(Appendix-1)

**Different Indian/ International Laws for Children**

(a) Constitution of India (article 24)- 'child means anyone below the age of fourteen'

(b) The Vaccination Act, 1880- 'child means a person who have not attained the age of fourteen years in case of boys and eighteen years in case of girls'

(c) The Reformatory School Act, 1887- 'youth offender means any boy who has been convicted of any offence punishable with imprisonment for life or death and who at the time of such conviction, was under the age of fifteen years'.

(d) The Guardian and Wards Act, 1890, Section 4(1)- 'minor means a person who has not completed eighteen years of age'.

(e) The Children Marriage Restraint Act, 1929- 'age factor for determining child for the marriage is twenty one years in case of boys and eighteen years in case of girls'.

(f) The Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933- 'child means a person who is under the age of fifteen years and guardian includes any person having legal custody of or control over a child'.

(g) The Factories Act, 1948, Section 67- 'no child who has not completed his fifteen year shall be required or allowed to work in any factory'. Section 2(c)- 'child means a person who has not completed his fifteen years of age'.

(h) The Minimum Wage Act, 1948- 'child means a person who has not completed his fourteen years'.

(i) The Plantation Labour Act, 1951, Section 26- 'no child [* * * *] and no adolescent shall be required or allowed to work in any plantation unless, certificate of fitness granted to him under section 27 is in the custody of the employer or such child or adolescent carries with him while he is at work a token giving a reference to such certificate'. Section 2(c) - 'child means a person who has not completed his fifteen years of age'.

(j) The Merchant Shipping Act, 1951, Section 109- 'no person under fifteen years of age shall be engaged or carried to sea to work in any capacity in any ship(certain exceptions)'.

(k) The Mines Act, 1952, Section 45- 'It prohibits presence of person below the age of eighteen years of age in a mine.

(l) The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956- 'girl means a female who has not completed the age of twenty one years.

(m) The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, Section 2(c)- 'child means a person who has not completed eighteen years of age'.

(n) The Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956, Section 4(a)- 'minor as a person who has not completed the age of eighteen years'.

(o) The Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act, 1956. Section -2(c) 'young person means a person under the age of twenty years'.

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(p) The Children Act, 1960, Section 2(e)- 'child means a boy who has not attained the age of sixteen years or a girl who has not attained the age of eighteen years.

(q) The Orphanage and Charitable Homes (Supervision and Control) Act, 1960- 'child means a boy or girl who has not completed the age of eighteen years'.

(r) Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1960 defines the child as being 12 years of age. Section 376 of IPC which punishes the perpetrators of the crime of rape defines the age of consent to be 16 years of age. Section 82 and 83 of the IPC states that a child under the age of 7 years cannot be guilty of an offence because he is a doli incapax (incapable of understanding the nature, quality and consequences of the act) and further a child less than 12 years is not considered to have attained sufficient maturity to have an understanding of the nature of the act and the consequences of his conduct.

(s) The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, Section 21- 'no child shall be required or allowed to work in any capacity in any motor transport undertaking'. Section 2(c)-'child means a person who has not completed his fifteenth year'.

(t) The Apprentices Act, 1961, Section 3(a)- 'a person shall not be qualified for being engaged as an apprentices to undergo apprenticeship training in any designated trade, unless he is not less than fourteen years of age and satisfies such standards of education and physical fitness as may be prescribed.

(u) The Atomic Energy Act, 1962- 'a person below the age of eighteen years of age'

(v) The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Condition of Employment) Act, 1966, Section 2(b) - 'child means a person who has not completed fourteen years of age'. Section 24-'no child shall be required or allowed to work in any industrial premises'.

(w) The Majority Act, 1974, - 'age of majority has been fixed at eighteen years'.

(x) The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, aims to protect children from forced or compulsory labour system.

(y) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, aim to protect children from production and trafficking of drugs.

(z) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, (act 61 of 1986) Section 2 (ii)- 'child means a person who has not completed his fourteen year of age'.Section 3-'no child shall be employed or permitted to work in any of the occupations set forth in part A of the schedule or in any workshop wherein any of the processes set forth in part B of the schedule is carried on'.

(aa) Convention on the Right of the Child, 1989 (article 1)-'child means anyone below the age of eighteen years'.


(cc) The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994, Section-2(bb)-'Embryo means a developing human organism after fertilization till the end of eight weeks (fifty-six days)'.

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(dd) The Person with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Right and Full Participation) Act, 1995, aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to reach and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels.

(ee) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, (act 56 of 2000), Section 2(k) - 'juvenile or child means a person who has not completed eighteen years of age'.

(ff) The Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Section 3(b) - 'child means any person below the age of eighteen years and includes any adopted, step or foster child'.


(hh) The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, Section 2(a) - 'a person, if male, has not completed twenty one years of age and if female, has not completed eighteen years of age'.

(ii) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, Section 2(c) - 'child means a male or female child of the age of six to fourteen years'.

(jj) The Shop and Commercial Establishment Act of different nomenclatures in various states prohibits employment of children.

(kk) Army Head Recruitment Regulation - 'age of recruitment in army ranges from sixteen to twenty five years. Person recruited at the age of sixteen years undergo basic military training for up to two and half years from the date of enrolment and on completing nineteen years of age, they are inducted into regular service'.

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