

## **Child labour in India – Intensity and Repercussions**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Child plays a vital role in the development of any society for its future. Child who is being cared in good and responsible manner the child is then productive to its nation. Every society's future lies in the hands of their child and youth. Children are engaged in number of activities throughout the world like working in some manner, and even the work is harmful to them but they are indulging in various activities helping their mother at home. Child labour is complex and also global phenomenon. It is also controversial. Child in every society is indulging in work under abusively, forcibly, exploitatively that are very harmful and dangerous to them because their mental and physical conditions are not well developed. India is ranking the top percentage of child labour among the nations. Now India had implemented some laws against child labour work in order to bring the new change and reform the nation and free from child labour. But still India's legal implications are ground level and yet their reform is still long ahead.*

**Keywords:** *Development, Child Labour, Poverty, Nation, Laws and Reforms.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

According to census child labour is rapidly increasing from 11.28 million in 1991 to 12.66 million in 2001 and 21.39 million in 2011. Child is treated unequally and they are called child labour. A child who is out of schooling is a labour. The term child labour also is defined as the work that deprives children from their childhood and their potential energy and also their dignity is found harmful to their physical and mental health development. Child work refers that it is mentally, physically or socially dangerous and harmful to children. Children are deprived from their schooling and they have excessively heavy work to do. In developing countries child labour is a series problem from many decades. Child labour existed over the centuries in developing countries and also the beginning of 20<sup>th</sup> century in developed countries.

#### **A New Definition of Child Labour**

In India children are working in different labour situation sectors across the country. Children are working in varied situations such as for strategies for the elimination of child labour need to be nonnegotiable. Removal of the artificial distinction between child labour and child work are the most important change that are needed.

#### **TYPES OF CHILD LABOUR IN INDIA**

##### **Child labourers are involved in the following forms of works:-**

1. Child labour Children are working for their living. The government of India has employed the term child labour only in when children are doing hazardous work which is illegally or explosive.

2. Street children: Children lying on and off rotten the streets, such as shoeshine boys, rag pickers, newspaper vendors, beggars etc. are called street children. The majority children have some kind of home to go back to in the late afternoon or nights, whereas street children are completely unaccompanied and are at the sympathy of their employers. They live on the pavement, in the bus stations and railway stations.
3. Bonded children: children who are deprived by their parents to work for miserable sums of the money or in case work to pay off the hereditary debts of their fathers. the landowner in the village own them, they will spend their whole life in servitude till they get married and can, in turn, sell their children or in case they face death.
4. Working children: Actually girls are accepted to complete work burdens which are related to the proportion showing strengths and abilities. This indicates the largest category of children who are out of school and are working full time.
5. Children connected with sexual exploitation: A majority of young girls and boys are involved in sexual activities based on exploitation owing to social and economic reasons. These activities are connected with Factories, workshops, street corners, railway stations, bus stops and homes.
6. Migrant children: Distress seasonal migration millions of families are being compelled to leave there homes and villages every year for searching livelihoods. It is realized that many industrial and agro- industrial sectors are involved.
7. Children involved in household activities: A majority of children are seen in domestic activities. Due to poor economic conditions they are not sent to school. That is why this type of activity in terms of household activities is observed.

#### **SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS OF CHILD LABOUR IN INDIA**

1. Scarcity as derivation reason: The main reason for child labour can be seen is poor economical conditions of families. In order to sustain a healthy living parents are forced to send their child for labour instead of schooling.
2. Relatives' situation: According to a research in the areas of Saharan Africa its being found that children who had lost their parents due to diseases like HIV/AIDS are forced to step to the world of child labour market in order of give a good up bringing to their siblings.
3. Conventional or Civilizing factors: Some people make culture a shield for performing child labour. According to them in order to have a good future a child must have different skills both household and other and that should be taught at a very tender stage.
4. Bribery (Corruption): Corruption is a factor that abuses resources , not only resources but rights of a child that deprives basic services to sustain in the society such as health care, education and growth infrastructure .corruption limits the ways to escape from poverty.
5. Universal conflict: An economy of a country is most adversely effected by wars held due to different reasons. Wars not only affect the economy but also affect its resources as well.
6. Metropolitan migration: Migration from rural areas to urban is one of the basic dreams for all lower class people who want to standardize their lives. This often forces them to work in streets and inhabit in its edges. Most of the time these people with big dreams step into the path of blackness such as illegal works, trafficking, drugs, violence and prostitutions.
7. Globalization: Globalization is another key factor for child labour. India is known as developing country, the labour rate is comparatively low than other countries. International countries generally seek for cheap labour hence they divert to child labour and their exploitation.

