CHAPTER 7

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Chapter-7

Summary, Conclusion and Suggestions

Bad laws are the worst sorts of tyranny.

— Burke

7.1 SUMMARY

The problem of child labour is a global and widespread phenomenon. But the incidence of child labour in Asian countries is very high. Countries like India, Pakistan and Bangladesh have the world’s largest number of child labourers. According to the Report of International Labour Organization (ILO), child in our country contributes about 20 percent of our country’s Gross National Product (GNP). According to the Gurpada Swamy Report of 1979, chronic poverty is the most important factor for the prevalence and perpetuation of child labour. Nearly half of India’s population subsists below the poverty line. In this situation, the child since its very appearance in the world is endowed with an economic mission. Economic compulsions weigh so heavily on poor parents that they do not mind colluding with the child’s employer in violating the laws and placing the child under risks of inhuman employment situation. Poverty and child labour always beget each other.
Under the UN Convention, a child means every human being below the age of 18 years. Different laws have set varying age limits for the determination of what is a child. In conjunction with 'labour' ILO Convention No.138 places the general limit 15 years or under special national circumstances, 14 years (Francis C; 1996). According to Indian Constitution child is a person who has not completed his or her 15 years of age (Legislation of India: 1979). According to Family Law and Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929, child means a person who if a male has not completed 21 years of age and if a female has not completed 18 years of age. According to Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act 1986, child means a person who has completed his 14 years of age.

According to The World Bank Report 2007, the child labour and child economic activity is defined as all paid work and certain forms of unpaid work (e.g., unpaid work in own household enterprises).

Unorganised sector includes those labourers who are not able to organise themselves for their joint benefits due to ignorance, illiteracy, temporary pattern, leading to small and scattered organization. Government has adopted the bilateral policies for social development and welfare of labour of unorganised sector. These strategies included Minimum Labour Laws, 1948; Workers Benefit Act, 1923; Maternity Benefit Act, 1961; Bonded Labour Act (Abolition), 1976; Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970; Interstate Migrate Worker (Employment Regulation and Service Condition) Act, 1979; Building and Other Labour Manufacturing Act, 1966; etc.
As clear from table no. 1.1 (chapter 1) that the percentage of male child labour is greater than female in every census year, according to the census of India 2001, male percentage was 65.98, while the girls’ percentage was 34.02. Besides, in the census year 1996, 1991, 1981, 1971 and 1961 the percentage of boys was 65.85, 65.75, 66.65, 66.44, 73.39, 60.06 which is higher as compare to percentage of girls like 34.14, 34.25, 33.35, 33.56, 26.61 and 39.94 respectively.

Economic factors clearly have a role to play in decisions regarding child workforce entry in India and Chhattisgarh. Low household incomes are associated with high rates of both child income generation and housework. Many families rely on children’s income generating and expenditure reducing activities to survive in times of need. One of the basic reasons for economic contribution of child labour in India and Chhattisgarh is growing poverty. The table no. 1.9 indicates that only four districts of the state are having more than 21 thousand child labourers. According to the 1996 census, among the districts, Gwalior (3,969) has the less number of children as labour compared to Indore (3820), Jabalpur (7,093) and Raipur (6,971).

**Economics of unorganised sector and child labour**

The economics of unorganised sector are compelled to very often children to work due to economic benefit, which they bestow upon their parents or family members. Some think the children’s contribution in the family income is positive because the amount of money or the labour they contribute exceeds that which is spent on them. Thus, those who have few resources respond to adversity not by decreasing their family size but by increasing it. So, economic factors clearly have a role to play in decisions
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regarding child workforce to entry in various unorganised sectors (such as dhaba, tea stall, small restaurants, petrol pump or garage, home industry and household works) of Raipur city.

Social category, age group & sex of child labour

Social category of child labour has been divided into four types such as ST (Scheduled Tribe), SC (Scheduled Caste), OBC (Other Backward Castes) and Others (included General people and Muslims), which is given details as percentage in table no 3.1 and 3.2. The highest number [162 among 350; (46.29%)] of children belongs to labour market from ST community than OBC [94; (26.86%)] and 21.14% (74) of children belong from SC community and the percentage of others (general people and Muslims) is low 5.71% (20). This caste character is, however, found to take different shapes in different wards. Such as in I- Vivekanand Ashram the percentage of ST (44.29%) child labour is higher than SC (22.86%), OBC (17.14%) and Others (15.71%), in ward II and IV also have child labour highest in ST community and lowest in other people in all sample wards. But in ward III and V, the share of child labour was highest in OBC (51.43%) and (40%) respectively. The occupation of grandfather, father and son thus often changes, from generation to generation. Thus, children traditionally to engage in family occupation. This is the main reason for highest child labour in ST community than SC, OBC and Others.

The age group and sex of child labour is an important parameter for the decision of child schooling and child labour. As per my opinion the child (anyone girls or boys) who had not completed 14 years of age and going outside home to join any economic activity either paid or unpaid is known as
child labour. The male child labour is greater in number than female child labour. They work in the factories, workshops, restaurants, automobile garages, craft industry etc but in such places girls were under abnormal risk. In almost all areas of India, rural and urban, where children are employed, the percentage of girls in domestic services is higher than boys, girls are also often put to care of younger siblings, cooking, cleaning, fetching water, fodder and fuel. Table no. 3.3 shows the age group 6-9 years male percentage is 6.76 whereas 9.37 percent for females, between the age group 10-13 years it is found that 39.19% male and 48.44% female, in both the age group (6-9 & 10-13 yrs) girls percentage is higher than boys because in this age group girls were working with their parents as household work and in own workshops. Children mostly belong to labour market in the age of 14 years [174 (49.71%)] in selected area. Out of 350 sample child labour 27 (7.72%) belongs to labouring in the age group 6-9 years and these children are mostly found busy to serve tea, cold drinks, food materials in dhaba, tea stall and general shops. Poor parents tend to send their children to work to augment their income.

