YUVA URBAN INITIATIVES Annual Report 2019-2020



YUVA Urban Initiatives

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YUVA Urban Initiatives Website: www.yuvaurbaninitiatives.wordpress.com

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बाहते है एक ऐसा जहाँ... मान और सुरक्षा हो वहाँ

CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

Another fulfilling year at YUVA Urban Initiatives comes to a close! 2019–20 was a year of further strengthening our children and youth empowerment initiatives. I am delighted to present the highlights of the year through our Annual Report 2019–2020.

It was a year of growth and expansion! Our work with Childline India Foundation extended to the city of Navi Mumbai. Across the year, the Childline teams—Mumbai City Childline, Dadar Railway Childline and Navi Mumbai Childline—attended to 850+ distress calls and enabled regular stakeholder engagements to protect and further the cause of safeguarding child rights.

Our partnership on the Godrej Salon-I project also saw an uptick as we increased our outreach to the city of Navi Mumbai. With the opening of four new Salon-I centres that offer the beauty and wellness course, we were able to impart life skills among youth across six centres in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai.

Our work strongly focuses on encouraging ownership and participation of the communities where we work. The Sustainable Development Goals framework influences our rights-based work, helping us contribute to building a just, equitable and sustainable city.

At the end of the financial year, with the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic across India, and the growing vulnerabilities experienced by the urban poor due to the sudden lockdown, our team members needed to quickly reorient and act dynamically to address the unpredictable situation. I am proud to note how they have surmounted innumerable challenges, being an inspiration to themselves and people across the city.

As the year comes to a close, I am filled with gratitude for all the support and guidance we have received throughout the year from our partners, donors and well-wishers. Thank you for your faith in what we do, and for giving us the strength to recommit ourselves even more strongly to the human rights framework. I invite you all to read about our work and engage with us, as we strive even more to making this world a little better and a little less unjust place in the coming year.

In solidarity **Helen Joseph** Chairperson, YUI Board

ABOUT US

YUVA Urban Initiatives

Set up in 2007 in Mumbai, Maharashtra, YUVA Urban Initiatives aims to address the growing challenges and inequalities arising out of rapid and unplanned development of urban spaces. Given the rise in informal settlements (bastis) in cities coupled with inadequate living conditions, lack of livelihood opportunities, limited awareness of and access to health and nutrition facilities, YUVA Urban Initiatives adopts an integrated approach to drive change in each aspect.

Mission and Objectives

YUVA Urban Initiatives has two key missions:

- > To create cities that are just, equitable and sustainable; and
- > To make them a better place for the poor by enabling access to human rights

In particular, YUVA Urban Initiatives aims to uphold the rights of the most vulnerable groups in large cities, especially the children and youth. Rooted in our belief in empowerment, we seek to build the capacities of urban poor communities to address issues related to the quality of their living conditions and livelihoods. With access to healthcare services still highly inequitable, we endeavour to enable access to aid and medical facilities for the urban poor.

Focus Areas

Tackling Vulnerabilities

Traditionally, the urban poor have been treated as passive recipients of welfare schemes. To empower them and encourage their active participation in decision making, our efforts emphasise on developing their rights awareness and supporting the formation of local-level collectives, which can help people take forward their demands in their own voices.

By helping address issues of insecurity and vulnerability stemming from inadequate and insecure housing (experienced by about 40 per cent of the city's population) and informality of livelihoods (experienced by nearly 90 per cent of the city's working population), we aim to support the urban poor to claim their rightful place in the city. We also focus on children and youth empowerment, as their conscientisation and development is critical to drive change in society.

YUVA Urban Initiatives is committed to the realisation of Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 11—Sustainable Cities and Communities. The organisation aims to empower people and develop their engagement in city-building efforts with ownership.

Strategic Support

With our decades long experience of working on urban issues, we frequently take up consulting assignments, offering strategic support to other organisations in the sector.

In the past, we have supported Child Rights and You (CRY), a non-profit based in Mumbai, to develop their urban child rights programming strategy. Along with a team of consultants, we have also conducted strategy review and development on a UNICEF project for children in urban Bhopal.



OUR INTERVENTIONS

Commitment to Child Rights and Protection

Being the implementation partner since 2008-09 of Childline 1098, the 24 x 7 free helpline for children in distress, a project funded by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme, YUVA Urban Initiatives has furthered its vision of creating child-friendly cities.