**VITAL INTERPRETATION OF CHILD LABOUR IN INDIA**

The total number of child labor in the country has reduced by 65 percent as per the census 2011. Elimination of child labor was given priority by the Government. There was found a 65 percent reduction in the total number of working children in the country. It has declined from 1.26 crore as per the census 2001 to 43.53 Lakh as per census 2011.

According to 1971 Census working children in the age group of 5 to 14 years

Serial Number	Name of State/UT	Number of working children	Percentage of total working children
1	Andhra Pradesh	1627492	15
2	Assam	239349	2
3	Bihar	1059359	10
4	Gujarat	518061	5
5	Haryana	137826	1
6	Himchal Pradesh	71384	1
7	Jammu & Kashmir	70489	1
8	Karnataka	808719	8
9	Kerala	111801	1
10	Madhya Pradesh	1112319	10
11	Maharashtra	988357	9
12	Manipur	16380	0
13	Meghalaya	30440	0
14	Nagaland	13726	0
15	Orissa	492477	5
16	Punjab	232774	2
17	Rajasthan	587389	5
18	Sikkim	15661	0
19	Tamil Nadu	713305	7
20	Tripura	17490	0
21	Uttar Pradesh	1326726	12
22	West Bengal	511443	5
23	Andaman and Nicobar	572	0
24	Arunachal Pradesh	17925	0
25	Chandigarh	1086	0
26	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3102	0
27	Delhi	17120	0
28	Daman & Diu	7391	0
29	Lakshadweep	97	0
30	Pondicherry	3725	0

According to 1981 Census working children in the age group of 5 to 14 years

Serial Number	Name of State/UT	Number of working children	Percentage of total working children
1	Andhra Pradesh	1951312	14
2	Assam	277356	2.3
3	Bihar	1101764	8
4	Gujarat	616913	5
5	Haryana	194189	1
6	Himchal Pradesh	99624	1
7	Jammu & Kashmir	258437	2
8	Karnataka	1131530	8
9	Kerala	92854	1
10	Madhya Pradesh	1698597	12
11	Maharashtra	1557756	11

12	Manipur	20217	0
13	Meghalaya	44916	0
14	Nagaland	16235	0
15	Orissa	702293	5
16	Punjab	216939	2
17	Rajasthan	819605	6
18	Sikkim	8561	0
19	TamilNadu	975055	7
20	Tripura	24204	0
21	Uttar Pradesh	1434675	11
22	West Bengal	605263	4
23	AndamanandNicobar	1309	0
24	Arunachal Pradesh	17950	0
25	Chandigarh	1986	0
26	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3615	0
27	Delhi	25717	0
28	Daman& Diu	9378	0
29	Lakshyadeep	56	0
30	Mizoram	6314	0
31	Pondicherry	3606	0

According to 1991 Census working children in the age group of 5 to 14 years

Serial Number	Name of State/UT	Number of working children	Percentage of total working children
1	Andhra Pradesh	1661940	15
2	Assam	327598	3
3	Bihar	942245	8
4	Gujarat	523585	5
5	Haryana	109691	1
6	Himchal Pradesh	56438	1
7	Jammu & Kashmir	208320	2
8	Karnataka	976247	9
9	Kerala	34800	0
10	Madhya Pradesh	1352563	12
11	Maharashtra	1068427	9
12	Manipur	16493	0
13	Meghalaya	34633	0
14	Nagaland	16467	0
15	Orissa	452394	4
16	Punjab	142868	1
17	Rajasthan	774199	7
18	Sikkim	5598	0
19	Tamil Nadu	578889	5
20	Tripura	16478	0
21	Uttar Pradesh	1410086	12
22	West Bengal	711691	6
23	Andaman and Nicobar	1265	0
24	Arunachal Pradesh	12395	0
25	Chandigarh	1870	0
26	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4416	0
27	Delhi	27351	0
28	Daman & Diu	941	0
29	Goa	4656	0
30	Lakshyadeep	34	0
31	Mizoram	16411	0
32	Pondicherry	2680	0

