

PROBLEM OF CHILD LABOUR: A STUDY OF SPORTS INDUSTRY IN MEERUT

Dr. Kamlesh Bhardwaj

Professor

Dept. of Sociology

S.D.P.G. College, Ghaziabad

Shanu

Research Scholar

Dept. of Sociology

S.D.P.G. College, Ghaziabad

Email: singhulab1702@gmail.com

Abstract

Children are the future of any society and country. Our top priority for adequate development of children in society as well as country. Despite the dangers of this problem all over the world, data shows this problem really seriously due to high number of child labour. In this research paper we selected 50 respondents from Meerut city specially sports industry and focused on some important issue related to the child labour and find out the main causes related to child labour. In this article we find out that the child labour face many problems in daily life such as the lack of proper facilities about the basic requirement in daily life such as residential problem, low wage, low family income, lack of education, lack of awareness level of government scheme about child welfare and problem of drug abuse. some important aspects focused in this research article.

Keywords

Social problem, Childhood, Child Labour, Education, Children etc.

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**Dr. Kamlesh Bhardwaj,
Shanu**

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Introduction

Many children are engaged in their traditional occupations, homes and underground economy which is hidden labour. Compulsory education policy in India guarantees free and compulsory education to children in the age group of 6 to 14 years and prohibits employment of children below 14 years of age in 18 hazardous occupations, yet in India's informal sectors Child labour is still prevalent. Children work due to many reasons like poverty, hunger etc. Children are not paid full wages for their work, yet in developing and underdeveloped countries they still serve as a major contributor to family income. In some countries, traditional factors such as rigid cultural and social roles such as not educating girls, not letting girls out of the home, child marriage, etc. limit educational opportunities and increase child labour. Children are heavily exploited for working long hours for minimum wages. Their working conditions are very bad which affects their health very badly.

Problem Justification

Child labour has become a big problem for the whole world in today's time. Child labour is a very serious problem both socially and economically. A very perverse form of child labour is visible in many developing and underdeveloped countries of the world. Child labour has become a normal part of life in these developing and underdeveloped countries. Due to the poor economic condition of the family, young children have to do child labour at a very young age. Due to child labour at an early age, these children are not able to live their childhood properly. Good toys for children to play, good clothes to wear, good food to eat, beautiful places to visit and facilities like education and medicine are hardly available. Poverty is the main cause of child labour. These children do child labour to get one meal for themselves and their families. These children are forced to work hard to improve the economic condition of their family and to meet the basic necessities of their life.

Child labour is illegal and illegal all over the world. Even after outlawing child labour, a large number of children in developing and underdeveloped countries are still engaged in child labour. To prevent child labour, many organizations and all countries of the world have made many laws for android. But despite all these efforts, child labour remains a problem even today. The whole world has to work together to end child labour.

In a developing country like India, labor has been going on since ancient times. Child labor was not considered a problem in ancient times, but due to industrialization and urbanization, child labor became a serious problem. People working in small scale industries and handicraft industries became unemployed due to production of machines in large quantity, faster and at less cost. Due to the use of

machines in the agricultural sector, laborers started becoming unemployed. Earlier the work which people used to do with their own hands, due to the work being done by machines, the problem of earning would arise in front of the people. Mechanization gave rise to the problem of unemployment. The ruling unemployed people started migrating to the cities in search of employment, which led to urbanization and became a problem. The main reason for the migration of the rural unemployed to the city was the demand for cheap labor in factories and industries.

Review of Literature

In this part of the research paper, an attempt is made to review some of the earlier studies undertaken in the realm of child labour and highlight the issues raised and findings acknowledged which may importantly lend direction to the present study on child labour.

Kabita Kumari Sahu (2013) in her empirical study of determinants of child labour. The objective of the study is to analyse the nature and magnitude of the problem and determinants of child labour and their participation in the workforce at an early age in Cuttack City of Odisha. This study was based on the primary data. The regression results reveal that family income has significant negative impact on the working hour of the child labour. Family size is a non-economic factor which affect the working hour of child labour significantly.