Type of family & marital status of child labour

Type of family is also responsible for child labour, as would be seen from table no. 3.5. Child labour living with their parents, the percentage of is 70.86, whereas 102 (29.14%) child labour living without parents and they stay with their relatives, friends, working place and some staying in platform / bus stop. Marital status of Child labour (under the age of 14 years) is given in table no. 3.7. Very less percent 3.71% (13) of children married in study area and rest 96.29% (337) un-married. Among married children,
mostly girls were married. According to Family Law and Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929, child means a person who if a male has not completed 21 years of age and a female who has not completed 18 years of age. Under this law, if a male child has been married before 21 years of his age and a female 18 years of her age is termed as illegal in Indian constitution. But these poor families had not followed this Law. Marriage in very younger age is harmful physically and mentally for both boys and girls. Another reason of early marriage in study area is large family size and low per capita income in these poor sections. Few parents have no solutions for their children except marriage.

**Education of child labour**

Education is the key, which opens the door to life, develops humanity and promotes national development. In India from 1995, the government launched the centrally sponsored National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, or Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme. It aims at enhancing the nutritional status of children and promoting enrolment, retention and attendance in elementary education by encouraging poor parents to admit and retain their children in school. It has also been effective of food assistance in promoting child (6-14 years) literacy in India as well as Raipur City of Chhattisgarh found by primary survey. Moreover, the programme has equally helped a positive attitude among parents with regard to girls’ education and their status in the family. 20.56% child labour out of 350 sample has illiterate and, had never been to schools. Child labours having completed primary education (Class I-V) in study area is higher [(59.14%); 207] than upper primary [(Class VI-VII); 15.7% (55)] and
secondary [(Class XI-X) 4.57% (16)] education. Several children in study area going to labour market after completing their schools. As such the education enhances from primary to upper primary, upper primary to secondary and the drop out ratio increases among them. Some of the children [(13%); 45] after completing their school were not free in tender age, an off hours and off day they engaged in part-time jobs as paid / unpaid domestic servants, helpers in tea stall, dhaba, small restaurant, garage and auto helper etc. These innocent children remain full time busy for work with their employer after schooling.

Though, it is certainly true that there are numerous other factors responsible for low level of literacy especially among child labour. (1) Lack of education and illiteracy among parents. In the sample area 73.71 percent parents of the child labour illiterate and among them are 86.41 percent mother and 59.64 percent father. Educated mothers invest more in their children’s schooling, thus improving both families and societies development prospects. They are also likely to have fewer children. Having fewer children allows families to invest more in the health and education of each child, thereby raising the productivity of future generations. (2) Poverty. Family poverty is also a barrier to education. Sending children to school may result in the loss of their income or help at home. The school may charge fees that the family knows it cannot meet or require a uniform that a family cannot afford. And often, when a choice is to be made between sending a girl or a boy to school, the family will put its scarce resources into the education of the boys. Due to poverty, 23.71 percent children are compelled to accept labour market instead of schooling in sample area. (3) Inadequate school facilities. Due to inadequate school facilities like
absence of enough classrooms to accommodate all school-age children. Besides the classrooms although available often lack basic necessities such as sanitary and water, blackboard, chalk, sitting and electricity etc. (4) *School far away from residence.* Due to lack of transport facilities children were deprived from attending middle and secondary schools resulting in high dropouts in middle and secondary level (Class VI- VIII & Class IX - Xth) of education. (5) *Fixed schooling hours.* In such poor families children are one of the resources to earn money, as they are needed for labouring outside as paid, domestic work at home or in farms and fields during these hours. The enrollment rate of child labour and there retention can be improved if educational facilities are made available to child labour during the periods suitable to them when they are free from such (various activities) chores. (6) *Due to not interest in study.* In sample area 7.71 percent child labour being illiterate and left school due to absence of interest in study. (7) *Death and illness in family.* In study area 15.67 percent children discontinued their education due to the same reason.

**Parents’ education of child labour**

Parents’ education plays a very significant role in child’s education. Their literacy rate has been found to be positively related to schooling participation of children. Educational profile of parents of the child labour in sample area is illustrated in table no. 3.11. Out of 350 samples 92 (26.29%) parents of child labours were literate and rest 258 (73.71%) were illiterate [see figure 3.11]. Very little percent of parents is literate in study area, in I-Vivekanand Ashram nearly 25.71% (18 out of 70 sample) parents of child labour literate and a large percentage 74.29% (52) illiterate such as in II-
Saraswati Nagar 21.43% (15) literate and 78.57% (55) illiterate, III-Tatibanda 25.71% (18) literate and 74.29% (52) illiterate and IV- Civil Line 22.86% (16) literate and 77.14% (54) illiterate and V- Banzari Nagar 35.71% (25) literate and remaining 64.29% (45) illiterate parents respectively. It is found that literate parents take interest to send their children to school instead of work, either large distance of school from residence or without making any discrimination among son or daughter for education. Table 3.12 reflects the descriptions of literate parents. Percentage of literacy without education is 10.29 (36 among 92 literates); among them 37.31% (25) father and 44% (11) was mother. 8% (28) of parent’s completed primary education (Class I-V), 6.57% (23) completed upper primary education (Class VI- VII), a very negligible percent [0.86% (3) and 0.57% (2)] had completed higher secondary and senior secondary. It was found in study area that father’s education is higher [72.83% (83)] than mother’s [27.17% (25)]. There were no mothers who could complete higher secondary and senior secondary education. Besides, some father has in family well-educated children but illiterate mother. In this situation mothers were not able to handle their children for education.

