. The children who steal these things, these children then go to the shops and sell them or sell them themselves in the market. The money that comes from selling, they get intoxicated with that money.

**CHILDREN'S HELP
LINE NUMBERS**

CONTACT THESE TOLL FREE
NUMBERS IF YOU FACE ANY
PROBLEM.

Child line Number

1098

Police Helpline Number

100

CHILDREN ARE FORCED TO WANDER DOOR TO DOOR DUE TO THE LACK OF A PERMANENT PLACE TO LIVE



Talkative reporter Mamta and Balaknama reporter Aanchal

These days our street and working children are very upset with the changing situation. When our journalist from Lucknow's Balaknama visited some places and tried

to know the problems of the children, then the children told that Didi, there is a very big building next to this colony. The owner of this building has said that vacate all the huts here, otherwise, we will demolish them. Right now we have started packing our

belongings slowly and are trying to vacate the place as soon as possible. They say that if you do not vacate the place, we will demolish your hut and will not allow you to take away all your belongings. The journalist asked the children you will remove your hut from here, but do you have any permanent place where they can build their house again? So some children said sister, we have taken this place on rent and some children said sister, wherever there is space, we will set up our hut. Also asked the children if you leave here, how will you study? So the children said, Sister, you only tell us what we should do, we will go wherever our parents take us, and if we study, then what is written in our destiny will happen, we cannot change that.



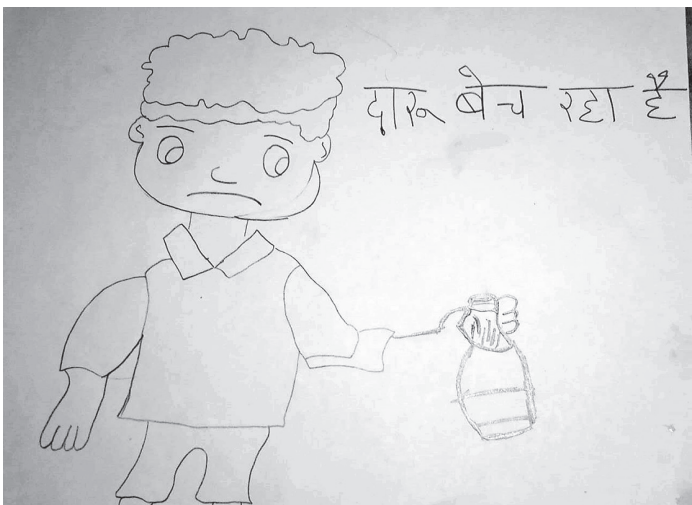
WHAT SHOULD WE DO TO GET TWO TIMES OF MEALS A DAY?

Even in this cold, street and working children go to the vegetable market at 5:00 -6:00 am in the morning to pick vegetables.

Talkative reporter Kamini and Reporter Sangeeta Lucknow

As we all know that our street and working children are ready to do any work to help their families. No matter how dangerous that work may be. Similar is the condition of our children in Lucknow. When our Balaknama reporter from Lucknow tried to know the problem of the children, our talkative reporter Kamini told that there are some children who go to the vegetable mar-

ket from 5-6 in the morning to pick vegetables. And they bring rotten street vegetables. Some children bring beans home and some children bring beans to sell on the handcart. So, earlier it was summer, even then these people did not wear full clothes, so they used to walk, but now, it is very cold in the morning and evening, even then these people do not go wearing full clothes and go like this only. Due to this, these people can also fall ill, but still, these children ignore this fact.



HAVE TO MAKE A LIVING BY SELLING LIQUOR

Reporter Sabir

Journalists visited to know the current problem of the street and working children. During the tour, he met a 15-year-old boy, who is missing both his parents. He is dead. The boy lives in a rented slum with one of his sisters. In front of the slum where the child lives, there is a government liquor contract. That boy brings liquor worth Rs.50 from that liquor vends and sells it in his slum. He sells a bottle of liquor

for Rs.70. The boy said that when I sell liquor, I am afraid that the police may catch him. I don't even have parents who can save me. But it is my compulsion to do this work. If I do not work then how my expenses and my sister's will expenses are done? That's why I have to do this work. When I sell liquor, there are many evil people who think that I am a child and go away with less money and I cannot say anything to them because if I say anything to them, they will tell the police.

CHILDREN UPSET DUE TO FINE FOR GOING ON LEAVE WITHOUT LEAVE APPLICATION

Will the Basic Education Officer Pay attention to this?