Lal, Ankit Kumar and Kliare, Shubham Manoj (2009) in his study discussed about Child labour is certainly a problem throughout the world and it would be no understatement to say that India itself has a large force of child labourers. For this the Indian government and the Industrial sector have both drawn flak from not only foreign governments and international organizations.

Upadhyay, Vandana (2007) was made a study to know the nature and quality of employment in the urban informal sector in Arunachal Pradesh. Both primary and secondary data sources were used. It was suggested that credit facilities should be available to entrepreneurs in the informal sector on the same terms as is given for modern enterprises. They suggested that there is an urgent need to make provisions for their welfare through awareness building as well as meaningful state support.

Sekar, Helen R (2007) has conducted one study on the impact of technological change on the demand for child labour in brassware industry of Moradabad city, Uttar Pradesh. The study was done to assess the effects of technological change and industry restructuring on the existence of child labour. He found the problems facing by the child labour in hazardous processes in the brassware industry and was suggested that policies should be made to eliminate child labour; education should be provided to children of poor families; and there is a need to improve the general

economic condition of states, so that working conditions in industries are improved and they absorb modern technologies.

M.C. Naidu and K. Dasaratha Ramaiah (2006) in his study focused on the prevalence of child labour is one of the most important problems confronting the world at large, especially developing countries such as India. In many cases, child labour is mainly necessitated by economic compulsions of the parents. The main reason which gives rise to child labour is widespread unemployment and underemployment among the adult poor strata of the population, inter alia, due to sharp growth of population. Large families with low income and often lack of educational facilities, illiteracy and ignorance of parents about the importance of education as well as about the impact of labour on the health of their children are some of the reasons which breed child labour.

Chandrakala, Rubiana M (2006) in an environment where children time has an economic value and employment opportunities for educated workers are scarce, parental investments in their children education may not be driven entirely by poverty and credit constraints. We offer evidence from India that higher returns to primary education increase schooling and decrease idleness but have a negligible effect on child labour. Our results suggest that households that are most dependent on their children income are too poor to respond to the economic benefits of education.

Field of Study

Meerut is a city in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. It is an ancient city, on the territory of which settlements belonging to the Indus Valley culture were discovered. The city is located 70 km northeast of the capital, New Delhi, and 430 km west of the state capital, Lucknow. As per the 2011 census, Meerut is considered to be the 33rd most populous metropolitan area and the 26th largest city in India. It was ranked 292nd in 2006 and is projected to rank 242nd in the list of the world's largest cities and metropolitan areas in 2020. According to the 2001 census, the area of the municipality is 141.89 km, the area of the canton is 35.68 km. The city is one of the largest manufacturers of sporting goods and the largest producer of musical instruments in India. The city is also a training centre in the western part of Uttar Pradesh and is also known as the "Sports City of India".

Method

In this study data collected from 50 respondents using various data collection techniques, interview schedule and non-participant observation. Analysis of data Simple statistical method and by the table analysis some important finding discusses in the following part of this paper.