**Family size of child labour**

In general, the family size and child labour were inversely related which partly contradicts the view that family size and poverty are positively correlated. It was found that the range in the size of family varies in between 5.7 to 6.3, the average being 6.1 [I –Vivekanand Ashram 6.4, II - Saraswati Nagar 6.2, III - Tatibanda 6, IV - Civil Lines 5.7 and V - Banzari Nagar 6.3]. In study area the average family size of child labour is around 6.1 for which
some of the factors responsible. (1) **Illiteracy of parents.** The first factor is illiteracy, which has a material bearing for large family size. Child schooling is generally expected to have a literate parents having a schooling child in his/ her household is less likely to a large family size. (2) **Son preferences.** Due to son preferences in such families, family size becomes large. Parents see their children as economic benefit. It has been seen that if respondents' (parents) household has a working child they are likely to desire more sons, since boys are more likely to work and more likely to contribute for a longer period (girls are married off). (3) **Desire for more children.** Due to desire for more children the family becomes large. It is expected to desire additional children if they have a working child in their household since they are likely to perceive the economic utility of children. (4) **Negative effect on family planning.** Due to illiteracy and lack of knowledge of parents in such families' have a negative effect on family planning. Parents are more likely in study area to have more children because of higher perceived economic value of children. (5) **Male dominating society.** Due to male dominated society, female cannot take decision in such families. So, this factor is also highly responsible for large family size.

**Present status of child labour**

The present status of child labour in selected unorganised sectors is very worse off such as economically unsound, psychologically disastrous, physically dangerous and ethically a matter of great concern. The phenomenon of child labour is deep-rooted in socio-economic stratification, restricted job opportunities and prevailing poverty situation. Most of the families living below poverty line suffer from alienation, illiteracy, poverty,
malnutrition, inferiority, social evils and pessimism. But their participation in work force at a very tender age tells upon their full physical development and deprives them of educational opportunities. Employing children below the age of 14 is not allowed.

The density of child labour is vast in sample area; it is found that in every fourth children one child is must as a labour in which the number of girls was low than boys. Parents whose income sources is labour working, rickshaw pulling, auto driving, hawker, dhaba, eatable items seller and parents those are unable to search job as well as bleak employment opportunities, generally prepare child labour belonging to such families. The harsh reality is that the density (table no. 4.1) of male child labour is higher [222 (63.43%)] as compared to girls [128 (36.57%)]. They are usually in the age group of 6-14 years and are working in different unorganised sectors like dhaba, tea stall, small restaurant, petrol pump/ garage, home industry, domestic works and other occupation between 8 to 14 hours per day on dismally low wages.

A common explanation is that schooling competes with labour-intensive jobs for children (wage labour employment in family enterprises, or collection activities). By this view, the low current incomes of their families keeps poor children out of school and thus perpetuates their poverty into the next generation. In poor and deprived families the probability of children to join the labour market also increases and very few children are able to manage both education and work. Table no. 4.2 shows how many boys and girls presently involved in only for schooling, only for working, both working and schooling and how many children currently never going to
school. (1) Children whose main activity is working or economic work either paid or unpaid but does not go to school is known as working children, in sample area among 350 samples 274 (78.28%) children comes under this category. (2) Children whose main purposes are only schooling but not to work, only 5 (1.43%) children comes under this category in the sampled children. (3) Children who are performing both schooling and working as marginal or full time workers [children who spent in economic activity less than 183 days in a year are known as marginal workers and in contrast children engaged more than 183 days in a year are known as full-time workers], in sample area 45 (12.86%) children still continue both. (4) A residual category of the child population which is neither at school nor reported to be economically active as full time or marginal workers.

**Reason of employment of child labour**

The main reason of employment of child labour in study area, as identified by personal interview methods which are- (i) *Poverty*. The Planning Commission has defined the poverty line on the basic of recommended nutritional requirements of 2400 calories per person per day for rural areas and 2100 calories for urban areas. In sample area I- is indicating Vivekanand Ashram in which 17.14% children, II- Saraswati Nagar 30%, III- Tatibanda 14.29%, IV- Civil Line 31.43% & V- Banzari Nagar 25.71% children interviewed indicated that poverty is the main reason for their labouring (see table no. 4.3). (ii) *Desire to satisfy personal needs*. The parents of working children on account of their inadequate income are unable to satisfy all the needs of their children,
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viz.; economic social, medical and psychological needs. As such, certain conscientious children desire to satisfy their unfulfilled basic needs through personal earnings. The desire to satisfy personal (unfulfilled) needs was advanced as a reason for taking up a join in the childhood by 21.14% (74) sampled children in study area (see table no. 4.3). (iii) Family reason. The family reason as a result of separation or divorce has a direct bearing on the mind and development of children. Such children are deprived of their parental love and attention and as such become psychic patients. Therefore, to ensure against this risk, one of the parents or any well wisher of the child enforces these unfortunate children to work so that they may remain under the close supervision of employers who besides training them on work disciplines them as well. (iv) Illiteracy and ignorance of parents. The illiterate parents ignorant of the evil effects of child labour on the health and development of child, value their present economic needs more than the future of their children. As can be seen from the table no. 4.3 that 10.29% (36) children were seen to join labour force due to illiteracy and ignorance of parents in the sample area. (v) Inadequate income & large family size. The problem of child labour is basically an offshoot of the problem of low income of parents to support a large sized family. In study area the average family size goes to 6.1. With inadequate income even for the maintenance of children at subsistence level, these poor parents are forced to fill up their family budget deficits by the little wages earned by their young children. 25.14% (88) children reciprocated reasons due to inadequate income and large family size and playing children include labour market. (vi) Absence of adult wage earner. Many a child seeks work in the labour
market because they do not have any adult wage earner at home who would provide them with a sheltered childhood. Either they are orphan or belong to divorced or separated families. This reason has put forward by 9.43% (33) children in the sample area.

