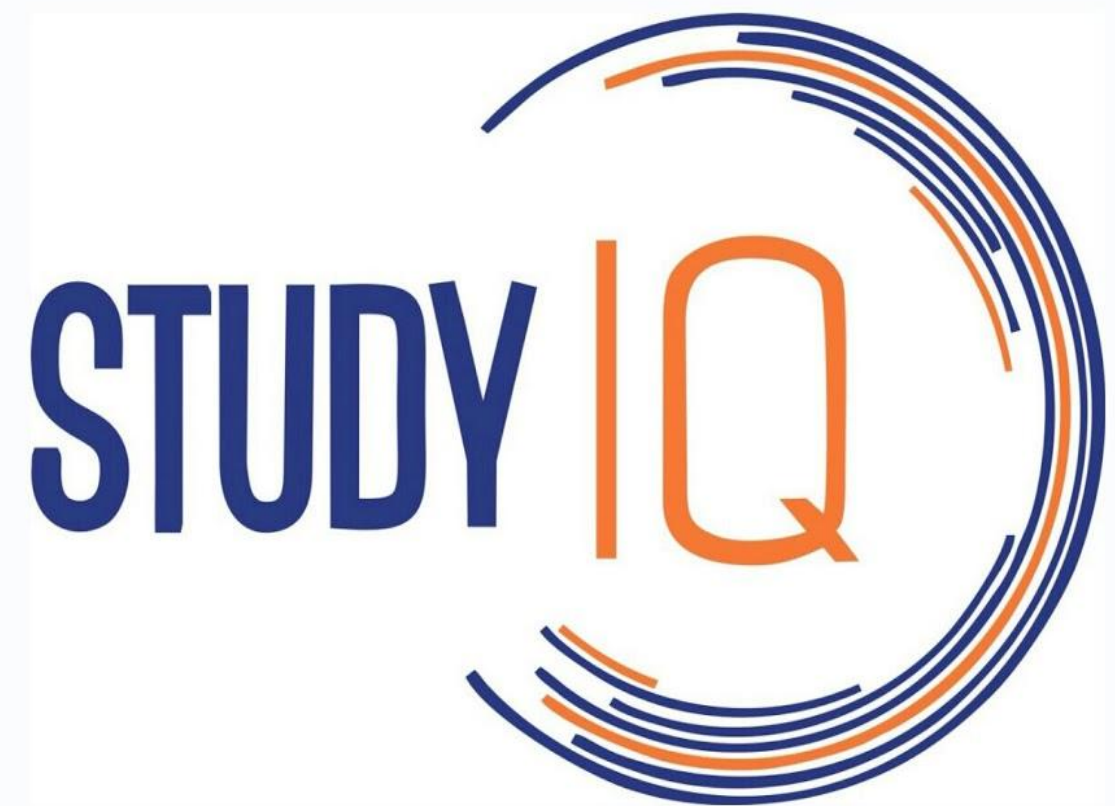


**YOU'LL NEVER BE 100%
READY TO CHANGE.**

**DON'T WAIT FOR THE
'PERFECT' TIME.
IT WILL NEVER COME.**

START TODAY.





The limits to popular sentiment

In the second volume of Ian Frazier's monumental biography on Adolf Hitler, there is a throwaway description of Nazi electoral strategy: "The appealing counter-image is national identity. This promise that they were historical humiliations is a political slogan that has launched numerous electoral campaigns since 1933 as Hitler came to power."

What does this refines of transmutance onions sometimes it has outwitted for national play is returned instead, like a stand to a double, like being, identity with validation of elect groups. In our times we have seen this logic solidified in the Supreme Court-ordered ban on the conduct of the annual ritual. In the name of cultural pride and custom, the annual ritual, which has been a part of the show of solidarity has been peaceful, in clay contrast to the aggression shown by some enthusiasts on social media in targeting certain celebrities for their earlier support to PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals). Chief Minister O.P. Jaiswal had to be compelled to support the movement, and rushed to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and seek an assurance on an ordinance to nullify the Supreme Court ban. But whatever the views of the youth taking part in the demonstration, jallikattu in its present form is of relatively recent origin, intended to make bulls run amok for the sake of spectacle. Instead of the traditional form of the game against one animal, later the jallikattu is a multi-participant ritual of chasing a bull and trying to hold on to its hump or get it to jump or to twist its tail.

