



## SOCIAL PROBLEM OF CHILD LABOUR IN INDIA: A SCENARIO

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### Introduction-

The meaning of child labour is the children under the age of 14 who are deployed in form of full or part time economic activities. It deprives the children of their childhood and is harmful for their physical and mental health. The main causes of child labour in India are poverty, lack of good educational system and the growth of informal economy.

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**Key words-** Child labour, B.P.L. family, debt.

### Causes of child labour in India-

#### 1. Poverty-

There is a large scale population living under B.P.L. in India. In this case how we can assume there will not be child labour. India is an agricultural country. Indian agriculture based on monsoon. Due to ill managed irrigation system farming can't yield good crops consequently Indian farmers have to live hand to mouth. Because of their poverty they can't afford high fees. So, they start treating the children as an earning member and send them on walk. In other cases the children themselves start working in order to manage their households.

#### 2. Lack of effective education system-

Indian education system is not job oriented. Our orthodox society thinks that it is better to make children walk instead of sending them to schools. Job oriented courses are very expensive which is not within the reach of poor people. Parents are illiterate so they are not aware of the facilities provided by the government for the education of children. In a recent report it was pointed out that the education sector is one of the main absorbers of black money.

#### 3. Over population-

India is the second largest country in respect of population. But the existing educational infrastructure like school buildings, teachers, books etc. are



insufficient even today there are many rural and remote areas where there is no schools. Due over population there is very low per capita income. Peoples are trapped in the vicious circle of poverty; even children are compelled to labour.

#### **4. Children are cheap source of labour-**

Cheap labour is an important source for business growth. There for some owner in developing countries always use children to set things done easily and cheaply. They give low wages and even some times only food to children in comparison to adults. This also results in human trafficking and especially child trafficking.

#### **5. Debt trap-**

Mostly Indians are poor and illiterate. For their survival they have to borrow money on interest from ‘Sahukars’. So, they are trapped in debt by the ‘Sahukars.’ Mostly parents are unable to pay off debt and die. So, their children are made to labour for Sahukars in order to pay off their debts. It increases child labour.

#### **6. Conclusion-**

At last we find out that overpopulation, poverty, debt, lack of schools and lack of awareness are main reasons of child labour. It is the need of the hour to work with government and N.G.Os’ in order to eliminate child labour.

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