- 46% respondents focus on as determinant of child labour to supplement family income, 9% respondents focus on as determinant of child labour to family pressure, 12% respondents focus on as determinant of child labour to poor condition of family, 16% respondents focus on as determinant of child labour to lack of interest in study, 17% in respondents focus on as determinant of child labour to migration of parents.
- By the data analysis we find that 25% respondents belong to less than 7 years age group, 23% respondents belong to less than 7-9 years age group, 22% respondents belong to less than 9-11 years age group, 30% respondents belong to less than 11-14 years age group. So, by the above table data analysis we can find out that most of the respondents 30% belong to 11-14 years age group.
- By the data analysis we find, the classification of the respondent on the bases of type of work we find out that 37% respondents belong to the unskilled work, 50% respondents belong to the skilled work, 13% respondents belong to the semi-skilled work. So, we can say that most of the respondents 50% belong to skilled work. By focusing on this fact researcher find out that all respondents belong to nearby residence in urban area of Meerut district.
- By the data analysis we find out that 46% respondent receive training under the guidance of expert of the profession who engaged in for earlier and 54% respondents not receive any training from any superior and the master of the professions. So, we can easily analysis most of the 54% respondent not receive any training from any superior and the master of the professions. Trained child labour gets the more wage comparison the untrained child labour.
- By the analysis of data, we can analysis that 60% respondent belong to age at the joining work 5-7 years, 30% respondent belong to age at the joining work 7-9 years, 7% respondent belong to age at the joining work 9-11 years, 3% respondent belong to age at the joining work 11-13 years. So, we can analysis, 60% respondent belong to age at the joining work 5-7 years. They feel that their child contributes in the family income it is the good things for all family member and they were not worry about the education and other development of child.
- By the analysis of data, we get the perception of the respondent about job we find out that 73% respondents found in his first profession and 27%

respondent join more than one profession some of the child labourer accept the salary issue is very important to bound with the profession regularly. So, we find out that 73% respondents found in his first profession.

- By the analysis of data, we get 6% respondent engage in the work from 6 month to one year duration, 5% respondent engage in the work from 1-2-year, 28% respondent engage in the work from 2 - 3 years, 33% respondent engage in the work from 3 years to 4 years, 28% respondent engage in the work from more than 5 years. So, 33% respondent engage in the work from 3 years to 4 years.
- By the analysis of data, we can find out that 3% respondent work at workplace less than 4 hours, 15% respondent work at workplace 4-6 hours, 12% respondent work at workplace 6-8 hours, 23% respondent work at workplace 8-10 hours, 47% respondent work at workplace more than 10 hours. So, we can analysis that 47% respondent work at workplace more than 10 hours.
- By the analysis of data, we can find out 15% of child labourer have 1 kilometre distance home to workplace, 22% of child labourer have 1–2-kilometre distance home to workplace, 47% of child labourer have 2–3-kilometre distance home to workplace, 16% of child labourer have more than three-kilometre distance home to workplace. So, we can analysis that 47% of child labourer have 2–3-kilometre distance home to workplace.
- By the analysis of data, we can find out that 34 % respondent fully satisfied with the work and workplace, 40% respondent partly satisfied with the work and workplace, 26 % respondent not satisfied with the work and workplace. So, we can say that 40% respondent partly satisfied with the work and workplace.
- By the analysis of data, 32% of the respondent's attitude of your family towards your engagement in work is favourable, 56% of the respondent's attitude of your family towards your engagement in work is indifferent 12% of the respondent's attitude of your family towards your engagement in work is unfavourable. So, we can say 56% of the respondent's attitude of your family towards your engagement in work is indifferent.
- By the analysis of above table, we can find out 35% respondents agree that the health status effected during the long working duration, 66% respondents agree that the health status not effected during the long working duration. So, we can find that 66% respondents agree that the health status not effected during the long working duration.

