

Chapter-06

CHILD LABOUR: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF HARYANA, INDIA

Bhateri

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ABSTRACT:

This study on “child Labour” conducted on the sample of 130 respondents from Panipat District with objectives-

1. To study the problem of child labour in India.
2. To study factors responsible for child labour.
3. To analyse the present legal framework dealing with the problem of child labour in India.
4. To suggest possible measures to prevent and control the problem of child labour.

Keywords: Child Labour, Socio- Economic, Labour Laws, Education, Reason and Factors of child labour.

Methodological Tools:

1. The present research is **based on the Doctrinal and Empirical Research**. Empirical research was done by circulating a questionnaire consist of 14 questions in virtual mode and researcher did this with the help of Google Form Questionnaire Method.
2. **Field of Research:** The district Panipat is taken as the field of research, by the researcher because it has many agricultural and industrial resources, Panipat has good infrastructure facilities in terms of education and health, and this city is located in National Capital region near to Delhi, has given new opportunities to the new industries to establish in the area. 130 respondents were analysed in the present research in Panipat District. The researcher has used the first hand information collected from the field work, after the interviews of the different persons such as, employees, parents of child labour and child workers themselves.

INTRODUCTION:

“Future of a nation depends on the fact that how its children grows and develop. A large tree grows from a small seed similarly, a great and developed nations are born out children, who later became its citizen.”

Mr. Justice P N Bhagwati.

Child labour is one of the most serious problem of every nation. It makes a negative impact on the physical, mental, and psychological development of the labouring child.

International Labour Organisation defines child labour as including children leading adult lives, working long hours for low wages under conditions, damaging to their health and physical and mental growth, sometime separated from their families, deprived of educational and training opportunities that could be opened up to a better future.

Child Labour: Global Statistics:

The number of working child were found in different countries, in different ways are as following:-

- Africa: 72.1 Million.
- Asia and Pacific: 62 Million.
- America: 10.7 Million.
- Europe and Central Asia: 5.5 Million.
- Arab States: 1.2 Million.

Child Labour Statistics in India:

- 10.13 child labourer between 5-14 years in India (2011 census data).
- In 2011 child labour decreased 20 %.
- 22.87 million Child labour in India between 15-18 years.
- One in eleven children are working in our country 5-18 years.
- Eighty percent working children in rural areas.
- ILO 2016 data showed that 152 million child labour in the world between 5-17 years, out of which 23.8 million children are from India.
- According to 2001 census 1,219,470 children work in hazardous occupations in India.
- According to the National Sample Survey Office the working in India during 2004-05 is 90.75 lacs and for the period 2009-10 it 49.86 lacs.
- The National Family Health Survey (2005-06) nearly one in every eight children between the age group of 5-14 years work either for their own or for others. Among the children who works for others 2.2 are engaged in paid work and 2.9 in unpaid work.

Child Labour in Haryana:

Child labour is one of the major concerns of many developing countries. In a country with large population such as India, in 2001, approximate 12.6 Million, child workers were employed, out which approximate 2,53,491 were from Haryana. In Haryana cotton farming is an important business in Fatehabad, Hisar, Jhajjar, Rohtak and Sirsa. Approximately in whole State there are 3.58 lakh children employed in cotton farms and also sent around 5 lacs to punjab.

Comparison of Child labour in Haryana and In India

Year	State Haryana	Country India	Percentage
1971	137826	10753985	1.281
1981	194189	13640870	1.423
1991	109691	11285349	0.971
2001	253491	12666377	2.001
2011	53492	4353247	1.228

Source- Ministry of Labour and Employment Census, 2011.

The abovementioned Table shows the Comparison of Child Labour between India and Haryana. It shows that in 1971 the working children in Haryana were 1,37,826 and In India 1,07,53,985 and percentage of child labour in Haryana was 1.281 of India's total child labour. This table shows that in 1991 the child labour in Haryana was 0.971 percent of total child labour of India. In the year of 2001 the child labour in Haryana was 2.001 percent of total child labour in India. In the year of 2011 the child labour in Haryana was 53,492 children and the percentage was 1.228 of total child labour in India.

Causes of Child Labour:

There are many factors responsible for child labour in Haryana such as poverty, illiteracy, gender discrimination, parents ignorance or unable to maintain their family etc. and it results into the poverty and social exclusion. Many others are discusses in the following ways:-

Primary Reasons-

1. Poverty
2. Illiteracy
3. Large Families
4. Lack of School Facilities.
5. Gender inequality
6. Tradition and Culture
7. Parents Ignorance

Secondary Reasons

1. Low wages of Adult Worker
2. Low living Standard
3. School Drops Out.
4. Lack of Legislation.

Ancillary Reasons

1. Seasonal Employment
2. Discrimination
3. Poor Performance in education
4. School Environment is not good.
5. Unemployment
6. Death of parents
7. Migration of families
8. Corrupt employers.

