Children are the base pillars of a civilized society. They are the important assets of any nation and their welfare is an index of the prosperity of a nation. Therefore, these children should be protected from any kind of exploitation. As the children are the future of the nation, proper facilities must be provided to them, so that they can develop themselves into good citizens. Having examined different child labour legislations and the role of the judiciary in protecting the rights of the children, an attempt is made in this chapter to sum up the findings of preceding chapters. On the basis of the findings, some suggestions have also been made.

The nature and importance of the study have been discussed in Chapter I. Children are the hope of the parents and future of the nation. The growth of the child into a mature and happy person with fully developed personality largely depends upon the support and attention he receives from the society. If the child does not get proper education, diet and other facilities, his very development into a self-sustaining human being is dwarfed. Though the children need special care, in actual practice, most of them do not get this and a large majority of children have to work as labourers.

For the existence of human beings, labour is essential. Without labour production is inconceivable. It is the principal creator of all the wealth possessed by the human society. Through labour only an individual can collect the essential things which are required in his day-to-day life or he can earn money through which he can
collect the necessary things. It is considered to be the duty of the parents to work and earn money, so that they can look after their children. But in actual practice, it is seen that some parents send their children to work to supplement the family income, when the income from the main bread earner is inadequate to meet the needs of the family or when the bread earner is ill or has died and the earning of the child may be the only source of income for the survival of the family. Sometimes, the parents send their children to work as they feel that rather than education, a craft or skill learnt at young age will be more helpful to acquire gainful employment when they will grow old. These children, who have to work as labourers from their early age, are deprived of their basic rights of learning, playing and leisure and very often they become the victim of the exploitation of their employers. In this way, the problem of child labour arises. It can be said that child labour is any work, either paid or unpaid, that threatens the health and mental development of the child by denying him or her rights.

Children were engaged in work in ancient times also, but it did not emerge as a social problem at that time. During that period, children co-operated with their senior members in their works. They learnt the skills of works unconsciously by observation, association and imitation. So, it was considered to be a part of the process of socialization.

Child labour may be looked from two different angles. First, as an economic practice and second, as a social evil. Both of these are co-related and equally harmful and disastrous for the child.
Children are engaged in different types of works. In rural areas, children work in agricultural and related activities. In urban areas, children are employed in restaurants, dhabas, tea-stalls and repair shops. They have to work as coolies, shoeshine boys, casual labourers and hawkers. They are also exploited in carpet making, beedi, match, firework, metal polishing, glass and bangle industries.

Child labour is both the cause and the consequence of adult unemployment and under-employment. As the child labour can be paid less money and it is easier to control them, so the employers prefer child labour to adult labour. Employment of children reduces the volume of employment for adults and it lowers their bargaining power. On the other hand, because of the unemployment of the adult members of the family, the family does not have any other alternative but to send the children to the workplace to meet the both ends.

As the informal and unorganized sectors are mostly unregulated by laws, so it is not easy to estimate the magnitude of the child labour in India precisely. According to the Census Reports, the number of working children was 10.75 million in 1971, 13.64 million in 1981 and 11.28 million in 1991. Though there has been a fall in the number of child labour during 1981-1991, but total number of child labour is still very large. Moreover, the child labour employed in informal sectors remain outside these census figures. So, the total number of child labour will be much higher, if it is correctly computed.

It is the duty of the State to take appropriate action for the protection of children of tender years as they are made to work for excessive long hours for a few rupees a day at the expense of their childhood. Employment of children continues
even today in spite of various legal provisions relating to the age limit in some industries. The state should protect the rights of children by proper legislative and other means. The protective arm of the law has to be long and strong enough if distributive justice to the adults of tomorrow is to be secured.

The purpose of the study was, therefore, to examine various legal and constitutional provisions which are available for the protection of child labour and how far these have been able to protect the rights of the child labour. A critical study was also made on the role of the judiciary in safeguarding the rights of child labour.

The Second Chapter deals with the concept of child labour. There is no uniformity regarding the definition of the term ‘child’. In different Acts and Conventions the term ‘child’ has been defined on the basis of age. But these Acts and Conventions prescribe different ages between 12 years to 18 years up to which a person can be considered to be a child.

From a comparative study of different Acts, it can be understood that higher age limit has been fixed for those works which are serious in nature. On the other hand, in case of industries which are less serious in nature, the age limit is low. So, framers of different Acts might have fixed different ages for employment considering seriousness of the works and their effect on the bodies and minds of the children.

