

A Study on the Methods to Eliminate the Evil of Child Labour from Indian Society

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Abstract – Collective efforts are needed on the part of society and the government to put an end to the practice of child labor. In fact, every citizen should take a pledge to never employ child laborer, rather discourage others too from doing so. We should create awareness amongst people employing child laborers and the parents sending their children to work. We need to provide our children a happy childhood where they are able to enjoy the best period of their lives with a merry and carefree attitude. The government should make efforts to increase the incomes of parents by launching various development schemes. Efforts should be made towards poverty eradication combined with educational reforms to provide free or affordable access to quality education. Only by taking comprehensive steps, the Government can hope to eliminate all forms of child labor by 2020.

Keywords: Prevention, Child, Labor, Law

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INTRODUCTION

In India, it is observed that most of the children of poor families living in small villages tend to work in beedi and wine factories. The owners of these kinds of factories employ the poor children as it is less costly for them because they have not to pay much money to these children.

Now, the Indian government has taken hard decisions on this evil as now it is mentioned in the Indian criminal law that to appoint a child in any domestic and working site is illegal. There is also a provision in Indian justice system that the license of the firm or organization would be cut off on finding guilty of violating the Child Labor Act.

The progression of criminal value as it is acknowledged today went from a compensatory system where the injured individual was at the point of convergence of the methodology to one that could be known as a correctional structure where the criminal is at the point of convergence of the strategy.

The basic limit of the structure isn't one of —making the unfortunate casualty whole anyway of rebuking or reestablishing the wrongdoer. The result of this change is that to a tremendous degree the injured individual isn't locked in with the system beside as a spectator.

The advantage of giving pay through a state compensation program is the probability of snappy case way and for the most part practical

reimbursements of hardships. It moreover displays social concern. That does not hinder the use of guilty party fines and punishments rather than government wages as a wellspring of financing, in any occasion if the fines and punishments are satisfactory to meet the money related requirements of the people in question.

Specifically, it was speculated that dimension of social help and confidence would impact assumptions of pressure and bitterness in deceived kids. A coordinating effect for these components would be developed if the true association among exploitation and camouflaging symptoms were seen to be more grounded for youngsters indicating lower social help and confidence than for kids showing higher elements of social help and confidence.

Regardless, the reality remains that various kids felt that they experienced physical or possibly verbal strikes from their associates. These disclosures have different potential repercussions regarding the manner by which kids may respond to such exploitation. The going with talk will attempt to address these proposals to the extent how they may be related to overall confidence, social help, and masking signs.

In any case, it has all the earmarks of being increasingly plausible that youngsters experience a debilitating of confidence following introduction to peer ambushes. In like way, the reality of the situation may prove that youngsters are engaged for

exploitation in light of the guilty parties' discovering that they require solid adult and friend connections. In any case, it is in like manner possible that kids who are misled as such have less social help.

METHODS TO ELIMINATE THE EVIL OF CHILD LABOUR FROM INDIAN SOCIETY

A nation stands on the legs of its society and the citizens that live within it. If we have to build a nation where the next generation can live with dignity and fairness, where there is equal opportunity to prosper for all, then we have to ensure that we lay the very core of that society on a strong foundation i.e. our home.

If there is a child labor happening in our home or in our vicinity, it is our moral right to raise our voice against it. If we don't, we would lose our moral right to look into our children's eyes and expect respect from them. We cannot raise one child's future while denying another one. No way.

Child labor takes place when children are forced to work at an age when they are expected to work, study and enjoy their phase of innocence. It implies lost or deprived childhood that leads to exploitation of children in various forms: mental, physical, social, sexual and so on.

Not all children in India are lucky to enjoy their childhood. Many of them are forced to work under inhuman conditions where their miseries know no end. Though there are laws banning child labor, still children continue to be exploited as cheap labor. It is because the authorities are unable to implement the laws meant to protect children from being engaged as laborers.

Unfortunately, the actual number of child laborers in India goes un-detected. Children are forced to work in completely unregulated condition without adequate food, proper wages, and rest. They are subjected to physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

Children often work in dangerously polluted factories. They work for 9 to 10 hours at a stretch including night shifts. No wonder that a large number of child workers have sunken chests and thin bone frames which give them a fragile look. They are made to work in small rooms under inhuman conditions which include unhygienic surroundings. Most of these children come from extremely poor households. They are either school drop-outs or those who have not seen any school at all.

Child laborers run the risk of contracting various diseases. They are vulnerable to exploitation by all. There is no strict enforcement of laws against child labor, so, employers continue to circumvent the provisions of the law in the full knowledge that the child workers themselves will not dare to expose them.