**According to 2001 Census working children in the age group of 5 to 14 years**

Serial Number	Name of State/UT	Number of working children	Percentage of total working children
1	Andhra Pradesh	1363339	11
2	Assam	351416	3
3	Bihar	1117500	9
4	Gujarat	485530	4
5	Haryana	253491	2
6	Himchal Pradesh	107774	1
7	Jammu & Kashmir	175630	1
8	Karnataka	822615	6
9	Kerala	26156	0
10	Madhya Pradesh	1065259	8
11	Maharashtra	764075	6
12	Chhattisgarh	364572	3
13	Manipur	28836	0
14	Meghalaya	53940	0
15	Jharkhand	407200	3
16	Uttaranchal	70183	1
17	Nagaland	45874	0
18	Orissa	377594	3
19	Punjab	177268	1
20	Rajasthan	1262570	10
21	Sikkim	16457	0
22	Tamil Nadu	418801	3
23	Tripura	21756	0
24	Uttar Pradesh	1927997	15
25	West Bengal	857087	7
26	Andaman and Nicobar	1960	0
27	Arunachal Pradesh	18482	0
28	Chandigarh	3779	0
29	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4274	0
30	Delhi	41899	0
31	Daman & Diu	729	0
32	Goa	4138	0
33	Lakshyadeep	27	0
34	Mizoram	26265	0
35	Pondicherry	1904	0

**According to 2011 Census working children in the age group of 5 to 14 years**

Serial Number	Name of State/UT	Number of working children	Percentage of total working children
1	Andhra Pradesh	404851	9
2	Assam	99512	2
3	Bihar	451590	10
4	Gujarat	250318	6
5	Haryana	53492	1
6	Himchal Pradesh	15001	0
7	Jammu & Kashmir	25528	1
8	Karnataka	249432	6
9	Kerala	21757	0
10	Madhya Pradesh	286310	7
11	Maharashtra	496916	11
12	Chhattisgarh	63884	1
13	Manipur	11805	0
14	Meghalaya	18839	0
15	Jharkhand	90996	2
16	Uttaranchal	28098	1
17	Nagaland	11062	0
18	Orissa	92087	2
19	Punjab	90153	2
20	Rajasthan	252338	6
21	Sikkim	2704	0
22	Tamil Nadu	151437	3
23	Tripura	4998	0
24	Uttar Pradesh	896301	21
25	West Bengal	234273	5
26	Andaman and Nicobar	999	0
27	Arunachal Pradesh	5766	0
28	Chandigarh	3135	0
29	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1054	0
30	Delhi	26473	0
31	Daman & Diu	774	0
32	Goa	6920	0
33	Lakshyadeep	28	0
34	Mizoram	2793	0
35	Pondicherry	1421	0

**REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

**Basu (1999)** has found children were forced to work in factories during the beginning of industrial revolution and the children were working in tending crops and to prepare food. The work in industries and the working conditions were very dangerous and absolutely deadly. This was because of that children were providing very cheap labour and flexible workers.

**Bass (2004)** has analyzed the occurrence of child labour was almost completely abridged from the developed world. But child labour is still growing continuously because of the fast population growth, towering rates of job loss, price rises, poverty, starvation, awful leadership and corruption.

**Serwadda Luwaga (2005)** has viewed that child is working in all sectors of economy, like as, agriculture, manufacturing, fishing, construction, domestic service; street vending etc. Children are working in a very poor and dangerous condition of health and without social protection.