Different causes may be attributed for the emergence of child labour. Among them mention may be made about poverty, lack of education, migration, gender discrimination and failure of legislation. Out of these causes, poverty may be identified as the root cause. The poor families, having no other alternative, engage their children in work, so that they may contribute to the income of the family. There
are some other factors also. A large percentage of children start working because of being orphaned, dejected by parents or because of broken families and other domestic problems. These factors contribute in the increase of the child labour.

These child labourers have to work under adverse conditions which affect their health and growth and development. Sometimes they come into contact with harmful substances like chemicals which damage the lungs or other organs of the body. The working children are more susceptible to infectious diseases also. Long hours of work often lead to accident especially when children work with poorly maintained and dangerous machineries. Because of their work they are deprived of getting education. Work environment inside the workshops, like excessive noise, hot, damp and dusty conditions also affect the health of children.

It is the duty of the society as well as the State to protect the children from these hazardous effects on their health and body.

Chapter III of the study analysed the child labour legislations in international sphere. Earlier children were considered as weak and dependant. So, their rights of protection, prevention and provision were only recognized. But later the participatory rights of the child which include freedom of association, expression and religion were also recognized.

Child labour is prevalent all over the world. The international organizations therefore, have shown their concern towards this problem. At international level in 1924, for the first time in Geneva Declaration, made under the auspices of the League of Nations, concern for children was expressed. It is significant that 24 years before
the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, concern for the protection of the rights of children was expressed in Geneva Declaration.


The International Conventions and Declarations play an important role in improving the conditions of the children of the world. These Conventions and Declarations may develop a feeling of consciousness among the people and the nations. It becomes an obligation of the parties to abide by the provisions and to incorporate those in their domestic laws. Moreover, different developmental activities
are undertaken under the aegis of some international organizations like International Labour Organisation and United Nations International Children's Fund.

Activities of the international organizations have their influence in India also. Different Acts have been passed in India to implement the provisions of various international Conventions. For example, to implement the Convention No.5 of 1919 of the International Labour Organisation, the Factories Act was amended in 1922. By this Act the minimum age limit was increased to 15 years. In 1937, International Labour Organisation adopted a special Convention in its 23rd Session, which inserted a special Article for India. The Employment of Children Act, 1938 was passed to implement the Convention.

As a result of the Convention of the international Labour Organisation relating to night work of young persons, the Employment of Children Act was amended in 1951. This amendment prohibited the employment of children between 15 and 17 years at night in railways and ports and also provided for requirement of register of children less than 17 years.

The United Nations' International Year of the Child, 1979 focussed public attention on children. In India also, various initiatives were undertaken at that time. Among those, mention may be made about the Committee appointed by the Ministry of Labour, to report on child labour in the country. The Committee, headed by M.S. Gurupadaswamy, in its report, stressed on the need for a single consolidating modal law on child labour. The Committee felt that the basis for the model law could be the existing Employment of Children Act, 1938. With the Gurupadaswamy Report and
Article 24 as a basis, a new Bill was prepared and in 1986 the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act was passed.

Chapter IV of the study deals with child labour legislations in India. The problem of child labour has become a major problem of present days. It has become a matter of serious concern of the whole world. To tackle this problem, both social consciousness and governmental control are equally important. If the people were conscious, then they would not have sent their children to the workplace or would have prevented others also from sending their children to work. The exploitation done on the children can also be stopped by them by compelling the erring employers to stop the employment of children in their factories and to make congenial atmosphere of work by abiding by the rules. Generally, such consciousness is not present among the people for which the problem has become so serious. Therefore, governmental control is essential. It is necessary that the government should make stringent laws for preventing the child labour being employed.

In India, the process of making legislations stated during the British rule. In 1875, the Bombay Government appointed a Committee. After much deliberation, the first Act was passed in 1881. In that year, the Factories Act was passed. After this, some other important Acts were also passed during the British rule.

Realising that children need special protection, the framers of the Constitution of India kept special provisions for children in Part III and Part IV some of these provisions were explicit which were completely made for children. Some other provisions are implicit which are general in nature but these are equally important for the welfare of children.
After independence and merger of princely states, the laws of British India were revised to apply in the whole of the Republic of India. New laws were also enacted. Among these laws, the most important one is the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, which was passed as per the Report of Gurupadaswamy Committee, which recommended for a single consolidated model law on child labour.

