



# IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CHILD LABOUR PROBLEM IN INDIA

**Dr.Lalchand Ramteke**

Dept.of Sociology

Ashok Mohorkar College, Adyal Bhandar

## ABSTRACT

*Child labour is defined as the practice that deprives the childhood, potential and dignity of children. It refers to the work that is mentally, physically, socially and morally dangerous to the children. "The Child is Father of the man" this famous line quoted by William Wordsworth refers to the importance of the child for the development of society as well as for the all-round development of the human race. Childhood is the time to garner the best physical, intellectual and emotional capacity to fulfil this duty towards the nation and to one's own self. However, this simple rule of nature has been crippled by the ever-growing menace of child labour. Child labour is a complex problem that is basically rooted in poverty.*

*Today it is a lesson to man to be become the part of environment, extreme industrialization, urbanization, globalization and avoidances and negligence of sustainable development etc are responsible to have a ill effects on environment and society. Therefore it is a need of time to be conscious, serious and plan for not disturbing the nature, caring to flora and fauna, plantation for further generation. Otherwise excess use of these things will be directly impact on society and environmental issues.*

*Therefore for today and tomorrow plan accordingly and to be maintain the strategy of sustainable document of human life.*

*Society is a group of people and all people bind with specific relationship, culture is directly assimilated in the society. Due to covid-19 pandemic, overall social and structural set up has been disturbed and it has directly affect on various ways with specific social and economic problems raised in the society.*

**KEYWORDS**-Poverty, administration, effects, impact, globalization, elimination, environment

## INTRODUCTION

Today all are confused and trying the best to maintain track of society. Indian society also suffering in very bad situation most of the religions and cultural places has been locked and no furnace transition taking place is there. Charity and related activation also shut down. Hence it is prove that man such religion activities covid-19 i.e. corona virus is also impact on such activity and form to change the track of society and culture.

Due to the effect of covid-19 environment and society get affected thoroughly.

## GENERAL EFFECT ON SOCIETY AND ENVIRONMENT OF CORONA VIRUS

1. Decrease in the pollution level and drastically it comedown.
2. Completely social structure and construction get affected and related on human appearance.
3. New social, commercial, religion and economical problems have been arised with the old existing problems.
4. Unemployment, poverty, begger and complication in society become the current issues in India.

5. Man get learn from the effect of corona virus and under start his helpless infront of the corona virus.

It can take many forms including domestic servitude, work in agriculture sector, manufacturing industries, trafficking of children and many more. India in fact is the hot bed of child labour. India accounts for the second highest number of child labourers after Africa. Nearly 85% of child labourers in India are hard to reach, disguised as they work largely in unorganised sector, both rural and urban. Child labour coupled with child abuse has today become one of the greatest maladies that have spread across the world. Each year statistics show increasing numbers of child abuse, more so in the case of the girl child.

## CHARACTERISTICS

It violates a Nation's minimum wage laws. Threatens children's physical, mental or emotional well being. Involves intolerable abuse, such as child slaves and forced labour. Prevents children from going to school. Uses children to undermine labour standards. After achieving Independence Indian constitution passed number of Laws, Rights and Acts on child labour.



### Some of the laws are:

- 1.The Factories act of 1948: The employment of children below the age of 14 is prohibited in any factory.
- 2.The Mines act of 1952: The employment of children below the age of 18 is prohibited in mining.
- 3.The Child Labour(prohibition and regulation) act of 1986:The employment of children below the age of 14 in hazardous occupations identified in a list by the law is prohibited.
- 4.The Juvenile Justice(care and protection) of children act of 2000:Child labour is a crime, punishable with prison or employing a child in any hazardous employment or in bondage.
- 5.The right of children to free and compulsory education act of 2009: According to this act children aged 6-14 should be provided with free education and also 25% of seats in private schools be provided to children from disadvantaged groups and physically challenged.

### RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

- 1.Right to survival- Each and every child has the right to live healthy and nutritious life.
- 2.Right to development: Each and every child has the right to get educated, cared, leisure life and recreation.
- 3.Right to protection: Each and every child has the right to be protected from exploitation and any kind of abuse.
- 4.Right to participation: Each and every child has the right to participate in any religious activities.