For other similar traditions that have survived in modern, progressive India in the name of race-ethnicity and cultural pride. When the Supreme Court banned this spectacle that took a heavy toll on the animals and the human participants, it was not the traditionalists at the helm who were directly opposed to this "sport" were deemed a failure. In 2013, under the name of the Animal Welfare Board of India, the then Union Minister of Environment, Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan, tried to ensure that jallikattu did not violate the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. But, the opportunity to ensure a jallikattu that was free of cruelty to the animals and Indians to the participants was lost. The Union Minister, Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan, was not on the rally of the Supreme Court judgment through the ordinance route that carry a serious risk of judicial approach. Last year, the Centre did try to get around the court order by issuing an executive notification that granted exemption from restrictions on the use of bulls in performing animals in traditional sports. The proper course for the Centre and the state government is to persuade the Supreme Court that a jallikattu that does not involve, or at least almost eliminates, cruelty to animals and that guarantees the safety of spectators and participants alike is indeed possible. It is all right if popular sentiment can influence legislation, but it cannot undermine the rule of law.

Rebooting disinvestment

To gain some perspective on the Centre's decision to disinvest 20% of its stake in five public sector general insurers, consider these numbers. Last year, the gross premium income of five of these companies: New India Assurance, United India Insurance, Oriental Insurance and National Insurance — increased by over 20%. But their profits after tax fell by more than half a year earlier, from ₹1,094 crore in 2014-15 to just ₹1,049 crore in 2015-16. A closer scrutiny reveals that high underwriting losses, which increased 5% in the year, were largely responsible for profits fall. As these firms provide solutions to their customers, even as revenues rose, National Insurance took the sharpest hit, with a 148% rise in underwriting losses. Public shareholding in these firms will lead to questions about such outliers in performance that have been heard under the Centre's present 100% ownership structure. At least in the public domain, as Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said in his Budget speech last year, would lead to greater transparency and accountability. It will also allow the firms, including General Insurance Corporation of India, to raise more capital from the markets instead of relying on treasury money alone. For instance, India's ₹1,000-crore liability insurance pool created by GIC with other insurers provides more funds to create confidence among wary policyholders.

That it took 10 years for a Budget announcement to secure "repeal" Cabinet approval is symptomatic of the lethargy in the disinvestment programme. Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted early in his tenure — during his first official visit to the US in 2014 — that government had no business being in business. Yet, it took 10 years for the Cabinet to sign off on the first strategic sale of Treasury of ownership and control under its watch. In the low-budget Bharat Nupur and Biprasanna, in December, it approved the sale of land with four public sector norms firms with a plan to close two, and vindicate the optics of strategic sale for Hindustan Antibiotics and Bengal Chemicals. This strategic stock exchanges were in fact a modest proposal to sell a 20% stake in heavy equipment-maker BHEL to a private investor. The political-economic window for such decisions is not unfilled. Even the Adil Raza Vijayapuri regime, which spearheaded the strategic sale of public sector firms engaged in business ranging from bread to pharmaceuticals, shed 84% of such revenue during its third and fourth years in office. Halfway through its term, it is time this government's disinvestment plan gather steam.

Autumn and its discontents

Donald Trump's talent lay in finding the words — however wild, inaccurate, or untrue — that amplified the resentment of large swathes of American voters with the political establishment.

