

## **SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDY OF CHILD LABOUR IN WANI TAHSIL**

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***Abstract:** The problem of child labour is one of the most vibrant and evident issues of Indian society. It is known as a method of exploitation. It is a very serious and dangerous problem in developing countries like India. The alarming growth of child labour, particularly in the developing countries like India, has attracted the attention of India Government as well as national and International social-Organization. A large number of child labours have been exploited by their masters, and compelled to work for long hours on low wages under damaging conditions to their health and to their physical, social, psychological and mental development. The Government of India has continuously ignored the exploitation of child labour. So the force of child labour is increasing fustily. Most of reasons are related with poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, population explosion.*

***Key Words:** Child Labour, unemployment, industrialization, poverty, population etc.*

### **Introduction :**

The problem of child labour is one of the most vibrant issues of Indian society. It is known as a method of exploitation. It was necessitated by the economic compulsion of their parents due to their low social status.. Child labour is nowadays becoming a global problem. It is a very serious and dangerous problem in developing countries like India. According to 2011 census the total population of India is 130 corers and in India 40% of population are children, out of these 25% are engaged as child labours. Poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, social customs, population explosion, and low income of parents are major reasons of the growing force of child labour. The standard of living of the people in India is not increasing. Therefore the child labour problem is every growing. It has become a problem in recent time all over the world. The alarming growth of child labour, particularly in the developing countries like India, has attracted the attention of India Government as well as national and International social-Organization.

Child labour has been in existence in India in all ages. Most of the children all over the country are working in servitude and under dangerous conditions. A large number of child labours have been exploited by their masters, and compelled to work for long hours on low wages under damaging conditions to their health and to their physical, social, psychological and mental development.



Child labour problem was in India because before the industrialization children were engaged in work in agriculture, trade occupations and cottage industries. But at that time it was part of their trading process just like children who helped their parents in agriculture sector liking keeping watch on the crops and cattle.

But after Industrialization it brought in fundamental changes in the production methods. Mechanization started after the industrialization. It compelled the urbanization and resulted in unemployment and poverty in rural area among the affected poor families in the country including the children. Child labour was available at cheaper wages and found easily. Therefore the profit motivated businessmen naturally preferred cheap labours. These things began the process of strike, disturbed the production protest, and were beyond the power of children.

The Government of India has continuously ignored the exploitation of child labour. So the force of child labour is increasing fustily. Most of reasons are related with poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, population explosion. But unless the poverty is eradicated child worker will also persist because eradication of poverty is one of panacea to eliminate the child labour force. Most of the children come from backward communities like SC & ST and minorities. The social customs also induce to parents to send their children to work rather than to school.

## **Research Methodology**

Social research work is a systematic method of investigation. It aim is to find out the solution of human problems. Research methodology adopted systematic procedure in conduction research, the primary goal of research is to explore and gain an understanding to human behavior. In this research the researcher wanted to concentrate on the economic and social problem of child labour and make exploratory study on their backgrounds.

## **Importance of the study**

We know that the children are the important of the society. They have been exploited in various ways, in different places by the other section of the society. Children are unknown of their right. They are being neglected by the society. They have been neglected as human beings. Therefore I wanted to study and bring out various problems of children and to find out their difficulties and its causes. It is a better to study this problem and bring this issue in front of the society.

## **Scope of the study-**

The scope of the study is restricted to Wani Tahsil. It is one of the oldest cities in Yavatmal district in Maharashtra. It is over about 91,802.39 K.M. in area. Its population is near about 2, 38,786 distributed in 135 village. It is included more than 100,000 populations belonging to all backward classes. This population depends mostly on various sectors such as agriculture, small scale industries and small business. Most of the parents send their children to work rather than to school. So the child workers are found in various places.



## **Objective of the study-**

There are two main objectives of the study. First is general objective while the second is specific objective to find out causes of increasing percentage of child labour in Wani Tahsil. The aim of the study is to know the relation between education and child labour, educational background, family condition, purpose of their work and find out the problem they face.

## **Data Collection-**

A sample size of 100 respondents from each zone of city and four circle of Wani Tahsil has been taken. The most appropriate way of data collection was found to be interview schedule and observation. The researcher was personally involved in collecting data. The secondary data was collected from the various government agencies. Interview schedule was prepared which contained all sorts of question on the basis of the objectives regarding the personal information of child workers and their family.

## **Meaning of Child Labour**

The concept of Child Labour is different in different society. The child worker refers to occasional light work done by children. Most of the children are helping their parents at home and family farms. Children learn to take responsibility and learn creation skills and prepare themselves. But a child labour is exploited by his/her master and compelled to work for long hours on low wages.

According to constitution of India “No child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory or mines or engaged in any other hazardous employment”.