These laws were enacted to prohibit the employment of child labour in certain establishments and to regulate the conduct of the employers of the child workers. Various rules have been prescribed in these laws which are to be followed by the employers if the child workers are employed by him. But it is seen that these laws have failed to achieve the desired results.

One of the reasons for lack of effectiveness of the laws is the inadequate enforcement mechanism. The role of enforcement mechanisms in the implementation of the child labour laws has been discussed at length in Chapter- V. Though different laws have been made, making of these laws is not sufficient unless and until these are properly implemented. In this respect, the enforcement mechanisms can play a significant role. It may keep a strict vigil on the proper implementation of child labour laws.

The study has revealed that the three organs of government, that is, executive, legislature and judiciary which are armed with constitutional powers may play a significant role in the enforcement of law. Though the judiciary has made significant contribution in this regard, the role of the executive and legislature in the enforcement of the laws is not satisfactory. It is the duty of the executive to execute the law. Laws may have some drawbacks. But in spite of that, if these are executed properly, then
also these may improve the conditions of the child labour to a considerable extent. Due to the lack of proper implementation, the child labourers cannot enjoy the benefit of the laws nor has the state succeeded in reducing child labour and consequent exploitation to the desired extent. If any defect can be identified at the implementation stage, then legislature should take immediate step to amend the law.

To monitor the working of the factories there must be sufficient number of efficient inspecting staff. It has been observed that because of non-availability of required number of inspectors, it is not possible to identify the erring employers and punish them. But it seems that proper attention has not been given in this regard. This is evident from the fact that child labourers have been being employed till now and they are badly exploited by their employers.

The duty of the legislature also, does not complete after the making of the laws. It should also be conscious about the implementation of these laws. If any defect can be identified at the implementation stage, legislature should take immediate step to amend the law. The members of the legislature should seek clarification from the executive by asking questions and they should exert pressure on the executive, if they think that the laws have not been properly executed.

In the enforcement of child labour legislations, international organisations like International Labour Organisation and United Nations International Children’s Fund and trade unions, non-governmental organisations, media and research institutions also can play significant roles.

Trade Unions and media can make people aware about the evil impact of child labour. Media can ventilate the grievances of child labour through mediums like
radio, television and newspaper. It can draw attention of the people and concerned authorities regarding the exploitation of child labour and violation of the labour laws by the employers. It can also mobilize public opinion against the problem.

Researchers along with media and non-governmental organisations may help the policy makers and governmental departments by making investigations on how far the laws have been successful, how far these have been followed by the employers, how far the authorities have taken action against the employers who violate the labour laws and whether the laws have been able to improve the conditions of child labour or not. Trade Unions and non-governmental organizations can compel the employers to abide by the laws through democratic means. Studies undertaken by research institutions, commissions and committees appointed by the government and international organizations like International Labour Organisation and United Nations International Children’s Fund also help to know about different aspects of child labour.

It has been observed that the enforcement mechanisms have not been able to perform their functions to the desired extent. Proper co-ordination among the mechanisms is necessary so that they can function in a systematic way. Complicacy relating to the prosecution of the employers should also be removed.

In Chapter VI of the study, role of the judiciary in protecting the rights of child labour has been discussed and analysed. Though different statutory and constitutional measures are there for children, these have not been properly implemented for which child labourers have not been able to get adequate benefit from these laws. The Court has shown sufficient interest in protecting the rights of the
child labour. It has made some concrete efforts to safeguard the child labourers against the exploitative tendencies of their employers by regularizing their wages, improving their working conditions and laying rules to provide facilities for their physical and mental development. It has been successful to a sufficient extent in interpreting and applying the law so as to promote the cause of justice and meeting the hopes and aspirations of the children as per the mandates of the Constitution.

Judiciary in different cases gave directions and orders to the specific employers relating to the subject matter of the particular case. Apart from this, the judiciary has taken some other important steps for the improvement of the conditions of child labour.

The most significant work done by the Supreme Court is the introduction of the extra-ordinary jurisdiction of public interest litigation in S.P. Gupta vs. Union of India.\(^1\) Considering that children cannot litigate for themselves because of their tender age, the Court has also relaxed the concept of *locus standi*, so that their grievances may be properly ventilated through the Court.