BureauReport

Presently inflation is increasing and it is becoming very difficult to earn and save every single rupee. If the children who go to school do not go to school, then what punishment is given to the children by the school, let us know this news in detail. A boy who is 13 years old told Balknama journalists that, we children go to school daily. But before we children take school

left, we have to send a message to the school that for some reason we will not be able to come to school. Sometimes we have a fever or we go with our parents for important work, then we cannot send messages to school. This is a strict rule from our school, the child who leaves school without informing or has to take leave for any reason, sends a message to the school. If you can't send it, come the next day and pay the

fine of Rs.10. If the children do not pay 10 rupees for their leave fine in the school, then they have to be beaten by the teacher. If we tell them the reason for not coming to school, they call us liars. Teachers beat the teachers daily until the child pays his fine. Most of the children also do such a thing that the money they get from home to eat things, they save the money and bring it to school and pay the fine for taking leave with that money.

WHY DO WE GET PUNISHED FOR THE MISTAKES OF OTHERS?

Reporter Sabir

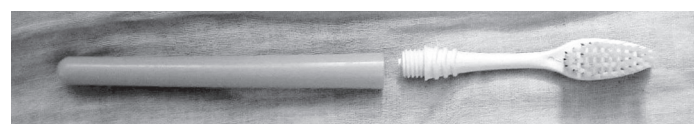
Most of the working children are seen doing different kinds of work on the street. But while coming on the streets, there are many such people who leave by saying the wrong things to them. A 13-year-old boy working as a scrap dealer works as a scrap picker in many such markets in Delhi. He told that when I am collecting waste



WHILE MAKING A TOOTHBRUSH, BLISTERS APPEAR ON THE HANDS, BUT WORK IS A COMPULSION

Talkative reporter Manpal and reporter Kishan

Vishal (changed name), who lives in the slums of Delhi, said that I live in Delhi with my parents in a rented room. Vishal works in a factory manufacturing toothbrush. Vishal said to me that I do the work of connecting toothbrushes as you see in the photo. This tooth-



brush consists of two parts, a pole and ballast. These two have to be added to each other; only then our toothbrush is ready. While connecting pola and gitti they have to be twisted. When we are doing this

with our hands, the thumb has to be used more in this. Due to this, the skin of the thumb becomes hot and blisters also appear in the thumb. Due to this, the thumb starts hurting, then me and the children around me

apply betadine in it and apply a bandage so that it does not hurt. With this, we are able to do work because if we do not work then how will the expenses be done? After preparing this toothbrush goes into 4 kg. Then we give this stuff to our landlord and in a day work of 150 to 200 rupees are done and with this money, we pay the rent of the room.

like cardboard, plastic, liquor bottles etc., there are many brothers in the market who forbid me to collect waste. They say that you should not come to this market because even our goods get stolen. While I pick up my junk and silently leave from there. But still, they doubt me. This theft is done by big drug addicts living in the market. But they blame us for this theft and we are forced to say yes to them. If we don't say yes, they start hitting us. We are forced to go to the market to do scrap work. We earn one to two hundred rupees in a day, which I spend on myself.

TO STOP CHILD MARRIAGE, USE WOMEN'S HELPLINE NUMBER 1091



Talkative Reporter ~Muskaan
Balaknama Reporter ~ Aslam

Even after making a law to prevent child marriage, it has still not been completely stopped. Our Balknama reporter Aslam spoke to a girl child Reena (name changed). She told that, we have a girl whose name is Muskaan and she is 15 years old. Her family

members want to forcefully get her married to a 24-year-old man. The journalist asked Reena what Muskaan does, and then she told that she studies in seventh grade. She is very good in studies and she is very well known to the madam and sir of the school as she plays kho-kho very well along with studies. She had won the silver medal award for her school at

the state level and she was also the captain of her school team. But her family members do not want to let her study. He keeps saying all the time that there is no need to study, he will get you married. That's why once she ran away from home, then when Muskaan was found, her family members got her married within 5 days. Our reporters advised Reena that if any man or woman around you is under the age of 21 and 18, then all of you should call the women's helpline number 1091 and register a complaint of child marriage. Child marriage is a crime and every person involved in it may have to be punished for 2 years in jail and a fine of one lakh.



WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THE SORROW OF OUR PARENTS AND OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

BureauReport

It is absolutely wrong to say that only girls are responsible for the household and only girls run their homes. If there is an assumption that boys do nothing then it is wrong. Boys also do the work of taking care of their homes and family. Along with this, they also do the work of taking responsibility like girls. When Balknama met some such boys during the journalist's visit, the child told that sister, you people think that only girls do everything, but it is not so. We also have to

run our family. The condition of our family is not good, so from a young age, we have to do a lot of work like making punctures, grazing goats, and doing wages. We have to learn this work from childhood so that we can earn good money as soon as we grow up. We also do as much as we can for our parents and family. But no matter how much we do for our family members, it is not kept in front as much as the work of girls is kept. We also understand the sorrow of our parents and we also know how to shoulder our responsibilities.

