

So long as you do not achieve social liberty, whatever freedom is provided by the law is of no avail to you.

- B. R. Ambedkar



ActionAid India

ActionAid India is part of a global federation and a full affiliate of ActionAid International that is present in over 40 countries worldwide. Since 1972, the poor and the excluded have been at the centre of our discourse and actions in India. In 2006, we got registered as an Indian organization called ActionAid Association. We are governed by an independent General Assembly and a Governing Board. ActionAid India works in 25 states and 1 union territory of India. We work with the poorest and the marginalised in the most inaccessible areas in partnership with several grassroots organizations, civil society groups and platforms.

Our Vision

A world without poverty, patriarchy and injustice in which every person enjoys the right to life with dignity.

Our Mission

To work in solidarity with the poor and participate in their struggle to eradicate poverty, patriarchy and injustice.

Overall Goal

A just social order brought about by the dispossessed claiming their right to dignity and identity through enhanced democratic participation and structural transformation.

ActionAid Association is registered in India under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 with its registered office at New Delhi. Registration No. S-6828 dt. 5th October 2006

Contributions to ActionAid Association are exempted from Tax under section 80G of Income Tax Act 1961.

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**"I stopped my studies to support in household chores.
But my parents do not value my work"**

-Fatima Firdous, 18 years, Hyderabad



WHO CARES?
National Convention on
Advocacy for Care Work

What is 'Care Work'?

Care work includes those activities that nurture our family, our community and the environment. Activities such as cooking, cleaning, collecting water and fire-wood, and caring for the ill, elderly and children, which are done by family members, often women and girls, for no pay and with little recognition. Care work also includes voluntary community work.

Women in India are often forced to or expected to take care of their homes and families, working long hours continuously for little or no return, monetary or otherwise. Young girls are forced to drop out from school to indulge in housework or assist their families in their work.

Care work is not valued and comes at a great cost to women's rights to an education, decent work, and political participation thus reinforcing gender inequality.

DID YOU KNOW?

2.39 million HIV affected people need care by family members

530 million livestock that need daily cleaning, feeding, milking, grazing etc.

13.12% of our population are children under 6 years, who need care, and protection at home..

46.7% girls could not complete Class X in 2013. A lot of them dropped out to take care of their families.

246 million household need everyday cleaning and a good 36% to fetch water from at least 500 metres.

SHARE THE CARE LOAD

PROPER SOCIAL SECURITY PROVISIONS
AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS CAN REDUCE
THE DRUDGERY OF UNDERPAID AND
UNPAID CARE WORK.

Social Support Systems

Care responsibilities must be shared amongst men and women, amongst households, communities, private and public sector and the State. Support systems such as child care centres in communities and work place will go a long way in ensuring a higher participation of women in labour force and can considerably reduce the dropout rates of girls from schools. Where they already exist, it must be ensured that they are functioning well and are operating keeping in mind the care responsibilities of the people. Policies and schemes of the State and employers must be relooked through a 'care lens' that would ensure greater freedom and mobility to women.

Awareness Campaigns

The State and the Civil Society must run awareness campaigns to get men and boys to contribute to helping with domestic chores and also accept the rights of women and girls to own productive resources. Recognising and valuing the care work that millions of women are engaged in everyday would lead to equal ownership and participation at economic and political spaces.

Social Security

Provisions in the form of decent pension, affordable healthcare, maternity benefits and child care support are just some of the ways that care services can be recognised and the burden can be shared.

'4R' Approach to Address the Issue

These tactics will help us redress care concentration and redefine a fair economy that recognises care and supports care sharing and, thus, women's rights.



Recognition

Recognise her right and value her contribution



Reduction

Reduce her care burden



Redistribution

Share that burden with the family, community, state and private sector



Representation

Strengthen her ability to fight for her own rights