In *People’s Union for Democratic Rights vs. Union of India*,\(^2\) the Supreme Court entertained a letter, sent by post as public interest litigation. In *Sheela Barse vs. Secretary, Children’s Aid Society and others*,\(^3\) the letter of the appellant of August 22, 1984, was treated as writ petition by the High Court. In *Labourers Working on Salal Hydro Project vs. State of Jammu & Kashmir and others* \(^4\) also, a letter of People’s Union for Democratic Rights addressed to Mr. Justice D.A. Desai enclosing a copy of a news report published in the *Indian Express*, dated August 26, 1982 relating to the employment of a large number of migrant workers including some minors working on
Salal Hydroelectric Project in difficult conditions. In District Beedi Workers’ Union vs. State of Tamil Nadu and others, also, a letter petition received from the District Beedi Workers’ Union of Tirunelveli in the state of Tamil Nadu was treated as an application under Article 32 of the Constitution.

In this way, the Court has relaxed the concept of *locus standi* to the extent that in *M.C. Mehta vs. State of Tamil Nadu and others* (1996), the Supreme Court took *suo motu* cognizance of a news paper report.

Apart from these, the Court has interpreted some provisions relating to children in different laws of India also. In this respect, mention may be made of *Walker T. Ltd. vs. Martindale* and *M/S P.M. Patel and sons vs. Union of India*. In the former case, the Court held that the prohibition laid down in Section 67 of the Factories Act, 1948 that no child who has not completed the age of 14 years can be allowed to work in any factory is absolute and not restricted to employment in any one of the manufacturing processes. In the latter case, the Court opined that the term “employee” includes not only the persons employed in connection with the task of rolling of beedis in the factory, but the home workers also, engaged in rolling beedis.

The Supreme Court has declared some occupations as hazardous in nature. In *People’s Union for Democratic Rights vs. Union of India and others* case, it opined that every state government must amend the schedule of the Employment of Children Act, 1938, so as to include construction industry. In *District Beedi Workers Union vs. State of Tamil Nadu and others*, the Supreme Court opined that beedi manufacturing is also hazardous. In *M.C. Mehta vs. State of Tamil Nadu and others*
It was held by the court that the manufacturing process of matches and fireworks is hazardous.

It is also significant that, even before the right to education has been made a fundamental right by the 86th Amendment of the Constitution, the Supreme Court declared it to be a fundamental right by judicial interpretation. In Anand Vardhan Chandel vs. University of Delhi,1 Murli Krishna Public School case,13 Mohini Jain vs. State of Karnataka14 and Unnikrishnan vs. State of Andhra Pradesh15 cases the Supreme Court declared it as a fundamental right.

On the other hand, in M.C. Mehta vs. State of Tamil Nadu(1991),16 the Court observed that free and compulsory education guaranteed by Article 45 of the Constitution has still remained a far cry and though according to this provision all children up to the age of 14 years are supposed to be in school, economic necessity forces the grown up children to seek employment. In Labourers Working on Salal Hydro Project Case17 also, the Court observed that so long as there is poverty and destitution in this country, it would be difficult to eradicate child labour. But even so, an attempt is to be made to reduce, because it is absolutely essential that a child should be able to receive proper education with a view to equipping himself or herself to become a useful member of the society and to play a constructive role in the socio-economic development of the country.

The Supreme Court has stressed on the need of insurance for the children in view of the health hazard involved in the manufacturing process. In District Beedi Workers Union vs. State of Tamil Nadu18 and others, it directed that every worker including children, if employed should be insured for a minimum amount of fifty
thousand rupees and the premium should be paid by the employer. In M.C. Mehta vs. State of Tamil Nadu also, the Court opined that compulsory insurance scheme should be provided for both adults and child employers taking into consideration the hazardous nature of employment.

Judiciary, in different cases, not only gave directions or orders to the specific employer relating to the subject matter of the particular case, but also gave general directions and valuable comments regarding what measures can be taken up for the protection of children and their welfare.

In M.C. Mehta vs. State of Tamil Nadu (1996) the Supreme Court opined that child labour had become an all India evil, though its acuteness differed from area to area. So, without a concerted effort of both the central government and various state governments, it would not be possible to eradicate the problem completely.

In Dattatreya Moti Ram vs. State of Bombay, the Court held that the state could discriminate in favour of women and children against men. The state could not discriminate in favour of men against women and children.