TROUBLED BY THE MISBEHAVIOUR OF THE STEPMOTHER, SHAHID WAS FORCED TO LEAVE THE HOUSE



Reporter Kishan

We all are well aware of what happens in place of a mother in life. But what is the difference between your mother and stepmother; you will come to know through this news. We will tell you about the incident of Shahid (changed name). The age of the martyr is 11 years and he is a resident

of Bengal. In Shahid's house, his stepmother, father and he are the only three members. Shahid's mother passed away some time back. Then Shahid and his father lived in Bengal, so due to a lack of work there, Shahid's father came to Delhi with Shahid. After coming to Delhi, he searched for a lot of work, but due to not getting any work, after a few

days, his father started doing his own fruit and vegetable work. Along with the work, Shahid's father was not able to take care of Shahid, so he got married for the second time without informing Shahid. Shahid did not like this thing. Everything went well for a few days, but gradually Shahid's stepmother started hating Shahid. She used to threaten the martyr that he keeps on eating while sitting and does not do any work. She also used to beat him a lot. This thing could not be tolerated and he ran away from his house. Shahid now works in a fish factory and lives in a rented slum. He earns 300 rupees a day and from this, he runs his expenses.

STORY OF TWO FRIENDS



Reporter Sabir

It is also very important to make true friends in life. During the meeting, the journalists met some children whose friendship is an example. The age of this boy is 13 years, he told that I go to school every day and study in seventh standard. One day when I went to school, a boy in my class was studying sitting behind my seat. That day my teacher made me the class monitor for a while because she went out for some urgent work. The teacher had given me the responsibility that if someone talks and misbehaves with each other, then you will tell us. When the teacher came to the class, we told the complaint of all the children who were misbehaving and not listening. The teacher punished those children and also beat them with a stick. But the boy who

was sitting behind my seat did not like this at all and he got angry with me. He started hitting me when I came out of school. I was alone and could not do anything. The next day I went to school and told this my teacher. The teacher again punished her and said that now she will not call it anything and she accepted her mistake. On the same day Dilip (changed name) whose age is 13 years. Then he became my friend, now he has become such a dear friend of mine that we both help each other in everything. He lives in a slum. When Dilip faces any problem, I help him with that. He also helps me in the same way and we eat together when he brings food to school. If he is wrong but continues, then I explain to him that it is wrong to do so. I love the fact that I have found such a friend who listens and understands me well.

NO MATTER HOW HARD THE DIFFICULTIES ARE, DON'T GIVE UP STUDY IS IMPORTANT ALONG WITH WORK



Talkative reporter Sahil
Balaknama Reporter ~ Aslam

The life of street children is not less than any difficulty, but heroes are those who do not give up no matter how many difficulties they face. When Balaknama journalists talked to the children about this, Shahid told that some children

plant fruit on the road here. These kids also study in my school and one of them is also my class monitor. The boy is very hardworking. He wakes up at 6 in the morning and goes to the market first and brings vegetables from the market at 8 am. He goes to school at 9:30 a.m. after finishing all the work and

getting ready early. Coming back from school at 3:30, he sells vegetables and fruits on his peddler. When he comes home after selling vegetables and fruits, he also sits and studies at night. Due to working so hard, lumps form in his hands and sometimes even blood starts coming out from his hands and hands start cracking. He has no one in this world other than his mother. His mother used to cook food in the brothels and this boy used to study only. But due to ill health of his mother, his work stopped and since then he has to work as a fruit and vegetable vendor. He wants to study but due to responsibilities, he is not able to study properly nor is he able to fulfil his dream. There is no one to help him.