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Jallikattu

- ❑ Tamil Nadu –Jallikattu -during harvest festival of the bull-taming(पालतू) spectacle(तमाशा) held Pongal.
- ❑ Tens of thousands have gathered- Chennai's Marina beach-reversal of the Supreme Court-ordered ban on the conduct of the annual ritual.
- ❑ Name of cultural pride and custom and tradition, students and youth have risen up- show of solidarity has been peaceful
- ❑ PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) (Q-Fonded & located)
- ❑ In 2013, under the watch of the Animal Welfare Board of India (Q-located & body), the onus(भार) was on the State of Tamil Nadu to ensure that jallikattu did not violate the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act
- ❑ Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam felt -meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi -ordinance to nullify the Supreme Court ban.
- ❑ Traditional form of Jallikattu- one man against one animal, latter-day jallikattu is a mass-participant ritual of hundreds of men chasing a bull and trying to hold on to its hump(कूबड़) or stop it by pulling at or twisting its tail.
- ❑ Few other feudal traditions have survived in modern, progressive India in the name of masculine valour and cultural pride.
- ❑ Efforts that are now on to nullify the effect of the Supreme Court judgment through the ordinance route thus carry a serious risk of judicial reproach.(disappointment - तिरस्कार)
- ❑ The proper course -that a jallikattu that does not involve, or at least almost eliminates, cruelty to animals and that guarantees the safety
- ❑ It is all right if popular sentiment can influence legislation, but it cannot undermine the rule of law



Reopening old wounds(घाव)

- ❖ Northeast Asia is a geostrategic hotspot
 - 1)-China - disputed islands and waters.
 - 2)-An unpredictable North Korea is wont to threaten with missiles.
 - 3)-And under a new president, the United States is an untested ally
- ❖ But for Japan and South Korea, the two countries most affected by these developments - Tokyo recalling its ambassador from Seoul, as well as suspending high-level economic policy discussions with its Korean neighbour
- ❖ Hundreds of thousands of women were forced to service the Japanese military's World War II- "comfort women", these former sex slaves were "recruited" from Korea, China and parts of Southeast Asia
- ❖ Only around 40 surviving comfort women in Korea
- ❖ In December 2015, a year before the Busan statue was erected(निर्माण) Tokyo and Seoul had concluded an agreement, supposedly a "final and irreversible" resolution to the comfort women issue.
- ❖ Japan had apologised and agreed to pay ¥1bn - yen(just over \$8 million) into a fund to help care for the surviving comfort women.
- ❖ On its part, South Korea agreed to consider the matter resolved.
- ❖ The accord was hailed(स्वागत) as historic, opening the possibility of a new era in Japanese-Korean relations

❖ Tokyo sees the erection of the Busan statue as a violation of the agreement- location of the statue is unfortunate by people- government has no control

❖ South Korea's President, Ms. Park Geun-hye - negotiated the 2015 deal with Japan, has been impeached on corruption charges

❑ The matter of comfort women will only gain more momentum- Fresh elections are due soon, and the main opposition party has already threatened to ditch the agreement if it comes to power.

❑ Accusations(आरोपों) of Japanese insincerity in South Korea and China are often politically motivated, serving as convenient ways for governments to deflect attention from contentious domestic matters

❑ Given their objective geopolitical circumstances, the rational priority for Japan and South Korea should be the development of close defence and intelligence cooperation.

