

**India** - Brazil - Ethiopia

Kavitha in 2006



## Kavitha writes 'exceptionally neatly'

**Kavitha lives in a small village in the countryside of Tamil Nadu, a state in the south of India. At the age of 9, she had to work in a match factory all day long. Happily, she now goes to school again.**

Thirteen-year-old Kavitha was attending a normal school before her mother sent her to work in a factory 3 years ago. Her father had died and her family was in bad need of her income. 'I had no idea what I was going to do', she says, 'The only thing I knew was that I would be paid.'



### Highly dangerous work

Kavitha earned 30 rupees a day - not even half a euro. In the factory, she performed very dangerous work: she ground a highly inflammable mixture that is used for making matches. 'My hands were in that stuff all day. After a couple of months, they started to turn black.'

### Remedial school

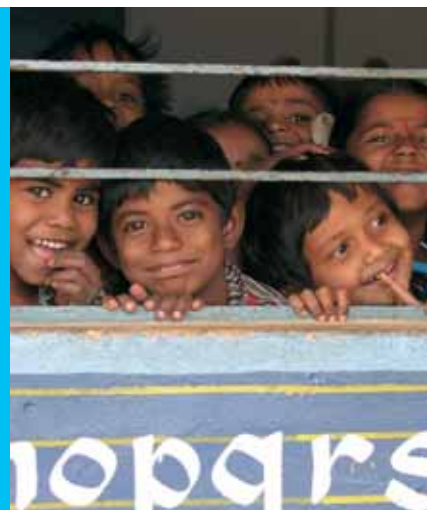
She presently attends a remedial school with other children who have fallen behind in their education. Her hands are still black but now she is able to write. Her teacher says that she 'writes exceptionally neatly' and is 'very smart'. If she continues to learn at this rate, she can go to an ordinary school next year. She will then be in the 8th grade with children of her own age. Her mother still has her doubts about school. 'I'll prove that going to school is better than working,' says Kavitha. 'I want to study hard and become a doctor.'

### Help for Kavitha from UNICEF and ING

Thanks to the ING Chances for Children program, Kavitha now goes to school.

### The project in Tamil Nadu

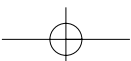
Supported by ING Chances for Children, UNICEF is working on the National Child Labor Project (NCLP) in Tamil Nadu. The cornerstones of the project are the improvement of the quality of education and the provision of information about the importance of education. Children like Kavitha benefit from this. And there are many of them in Tamil Nadu. They drop out to take a job and contribute to the paltry family income. They often perform very dangerous work. These children must go to school. Only then do they have a chance of a better future. However, they have fallen behind and cannot simply return to an ordinary school. So-called remedial schools play an important role in this project. Here, children are given the chance to make up for lost time. The schools are supervised by UNICEF and are provided with teaching materials. Teachers receive special training. At the same time, UNICEF is creating information campaigns to convince the members of the community that they must combat child labor.



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## Facts and figures

### India

- Population: more than 1 billion
- 1 in 12 children die before the age of 5
- 35% live on less than US\$1 per day
- Access to primary education: 80% boys, 73% girls

### Tamil Nadu

- Population: 62 million
- 6.3 million children between the ages of 6 and 11
- 20% of children between the ages of 5 and 14 work
- 28% of children do not complete primary school

### Project goals

- Ensuring that more than 15,000 children go to school
- Supporting 400 remedial schools
- Training 600 teachers
- Informing 200 employees at government institutions
- Running an information campaign aimed at the entire community



Tamil Nadu in India



'It is fantastic to see that the victims of child labor can become children again. By providing them with access to education, we are giving them a future! I've seen with my own eyes that we really can make a difference in the lives of these children.'

(Caroline Klein, Manager at ING The Netherlands)



UNICEF is the child rights organization of the United Nations. UNICEF champions the rights of all children, irrespective of race, nationality, political persuasion or gender and has aid programs in 155 countries. UNICEF works to provide healthcare, proper nutrition, education, clean water and hygiene to children. The organization provides aid on condition that national or local authorities contribute to the financing and implementation. Additionally, the local population must also be prepared to participate actively in the projects. Education is the key to personal growth and a better future. A child can develop optimally through schooling. It is no coincidence that the second millennium development goal is 'Basic education for all children worldwide'. UNICEF is committed to this cause.

See [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)



### ING Chances for Children

ING Chances for Children is a worldwide program run by the ING Group. The aim of ING Chances for Children is to provide children with access to high-quality education.

ING strives to achieve this by doing volunteer work in the local communities in which it is active. In addition, ING co-operates with UNICEF to achieve its aims. ING Chances for Children is supporting three educational projects in different countries: Ethiopia, Brazil and India.

Would you like to make a contribution?  
Go to [www.ingchancesforchildren.com](http://www.ingchancesforchildren.com)

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