Through our three contact centres, we respond to emergency calls requiring both direct and indirect intervention like requests for shelter and medical help, acting on missing persons complaints, addressing children's need for emotional support and guidance, counselling, and so on.

We have also supported educational needs of students through scholarships in the year 2019-2020.

Empowerment of Youth and Women

To drive empowerment of youth and women in marginalised communities, YUVA Urban Initiatives in association with Godrej has been taking ahead beauty and wellness courses across Salon-I centres in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai which focus on life skills training and employability. Through the medium of theory and practical sessions, youth and women have been trained in relevant skills to be industry-ready, and dedicatedly work towards self-development and community empowerment.



COMMITMENT TO CHILD RIGHTS AND PROTECTION

Childline 1098

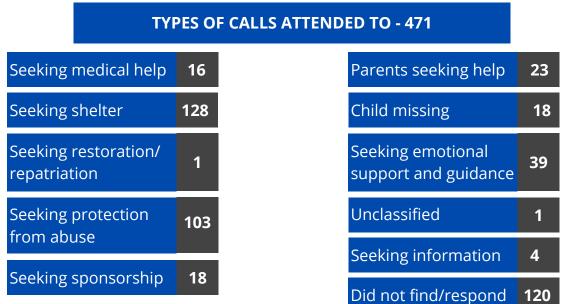
In 2019-20, the Childline team worked across two contact centres—Mumbai City Childline and Dadar Railway Childline with the third contact centre—Navi Mumbai City Childline—starting operations in November 2019.

In Mumbai, via the two contact centres, we intervened in the following areas—from Dadar to Mahim (Western Mumbai), Dadar to Mulund (Central Mumbai) and Wadala to Mankhurd (Eastern Mumbai).

Mumbai City Childline

With a team of 8 people, the Mumbai City Childline has attended to 450+ calls during the year 2019–2020. To increase awareness about the helpline and child rights in society and build a better understanding of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 14 awareness drives and rallies were conducted during the year.

The Childline India Foundation places special emphasis on conducting open houses for children, a platform to freely share issues, opinions, and feedback on Childline services. The team conducted 6 open houses during the year.



RESCUING AN INFANT FROM TRAFFICKING

The team received a call from an unknown caller. A mother had apparently sold her own son to a woman. Both women were sex workers and lived in a locality known for sex work.

The next day, a Childline team member met the caller and received a vague description of the woman's address where the child was being kept. They informed the police about the case. It took approximately 2–3 hours to locate the woman—the people in the locality were hesitant to talk to the staff (who were posing as concerned civilians) but after some coercion they agreed to share the exact location.

When the team finally reached the woman, she confessed that she was married but could not have children so she decided to get a child using other means. The team found the child locked in a room with no light, windows or doors. He hadn't been bathed in over a week and it was a miracle that he was still alive and well. The woman was questioned about the whereabouts of the child's biological mother who apparently lived down the street. When approached, she confessed her unwillingness to take care of the child and said she did not know his father's identity.

The medicare staff was called and both the 2-month-old boy and the woman were taken under custody. The boy was bathed and fed. The woman confessed to the authorities about her illegal purchase of the boy. An FIR and official police complaint was registered and the woman was detained in custody. The boy went through a medical checkup after which he was sent to a shelter home for infants.

The next day the police officially presented the child and his case to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) who agreed that the safest residence for the boy under these circumstances would be the shelter home. His development in the shelter home is currently being overlooked by the CWC.

ASSISTANCE TO AN ORPHANED 16-YEAR-OLD CHILD

The Childline team learnt about an orphan child, aged 16 years, in Mumbai's Eastern Suburbs who had dropped out of school in grade 9 and was in need of a safe shelter. He currently stayed with his grandmother, who was handicapped and unable to take care of the child. The team visited their home and learnt that the child was an HIV patient, whose mother and father had died of the same disease. The child was frail and also disturbed emotionally.

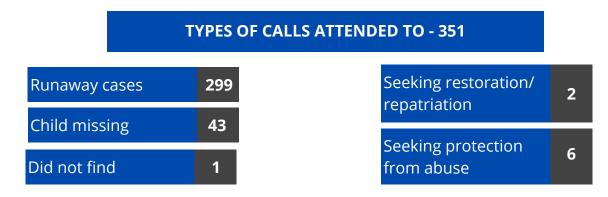
After the case was presented, the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) said that the child should be allowed to stay at a shelter home. While the CWC formalities were being carried out, the child was diagnosed with tuberculosis and had to be admitted to hospital for immediate treatment. The Childline team managed to arrange resources for the treatment over the next 4 days. They provided a caretaker, medicines and assisted with nutrition support for the child.

