**A National Tribunal should be set up for crimes against children; Kailash Satyarthi**

*Nobel Peace Laureate appeals to Rohtak to strive for safe childhood-safe India*

**Rohtak, 14th October 2017, Saturday:** The [Bharat Yatra](http://bharatyatra.online), launched by Nobel Peace Laureate Kailash Satyarthi on 11 September, mobilized the masses in Rohtak on 14th October, the thirty-third day of the 35-day long march across the country to build unprecedented awareness on combating child sexual abuse and trafficking.

The Nobel Peace Laureate and his Bharat Yatra were received at Maharishi Dayanand University by Professor Kaptan Singh Solanki, Chancellor and sGovernor of Haryana, Smt. Kavita Jain, Women and Child Development Minister, Haryana and Shri.Manish Grover, Cooperative Minister, Haryana.

Governor Kaptan Singh Solanki, addressing over 2000 students and youth said, "Today a noble Laureate is present on our land. Kailash ji has worked tirelessly for the well-being of children. If children in our country are safe and happy, then our society can live in peace. Like Mahatma Gandhi undertook peaceful Yatra’s to fight for freedom, Kailash ji also undertook this Yatra to fight against all kinds of child abuse”

Kavita Jain added, "I would like to thank and congratulate every member of Bharat Yatra for fighting for this cause. Today everywhere, women and children trafficking cases are happening. Children are also used for Pornographic movies. It's important for our society to think about this seriously. We have a mindset for not speaking up about any such cases of girl abuse in our society. We started operation Muskaan in 2015 and under this we found more than 5000 children from Haryana.”

The citizens of Rohtak showed solidarity with this noble cause as slogans of ‘child trafficking down’ and ‘stop child abuse’ resonated across Rohtak.

Mr. Satyarthi declared that along the lines of National Green Tribunal, the Kailash Satyarthi Children’s Foundation demands the creation of a National Tribunal on Crimes against Children. This tribunal should appoint an Ex Supreme Court who will overlook key recommendations and measures to restore a safe childhood in India.

Mr. Satyarthi said, “The main aim of this Yatra is against child abuse, and against the mindset of society. When I started this march, I said this is moral epidemic and we cannot achieve results with conventional campaigns. We are fighting a war against child abuse. Children across the world are like my kids. If your character is clean then entire world is like your family and I will fight for my family”

Earlier last month, Union Home Minister, Shri. Rajnath Singh, gave his assurance on passing the anti-trafficking law, which aligns with one of the key demands of the Bharat Yatra.

Ever since its launch, Bharat Yatra has been drawing enormous support from citizens across India, including Amitabh Bachchan who tweeted to his fans to support the Yatra. Earlier, Union Minister for Shipping and Finance Mr Pon Radhakrishnan had flagged off the Yatra from Kanyakumari along with Mr Satyarthi. In Trivandrum, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan assured whole hearted support from his government in eradicating the menace of child sexual abuse and trafficking.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had sent a personal letter to Kailash Satyarthi extending his support to the Yatra, which will cover 11000 kilometres across 22 States, including Karnataka. Some of the key cities it covers include Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Guwahati, Bhopal, Jaipur, Srinagar among others.

The Karnataka High court will pay special attention to POCSO cases so the children can get justice.

The Yatra was also supported by Andhra Pradesh and Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu walked with the Foundation to promote awareness about the cause. He also announced that the state of Andhra Pradesh would house a global policy institute dedicated to the well-being and security of children across the country.

At Kanniyakumari during the flag off Mr Satyarthi had declared, “I will not rest till children of this country are not safe. I am not going to stop fighting if the raping and abuse do not stop. I cannot sleep in peace until we win our war against rape and abuse. This moral epidemic haunts our nation, and it is time we fight against it, together.”

Re-iterating his mission behind launching the Bharat Yatra, he said “Why am I marching? Because my children are being raped. I refuse to accept that eight children go missing and two are raped every hour. Each time if a single child is in danger, India is in danger. Bharat Yatra is to make India safe again for our children.” Kailash Satyarthi has been campaigning for the freedom, safety and security for children across the globe for the past 36 years. His Nobel Peace Prize (2014) was for his continuous efforts and struggle for the rights children.

The Yatra is the launch of the three-year campaign against child rape and child sexual abuse which is aimed at increasing awareness and reporting of the cases, strengthening intuitional response including medical health and compensations, ensuring protection for victims and witnesses during trials and increasing convictions of child sexual abuse in a time bound manner.

**About Kailash Satyarthi Children’s Foundation**

The Foundation’s mission is to create, implement and advocate child-friendly policies that ensure the holistic development and empowerment of children. For achieving these goals, the Foundation encourages government, businesses, civil society as well as children and the youth to participate in strategies and action that will safeguard children from the worst forms of abuse, including lack of education and health. For more information, visit: [www.satyarthi.org.in](http://www.satyarthi.org.in)

Support the Bharat Yatra through - <http://ket.to/bharatyatra>

*For more details on the Yatra, contact:*

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