It is expected that while delivering the judgements, the courts should take utmost caution as every word of the court is treated with regard. A decision of the court is applicable not only on the parties, but in subsequent cases, it is followed as precedent. But in certain cases, some comments of the courts definitely have adverse affects on the child labour. These also have created some bad precedents. For example, though Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits the employment of children in manufacturing of matches, in M. C. Mehta vs. State of Tamil Nadu and Others (1991) the Court held that the children can be engaged in
packing, if packing is done in an area away from the place of manufacture. In District Beedi Workers Union Case, the Court instead of prohibiting child labour in tobacco manufacturing process, held that it should be prohibited as far as possible. Again, the Court left the responsibility on the state government to decide whether contract labour be employed or not.

This type of decisions affect the rights of child labour, demoralise the activists, who work for the welfare of children and the image of the judiciary also has to suffer a set back.

Considering its responsibility towards the society, judiciary should be more conscious regarding its role. Then definitely it will be able to perform its entrusted tasks in a better way.

From the study it is seen that child labour has been present in India from ancient time, but it did not emerge as a problem at that time. Therefore, people did not think about the need of control of child labour. But when the employers began to employ child labour in a large scale and the rights of these child labour were grossly violated by the employers, then people also began to show concern and people as well as government and international organisations felt the need of tackling the problem.

From the investigation it has been found that:

1. Poverty is the main cause for the problem of child labour. Along with this, illiteracy also contributes in the increase of the number of child labour.

2. Laws have not been properly implemented for which the child labourers have not been able to enjoy the benefits of these laws.
3. There are some defects in the laws passed for the welfare of child labour. Some of these laws are very lenient.

4. Role of government as well as non-governmental organisations in dealing with the problem of child labour is not satisfactory.

5. Sufficient attention has not been paid to enforcement mechanisms.

6. People are not conscious about the problem of child labour. They can play an important role in the proper implementation of the laws.

7. The judiciary has helped to a great extent in solving the problem of child labour. It gives necessary directions or imposes penalty to the erring employers, interprets different laws, gives general directions and comments relating to the measures to be taken up for the protection and welfare of the children.

As multiplicity of factors are responsible for the problem of child labour, multi pronged action is essential. Only then the problem can be completely be wiped out from the society. Government should also realise the gravity of the situation and take fruitful measures for solution.

**SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Child labour is a complex socio-economic demographic phenomenon which can be reduced and eliminated by multiplicity of actions, both by government and public at social and individual levels. When children are engaged in work by their parents and other family members for learning the skill of work as a part of socialisation, then the problem is not very serious in the sense that even though these
children may also be deprived of getting education, the possibility of exploitation of these children is not there. It becomes a matter of concern and emerges as a social problem where the process takes place through the exploitative mechanism which consumes more energies than the child possesses and the work is done under great physical and mental strain there is a need to take progressive measures for regulating and humanizing child work until it is completely eliminated. For this purpose, some protection can be provided to the child against conditions that hamper their physical and mental development and deny them educational and better job opportunities. These measures include the adoption and enforcement of protective labour laws and improvement in the working conditions under better welfare facilities.

Having identified the loopholes and drawbacks, the investigator feels that certain remedial measures are to be undertaken. These should include both short term and long term measures.

The aim of long term measures should be to eliminate child labour completely. The long term measures which are to be undertaken are discussed below:

1. Poverty is the main cause of child labour, therefore, eradication of poverty is necessary to solve the problem. Children are a source of additional labour power and income to their poverty stricken families. Therefore, when the employment opportunities are generated for the adults and they are rewarded more fairly to raise their standard of living, children will no longer be required to work in the drudgery conditions.

2. The Constitutional obligation of providing free and compulsory education to all children up to the age of fourteen years must be fulfilled without any further
delay. Total prohibition of child labour and provision of free, compulsory and universal primary education must be done simultaneously. So long as children continue to be at workplace, universal primary education will not be meaningful.

3. It is an accepted fact that one of the reasons for sending children to work is that of economic necessity. The income brought in by these children is essential for these families to survive. The government should provide for alternative source for economic generation within these affected families. In rural areas, better irrigation, credit and marketing facilities should be made available so that the rural people can get more out of their land.

4. The Enforcement mechanism must be geared up to ensure effective enforcement of the child labour laws and take effective steps to prosecute those who violate the laws. The number of inspectors should be increased, so that they can visit the factory premises frequently. They should be properly trained for making them more efficient. Their powers should be increased so that immediate action may be taken by them against the erring employers.

5. Provision should be made for regular health check-ups of the workers by government doctors. Such check-ups will help to identify any evil effect of the work on the child labour. It should be made compulsory for the employer to submit the fitness certificate to the labour department. On the other hand, in case of illness, it should be made the duty of the employer to take measures for his treatment.