Prevalence of Child Labour in Panipat:

The issue of child labour in Panipat District, of Northern Indian State of Haryana, has been increasing day by day. According to census 2001 child labour in Panipat is 5,876 and out of the total 3,112 children were engaged in hazardous occupations.

Some practical Instances of Child Labour:

Variables	Category	Frequency
1. Awareness about child labour	Yes	120 (96%)
	No	5 (4%)
2. Child labour is-mentally, physically, socially, harmful to children	Agree	123 (98.4%)
	Disagree	2 (1.6%)
3. Child labour interferes with education	Yes	116 (95.1%)
	No	6 (4.9%)
4. Factors responsible for child labour	Poverty	11(8.8%)
	Illiteracy	Not responding
	Lack of awareness	3 (2.4%)
	All the above	111(88.8%)
5. Age	Up to 6 years	Not responding
	6 to 10 years	4 (3.2%)
	10 to 14 years	39 (31.2%)
	All the above	82 (65.6%)
6. Effects of child labour	Physically	1 (0.8%)
	Psychologically	6 (4.8%)
	Insecurities	2 (1.6%)
	All the above	115 (92.7%)
7. Gender	Boys	28 (22.6%)
	Girls	Not responding

	Both	96 (77.4%)
8. Parents sending voluntarily to work	Yes	41 (33.3%)
	No	17 (13.8%)
	Cant say	65 (52.8%)
9. Child labour threat to development of Nation	Agree	122 (98.4%)
	Disagree	2 (1.6%)
10. Child labour linked with child trafficking	Yes	84 (68.3%)
	No	6 (4.9%)
	Cant say	33 (26.8%)
11. Is there any laws to deal with child labour ?	Yes	106 (86.2%)
	No	5 (4.1%)
	Cant say	12 (9.8%)
12. Indian laws sufficient to prevent child labour	Agree	49 (39.5%)
	Disagree	75 (60.5%)
13. Best way to prohibit the child labour in our society	Awareness	9 (7.3%)
	Education	5 (4%)
	Stipends	2 (1.6%)
	Sensitisation of people	1 (0.8%)
	All the above	107 (86.3%)

RTI Applications Filed:

The researcher has filled various RTI applications seeking data in relation to child labour in various district of Haryana, however the government departments replied that there is no working children in their respective jurisdictions. The replies are summarise here under:-

Questions	Chandigarh (for Haryana)	Gurgaon	Faridabad	Rewari
How many children in the age group of 5-14 are working in various districts of Haryana as per you record	Nil	Nil	Nil	No such record is available as per office record
What is the nature of work done by the child labour?	N.A.	N.A.	Nil	No such record is available as per office record
How many such children are engaged in hazardous occupations?	Nil	N.A.	Nil	No such record is available as per office record
What are the policies to control child labour in Haryana?	As per Child and adolescent(Prohibition and Regulation) Act,1986	As per Act and appropriate government given direction time to time.	As per Child and adolescent(Prohibition and Regulation) Act,1986	The policy is conduct inspection under the provision of child and Adolescent(P&R) Labour Act 1986 and survey as per the directions issued by the government from time to time

Laws for Protection of Child Labour:

1. The Factories Act, 1948.
2. The Employment of Children Act, 1949.
3. The Plantation Labour Act, 1951.
4. The Mines Act, 1952.
5. The Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.
6. The Factories Act, 1958.
7. The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961.
8. The Beedi and Cigar Workers Act, 1966.
9. Employment of Children Act, 1978.
10. The Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 1986.
11. The Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation(Amendment Act) 2016.

SUGGESTIONS:

At present stage of development it is necessary to develop such conditions in which, children, in stead of being forced to take up employment, they were sent to school and pursue their studies effectively. Unfortunately some children who have been driven to work, may also be able to start getting their education and to work in a healthy and organised atmosphere. With this object to keep in mind the welfare of children and prohibition of child labour following suggestions are given by the researcher:-

1. Education of child labours
2. Income augmentation
3. Skill learning
4. Policy Implications
5. Establishment of cell for child labour
6. Awareness
7. Social security
8. Establishment of Voluntary organisations

9. Be Vigilant and Report Abuse

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