EAST ASIA



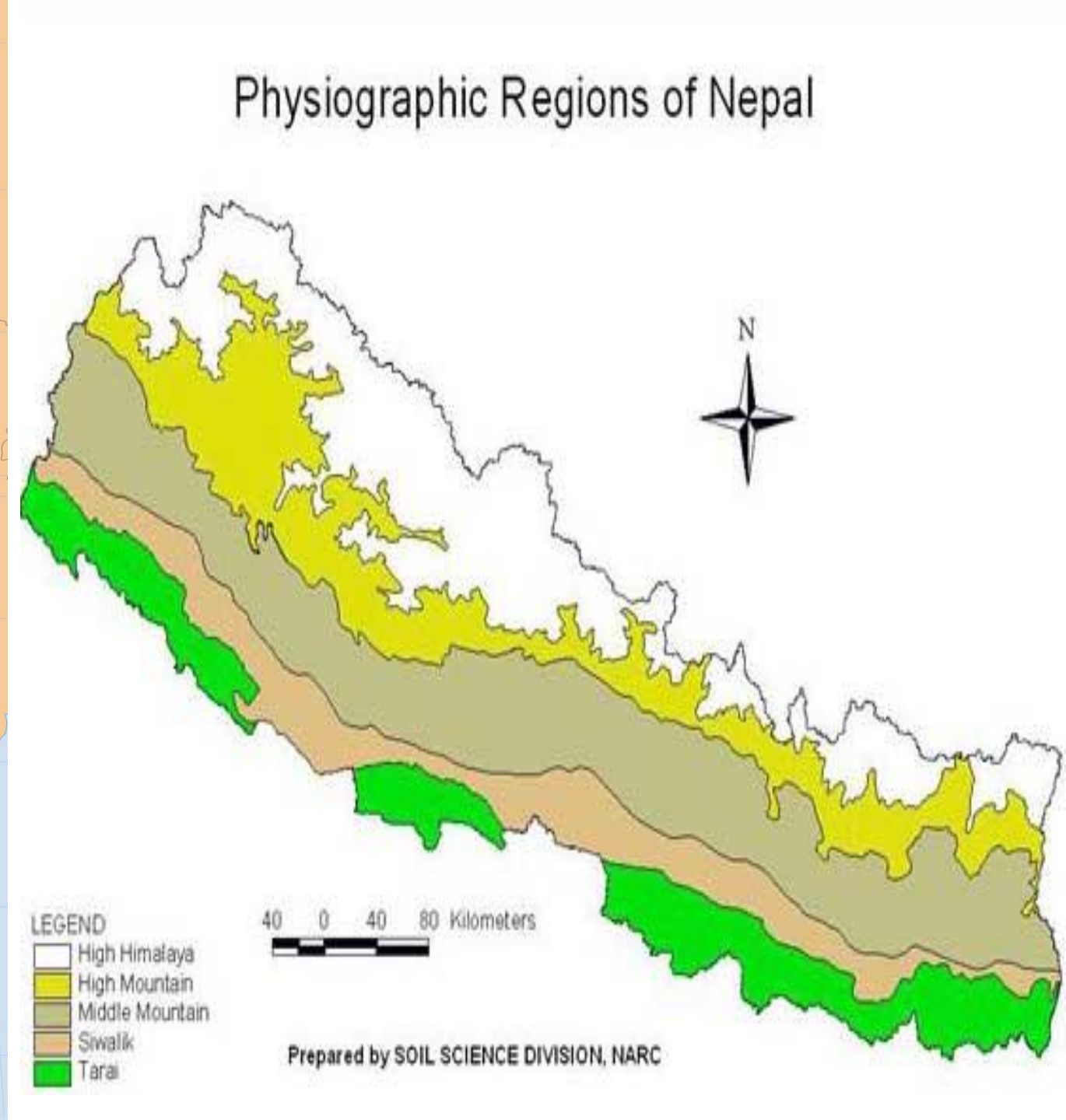
