

Minor Research Project

ON

**AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF SOCIO- LEGAL PROBLEMS OF
CHILD LABOUR WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE SATARA AND
KARAD CITY IN MAHARASHTRA**

Under the Faculty of Law

SUBMITTED BY

Mr. Kamble Chandrakant Namdeo

Assistant Professor,

RAYAT SHIKSHAN SANSTHA'S

Ismailsaheb Mulla Law College, Satara(M.S.)

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Executive Summary

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Principal Investigator

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Executive Summary

Childhood is a universal human experience. It inherits human right by his birth which is to be protected by a civilized society not as if a burden but future investment. The welfare of the entire community, its growth and development, depends on the health and well being of children. That is the children are the assets of the nation. So they should be cared, worried, sheltered, protected, maintained, preached and what not?

Moreover every child has the right to receive the best that the society can offer. But unfortunately large population of children is deprived of their basic rights and is found suffering in different sectors of society.

There is a growing realization in every part of the world that children must be brought up in an atmosphere of love and affection and under the tender care and attention of parents. So that they may be able to attain full emotional, intellectual and spiritual stability and maturity and acquire self confidence and self respect and a balanced view of life with full appreciation and realization of the role which they have to play in the nation building process without which the nation cannot develop and attain real prosperity. In this regards the efforts have been made to minimize or eradicate the problem on national and international level. The legislative and administrative bodies made the rules and regulation for the same.

Despite those efforts the latest estimates by the International Labor Origination observed 250 million children working between the age group of 5 to 17 years, which endangers his/her physical mental and moral well being. India is the largest example of a nation plagued by the problem of child labour. Estimates cite figures between 13.6 to 14 million children working in India, the highest number in the world (Human Rights Watch 1996, 122)

So I involved over reviewing the historical background by reading the literature on child labour and I felt to see what actual scenario in city of Satara. Therefore I need to undertake a search to fulfill all those above so as to possible to try to protect their natural and human right.

First of all I have gone through the literature available on child labour at national and international stratum. I came to know that various law, enactments, legislations, agreements; covenants are available imposing ban and restrictions on government, employers as well as parents too. It is concluded that, there is no uniform definition of child labour in the existing literature.

The present study is conducted in Satara and Karad city of Maharashtra state. Hence it is limited to child labour problems within the boundaries of Satara and Karad city. The respondents were selected randomly by applying simple random sampling method. Questioner, Interview and observation techniques have been used for collection of data. A questioner sheet was given to selected respondents i.e. persons directly related to child labour are the parents, employers, and governmental and nongovernmental organizations. The responses gathered in the form of data and analyzed.

The inferences came out from the analysis are the majority of the employers and organizers don't know their legal counterpart. They are easily ignoring the same. Accordingly they are employing the child labors at their employment. Moreover they are employing the children as they chief and peaceful labour force. It means that there is minimum application of the existing laws and legislation on child labour. It means that in satara and Karad city child labour is not eradicated. The child laboures who were found working in very worst conditions, losing their human rights.

The main reasons came out from the analysis with respect to the parent is the extreme poverty, illiteracy, unemployment of parent, lack of effective education, and victims advance of loan from the employer. Sometimes they are helpless themselves to avoid child labour due to poverty. Other reasons found that the poor school administration and their curriculum.

Due to these reasons child labour has been remaining and affecting on the education, health, fun activities including the human rights of children.

Nevertheless the majority of the child laboures observed that they belongs to the SC and ST category of Hindu religion

As poverty is the root cause of child labor, so at first stage to eradicate the child labor poverty should be eradicated. It needs to cover these children and their families under various poverty alleviation and employment assurance schemes of the Government. There should be a separate organization for investigation, rehabilitation and funding, education, health, supervisory system; disposal machinery. It also requires hard and stringent penal provisions to the defaulter.

Kamble Chandrakant Namdeo

Principal Invigilator