

A PROFILE OF AMOD K. KANTH
Social Development Expert (Child and Women Welfare)

Place of Birth : Ranchi (Jharkhand)

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Profession / Occupation : Presently, Member-Coordinator of the NITI-CSO Standing Committee of NITI Aayog, Chairman, Domestic Workers Sector Skill Council (DWSSC), General Secretary, Prayas JAC Society, A voluntary Organisation. Former DGP & Chairperson, Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR), Govt. of NCT Delhi at Delhi

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

PRAYAS

Mr. Amod K. Kanth is one of India's leading social activists and a former bureaucrat who founded Prayas at Jahangirpuri with 25 children in 1988, an NGO which works for care, protection, development and rehabilitation of the rights of marginalized children and women, for the past 32 years, besides having an outstanding and highly decorated career in police and as the Chairman of Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights.

Mr. Kanth created Prayas JAC Society, an organization of international acclaim, envisioned to restore the lost childhood of "Children in Need of Care and Protection" and Juveniles in conflict with law. This organization has now emerged as a model of good practices not only for its pro-poor and child development activities but also for the socio-economic empowerment of the marginalized communities across the country. Today, around **200 Centres including 38 Homes/Shelters for children/women, 06 Child Helpline (1098)** across the country in **10 States/UTs** directly serving about **50,000 marginalized children, youth and women, Prayas** addresses multiple issues and runs programs relating to Street & Working Children, child protection and juvenile justice, trafficking of children and women, vocational and life skills, empowerment of women through Self-Help Groups and Income Generation Programmes, promotion of entrepreneurship. Led by Mr. Kanth Prayas is today served by 700 professionals and several hundred volunteers from India & Abroad. As the Team Leader of the National 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 helped singularly in the national level policy and program development in the country.

Mr. Kanth has the unique distinction of being a part of almost all policies and legislations about children in the country such as Juvenile Justice Act and Protection of Children against Sexual Offence (POCSO) Act etc. The contribution of Prayas in the formation of the country's first **Trafficking of Persons**

(Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018 was acknowledged in Parliament by Ms. Maneka Gandhi, the Minister for Women and Child Development while replying to the introduction of the Bill in the Lok Sabha.

Mr. Kanth has also prepared the ground-work for a number of institutions related to women and children, including the 'Rape Crisis Intervention Centre' in Delhi and the National Level Child Helpline (1098) – both launched at Prayas.

As Member-Coordinator of the NITI-CSO Standing Committee set up by the NITI Aayog the think-tank of the NDA Government headed by the Prime Minister, he has had a huge role in establishing the credibility of the NGO sector with the Government.

Career as Police Officer

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 last two important assignments being Director General of Police of Goa and Arunachal Pradesh. As an outstanding police officer, he holds an unparalleled record of a nationally and internationally known investigator of some of the most difficult, complicated and sensational crimes of our time, for combating terrorism and communal forces, narcotic drugs and human trafficking. Among his nationally and internationally known investigations are the Rajiv Gandhi, Lalit Maken and Arjun Das assassinations, the transistor bomb cases which were solved within record time, besides the famous Hawala and Bank Scam cases related to economic crimes involving the highest and most powerful personalities of that period. Among the most sensational cases that he tackled during his police tenure are those of catching the flamboyant Charles Sobhraj who had managed to escape from the high security Tihar Jail. The great escape of Sobhraj and his final arrest have also been turned into a highly popular film 'Main aur Charles' which is making waves on the international circuit even today. A far more sensational case was the Jessica Lal murder in a five star Hotel in Delhi, investigated by him where the highly connected culprits had been let off by the Supreme Court while Mr. Kanth was away from the scene, being posted to Arunachal Pradesh as Director General of Police. He came back from Arunachal against the wishes of his well-wishers and set the wheels of justice moving once again and after investigations succeeded in sending the high profile culprits to jail where they are languishing till date. Being one of the rare recipients of the President's Police Medal for Meritorious Service, Distinguished Service and Gallantry, he handled complex and hazardous law and order situations with utmost sensitivity, sagacity and bravery.

While delving deeply 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 contributed significantly towards policy formulations in various national and International fora.

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.

He has served in many policy groups as a social development expert and policy analyst: He participated in the path-breaking Global Combat Conference on Counter-Trafficking in 2003 hosted by the US Secretary of State in Washington DC and was honoured as a Moderator of the core session on international laws in counter-trafficking. He is majorly recognized for his contribution as:

- ✓ Joint Coordinator, NITI-CSO Standing Committee, NITI Aayog, Govt. of India
- ✓ Member of Ethical Committee of Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC)
- ✓ Member of Ethical Review Committee & Scientific Research, Batra Hospital & Medical Research Centre (BHMR)
- ✓ Member of Core Group, Initiative of Change (IC) Centre for Governance (ICCG), New Delhi
- ✓ Life Member of Foundation for Organizational Research and Education (FORE Society).
- ✓ Chairman of Ethics Committee of the All India Football Federation (AIFF)
- ✓ Member, Technical Advisory Group for the Protection and Rehabilitation of children in Begging and/or destitute children on Streets in Delhi
- ✓ Member of the Research Advisory Group (RAG) on Child Labour, Ministry of Labour & Employment, GOI – (National Resource Centre on Child Labour) – May 2013
- ✓ Member of the Central Advisory Board (CAB) on Child Labour, Ministry of Labour & Employment, GOI
- ✓ Member, Central Advisory Body for monitoring and evaluation of implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000 Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MSJ&E), Government of India (GoI)
- ✓ Member, Central Monitoring Committee, National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW), MWCD, GOI
- ✓ Member of Core Working Group of the Planning Commission, Central Advisory Body of the MSJ&E,
- ✓ Member of Drafting Committee for Policies on Urban Homeless and Delhi Master Plan,
- ✓ Member of Govt.'s Committee of Street Vendors, Ministry of Urban Development, GoI
- ✓ Member of Policy Group of the Central Advisory Body on Counter-Trafficking, Ministry of HRD, GoI
- ✓ Member of Advisory Committee, Legal Assistance Forum on Furthering Justice Delivery for Children in India
- ✓ Member of Steering Committee on Social Welfare and other Special Groups, Planning Commission Constituted for XI Five-Year Plan
- ✓ Member of the Review Committee on Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000 amended in 2006
- ✓ Member Advisory Committee on Beggars under Mumbai Prevention of Begging Act, 1959
- ✓ Grant-in-Aid Committee of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD), GOI
- ✓ Member in Committees relating to Right to Education (RTE), Child Labour, Child Beggars, Homeless & Shelters, etc. in Govt. of NCT Delhi and other states Govt.
- ✓ Mission Advisor (Political & Culture) for Bharat-Nepal Cultural Cooperation Project upto Dec.2017 for Convention of SAARC cultural coordination program of SAARC Countries (India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Afghanistan & Maldives) was organized in Kathmandu(Nepal)
- ✓ Member of BOM (Board of Management) New Delhi Institute of Management (NDIM)