Knowing that the state had very few shelter homes for HIV patients, the team worked hard to find a shelter, and were finally able to locate one in Aurangabad. They travelled with the child, as no family members were able to accompany him, and have since then conducted regular follow-ups about the child's well-being at the shelter.



Railway Childline

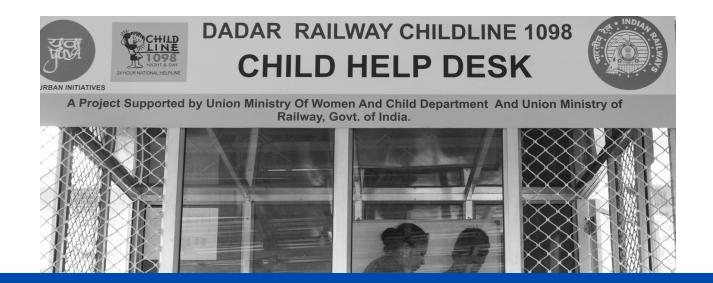
With a team of 12 people, the Dadar Railway Childline attended to 350+ calls during the year 2019–2020. To increase awareness about the importance of child protection and safety, along with special focus on increased vulnerabilities of children on railway stations, 2 awareness drives along with networking campaigns were held.





इडा - कचरा फैलाना अच्छी बात है क्या ?





REUNITING CHILDREN WITH THEIR PARENTS

In February 2020, the Childline staff observed two children with an adult at Dadar Railway Station. When they began talking with them, they learnt that the children were travelling to Karnataka and the adult stated that he was taking them to a fair with the consent of their parents. When the team asked for the contact number of the children's parents, the adult suddenly ran away, leaving the children on the platform.

The younger of the boys Prashant (name changed) who was 13-years-old, opened up to the team and shared that the other child Rajesh (name changed) was his 15-yearold brother. They hailed from Rajasthan. Last year, their father borrowed money from a money lender which he couldn't repay. The lender then suggested that the children go to Karnataka for work. Although the parents did not agree to this, he managed to convince them and soon, they started their journey from Rajasthan along with an agent. At the station, they were waiting for trains going to Karnataka.

Even though they refused to share their parents' contact details, the children agreed to go to a shelter home, after which they were presented to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). When the team visited them the next day, they agreed to share the phone number of their parents. The team immediately contacted them and explained the situation. The father said, 'I never wanted my children to go to the city for work, I always wanted them to study so that they don't end up becoming a labourer like me'. The parents arrived in Mumbai soon after and were reunited with their children. The team followed up a week later. The boys were safe with their family and attending school. The parents also submitted an application to avail the social protection scheme from the government, with the help of the Gram Pradhan.

A CASE OF DRUG ADDICTION

In February 2020, a 17-year-old child Subash (name changed) was found sitting alone intoxicated on Dadar Railway station. When the team approached him, the child resisted and took out a knife. After some time, when they were able to convince him to stop resisting, they found him carrying 5 small bottles of different liquids and powders. These were handed over to the officials of the Railway Protection Force (RPF).

The team engaged with the child and discovered that he lived with his grandmother in a slum in central Mumbai. When contacted, Subhash's grandmother shared that he had gotten addicted to drugs since his mother died. When his father, an alcoholic and unemployed person had left him, the problem became worse. The grandmother also shared her unwillingness to pick up the child as she was tired of his addiction problem.

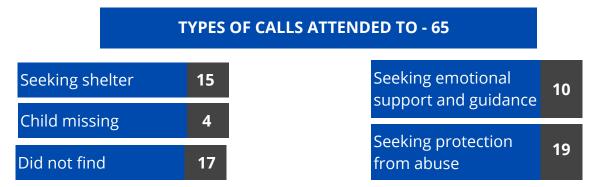
After completing the necessary formalities, the child was taken to a nearby government hospital for a medical test with an RPF personnel, who then dropped him at the Government Children Home for a short stay. The next day, a home visit at his grandmother's house, highlighted how she was unfit to take care of Subhash.