Health of child labour

A nation's health is gauged through the health of its children. It is therefore essential that children be allowed to grow in an environment, which is suitable to meet their social, emotional and educational needs. Development of children has to be a priority item in the country's development agenda. The working children feel insecure and suffer from an inferiority complex. Table 4.6 displays the health or diseases problem of child labour in their occupational sector, which represents the type of health problem suffered by working children in their occupational sector. Large number of child labour suffering from general diseases [211; (60.28%)] like common fever, cold, cough, body ache, headache, stomach pain and so on in dhaba (43.75%), small restaurant (22.22%), tea stall (37.14%), home industry (100%), petrol pump/ garage (37.5%), household work (60.44%) and other disease (78.01%). 61 (17.43%) of the children are found to face anemia and pneumonia, due to lack of money they are not able to get any kind of proper medicine. Working children were observed to be suffering from skin diseases like itching, cut or hole in body infection, swelling etc. It happens due to lack of cleanliness and no proper use of soap during bath. Due to poverty they are not able to properly take any other kind of nutritious foods for their health.
Working condition of child labour

In the absence of desirable working conditions, the worker feels uncomfortable as the job becomes tough and boring. Good working conditions have a salutary effect on the health of worker. He remains happy as a result of which his employer also stands benefited. Their working conditions become highly injurious as the place of work was filled with smoke, dust, fumes and other noxious material. Children were usually engaged to work for eight hours without any rest. Many were catalyzed to work for as long as ten to twelve hours a day. Table no. 4.9 reveals the type of house where children work in different occupational sectors, 88 (25.14%) children working in kuchha house which include tea stall, dhaba, garage, 136 (38.86%) working in pucca house include household work, petrol pump, home industry, small restaurant. Only 11 (3.14%) work in clean and pucca house, a very negligible percent [2; (0.57%)] work in well-ventilated place and 87 (24.86%) children were found busy for their working in unclean and pucca house. Unorganised sectors like dhaba, tea stall and home industry usually found kuchha. Small restaurant was established with well ventilation where 9 (2.57%) children were found working. Mostly garage, petrol pump was set up with pucca but unclean establishment. In these working places, children were working full day and were busy for helps to their employers and other elder workers also.

Description of child satisfaction in their work is given in table no. 4.11 in which satisfaction is divided into three kinds, like complete satisfaction, moderate satisfaction and slight satisfaction. 13 (3.72%) children interviewed showed that they have a complete satisfaction in their
present work in which 4 (12.5%) from Dhaba, 2 (22.22%) from small restaurant, 5 (12.5%) from petrol pump/ garage, 1 (1.10%) from household work and 1 (0.71%) from other occupation. 209 (59.71%) working children replied that they are moderately satisfied with their present work in which large number of working children were included from other occupation [76; (53.90%)]. Similarly 128 (36.57%) children said that they are satisfied as slightly with their present work.

Range of holidays

Range of holidays of child labour in their occupational center is given by percentage in table no. 4.12, in which it can be seen that children get holidays by monthly, weekly and yearly. In Factories and on Plantations, children are entitled to take leave with wages at the rate of one day for every fifteen days to work, after one year continuous service, while adult workers are entitled to take leave at the rate of one day for every twenty days of work. These leaves are provided under the Factories Act, 1948 and the Mines Act, 1952, but in practice these leaves are not given to them in several cases and thus, law are evaded with impunity.

As per the table no.4.12 most of the children getting holidays from their present employment are monthly whose percentage is 46.29% (162) and a small percentage 12.57 is receiving weekly holidays (as usual Sunday), in which 15.62% (5) from dhaba, 22.22% (2) from small restaurant, 25.71% (9) from tea stall, 5% (2) from petrol pump/ garage 4.40% (4) from household work and 15.60% (22) from other occupation are included. Children who were receiving yearly holidays with their percentage are 33.71 [118]. Children those are staying in working place sometimes get holidays by yearly or monthly over and above at the time of festival.

Poverty and inadequate family income are more common in such families as a result that most of all parents are sending their children to the
labour for getting a little amount as payment. The evidence presented in table no. 4.13 that working children are paid or unpaid for their holidays. 270 (77.14%) children interviewed shown that their employers paid them for their holidays, its alongside 15.43% (54) children interviewed indicated that they are unpaid for their holidays and 7.43% (0.71%) interviewed replied clearly that they not paid. Some employers considered the intention that if they completely pay to children they will not return and come up to for work. These children are working under sub human conditions in the unorganised sectors for long hours for less than subsistence wage.

**Parent’s income**

Income status of the heads of the household affects schooling children positively. It highlights the fact that an unemployed head of the household cannot insure himself against income fluctuations, which creates supply of child labour from the household. Thus, employment has been extremely depending on income. The employment status of the head of the household does not influence the schooling or work choices of children. Moreover, the income level of the head of the household does not matter in the schooling decision. Similarly, both employment and income level of the head of the household have a negative impact on child’s work. As the head of the household is the major contributor to household income, his employment makes the household income stable and reduces the need for child labour. At the same time, the increase in income of the head of the household decreases the probability for the child to work. It was found that head of the household force their children to work due to poverty. Many times the parents earning is found insufficient to support the family and so they start looking for
alternative and supportive economic mechanism through their children. Table no. 4.16 presents about the sufficient or insufficient monthly income of parents of child labour in study area. Among the 350 samples 14 (4%) of parents interviewed told that their income is sufficient for support with their family but not surplus, they said that sufficient income means is only to fulfill their basic family needs, no saving in account. On the other hand 336 (96%) parents were saying that their income is insufficient even to fulfill their basic needs, so parents compel to prepare their children for employment instead of schooling. Every parents and the society wants its children to grow as good and responsible citizens. This is possible when the children are given nutritious, food, proper education, good shelter, better environment, construction, instruction, affection and direction as well as proper guidance. Lack of these facilities puts the life’s of youngsters in jeopardy.