6. Voluntary organizations can play an important role to eradicate the problem of child labour. Workshops and seminars should be held regularly for the members of non-governmental organisations and media, so that they can work systematically in a
concerted way. Proper co-ordination should be made for various organisations, who work for the benefit of child labour.

7. Stern legislations should be enacted to punish the employers violating the provisions of law designed for the welfare of the working children. Deterrent punishment should be prescribed.

8. Necessary provision should be made for a nation-wide machinery to function exclusively for child labour for the whole country. Provision should be made for the submission of an annual report in the parliament through the President of India. This will help the concerned authorities working for the welfare of the child labour and new legislations can be made and existing legislations can be amended on the basis of this Report.

9. There is a need to integrate all child labour laws together and create a comprehensive child labour code of India, so that the dream of eradication of child labour is accomplished on uniform basis throughout the length and breadth of our country.

In order to implement the measures suggested above, there will be the need of a lot of time. So, to improve their conditions for the time being, some short term measures may be taken which can be effected immediately to improve the working conditions of child labour and to reduce the intensity of child labour. These short term measures are-

1. There is a dire need to impart education to the child workers. As right to education has been made a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution of India and the Supreme Court has also stressed on the need of compulsory education
for children, government should take immediate step in this regard. Though child labourers cannot attend normal schools during the usual school hours, the only alternative is to provide them some opportunity of education at a time when they are free. There is a need to set up night schools for such children. Spread of education amongst the child workers will make them right conscious and enable them to realize the benefits which they can reap under various labour welfare legislations.

2. The central government should direct the state governments to bring the wages of child labour at par with those of adults in pursuance of its policy of gradual elimination of child labour. Implementation of the Minimum Wages Act also needs a lot of attention and the state governments should take action to ensure better compliance of the Minimum Wages Act. Mere passing of the laws is not enough unless concrete efforts are taken by the states to give effect to these legislations.

3. The scope of Child Labour (prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 should be extended with a view to covering factories of all types where any type of processing is carried on by the owner with the help of children. Efforts must also be made to extend the scope of the Act to even unorganised sectors, such as tea stalls, sweet shops and dhabas where children are being employed on a large scale.

4. It is important to make children aware of their rights and what remedy is available to them if these rights are violated. This can be done with the help of radio, television and educational institutions. If children become conscious, they will be able to raise their voice, if their rights are violated.
5. It has been seen that the health of working children is not good because of the long hours of work in unhealthy conditions. These children need special attention. Regular medical check-ups must be done at all worksites.

6. The food which a working child eats has no nutritional value. As they come from poor families, they do not get sufficient food. A supplementary daily meal, therefore, should be provided at their worksite. It may be made compulsory for the employers of the children below the age of 18 years to provide free meal to the children employed by them.

7. Statutory provisions should be made for the employers of the child workers to provide compulsory insurance scheme for them taking into account the nature of their employment. It may be ensured that every child labourer is insured for at least at Rupees 50,000.00.

8. The owners of unorganised sector should be directed to maintain a register of employment dealing with the names of all child labourers, their wages and other facilities relating to their working conditions. They must be put under legal obligation to furnish this detail to the child welfare department and it should be the duty of the department concerned to see how far the employers are carrying out the legislative requirements with regard to child labourers.

9. The employers should be required to pay minimum wage of every child, below which no child should be employed. The minimum age should be provided as directed by the Supreme Court in M.C. Mehta vs. State of Tamil Nadu.

10. There should be some sort of security for the serving child. Employer must be restrained from terminating the service of child arbitrarily.
11. Children’s Board may be constituted to study the nature and extent of child employment. There should be provision for sending monthly report to the state government by the board, where it should describe the working condition and the problems of child labour and suggest measures to improve the conditions of child labour and prevent them from exploitation.

It may be observed that some of the suggestions mentioned above are either being implemented or in the process of implementation, but these are at best patch work. The emphasis of the government should be on implementing existing schemes effectively fortifying with wide public participation and effective social control. Then only, the children who are the citizens of the future era and on whom the future of the country depends will be able to enjoy their rights and the dream of total eradication of child labour will come into reality.

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8. AIR 1987 SC 447.
9. Supra, Note 2.
10. Supra, Note 5.
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12. AIR 1978 Del 308.
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17. Supra, Note 4.
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