When they presented Subhash to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), he was provided shelter in the government's Shelter Home for Children. Currently, he is under counselling and the team is in touch with his grandmother and father, so that he can be convinced to go for rehabilitation. This case is being regularly followed up on.

Navi Mumbai Childline

With a team of 9 people, the Navi Mumbai Childline team attended to 60+ calls between November 2019 to March 2020. To extend our work on child rights, safety and protection to the city of Navi Mumbai, the team kicked off awareness campaigns in full swing. Within five months, a total of 14 awareness programmes were held.

To continue our efforts towards building inclusive urban spaces for children and encouraging active child participation in doing so, 2 open houses were held by the team.





SUPPORT TO A SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD

6-year-old Ashwini (name changed), was found at Kharkopar Railway station by GRP who contacted Navi Mumbai Childline to report the case of this lost child.

The team took Ashwini along with a police personnel for her medical evaluation and consulted with the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) who recommended keeping her at a shelter home for the night, before presenting her to the CWC. During the medical evaluation, the shelter home found her IQ levels to be significantly lower than average which indicated that she was a special needs child.

Simultaneously, another organisation working towards reducing child exploitation got in touch with the Childline team regarding a missing child's complaint being filed, which matched Ashwini's description. This helped the team get in touch with her parents, who claimed that Ashwini frequently ran away from home. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the father was an alcoholic and the mother was handicapped as well as a mentally unstable individual.

After a couple of days, the case was presented to the CWC who proved that Ashwini's parents were unfit to take care of her. The CWC recommended that the child should stay at a home for special needs children. The child is currently at the shelter home and learning new skills alongside other children, and her parents visit her occasionally.



A CAMPAIGN FOR CHILD RIGHTS



During Childline se Dosti, a national level campaign from 14–20 November 2019, each of the Childline teams took the lead in approaching different stakeholders like police officials, railway police officials, school children, teachers and others to encourage the dialogue on child rights and spread awareness about the Childline 1098 helpline.

By tying friendship bands (Childline se Dosti bands) to various stakeholders, the team aimed to build rapport with diverse stakeholders and strengthen the promise to safeguard child rights and protection.

CHILDLINE PRESENTATION DURING YUVA 35



As part of YUVA 35 celebrations, the Childline team set up a desk to spread awareness about Childline services and encourage dialogue on the importance of child rights, safety, protection and participation in society.

EMPOWERMENT OF YOUTH AND WOMEN

Salon-I

The Salon-I programme, a partnership between YUVA Urban Initiatives and Godrej, focuses on increasing youth employability and life skills training, to promote incomegeneration, security, and self-sufficiency among women and youth.

In the second year of project implementation, the team also focused on Beautypreneur and Homepreneur aspects. This introduced an entrepreneurship model in addition to the existing training sessions, to support beauty professionals in building established businesses through rigorous training from master trainers, with special emphasis on grooming. Theory and practical sessions and workshops focused on developing business models that suit individual needs.

Six Salon-I centres were set up across Mumbai and Navi Mumbai in 2019–20 (check the map below for details).



In addition, at the Community Resource Centres in Malvani, Malad, and Bandra Plot, Jogeshwari (this centre is more commonly known as Sadbhavana Centre), training sessions on soft skills and various awareness programmes were held for the holistic development of the youth and women.

Youth Placements

To ensure that the youth and women trained in the Salon-I courses secure employment post completion of the course, a placement cell was piloted at the Community Resource Centre in Malad, Mumbai. The cell consists of alumni and students from the current batch who constantly communicate on industry trends and demands. The main focus of the cell has been to bridge the gap between skill training and employment opportunities.



WIND UNDER MY WINGS

Reema (name changed), hailing from a village in Uttar Pradesh, grew up in difficult financial conditions, along with seven siblings. Being the eldest child, she shouldered many responsibilities. Soon after the 10th standard, she dropped out of school as her family could not afford her education anymore and at the age of 16, she was married off. Between her duties as a daughter-in-law, wife and mother of two children, she did not get a chance to think about herself. She was expected to do as she was told. But then, one day she felt the urge to pursue something for herself, something that made her happy. That is when she stumbled upon a Spoken English class. She decided to join the course to fulfill her wish to learn English. This class brought about a major change in her life.

