

Railway Children India

RAILWAY CHILDREN (RC) is an international non-profit organisation, working since 1995 in United Kingdom, India and East Africa, to create **'a world where no child should ever have to live alone on the streets'**.

In India, we work through partnerships with NGOs and directly with government to address the issues of children at and around major railway stations. These are children who leave their family where they suffer poverty, violence, abuse and neglect and also include children staying with families at the station. They find themselves living alone because there is nowhere else to go and nobody to turn to.

RAILWAY CHILDREN'S WORK IN INDIA

Early intervention at and around the railway stations

We meet the immediate needs of children at and around railway stations. Our outreach workers go out to find vulnerable children before an abuser can. We enable children access food, shelter, safety and support while we try to reunite them with their families. If that's not possible, we work tirelessly to find them a long-term solution; either by linking them to long care homes or residential schools. We work at eight Government-run Children's Homes and two Observation Homes to ensure minimum standards of care for children within these Homes. Currently RC works with 12 voluntary organisations in eight States (*Bihar, UP, MP, Delhi, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh*) implementing programmes across 49 locations including 15 major railway stations.

Protecting and ensuring community/ family care for vulnerable children

Having learnt that children decide to leave their family because of several push factors like abuse, parental neglect and lack of or poor standards of educational opportunities; we work through source level interventions, to change the perceptions of local communities. We make children on the streets visible to their communities and aid understanding of how they came to be there, to prevent them being ignored, condemned or passed by.

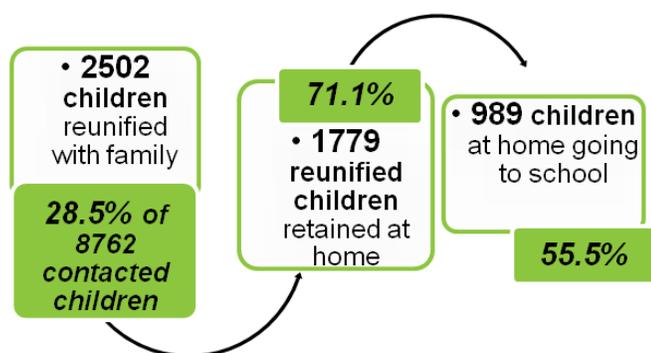
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Activating Government child protection mechanisms

RC uses its research, expertise and strong relationships with key individuals and departments to influence policy makers and leverage government support for children living on the streets.

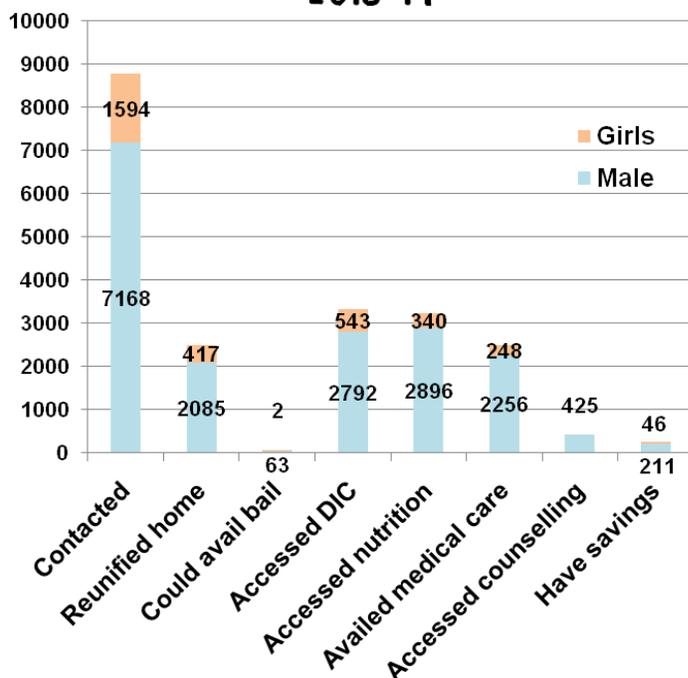
- We train and sensitise Railway Protection force on the issue and child rights protection.
- We support government in the implementation of Integrated Child Protection Scheme.
- As an invited member on several government committees, we contribute to policy and guideline formulation, related to the issue of children alone and at risk.

OUR IMPACT IN 2013-2014



- **1872 CHILDREN GOT BACK TO SCHOOL**
- **459 YOUTH ACCESSED VOCATIONAL TRAINING**
- **20 YOUTH WERE HELPED AVAIL JOBS AND 13 GIRLS STARTED TAILORING WORK!**
- **2888 CHILDREN ACCESSED NON FORMAL EDUCATION**

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM RISK 2013-14



Children benefitting from various services

- **501 COMMUNITY-LEVEL CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEES WERE FORMED IN CHANDALI.**
- **1233 RAILWAY PROTECTION FORCE (RPF) OFFICIALS TRAINED AND SENSITIZED, IN TURN PROTECTING AT LEAST 80 CHILDREN TILL DATE.**