The authorities should incorporate a provision for surprise checks and establish a separate vigilance cell.

Employers should compulsorily take steps for the intellectual, vocational and educational well-being and upliftment of a child worker.

Factors such as poverty, lack of social security, the increasing gap between the rich and the poor have adversely affected children more than any other group. We have failed to provide universal education, which results in children dropping out of school and entering the labor force.

Loss of jobs of parents in a slowdown, farmers' suicide, armed conflicts and high costs of healthcare are other factors contributing to child labor.

A widespread problem: Due to high poverty and poor schooling opportunities, child labor is quite prevalent in India. Child labor is found in rural as well as urban areas. The 2001 census found an increase in the number of child laborers from 11.28 million in 1991 to 12.59 million.

Children comprise 40% of the labor in the precious stone cutting sector. They are also employed in other industries such as mining, zari and embroidery, dhabas, tea stalls and restaurants and in homes as domestic labor.

DISCUSSION

Government authorities and civil society organizations need to work in tandem to free children engaged in labor under abysmal conditions. They need to be rescued from exploitative working conditions and supported with adequate education. Above all, there is a need to mobilize public opinion with an aim to bring about an effective policy initiative to abolish child labor in all its forms.

A large number of children in India are quite strangers to the joys and innocence of the formative years of their lives. Instead of enjoying their early steps on their life's journey, they are forced to work under conditions of slavery. Child labor persists due to the inefficiency of law, administrative system and exploitative tendencies on the part of employers.

Children are employed illegally in various industries. But agriculture is the largest sector where children work at early ages to contribute to their family income. Rural areas employ 85 percent of the child labor in India. They are forced to work at young ages due to factors such as poverty, unemployment, a large family size, and lack of proper education.

Despite constitutional provisions against child labor, a large number of children continue to be exploited under hazardous work conditions. Poorly paid for long hours of work, they have to abandon their studies to support their family at an age when they are supposed to just play around and have fun. They are

made to forego all the joys of childhood by a cruel and ruthless world.

Rural areas employ the largest number of child labor. In urban areas, they work in dhabas, tea-stalls and restaurants, and households. They are shamelessly exploited in the unorganized sector as domestic servants, hawkers, rag-pickers, paper vendors, agricultural laborers, and as workers in industrial concerns.

Some of the industries that employ children as laborers include match industry in Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu; glass industry in Firozabad, brassware industry in Moradabad and the handmade carpet industry in Mirzapur-Bhadoi, precious stone polishing industry in Jaipur, Rajasthan; lock making industry in Aligarh; slate industry in Markapur, Andhra Pradesh, and slate industry in Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh.

Sometimes, children are employed against a loan or debt or social obligation by the family of the child. Generally, they are forced to work assisting their families in agricultural sector, brick kilns, and stone quarries. In urban areas, children of migrant workers mostly belonging to low caste groups such as dalits or marginalized tribal sections are pledged to work in small production houses and factories. Bonded child laborers are particularly subjected to mental, physical and sexual abuse, sometimes even leading to death. In Orissa, people sell daughters, eight to 10 years old, as maid servants to the creditor in order to clear their debt.

Child labor is inevitable in a country like India where over 40 per cent of the population lives in conditions of extreme poverty. The children have to supplement their parents' income or in some cases, they are the only wage earners in the family.

Another reason is that vested interests deliberately create child labor to get cheap labor as a factory hand, a domestic servant or a shop assistant.

We need policies which try to alleviate poverty and inequality as they can have a significant and decisive impact on economic conditions and social structures that have a bearing on child labor. Such initiatives may incorporate agrarian reforms, employment-generation programmes, use of improved technology among the poor, promotion of the informal sector and creation of cooperatives and social security schemes. Also required is effective enforcement machinery to punish the violators of laws. Labour-inspection and related services need to be strengthened.

Child laborers have to toil long hours to eke out a living for themselves and support their families. Exploitation becomes a way of life for them and becomes very harmful to their physical and mental development. They

are forced to inhabit an adult world, shoulder adult responsibilities, and suffer extreme exploitation.

CONCLUSION

Child labor inflicts damage to a child's physical and mental health. A child laborer has no basic rights to education, development, and freedom. Children employed as laborers work in unsafe environments where there is a constant danger of fatal accidents. They are forced to lead a life of poverty, illiteracy, and deprivation. They are required to perform gruelling and physically demanding tasks and in return receive only meagre wages. Poor working conditions cause severe health problems to such children. A child laborer not just suffers physical and mental torture but also becomes mentally and emotionally mature too fast which is never a good sign.

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