During her Spoken English class, she came across the YUVA–Godrej Salon-I course and immediately decided to join. She thought this would be the best way to discover herself. After joining the Salon-I class, she realised her strong inclination towards working in the beauty industry. She learned many technical skills, gained theoretical knowledge and, above all, could see herself transform into a better person. She became confident and aspired to build her own identity. Eventually, she decided to start her own venture. Now, she has her own salon with a stable customer base which she aims to increase in the future. Her dream is to open a chain of salons which would leave a mark in the beauty industry.



THE STORY OF A HOMEPRENEUR

Sheela (name changed) lives in Jogeshwari basti with her three siblings, parents and grandmother. Whenever there is a family occasion or celebration in the basti, she is always enthusiastic about trying new hair styles and make-up on herself and others. So when she came across the Salon-I beauty and wellness course, she took it up to further her skills in this domain. Given her mother's poor health, she had to balance her education with the beauty and wellness course and other household chores. The course not only developed her skills, but also developed her confidence through exposure to self-defence classes and other women empowerment processes held at the centre.

Given her keen interest in learning, her Salon-I teacher taught her many other hair and make-up styles that she regularly practised on her friends and family and started getting noticed for her work. After she passed the course, she began getting orders for bridal hair and make-up, through which she has now begun earning a steady source of income and recognition. Post completion of the course, she joined the Homepreneur programme and developed her skills further with technical training and assistance in business development so as to earn more from door-to-door services. She also has a solid background in accounts and was thrilled when she received log books given to homepreneurs for maintaining accounts.



Community Resource Centres (CRCs)

In 2019-2020, Community Resource Centres, open and safe spaces for the community to share, learn, experience and celebrate, conducted community beauty melas to offer opportunities to Salon-I students for income generation and to put their learnt skills to test.

Sessions were held on CV/résumé writing, mock interviews, POSH awareness, in addition to other informative sessions about Sustainable Development Goals, along with film screenings to increase knowledge about the importance of education, women empowerment, etc. The Community Resource Centre in Malad has a children's corner that acts as an inclusive and safe space for the children of Salon-I students. This was created to avoid drop-outs due to lack of child care spaces at learning centres.





SALON-I CARNIVAL

Salon-i

Communit

Sea

Salon-I carnival was organised by the Community Resource Centre (CRC) members of Jogeshwari to mark Women's Day and offer a platform to the Salon-I students, homepreneur and beautypreneur professionals to showcase their talents and skills, not just restricted to the beauty and wellness sector.

Multiple stalls were set up for the youth and women to offer diverse services, giving them a platform to showcase their skills and expose them to running business operations effectively.

Quality Service Offers and Packages

Good rate

नेत

Date : 28th Aug 2019 Time: 11:00 am- 7:00 pm

Address : Janta Colony, Block J, Prem Nagar, Bandra Plot, Near Jhula Maidan, Jogeshwari





ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS

Governing Board

NAME	AGE	GENDER	POSITION IN BOARD
Rajendra Babulal Joshi	62	Male	Director
Kavitha Krishamoorthy	51	Female	Director
Nisreen Zafar Ebrahim	56	Female	Director
Helen Anthappa Joseph	67	Female	Director
Lata Narayan	68	Female	Director
Nalini Shekar	56	Female	Director
Archana Shrivastava	55	Female	Director

No remuneration was paid to any board member during 2019–20. No board member has any blood relation with another board member or with any of the staff members.

The 2019– 20 board meeting was held on 30 July 2019. The second meeting was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns.

Staff Details



No international travel was taken up by any staff, volunteer, Board Member at the expense of the organisation in the last financial year.