Prof. Amartya Sen remarks that “the system of child labour – bad enough on its own- is made much beastlier still through its congruence with bondage and effective slavery”.

Thus, most of the child labour adopts the labour work due to bad habits of parents like drinking, gambling, etc and also due to laziness of parents to work. Some child labours in study area are migrant from Orrissa, Jharkand, and Bihar living in the slums or in the sheds of their masters. Though child exploitation in the form of child labour is a social reality, the government does not do enough to eradicate this social evil. They work illegally, they were not entitled to any medical aid or any accident compensation, leaving working hours, underpayment etc, either cripple them
completely and as a result, they have retarded growth. They live with little hope for a bright future.

**Occupation and wages of child labour**

Wages depend according to the nature of work of the workers. Table no. 5.3 presents the nature of work of child labour. The rate of payment, is dependent upon various factors like nature of job, skilled, un-skilled, and semi-skilled work, duration of working hours etc. 41 (11.71%) children were working as skilled, 91 (26%) semi-skilled (like as helper). Their wages was very poor. Some [41; (11.71%)] skilled workers expressed that they properly maintain work, as well as kept their accounts properly. Few children were already found to perform skilled work after attending school (work in STD shop under absence of employer). Wages are considered to be the exchange value of labour power reckoned in money. The economic well being, productivity and the standard of living of the workers depend on the wages received by them.

Both variables occupation and wages are interdependent on each other. Generally wages depend upon the nature of work i.e. children in which type of activity are placed, i.e. performing skilled, unskilled or semi skilled activity. Skilled workers earn more wages than unskilled and semi skilled workers. Employers commonly put them in unskilled nature of work due to younger age and uneducated part. Table no. 5.4 shows the classification of wages of child labour in their same occupational sector. The wages of children varies depending upon the sector in which they work. 22% of children were getting Rs.10-15 and 2.57% Rs.16-18 in the sector of dhaba, small restaurant, tea stall, petrol pump, garage or other occupation in
daily wages in which working children in other sector get more, include, 23.43% children earn Rs.20-25 and 7.71% Rs.26-30 in weekly (children in home industry were getting more wages by weekly), in the percentage distribution of monthly wages 27.72% children earn Rs.150-200, 12.57% Rs.201-300, and only 4% earn Rs.301-500 respectively (children in the household sector getting more by monthly duration). Some children were found that they didn’t get wages at all from their employers / owners after working eight or nine months. Thus, children compel to leave their present job and join another job. This problem is mostly found in household works, garages, dhabas or tea stalls. Large number of children getting money by monthly [155; (44.29%)] and 109 (31.14%) getting by weekly as well as with persist demand and 86 (24.57%) children getting by daily wages were sorted out. Though children earn very little, but in poor families their little amount makes a big difference. Table no. 5.5 indicates the description of duration of engaged in their present occupation. It is reported that 242 (69.14%) children engaged in their occupation below two years (in which includes children working two months, three months, four months and below nineteen months), 46 (13.14%) expressed about engagement in work below three years and 17.72% (62) reported four years running in their present job.

**Working hours**

Working hours is an important factor in the organised and unorganised sector both for heal and health security. According to The Factories Act, 1948 prescribes for children and adolescents, a working day of four and half hours, with a spread over of five hours. Young persons up to the age of 17 years are not allowed under the Act to work during night hours
on hazardous occupations. The Mines Act, 1952 lays down that adolescents will not be employed for more than four and half hours in a day and prohibits their employment between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. and on work below ground.

Regarding the pattern of wage collection (see table no. 5.7) among the working children, indicates that 53.71% (188) children’s wage are collected through their parents, 29.14% (102) children collected their wages through the source of local guardian. Only 12.29% (43) children collected by themselves, and 4.86% (17) wage is collected through other people after their work. As soon as the child gets an employment, he loses the freedom of playing and mixing with other children and rest, and has to do the duty of serving the clients only. In these circumstances, children can ‘mix with bad boy and do bad things’ without their parents cognizence. Economic freedom at an early age, particularly in case of the boys frequently encourage them to develop bad habits such as gambling, excessive drinking of country-liquor, bidi-smoking, frequent visit to movies and other cheap sources of urban entertainment.

Ways of spending leisure time of child labour is given in table no. 5.8. The working children expressed in interview that the ways of spending time is playing, walking/roaming, taking rest and gossiping. 147 (42%) children interviewed stated that whenever they had free time, they play in front of shops in the company of other children, 98 (28%) expressed for free time walking or roaming. A very small number [21: (6%)] of children take rest and in occupational sector no child was there who took interest in reading and study like newspapers, story books etc. A good number [84: (24%)] of
children take interest in gossiping with other workforce as well as elder ones. Thus, working children in very early age adopt bad habits with alcohol, smoking etc. Most of the working children have no manners to talk with the elders as well as other people.

Mode of wage payment

Mode of wage payment of child labour is discussed in table no. 5.10, in which 12.5% (4), 11.11% (1), 2.86% (1) and 36.88% (52) children were paid per day from the sector of dhaba, small restaurant, tea stall and other sectors respectively. 23.15% (81) were paid by weekly and a large percent of children were paid by monthly (45.71%), in which households workers were included in large proportion. No child is engaged in any occupation, which is paid by yearly, but 10.57% expressed that after persistent demand, employer paid them yearly and 4% children were not paid at all till sixth or seventh months work duration.