- By the analysis of data, 33% respondent accept that they have kaccha house to live, 35% respondent accept that they have pucca house to live, 42% respondent accept that they have semi-pucca house to live only 33% respondent accept that they have open street and park surrounding the house to live. So, we can conclude the most of the respondent 42% respondent accept that they have semi-pucca house to live.
- By the analysis of data, we can find out that 46% of the respondent agree they have their own house, 22% of the respondent agree they have their rented house, 18% of the respondent agree they stay at workplace and 14% of the respondent agree they have no their own house. So, we can find out most of the respondent 46% of the respondent agree they have their own house.
- By the analysis of data, 21% respondent agree that pay for rent of house 500-1000, 15% respondent agree that pay for rent of house 1000-1500, 14% respondent agree that pay for rent of house 1500-2000, 17% respondent agree that pay for rent of house more than 2000, 33% respondent not applicable for rent of house. Some can say most of the respondent 33% not applicable for rent.
- By the analysis of data, we analysis that 32% respondents have one room set, 22% respondents have two room set, 26% respondents have jhuggi, 20% respondents not applicable in above description. So, we can conclude most of the respondents 26% respondent belong to Jhuggi and there was working condition is very poor.
- By the above table we find out that 93% respondent have the electricity facilities and 7% respondent don't have electricity facilities. So, we can say that most of the respondent 93% have the electricity facilities
- By the above table 30% of the respondent agree that involved in your leisure time in house through sleeping, 40% of the respondent agree that involved in your leisure time in house through watching T.V, 30% of the respondent agree that involved in your leisure time in house by Playing Cards/Ludo/ Carom boards/ Mobile games through sleeping. So, we can find out the above table 40% of the respondent agree that involved in your leisure time in house through watching TV.
- By the analysis of data, we find out that 19% of the respondent agree they take the meal once a day, 21% of the respondent agree they take the meal twice a day, 60% of the respondent agree they take the meal more than

twice in a day. So, we can conclude that 60% of the respondent agree they take the meal more than twice in a day.

- By the above table 29% respondent involve in chewing tobacco, 18% respondent involve in smoking activity, 19% respondent involve in drinking activity, 14% respondent involve in the other activity of drug addiction, 20% respondent don't involve in any addiction activity. So, we can conclude the mostly of the respondent agree that 29% of respondent agree that they involve in chewing tobacco.

Child labor is a complex issue influenced by a variety of factors. The determinants of child labor can vary depending on the social, economic, cultural, and legal contexts of a particular region or country. Here are some common determinants of child labor:

Poverty: Poverty is one of the primary drivers of child labor. When families struggle to meet their basic needs, they may resort to sending their children to work to supplement household income.

Lack of Access to Education: Limited or inadequate access to quality education is a significant determinant of child labor. When children do not have access to schools, face high school fees, or experience low-quality education, they are more likely to be engaged in labor instead of attending school.

Social and Cultural Factors: Societal and cultural norms play a role in perpetuating child labor. In some communities, there may be expectations that children contribute to family income or engage in traditional practices from a young age.

Weak Legal Framework and Enforcement: Insufficient legal protection for children and weak enforcement of labor laws can contribute to the prevalence of child labor. When laws are not adequately enforced, employers can exploit children and engage them in hazardous or exploitative work.

Gender Inequality: Gender inequality can also be a determinant of child labor. Girls may be at a higher risk due to discriminatory practices, limited opportunities for education, and cultural expectations regarding their roles in the household or workforce.

Migration and Displacement: Children in migrant or displaced populations are particularly vulnerable to child labor due to the loss of stability, disrupted access to education, and limited economic opportunities for their families.

Lack of Social Protection: Inadequate social protection measures, including access to healthcare, social welfare, and financial support, can contribute to child labor as families face economic challenges and lack safety nets.

Conclusion

Apart from this, the implementation of government policies and laws made against child labor will also have to be improved. Child labor laws will have to be strictly followed and those who do not follow these rules will have to be punished severely. To stop child labor, the government will have to provide more employment, so that poor parents do not make their children do child labour. Child labor is the work done by a child to support himself and his family. In today's time child labor is increasing very fast. Child labor is mostly done by poor and orphan children. Due to increasing population, corruption, poverty, unemployment, hunger and various diseases etc. children are forced into to do child labor. Children were called to work in dirty, dusty environments and in all weathers such as summer, winter, rain and sunshine. Working in dirty environment and dangerous conditions by these children causes many terrible physical and mental diseases like cancer, tuberculosis, lung diseases, eye diseases, hand skin diseases etc. The body of children is very soft and delicate, that is why they are prone to any disease. Child labor blocks the physical, mental and emotional development of the child.

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