SALUTE TO KHUSHI'S COURAGE



Talkative Reporter~ Anjali
Balaknama Reporter ~ Aslam

Today I am going to tell you about a girl who is very courageous and fearless. The name of this girl child is Khushi (name changed). When Khushi goes to school, some boys stare at her and take the opportunity to talk to Khushi. One day Khushi was going home alone from school when a boy talked to Khushi and

asked her would you like to be my friend? Khushi replied I will kill you so much that you will always remember and there is no mother and sister in your house who do such things with girls. Then the boy happily distanced himself. The next day when Khushi was going to school, the same boy surrounded Khushi with his friends and started threatening Khushi to become his friend or else he will trouble

him a lot. But Khushi slapped that boy without any fear and seeing this person standing there was very happy. When our Balaknama journalist Aslam came to know about this, Aslam happily met him and encouraged him. Khushi told Aslam that there are hundreds of girls like me who are afraid of going to school alone and their families also do not send them to school because of this fear. When there is an incident, when we call the police that some boy is teasing us, the boys do not chase the girls for a day or two due to the threats of the police and after a few days, they start harassing them again. That's why I took this step and I want the government to help us and take strict action against such boys who stop girls from studying and stare at them.



CHILDREN LIVE IN FEAR EVERY DAY DUE TO THE LACK OF THEIR OWN HOUSE

Talkative reporter Laxmi and
Sangeeta Lucknow

As we all know that there are very few working children who manage to live well. But there are many children who start living on the footpath somewhere on the side of the road by making their own small hut. They don't get any kind of facilities. Sometimes the problem of water, sometimes the problem of public toilets and sometimes it is said to remove the hut. Due to this, small children start getting worried more than their parents and they are afraid of where they will live now. Sim-

ilarly, they have to face many types of problems. Similar is the condition of the children of our slum in Lucknow. Telling their problems, these children said that Didi, one or the other policemen keep coming here every day. Right now the lights of our house have been removed, due to which we spend 40 to 50 rupees daily on lighting candles. And now we are being asked to remove the hut. We have also been told that if we do not remove the huts, the bulldozers will come and demolish everyone's huts. Because of this, we are constantly in fear that our huts might be demolished.

AFTER THEIR PARENTS, NOW HE IS THE SUPPORT OF HIS YOUNGER BROTHERS MAKING A LIVING BY SELLING BALLOONS

Reporter Zubeida

Balaknama journalists passing by the road caught sight of a 16-year-old girl who was selling balloons on the road. When we talked to the girl, she told us about her ordeal. The girl told that she and her two brothers are in her house. His parents have died. Both his brothers are younger than him and one is 4 years old and one is 6 years old. She lives with her brother and sister in a rented house in a small slum. She comes here at nine in the morning taking her brothers with her and all of them get involved in the business of selling balloons. He earns up



to Rs 200 by selling balloons from morning till evening

and from that he takes care of himself and his household. Journalists asked the girl, why don't you go to school? So the girl told that my brothers have no one in this world except me. If I don't work then what will me and my brothers eat that's why I have to do this work. But I have a dream that both my brothers should not do this work like I am doing the work of selling balloons on the streets. Hearing this, the journalists informed the girl child about the contact point being run by the organization and took her there and got the names of those children written so that she could study along with work.

THE PRINCIPAL REFUSED TO TAKE ADMISSION TO THE SCHOOL BECAUSE OF BEING DUMB



Talkative reporter ~Tanmoy
Balaknama Reporter ~ Aslam

When journalist Aslam talked to Raju (name changed), Raju told that he lives in Rampur (name changed) village. His mother works in Kothi and his father works as a

guard. Raju cannot speak and because of this he does not go to study. But he has a great desire to study. He also loves to play football. He plays football very well but because of being dumb, the villagers do not play football with him. He wants me to go

to school like other kids and he also wants to play in the school football team. He had also gone to the village school to get himself admitted, but when the teachers and children of the school started laughing at him, he felt very bad. The teacher and the principal of the school refused to enrol him in the school. Raju's parents pleaded with the school principal a lot, but due to being dumb, the teachers were not taking Raju's admission. Raju wants that children who are handicapped due to one reason or the other and want to study should be helped so that they can study and fulfill their dream.

THERE SHOULD BE EQUALITY IN THE RELATIONSHIP OF BROTHER AND SISTER

Talkative reporter Anjali and
Balaknama reporter Aanchal

If we talk about these relationships, then the most sacred relationship is that of brother and sister. We talked to some children about this topic and asked that according to you, how is the relationship between brother and sister? So the children said that there is no equality in the relationship between sister and brother because we have seen that only one sister does everything. Only the sister gets to hear the taunts of the house and society. Sister, according to

us, this should not happen at all because if a parent loves a brother, then they should love their daughter as much. There should be no discrimination in that at all. At the same time, the children also said that sister, nowadays you must have seen that if you ask any brother for help in household chores, he feels that only sisters or girls do household chores. So you tell me there is no equality in this relationship. Sisters say that if the name of brother and sister is given together, then there should be no discrimination in the work as well.

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This newsletter is for limited delivery only. All the pictures are printed by the approval of the children.

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