In any work, either adult labour or child labour recess break is most necessary for them. No one is able to work continuously without any break. Adult labour already takes frequent breaks but while the question arise for child labours' break; it becomes nothing, because innocent children are always kept busy for the help of adults' works such as, helper in garage and petrol pump tea stall, dhaba, household works. (See table no.5.11) Among the sample-children, only 8% expressed that they didn't get recess. Some children also found that they are afraid of their employer, so they were not able to give correct information in front of employer and some employer were also afraid to give reliable information to researcher as being stopped.
in rules and regulations against child labour. 55 (15.71%) reported that they sometime got recess-break but majority of them [267;(76.29%)] reported that they always got recess break. As per the table no. 5.12 (see fig 5.8) it is clear that 25.71% (90) children get half an hour for lunch or tea break. 43.43% only get one hour for break including tea, lunch and leisure time. And a large number 108 (30.86%) working children expressed that this break time not fixed for them. According to The Factory Act, 1948, work during nights by children is prohibited in any organised or unorganised factory or sectors and also prohibits their employment between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. 58.57% children interviewed stated that they definitely work during night time in which highest children work in other sectors (73.76%) and then perform their household works (49.45%). Petrol pumps or garage (50%), generally dhabas, tea stalls, small restaurants are running till mid night. Many of this children work from dawn to late at night. Cooking, supplying, cleaning, sweeping, bringing drinking water from distant places, put the child to feel tired and thus in order to lessen the burden of hard work pressure, they are attracted to wine drinking and sexually abusement.

Accommodation & employer’s behaviour

In the type of accommodation (table no. 5.17) it is shown that 13.14% children staying in working place reported to be getting three time meals in a day and clothes occasionally, and visit their homes only in the time of occasion and festivals. In general they get a common room for their stay, common toilet and enough water facilities. 70.86% children staying with their parents after their work; [some parents] also found that they were not concerned to support their children, nor encouraging for schooling and other
facilities due to the economic constraints in the family. 10.57% children in the age group of 9-14 years living with their relatives and friends, only 5.43% children spend their living in other places like platform, street, bus stop.

Description of behaviour by their employer is explained in table no. 5.18. According to the survey, 32 children working in dhaba of which 8 (25%) interviewed stated that their employer behaves good with them. 5 (15.62%) replied bad behaviour and 19 (59.38%) both (good and bad behaviour). Majority of children in small restaurant replied about their bad treat (44.45%). Similarly children in the household sector majority [166: (47.43%)] replied that employer behaves with good act with them and only 49 (14%) children said bad behaviour whereas 135 (38.57%) children responded both views, i.e. sometime good and sometime bad treat with them.

Exploitation

Kinds of exploitation of child labours are explained in table no. 5.19. Exploitation includes long hours of work and less payment, bad behaviour and sexual abuse as well as other kinds of exploitation like molestation etc. 64.46% children were exploited by long hours of work and less payment, 18.67% with bad behaviour, 1.20% with sexual abuse by employer and 15.67% children exploited by other people. 29.51% children were exploited by long hours of work and less payment, 50.82% with bad behaviour, 1.64% with sexual harassment by relatives and friends, exploitation by parents i.e. bad behaviour (77.42%), only 9.68% with long hours of work and less payment were noticed. For other people the ratio of 1.13%, 85.39% children,
under sexual abuse and long hours and less payment respectively were identified. Regarding sexual abuse, employers as well as child labours, had not given proper information to researcher. So, researcher was not able to get exact information from them in this respect.

**Parental occupation**

In general perception parental healthy occupation is associated with a lower incidence of child labour and a higher school attendance rate. The mothers' employment results in 16 percent more probability for the child to go to school. Table no.5.22 evinces that the percentage distribution of occupational pattern of parents of the child labour is 0.57% for coolie, whose percentage is rather very negligible as compare to other occupations. While 1.43% parents were cook, 3.14% hawker, 4.57% watchman. Under daily labours 30%, 15.14% parents were Rickshaw pullers, 8% Auto rider, 2.86% Contractor and rest percentage (34.29%) in other occupation [such as general shopkeeper, vegetable seller, chat and pani puri seller, tailor, home servant (bai), beggar etc], which is comparatively higher in sample area. It would be seen from the table no. 5.23 that the average monthly income of the parents of child labour (Rs.995, Rs.1411, Rs.1910, Rs.2500, Rs.2929, and Rs.3500 for the sector of Dhaba / Tea Stall, Small Restaurant, Home Industry, Garage / Petrol Pump, Domestic Services and Others respectively) falls far below than their average monthly expenditure (Rs.1397, Rs.1878, Rs.2118, Rs.2987, Rs.3500, and Rs.4000 in same occupational sector) leading to the high average monthly loss differences of sampled families in Dhaba / Tea Stall (Rs.-402), Small Restaurant (Rs.-467), Home Industry (Rs.-208), Garage / Petrol Pump (Rs.-487), Domestic Services (Rs.-571) and
in other works (Rs.-500). As such, parents are constrained to push their children into employment at their tender age to fill up their loss budget differences.

