“Be the change you wish to see in the world” - Mahatma Gandhi

Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore Foundation in association with UNV India and Anant Vikas Trust is bringing out a special issue of “The Peace Gong-the children’s newspaper” based on the four objectives of IYV+10: recognition, facilitation, networking and promotion of Volunteerism.

In view of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) targets, IYV+ 10 offers an opportunity to celebrate but also to assess the progress made towards achieving the objectives of IYV. The aim of this issue is to capture the voices of children across the world on VOLUNTEERING to facilitate efforts by children for a peaceful world.

Preparing children for a global non-violent future is a significant of volunteer promotion initiatives. The Editor of The Peace Gong, a class XI student of Kolkata, India evocatively points this out, “Through the Peace Gong we hope to bring together our friends not only across the country but also abroad to be catalysts for a non-violent world with a foundation of equality, justice and universal understanding of each other’s concerns.” This children’s newspaper is a media and information literacy initiative of the Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore Foundation.

The special issue on VOLUNTEERING will be published in December. We request you to send writings/cartoons/comic strips/posters/poems from your city/country for this special issue.

The writings by children could focus on:

a) Child-led/other volunteer initiatives in your city/country that inspired you most. (500-600 words)

b) Interview of a child or group of children/ other volunteers who are volunteering to bring change in their community. (300-500 words)

c) Perspective- small perspective pieces by children on what they think on volunteering. (100-200 words).

d) Poems and/cartoons/ posters/ comic strips on volunteering

In would be great if each contribution is accompanied by relevant photographs. Do not forget to mention the name and contact details of the child who contributes a particular story/poem, cartoon etc. along with her/his class, name of the school and the city/towns. Please note that, only children up to the age of 18 are eligible to contribute, as it is a children’s newspaper.

For parents and legal guardians

Participants will be identified as the authors of the drawings and texts only with their first name and their region or country of origin. At the time of submitting a drawing the parents or other legal guardians of the participating children are deemed to have read, understood and be in agreement with the contents of this leaflet.

Please show this text above to your parents before you submit your work.

Send your entries to: amita.dahiya@undp.org or rabinindranathtagorefoundation@gmail.com

The last date to receive the entries is December 25, 2011.