Financial Information

	UVA URBAN INITIA			
	U85310MH2007N			
BALANCE	SHEET AS AT 31ST	MARCH, 2	2020	
Particulars		Note No	As at 31st March 2020	As at 31st March 2019
I. EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
(1) Shareholder's Funds (a) Share Capital		3	100,000	100,000
(b) Reserves and Surplus		4	835,410	1,009,902
(2) Non-Current Liabilities (a) Corpus Fund		5	487,886	255,581
(3) Current Liabilities				
(a) Other current liabilities		6	2,178,396	1,237,180
(b) Earmarked Funds		7	(925,414)	(1,163,541)
	Total		2,676,278	1,439,121
II.Assets				
(1) Non-current assets				
(a) Property, Plant & Equipments				
(i) Tangible assets		8	92	87
(2) Current assets				
(a) Cash and Bank balances		9	1,989,710	949,740
(b) Short-term loans and advances		10	144,456	148,995
(c) Other Current Assets		11	542,020	340,300
	Total		2,676,278	1,439,122
Significant accounting policies		2		
The accompanying notes are an intergral part of	f the financial state			
AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE	FOR AND ON	THE BEHA	ALF OF THE BOARD O	F DIRECTORS OF
OR C N K & Associates LLP	YUVA URBAN INITIATIVES			
Chartered Accountants				INVA DA
CAI Registration No. 101961 W/W-100036	1			MUMBA
5. 5. Atankan	Nalayour		for &	STALLY I
Suresh Agaskar	Lata Narayan		Helen Joseph	
Partner Membership No: 110321	Director DIN: 0103735		Director	
4800	DIN: 0103735		DIN: 00394309	
Place : Mumbai	Place : Mumb		lace : Mumbai	
Date: 3 0 DEC 2020		00	Date:	

Financial Information

	YUVA URBAN INIT IN: U85310MH2007			
STATEMENT OF INCOME &				2020
Particulars		Note No	For the year ended March 31, 2020	For the year ended March 31, 2019
Income:			2	
Grants & Donations		12	470,476	720,476
Other Income		13	79,480	66,316
			549,956	786,792
Expenses:				
Other expenses		14	724,448	399,193
			724,448	399,193
Surplus/(Deficit) before tax			(174,492)	387,599
Tax expense:		-		
Current tax			-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period			(174,492)	113,542
supius/(Dencity for the period			(274)452)	220,011
Significant accounting policies		2		
The accompanying notes are an intergral par	t of the financial sta	tements.		
	FOR AND O			
		ON THE BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BAN INITIATIVES		
Chartered Accountants	TOVA OND		1120	
ICAI Registration No. 101961 W/W-100036				
5.5. Hankan	P. Nalayo	W	former	JAUREAN
Suresh Agaskar	Lata Naray	an	Helen Joseph	A MULE
Partner	Director		Director	E Star
Membership No: 110321	DIN: 01037	356	DIN: 00394309	STATE
Place : Mumbai	Place : Mur		Place : Mumbai	
Date: 3 0 DEC 2020	Date: 3 0 DEC 2020			20

Internal Committees

Internal Complaints Committee

YUVA Urban Initiatives' Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Committee, while drawing from The Sexual Harassment of Women in the Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013, applies this policy to women, other genders and men who are employees, volunteers, interns, and consultants of the organisation.

The Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) is a gender-neutral investigative committee with an external member who is a lawyer. Over the year, training sessions are held to ensure the setup of an enabling environment, and prevent instances of sexual harassment.

Child Protection Committee

YUI is committed to the safety and development of children, and all employees, volunteers, interns, and consultants of the organisation are bound to comply with the organisation's Child Protection Policy. The Child Protection Committee aims to ensure regular training of the staff, to ensure safe and enabling spaces for children, and to see that this policy is upheld.

	Complaint received during the year	s Complaints disposed off during the year	Cases pending for more than 90 days	Workshops/ awareness programmes conducted for employees	Action taken by the Committee and Management
Annual Report of th ICC 2019–20	ne O	0	0	0	NA
Annual Report of th CPC 2019–20	ie O	0	0	4	NA

LOOKING AHEAD

Childline and Salon-I teams are invested in the development of children and youth, and the work continues on projects. We are looking forward to doing more in the coming year.

Since March 2019, with the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in India and the resultant lockdowns announced, the teams have had to re-strategise interventions to respond to COVID realities and rethink ways of working. Since the work was strengthened by the participation of people in-person, and the lockdown meant that this would be impossible, the teams have tried to work remotely to the best extent possible. In the initial days post lockdown, people's concerns have been mainly about lack of income, food and basic necessities.

The YUVA Urban Initiatives team has been working to help people access support and live with dignity. We remain agile, responsive and committed to people's needs. In the coming year, we look forward to strengthening our work with communities with renewed spirit to further people's empowerment.

About YUVA Urban Initiatives

YUVA Urban Initiatives is a non-profit organisation that seeks to confront the myriad challenges and inequalities that have mushroomed with the rapid and unplanned development of urban spaces, and intervene with a holistic and integrated approach to change.



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