

ERADICATION OF CHILD LABOUR AND THE AWARENESS FOR ELIMINATION AMONG HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL

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INTRODUCTION

Every state is known by the rights that it maintains; our methods of judging its character lie above all in the contribution that it makes to the substance of man's happiness.

CHILD LABOURS

Child labour is the practice of having children engage in economic activity, on part or full – time basis. The practice deprives children of their childhood, and is harmful to their physical and mental development. Poverty, lack of good schools and growth of informal economy are considered as the important causes of child labour in India.

The 2001 national census of India estimated the total number of child labour, aged 5-14, to be at 12.6 million. The child labour problem is not unique to India; worldwide, about 217 million children work, many full – time.

In 2001, out of a 12.6 million, about 12 million children in India were in a hazardous job. UNICEF estimates that India with its larger population, has the highest number of labourers in the world under 14 years of age, while sub – Saharan African countries have the highest percentage of children who are deployed as child labour. International Labour Organisation estimates that agriculture at 60 percentages is the largest employer of child labour in India. While United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation estimates 70% of child labour is deployed in agriculture and related activities. Outside of agriculture, child labour is observed in almost all informal sectors of the Indian Economy.

Companies including Gap, Primark, Monsanto and others have been criticized for child labour in their products. The companies claim they have strict policies against selling products made by underage kids, but there are many links in a supply chain making it difficult to police them all. In 2011, after three years of Primark's effort BBC acknowledged that its award – winning investigative journalism report of Indian child labour use by Primark was a fake. BBC apologized to Primark, to India suppliers and all its viewers.

Article 24 of India's constitution prohibits child labour. Additionally, various laws and the Indian Penal Code, such as the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2000, and the Child Labour (Prohibition and Abolition) Act – 1986 provide a basis on law to identify, prosecute and stop child labour in India.

EDUCATION

The Right to Education – 2009

According to Article 45 of the Indian Constitution there is a provision that every child should get free and compulsory education. It is also made clear that the fulfilment of this should come before 1950. But because of the increasing population and lack of management of the growing population, this provision could not be fulfilled not only until 1960, but till now. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act which was passed by the Indian parliament on 4 August 2009 describes the modalities of the provision of free and compulsory education for children between 6 and 14 in India under Article 21 A of the India Constitution.

The present Act it history in the drafting of the Indian Constitution at the time of Independence; more specifically to the Constitutional Amendment that included the Article 21A of the Indian constitution making Education a fundamental right. This amendment, however, specified the need for a legislation to describe the mode of implementation of the same which necessitated the drafting of a separate Education Bill. The rough draft of the bill was composed in year 2005. It received much opposition to provide 25% reservation for disadvantaged children in private schools.

The bill makes education a fundamental right of every child between the ages of 6 to 14 and specifies the minimum norms in government schools. It specifies reservation of 25% seats in private schools of children from poor families, prohibits the practice of unrecognized schools, and makes provisions for no donation or capitation and no interview of the child or parent for the admission. The bill has been criticized for failing to maintain a uniform equitable standard of quality for all schools and for excluding children 6 years of age.

The bill was approved by the cabinet on 2 July 2009. Rajya Sabha passed the bill in 20 July 2009 and the Lok Sabha on 4 August 2009. It received Presidential assent and was notified as law on 3 September 2009 as The Children's Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act.

The Problem of child labour in India

How many children are involved?

It is difficult to cite a current figure for the number of children engaged in child labour. This difficulty is attributed to the fact that the India Government “has been negligent in its refusal to collect and analyze current and relevant data regarding the incidence of child labour.

Need and significance of the study

The level of awareness among the college students about their rights was nowadays said to be low. Each and every individual should have adequate knowledge about the rights to information act. If the students know about their rights they will aware of the rights and clime their rights in a proper way. By considering the importance of the students rights, the investigator felt that this study may helpful to identify the level of awareness on rights to information among the college students.

Scope of Study

The main scope of the study is to identify the awareness about prohibition of child labour high school students.

After collecting the information from High School students the investigator concluded that high school having maximum level of prohibition of child labours awareness. If we want to improve the level of child labour awareness must organize some of the programmes regarding child labour.

The present study also inculcates some of the knowledge regarding prohibition of child labour – high school students at rural area and urban area. Therefore the present study is also useful one for prohibition knowing the child labour related to their academic activities.

Statement of the Problem

Nowadays be awareness about prohibition of child labours among high school students. The investigator felt that the study may be useful one. To make the students aware of the rights to information the research topic for the present study is selected.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF THE KEY TERMS

1. Awareness

The state of being aware or conscious. It means study students make awareness of their child labour among the high school level.

2. Rights

A thing one may legally and morally claim.

3. Child labour

Child labour means 6-14 years children a practiced work.

4. *School students*

Students who are studying their prohibition of child labour among high school level completing higher secondary level.

5. *Rural and Urban*

Happening in or related to the countryside not the city.

6. *Why is Education Important?*

Education is important because it teaches you about the many facets of the human condition. Sure, your parents will tell you that education is needed to get awareness about prohibition of child labour among the high school level students.

CONCLUSION

Despite the laws and measures dealing with child labour, the stark reality is that in our country like many others, children are exploited, it is a big problem and has remained untraceable, even after about 50 years of our having become independent. It would be more appropriate to deal with the issue in wider appropriate to deal with the issue in wider spectrum and broader perspective, development schemes must be evolved and implemented specially for the parents of child labour with a view to make the families economically sound and in turn it will pave the way to withdrawing of children from hazardous occupations.

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