### CAUSES

Over population, poverty, parental ignorance, illiteracy, lack of proper education, urbanisation, availability of cheap labour, the ineffectiveness of child labour laws in terms of implementation, non availability and non accessibility to schools are some of the factors which encourages the phenomenon of child labour .It is also very difficult to immature minds and undeveloped bodies to understand and organize themselves against exploitation in the absence of adult guidance. Moreover illiterate and ignorant parents do not understand the need for wholesome physical, emotional development of their child.

They are themselves uneducated and unexposed. So they do not understand the importance of education for their children .The industrial revolution has also had a negative effect by giving rise to circumstances which encourages child labour. Sometimes Multi National Industries prefer to employ child labourers because they can be recruited for less pay and more work can be extracted from them .Children born with no parents and relatives , often do not find anyone to support which forces them to work for their own survival. Moreover, willingness to exploit children is the most responsible

cause for child labour. This is the root problem of trafficking of children often involves both labour and migration. The objective of child trafficking is often child labour. Trafficked children may be sexually exploited, used in armed forces and drug trades and in child begging.

### EFFECTS

Consequences and problems due to child labour are blooming up like mushrooms in the rain. Child labour causes stunted growth of future generation. It acts as a bottleneck in the Development of the Country. The prevalence of child labour is a slap on the conscience of society. As children can be employed at low wages child labour increases the adult unemployment. Mainly it became the reason for perpetuation of poverty and economic inequality. Having a formal education is the birth right of every child in this world. But child labor has stolen this right from nearly 44 million children. Children are like wet cement, whatever falls on them makes an impression.

### HEALTH EFFECTS ON CHILDREN

Long hours of work on a regular basis not only harms children's physical health but also their mental health. According to a survey conducted in 26 countries by International Labour Organisation (ILO) it was found that about ¾ children suffer injuries and illness while working . Child labour has traumatic effects on child's health which includes rapid skeletal growth development of organs and tissues , greater risk of hearing loss and many more .Healthy years of life are lost due to child labour .Children who are working in agriculture sector , industries and factories are effected more due to long terms exposure to pesticide and working with sharp tools, machinery etc.

### CONCLUSION

The problem of child labor has done enough damage to the lives and health of many innocent children by stealing away their childhood and many rights. Children are like wet cement, whatever falls on them makes an impression. It is now evident that child labour negatively affects the mental, emotional and psychological capabilities of children. Child labour should be brought to an end now. It is high time that the Indian government starts taking this issue seriously and starts enforcing stringent laws. Children should have pens in their hands not tools. Labour policies have to be designed and implemented in such way that the employment of children in hazardous jobs and their exploitation by the employers are checked and such practices are positively discouraged. Child labour is economically unsound, psychologically disastrous and ethically wrong. It should be strictly banned. The general



improvement in socio-economic conditions of people will result in gradual elimination of child labour. Considering the magnitude and extent of the problem, concerted efforts from all sections of the society is needed to make a dent. Measures need to be taken not only to stop this crime against children, but also to slowly, steadily and surely provide every child a well-deserved healthy and normal childhood. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru quoted that "Today's children are tomorrows citizens". It means that children constitute the backbone of tomorrow's society. Hence, it is the obligation of every generation to bring up children, who will be citizens of tomorrow, in a proper way. In current scenario, there is a need to save children from corona virus and save them from this pandemic.

## REFERENCES

1. Albrecht, Gary L., *Advances in Medical Sociology*, Mumbai, Jai Press.
2. Channa Karuna, 1988, *Socialization, Women and Education: Explorations in Gender Identity*, New Delhi, Orient Longman.
3. Dasgupta, R., *Nutritional Planning in India*, Hyderabad, NIN, 1993
4. Ghadially, Rehana, (ed.) 1988, *Women in Indian Society*, New Delhi, Sage.
5. Jaywardene, Kuman, 1991, *Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World*, New Delhi.
6. Scrambler, Graham and Paul Higgs, 1998, *Modernity, medicine and health:*