**Loans, indebted and repayment**

As per the table no. 5.25, 5.26 & 5.27, the parents received some amount in cash and put their children for repayment of this debt for their further life span (see table no.5.25). Sources of loan, distributions and indebtedness have been expressed in (Rs.000) in study area. 78.86% (276 among 350 samples) parents of the child labour received loans and rest 21.14% did not. The parents borrowed loan from the employer (see table no 5.26) of the child labour whose percentage is 50.34%. 4.34% parents received loan from the landlords / land owners. 10.51% taken from local moneylenders. 21.74% from friends / relatives, 11.96% from local traders and only 1.09% parents received from banks / credit society. ST people (44.56%) took more amounts of loans as compared to SC (22.10%), OBC (28.99%) and Others (4.35%) respectively. It is also observed that ST people borrowed large amount of loans and advances from employer (53.96%), SC people from land lords (50%), OBC from local money lenders (44.83%) whereas others resorted to bank or credit society and their percentage is near about 66.67%. In table no.5.28 & 5.29 it has been discussed about rate of interest. 51.81% parents took loan with less than two percent rate of interest. The parent’s percentage who have taken loan at less than four percent rate of interest is 38.41 and only 9.78% parents got loan with zero of interest (excluding bank / credit society). Regarding the nature of repayment of loan (see table no.5.29) it shows that mostly 75.36% (208 among 276) repay their
loans and advances including interest by monthly. In this respect [IV indicates Civil Line in the sample area, and is highest (93.22%) for parents repayment by monthly basis as compared to other sample areas]. Similarly 21.38% (59) repaid by weekly and a very negligible percent 1.81 by yearly. (This include sample area III, IV and V). 1.45% (4) parents did not return their loan till this study survey (i.e. sample area I).

Consumption pattern and Standard of living

Regarding the consumption pattern that assesses the standard of living of child labour is shown in table no.6.1 (chapter 6). The basic needs of people as we know are food, cloth and shelter; and these three needs are very compulsory requirement for living in any social being. Consumption pattern and standard of living are both inter-related with each other and also depend upon their employment and income. Monthly consumption item (in k.g.) of the child labour families is rice, wheat, other cereals (like chana, mung dal, rajma, dry fruits etc.), dal, oil, vegetable, non-vegetable (meat, fish, egg,) are taken for the analysis. Monthly per household consumption (in k.g.) is 17.21 (for rice), 13.11 (for wheat), 1.80 (for other cereals), 4.75 (for dal), 4.92 (for oil), 8.20 (for vegetable) and 7.38 (non-vegetable) simultaneously. Monthly per capita consumption in the same household is around 2.82 k.g. for rice, 2.15 k.g. for wheat, 0.13 k.g. for other cereals, 0.78 k.g. for dal, 0.81 k.g. for oil, 1.34 k.g for vegetable and 1.21 k.g. for non-vegetable. It was observed that in such families the consumption of chapattis (wheat) was low than that of rice. It is a fact that in Chhattisgarh, Chattisgarhi people consume more rice than chapattis. Being surveyed large number of people reported that they never consume chapattis except on rare occasion.
In study area, there was no proper way of excreta disposal. Latrines were there only in a small number of houses. In majority of cases there is no system of construction of a latrine. Under study more than half of the people lived in khapra (the roof is made of mud bricks known as khapra in Chhattisgarh) huts with mud-plastered bamboo and bricks wall and also mud-plastered floor. Walls are usually plastered with mud and cow dung. The huts usually do not have windows and this hinders ventilation. The insides of the huts are rather dark even during day time.

Fuel is primarily a chief object meant for cooking. Table no. 6.6 reveals the source of fuels in sample households. In study area 6.57% people using gas with cow dung cake, only 2.86% using kerosene for cooking and a large number [317; (90.57%)] of people use wood and cow dung cake for cooking. In each sample area it had seen that their source of fuel was wood and cow dung cake but a less percent take up gas and kerosene as source of fuel. Source of drinking water (see table no. 6.7) is available by various ways such as tube well/ tap/ boring water, well/ pond, river and other source. In study area, larger number of people use tube well/ boring water for drinking purposes the percentage of which is high (78.57%) than other source like well/ tap/ Pond (21.43%). In study area people use river or pond water for bathing, washing cloth and cleaning utensils whereas the question arise for drinking water; people use boring, tap and well water.
7.2 CONCLUSION

Child labour is a complex phenomenon; it is a symptom, not a disease. The study of child labour in unorganised sectors of Chhattisgarh of Raipur City have clearly brought in forefront that the problem of child labour is invariably associated with poor socio-economic conditions of the region.

The study has clearly indicated that as the caste system has been organised in hierarchical order, it generally takes the shapes of class divisions. It therefore, pointed out that the child labour was essentially an offshoot of poverty. Poor parents tend to send their children to work to augment their income. Therefore, the poverty variable is one of the important determinants of the supply of child labour in sample area. Type of family is also responsible for child labour. Children who survive nuclear (without parents), stay with their relatives, friends, in working places and platforms / bus stops, in Raipur City these sorts of children mostly girls sexually harassed by employers, general people and even by police and also subjected to gang rape due to absence of parents. It is not a new phenomenon in Raipur city; children are always safe with their parents, whereas without parents they are always unsafe in all spheres of their daily life. Marriage in very younger age is harmful physically and mentally for both boys and girls. Another reason of early marriage is found in study area is large family size and low per capita income in these poor sections. In poor families parents were anxious till daughters got married. Particularly for girls after 13 and 14 years of age, parents compel them for marriage. In such families girls were not considered as property but as a burden on the family.
Conclusion and Suggestions

Education aims the physical, social, emotional and intellectual development of the child. It has also observed that the educational profile of the child workers is very poor in study area. There is a direct relation between illiterate parents and childs towards schooling as well as literate parents and literate childs. 20.56% children being illiterate, and never attended schools. As such the education enhances from primary to upper primary, upper primary to secondary and the drop out ratio increases among them. Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme decrease drop out rates in primary school but educational quality of children not improved. Girl’s education is not so important as that of boys. It is also observed that mother’s education is too effective for children to maintain family. Thus, parental education is positively co-related with child’s schooling instead of child labour.

It is concluded that the range in the size of family varies in between 5.7 to 6.3, the average being 6.1 in study area. More child labour generates from large family size in the society. Some of the other factors are responsible for family size such as illiteracy of parents, son preferences, desire for more children, and negative effect on family planning and due to male dominating society.

