

A PROFILE OF AMOD K. KANTH

Social Development Expert (Child Welfare)

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Profession / Occupation : Former DGP & Chairperson, Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR), Govt. of NCT Delhi at 5th Floor, ISBT Building, Kashmiri Gate, Delhi-110006, Tel: 91-11-23862686, 23862691

Presently, General Secretary, Prayas Juvenile Aid Centre (JAC) Society, A voluntary Organisation for neglected & delinquent children operating in Delhi, Gujarat, Bihar, Assam, Haryana, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Educational Qualification : M. A. (History), Bachelor In Law. (Delhi University)

PRAYAS

Mr. Amod K. Kanth is a social entrepreneur, an institutional development expert, and a former- highly compassionate and incisive police leader with more than 34 years' experience in pro-active and innovative governance. He is best known as a voice and redeemer of the marginalized and un-reached living in sub- human conditions in various parts of the country. For the past 22 years, Mr. Kanth has also been engaged in raising Prayas JAC Society, a national level organization of international acclaim, envisioned to restore lost childhood of "Children in Need of Care and Protection". As the founder Secretary of Prayas JAC, he played a very crucial role in the delivery and convergence of the most intensely felt-needs of the poor and deprived children, youth and women with various policies and programs of Indian government agencies, UN systems and civil society action groups for building an integrated socio systemic environment for them. This organization has now emerged as a model good practice with national and international recognitions not only for its pro-poor and child development activities but also for the socio-economic empowerment of the marginalized communities in different parts of the country. Today, through 231 centres spread over 08 States/UTs from Andaman & Nicobar Islands to Arunachal Pradesh, Prayas directly serves nearly 50,000 beneficiaries.

Recently, as the Team Leader of the National level study on Child Abuse (the Indian chapter of the UN study on the Global Violence against Children) sponsored by the Govt. of India, Unicef and the Save the Children UK, he has helped singularly in the national level policy and program development in the country. He has also led the UNODC sponsored project on Victims' Assistance and Law Enforcement in Counter Trafficking besides a number of action projects, such as,

Government of India supported SSA project and the USAID sponsored programme on Alternative Education directly mainstreaming about 9000 out-of-school children. His core interest lies in institutional development and cooperation, creating livelihood options, social service and social action for the vulnerable groups and programme management. He has played catalytic roles in promoting various development institutions within and outside the government for social change and socio-economic transformation. His understanding of the socio-economic dynamics and challenges of Bihar (during his 22 months study leave from police service to work for the homeless led him to set-up a number of action projects for the marginalized children, youth and women in areas of alternative education, livelihood options and child protection in the districts of Motihari, Samastipur, Nalanda, Bagaha and Patna with promotion of local initiatives and participation of the state government.

POLICE

An Indian Police Service Officer of 1974 batch, Mr. Kanth completed an eventful and highly illustrious career in Delhi and elsewhere in the country, the past two important assignments being Director General of Police of Goa and Arunachal Pradesh. As an outstanding police officer, he holds a track record of multiple achievements as a nationally known investigator of some of the most difficult, complicated and sensational crimes, for combating terrorism and communal forces, narcotic drugs and human trafficking. Among his nationally known investigations were Rajiv Gandhi and Lalit Maken assassinations, multiple bomb-blasts besides the famous Hawala and Bank Scam cases. Being a rare recipient of President's Police Medals for Meritorious Service, Distinguished Service and for Gallantry, he handled complex and hazardous law and order situations with utmost sensitivity, sagacity and bravery.

While delving deep into the social sector, Mr. Kanth gained rich experience in NGO management, policy advocacy, action research and programming for pro-poor development initiatives in India and he contributed significantly towards policy formulations in various national and international fora. His experiences range between the local to national level program formulations to their implementation directly affecting the lives of couple of million people in distress. Besides several national level legislative and policy drafting exercises, he has worked in several technical policies and projects relating to south-east Asia region (India, Nepal, Bangladesh, USA) on critical issues of child protection / juvenile justice, trafficking of human beings, education for the marginalized children sponsored by USAID / UNDP / CIDA / ILO / NORAD/UNDP-Govt. of India project on Urban Poverty. Recognized as a model public servant and a 'Global Hero' for his counter-trafficking efforts by the US State Department, he has created a place for himself by setting up a unique project for the homeless during his action-based sabbatical- study with the support of the Action-aid India.

PRESENT SCENARIO

Mr. Kanth remained the Chairperson of Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR), Govt. of NCT Delhi for three years (2007-2011), besides being the General Secretary of Prayas and the team leader for the Ministry of WCD/NIPCCD (GOI) project on police & Juvenile Justice and the U.S. Govt's inter-state project on Human Trafficking (G-TIP). Presently, also engaged with 12th Five Year Plan, Child Rights, Juvenile Justice & Protection policy formulations & programs with the Govt. of India & IGNOU.