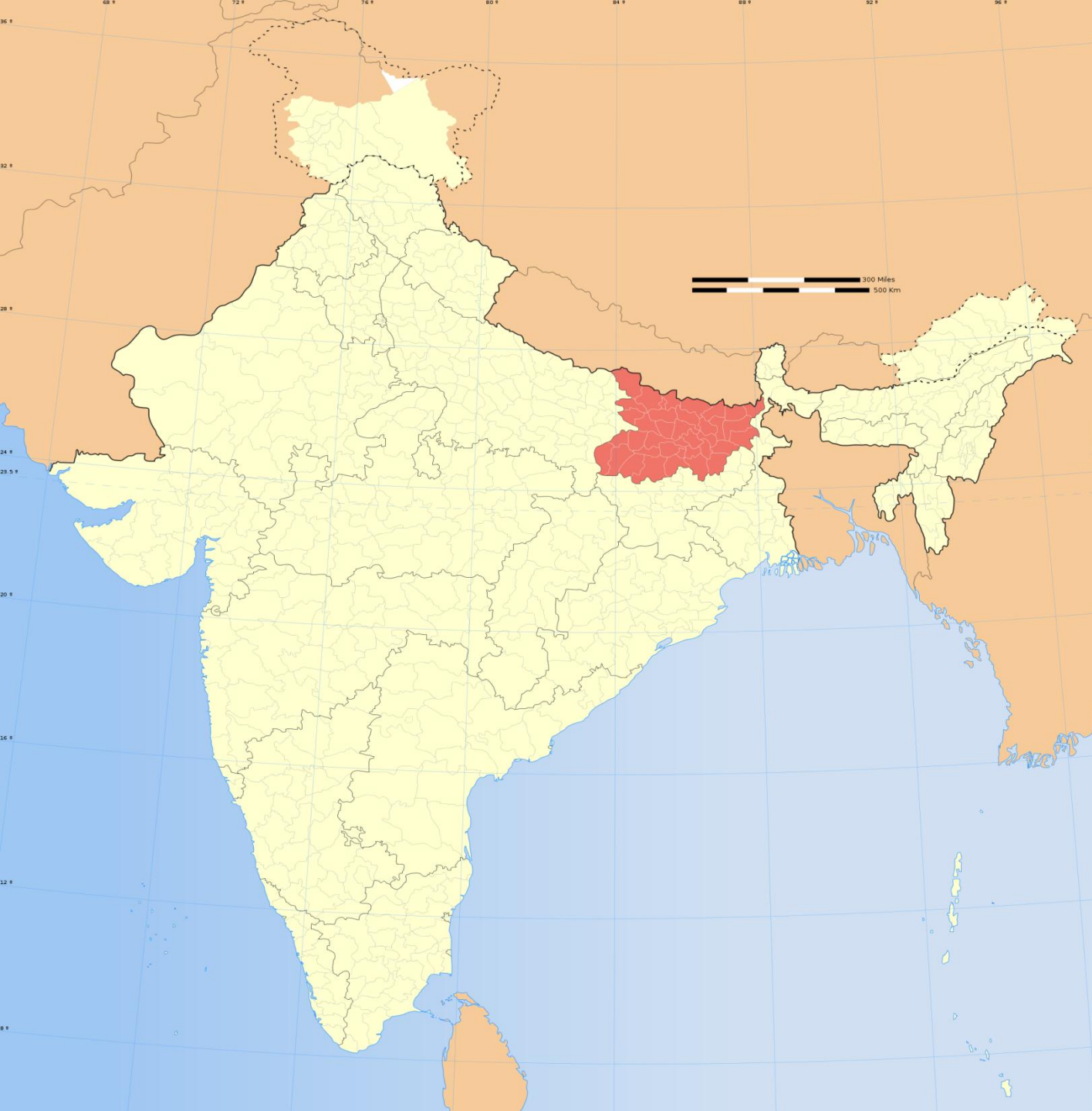
Safe childhoods for a safe India