The increasing number of child labour also indicates the failure of family planning, especially in the poverty belts. Thus, children of poor parents are an economic asset than a liability. Every parents and the society wants its children to grow as good and responsible citizens. This is possible when the children are given nutritious, food, proper education, good shelter, better environment, construction, instruction, affection and direction as well
as proper guidance. Lack of these facilities puts the life's of youngsters in jeopardy.

Both variables occupation and wages are interdependent on each other. Generally wages depend upon the nature of work i.e. children in which type of activity are placed. Skilled workers earn more wages than unskilled and semi skilled workers. Employers commonly put them in unskilled nature of work due to younger age and uneducated part. Though children earn very little, but in poor families their little amount makes a big difference. Long hours of work are harmful not only for moral and physical development, but also retard efficiency. The long working days minimize the working life. Long working hours of child labour is one of the major problems in unorganised sector in sample area.

Economic freedom at an early age, particularly in case of the boys frequently encourage them to develop bad habits such as gambling, excessive drinking of country-liquor, bidi-smoking, frequent visit to movies and other cheap sources of urban entertainment. Most of the working children have no manners to talk with the elders as well as other people. For employers the need for more production at cheaper costs and motive to earn more and more, resulted in using the helping hands with hard working hands. Many of this children work from dawn to late at night. Cooking, supplying, cleaning, sweeping, bringing drinking water from distant places, put the child to feel tired and thus in order to lessen the burden of hard work pressure, they are attracted to wine drinking and sexually abusement.

In the type of accommodation it is found that 13.14% children staying in working place reported to be getting three time meals in a day and clothes
Conclusion and Suggestions

occasionally, and visit their homes only in the time of occasion and festivals. In general they get a common room for their stay, common toilet and enough water facilities. 70.86% children staying with their parents after their work. The problem of child labour at workplace is uncountable. They are blamed, tortured and harassed by their boss. They need cooperation, sympathy and helpful approach from all concerned if they are to correct their weakness. In general perception parental healthy occupation is associated with a lower incidence of child labour and a higher school attendance rate. Thus, it is the economic compulsion rather than the greed for money, which compels the poor parents to make their children to work.

Standard of living of any social group is determined importantly by its levels of health-nutrition, literacy-education and employment-income. In poorer section they were not able to fulfill even their consumption also. In study area, there was no proper way of excreta disposal. Latrines were there only in a small number of houses. In majority of cases there is no system of construction of a latrine. Adults normally go to the field or nearby forest or isolated area to respond to the call of nature and thereby pollute the environment with human excrement. For young children it is the courtyard, or the back of the house or the kitchen garden where they go for defecation. If it is in the courtyard, mother generally disposes it little far with a hoe. Sometimes pigs and other animals’ act as scavengers. Thus, faecal borne diseases are transmitted to a host, which is this time an animal. In such places studied, sanitation
was poor. Garbage disposal system was absent. People usually throw all the rubbish near their houses.

It was observed that in such families the consumption of chapattis (wheat) was low than that of rice. It is a fact that in Chhattisgarh, Chattisgarhi people consume more rice than chapattis. Being surveyed large number of people reported that they never consume chapattis except on rare occasion. Health and nutritional food are two very important basic needs for these poor families.

Thus, researcher found that the families of child labour live in the slum and surrounding villages with poor hygienic condition. They live in small room and shades, which are often crowded. The lighting and ventilation are extremely poor in these houses.

7.3 SUGGESTIONS

On the basis of the study the suggestions are as follows:

➢ Enhancing human capabilities and reducing child labour.

➢ Voluntary organization should be engaged in the field of child welfare will continue to have the opportunities to develop either on their own or with state assistance in the field of education, health, recreation and social welfare services.

➢ To achieve the above aims, the state will provide necessary legislative and administrative support. Facilities for reason and training of persons
will be developed to meet the needs of the expanding programmes and to improve the effectiveness of the services.

- People participation will receive the support and co-operation of all sections of the poor people and organisation working for children as well. The Government of India also calls upon the citizens, state government, local bodies, educational institutions and voluntary organizations to play their part in the overall effort to attain these objectives.

- Government should emphasize on raising public awareness to educate people about the undesirable aspects of child labour.

- It should be necessary to provide employment and to raise wages of poor families, in order to reduce the incidence of child labour.

- Accept adult labour in place of child labour.

- Provide more than 100 days of employment in a year (360 days) for poor families in rural areas under the scheme of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), it should be reduce the child labour.

- Compulsory primary education should be strictly implemented for reducing the child labour.

- It should be necessary that special attention should be paid for girl child especially in the field of education, for their bright future.
Also provide regular employment opportunities for the adult workers to attain the aims of minimising and eliminating the alarming incidence of child labour.

Family planning programme is to be implemented through dissemination of informal and awareness to control the increasing population.

Provide equal wages for adult and child labour, it will reduce the child labour.

It should be prohibited that working hours of child labour is not more than 5 hours of a day.

To need strong awareness of media and political group.

Improving the nutritional and health status of children below the age of fourteen years.

Reducing the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropouts.

Policy measures aimed at poverty reduction, and physical and social infrastructure development, may also reduce child labour.

Government should be implemented among the poor people for awareness about the importance of schooling in modernizing influence.
➢ The State Government should come forward to stop exploitation of child labour by strict implementation of several laws and regulations relating to child labour and the public.

➢ The Trade Unions and Social Welfare Agencies should organise seminars, workshops and other forums where they can exchange views and realize the need to take effective steps to better the lot of child labour.

➢ It is also suggested that the state must embark upon elaborate child welfare programmes such as (a) Provision of health care and medical treatment, (b) Grant of stipends to working children, (c) Provision of playing facilities.

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