**Lavison and Murray (2005)** studied that child is involved in many different forms of works which include risks and hazards. These are helpless to physical pain because He suggested various solutions to trounce child labour with the help of education.

**Aqil (2012)** studied that the parents who have worked in their childhood they have a sense that their children will do the same work and this process continue from generation to generation. They remain uneducated and low skilled and experienced. This is because parents play an important role in children to educate and to develop them accordingly so they can the opportunity for their children to have a good education.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

**Objectives 1:** To critically examine the reasons behind the growing number of child labour in India.

**Objectives 2:** To study the lacunas in our law and society so that we can eradicate child labour completely.

**Objectives 3:** To analyse the repercussions of this problem both nationally and internationally.

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This study is based on mostly secondary data on the different census of India. These are some data are collected from different journals, books, internet etc.

### **LEGAL PROVISIONS AGAINST CHILD LABOUR IN INDIA**

Child labour legislation means to control the nature of child labour workers and as well as the hours they do work and it should be effectively and successfully imposed because Historical proof insists that a lofty prevalence of child labour can persevere in the existence of child labour laws.

Article 24 of Indian constitution of India defines that any child, who is below the age of 14, shall not be employed in any mine or engaged in any hazardous employment. Further under the rule of the directive principles of state policy in Article 39(e) workers, men and women and tender age of children, related to health and strength are not harmed in any circumstances. Or they are not abused.

Under Article 39 (f) opportunities and facilities to develop in healthy conditions related to freedom and dignity are provided. And it is also describe that childhood and youth are protected against exploitation and moral standard. The state to uplift nutrition conditions and living standard are considered so that public health may be improved.

It is also mentioned that Legislation regarding child labour is also considered so that system may be maintained. This system also is seen in India.

- The Children (Pledging Labour) Act, 1933.
- The Factories Act, 1948.
- The Mines Act, 1952.

- The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961.
- The Bidi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966.
- The Plantation Labour Act, 1951.

But in 1979, it was seen that Government had the first committee, known as Gurupadswamy Committee for studying child labour system and also for suggesting the methods to face this idea. In this committee it was realized that alternative idea was left to control child labour in unhealthy areas. And it was also seen that system was made to regulate the situations of working methods which are related to other fields. The recommendations were formed that approach concerned with multiple policy was necessary to deal the problems connected with working children. On the basis of recommendations of Gurupadswamy Committee, the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act was made in 1986. According to this act the employment of children in certain marked hazardous occupations and processes is prohibited. And this also regulates the system of working methods in other fields.

### **STRATEGIES**

1. Country-wide survey to learn the way of life. Both the organized and un-organized sectors the occurrence and nature of child labours is found.
2. Prevention and progressive elimination of all forms of child labour to make certain convergence of national poverty abolition and developmental programs aiming.
3. Society should be educated not to exploit them economically or employ them.
4. Maintain the health of child labour and its safety and developmental rights of working children with intervening protective measures.
5. District level voluntary organization should be assist.
6. Introduce new concept of bridge schools should be for all working children to be enrolled in formal schools.
7. To provide opportunity to ensure that children were presently working in the informal sector like domestic service, and have access to basic nutrition, clothing, education and protection from all forms of abuse.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Child labour practice will be eliminated through education as school provides the opportunity children to understand their role in society.
2. Prevent society from poverty.
3. Families which are identified below poverty line should help them economically and as well as honorably.
4. Society need to provide government programmes as well as and non government programmes.
5. Governments have to take suitable measures for preventing the child labour and the government authorities identify all the hazardous sectors for child labour.



## CONCLUSION

India has marked several progresses in over all social development and implement measures for the necessary protection of the working child but there is still need to expand enforcement machinery network for enforcing the laws implemented on child labour in nation. According 2015 India is the home to the largest number of working child who are illegally working in different industrial areas. Agriculture is the largest sectors where children are working to support their families. Child is forced to work in young age because of the factors of unemployment, poverty and other social causes. Non-Governmental Organization and the social scientists have done existence for the development of child labour in India. As the large number of child who are illegally being employed. The Indian governments have taken some measures to overcome from these social problems.

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