- After a long wait of **almost two decades**, the Government of India **finally decided last week** to ratify the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention
 - a)-Convention 182 on the **worst forms of child labour**
 - b)-Convention 138 on **Minimum Age of Employment**.
- Congratulate **PM** and the **Ministry of Labour and Employment [Q-?]** + **children of our country**-soon catapult India from the status of a 'developing' nation to a 'developed' one.
- This decision will have a **path-breaking impact on the lives** of those who are forced to remain on the margins of **society and subject to exploitative** conditions.
- About 4.3 million children wake up to a **day of labour and not school**- Another 9.8 million are **officially out-of-school**.
- **Child labour** perpetuates(continue indefinitely) **illiteracy and poverty**- It is the root cause of organised crimes such as **human trafficking, terror and drug mafia**.

- ✓ **An African-** A moment of sudden and great realization- Abuja, the capital city of Nigeria
- ✓ The **Global March Against Child Labour began** in January 1998- traversed **80,000 kilometres** across **103 countries** and became a strong group of **7.2 million marchers**.
- ✓ The **voice of the marchers was heard and reflected** in the draft of the **ILO Convention 182-** n June 1999, delegates of the ILO **unanimously adopted the convention-** It was the **first time** that a convention or treaty had been adopted with **the full support of all members**
- ✓ This clearly shows that **support for the movement** against child labour is **gaining momentum worldwide**
Clearing the hurdles
- ✓ Consequent to the passing of the **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2016** by the Indian Parliament **prohibiting** the employment of **children up to 14 years of age**, and children up to **18 years of age in hazardous** occupations, it was **imperative(अनिवार्य)** that we ratified Conventions 182 and 138- despite **being a founder-member** of the ILO, **reflected poorly on us as a nation**.
- ✓ We cannot alter the circumstances overnight -It will ultimately depend on the level of moral courage, public concern, social empathy, political will and the implementation of resources invested in the development and protection of children.
- ✓ One must **continue to move** in a **singular direction** with **sincerity** -**Investment in children** is an **investment in the future**.

Prakash Sharan Mahat- Foreign Minister of Nepal

- ✓ Impact of Indian **demonetisation** on Nepal - But Nepal's concern is that we **need new Indian currency** for **daily transaction** with India- **for export-import** and for exchange with the major economies of the world.
- ✓ **Public** as well as the **Nepali state** had old **Indian currency** which will be wasted **unless exchanged** for **new Indian currency**
- ✓ The **RBI wanted to know** the **exact estimate** of how **much of old currency** Nepali citizens hold.
- ✓ **Nepal tabled the amendments to the Constitution** - trying to reach a consensus with the opposition parties on the amendments
- ✓ We are **trying to reach every section of society** so that the constitutional issues are **resolved to every** segment's satisfaction- dealing with the **earthquake** and then **political instability**
- ✓ **Proportional representation** and the **redrawing of provincial** boundaries- **Madhesis** and the opposition are **more flexible** now- **We are confident** that we will be able to do it- We will **not let these issues stand** in our way
- ✓ **Terai**- Area between the lower foothills of the Himalayas and the plains.



- ✓ **Kailash Satyarthi** is an Indian [children's rights](#) and education advocate and an activist against [child labour](#). He founded the [Bachpan Bachao Andolan](#) (lit. *Save the Childhood Movement*) in 1980 and has acted to protect the rights of more than 83,000 children from 144 countries.
- ✓ It is largely because of Satyarthi's work and activism that the [International Labour Organization](#) adopted [Convention No. 182](#) on the worst forms of [child labour](#), which is now a principal guideline for governments around the world.
- ✓ His work is recognized through various national and international honours and awards including the [Nobel Peace Prize](#) of 2014, which he shared with [Malala Yousafzai](#) of [Pakistan](#).

PETA-People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals	
Founded	March 22, 1980; 36 years ago
Founder	Ingrid Newkirk and Alex Pacheco
Focus	Animal rights
Location	• Norfolk, Virginia , United States
Slogan	"Animals are not ours to eat, wear, experiment on, use for entertainment, or abuse in any other way."

- ✓ **Animal Welfare Board of India**- The **Animal Welfare Board of India** is a statutory advisory body advising the Government of India on animal welfare laws, and promotes animal welfare in the country of India.
- ✓ It is located at [Thiruvananthapuram](#) in [Chennai](#).
- ✓ It works to ensure that animal welfare laws in the country are followed; provides grants to Animal Welfare Organisations; and considers itself "the face of the animal welfare movement in the country."

- ✓ The **Ministry of Labour and Employment** is India's federal ministry which is responsible to protect and safeguard the interest of workers in general and the poor, deprived and disadvantaged sections of the society.
- ✓ The Ministry aims to create a healthy work environment for higher production and productivity and to develop and coordinate vocational skill training and employment.
- ✓ However, Skill Development responsibilities, such as [Industrial Training](#) and [Apprenticeship](#) responsibilities were transferred to the [Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship](#) from 9th November 2014. The Ministry launched the National Career Service portal on 20th July 2015 to help bridge the gap between job providers and job seekers.¹
- ✓ Ministers responsible - [Bandaru Dattatreya](#)