According to the child labor Act-1986-child as a person who has not completed his 14 years of his age is consider as child; and therefore they are not matured to work in their situation. All parents want their children to grow into good and responsible citizen but many problems are to be faced by poor parents such as poverty, social customs, illiterate etc. Therefore the parents choose to send their children to work.

Above 80% child are working in rural area and work in primary sector of the economy; and near about 90% child work force is employed in agriculture and other related sectors in rural area. They are engaged in various activities like sowing, fishing, water fuel, grazing cattle etc. some children work for their family with other family members. Some children work as bonded labour.

Most of the child labour is found in the urban area. Above one third labours are children of urban workers. In urban areas children work in small factories, hotels, shops, restaurants, petrol pumps, garages and other small business as well as some child labour is employed in illegal activities like illegal selling, prostitution, smuggling, wine and drugs and anti-social activities. Some child labours are found in many dangerous industries.



From this survey it is found that most of the children do not go to school. They want to earn some income and help their family. Some parents also think that education is not necessary for their children. This is found not only in the poor families but also even in middle class families too. This is their mentality so the percentage of school dropout is growing fast. Therefore every child and every parent in country need to change their mentality. The social security and love is essential to convince the people about importance of education. If child is to grow into a perfect human being then these factors are very important especially in the early childhood stages.

But these factors are not found in most of the families. So the parents fail to offer proper education, love and security to their children. As a result these children are affected by psychological and emotional problems.

Family is an integral part of the social relationship in the individual's pattern of life. Some parents fulfil the necessary needs. But some parents fail to provide these needs to encourage their children. So many bad effects come upon the child dangerous to us and our nation. That make them handicap even if they are physically strong. According to this research the causes of child labour are many and inter-related. Most of the families are poor and living below poverty line. Their income is very low. Therefore it is observed that the children are compelled to work poverty, unemployment are the major causes of child labour not only in the city but also in the country.

We know from various books and from the society that thousands of children are facing various dangerous problems and are exploited by their masters. Some of the young children of school going age in India are found working for long hours on low wages in various fields. They do different work such as mopping floors, cleaning house, washing clothes etc. And at the same time they are exploited by their maters.

From this survey it is found that following factors are responsible to compel the children to do various types of jobs---

1. Poverty.
2. Unemployment.
3. Inequitable distribution of land & assets.
4. Inadequate income.
5. Social and cultural factors

In order to arrive at a certain conclusion, data is very much essential. Once the data was collected, the researcher has to order them in a specific manner. Secondly researcher has analyzed and interpreted the data to from an assumed conclusion or hypothesis. The analysis of data involves a number of closely related operations. Such as a classification of data coding, tabulating and statistical analysis is in which the data is organized in the light of research problem. The interpretation of data means the process in which research finding and conclusions are brought to a specific border meaning by editing them in the light of available knowledge or established theories and principals. In other words, interpretation of data reveals the abstract in to concert and simple which can be understood by all kinds of people. The researcher has interpreted every aspect by giving due importance to the fundamental questions of the research.



The places where child worker were found are :

1. 45% child workers were found from agriculture. 32% of the respondents were in cultivators. 7% were in livestock, forestry, and other 2% in mining. 6% child worker found in processing, servicing and repairs, 1% from transport storage and communications. And 3% child worker found in other services.
2. The Religion of child worker of the respondents are Hindu 70% and 7% are Muslim, 22% are Buddhist ,and 15 Christians out of the 100 respondents. It is clear that the child workers are found from each and every religion.
3. The age and education of the respondents are : 49% of the respondents are in the age group 6-9, 90% of the respondents are below 12 years. More than half the number of respondents is illiterate and 35% respondents have primary education. Out of 6% has studied up to upper primary level.

The present education Status of child workers are: 19% respondents are illiterate 43% are in primary school out of the 100 respondents 23% under upper primary school and 15% respondents are dropouts.

Nature of occupation and the regularity of income in the families: The data must be clear that the majority of the child worker family have no regular income. Due to lack of family income they are driven to the work.

The reason for working in various fields-The data shows that majority of the child workers are working in various fields because they want to earn some money to meet their basis needs.

Time spent in working on the field: More than half numbers of respondents are on the working place less than three hours per day. This means that they have enough time for study and other development activities

### **Major Findings and Conclusion:**

From the study it is discovered that the children who roam around belong to the entire group. But majority of children belong to Hindu religion (66%) and other Muslim, Buddhism and Christian. The majority of child workers were illiterate. Their percentage was 59 where as 35 of them have completed their primary education. It is also found that most of the children are form Wani city. They stayed away from their own family. From the study it is found that the children were occupied with different works. 68% of the children spent time less than 5 hours and 32% of them spent whole day at the working place. These children were working because of the parents expected money from them by which family could be supported financially.

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