



## V PERCEPTION OF VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS ON SOLVING CHILD LABOUR PROBLEMS IN THE STUDY: AN EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS

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### **Abstract**

*It is not an easy task to diminish the terrible evil like child labour because it is not uniform. Education plays a significant role in mitigating of child labour. But knowledge is the only prime factor which can be a universal solution for this problem. Reducing poverty, child trafficking, cheap (or free) and compulsory education, and average standards of living are such main factors that can root out the child labour. A government should have attention towards the backward areas and poor. Hence, the researcher has identified backward areas in Andhra Pradesh and selected child labours and various stakeholders and collected opinion from them about solving the child labour problems in the study area.*

### **Introduction**

It is not an easy task to diminish the terrible evil like child labour because it is not uniform. Education plays a significant role in mitigating of child labour. But knowledge is the only prime factor which can be a universal solution for this problem. Reducing poverty, child trafficking, cheap (or free) and compulsory education, and average standards of living are such main factors that can root out the child labour. A government should have attention towards the backward areas and poor. The very first thing that International Monetary Fund and World Bank should be allowed to help needed people by providing a loan to eradicate poverty. Governments should offer the various opportunities for employment in their surroundings. They can earn money enough to fulfil their needs. Also, schooling foundation and other educational institutes should be available to be educated. The present chapter reveals that the perception of stake holders on solving the child labour problems in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

### **Objectives**

1. To study the background the child labour
2. To analyse the problem solving of child labour through various stake holders
3. To draw the conclusions

### **Methodology**

### **Methodology**

The methodological aspects of the study such as the area of study, sampling design, sources of data, analysis of data, and major limitations are explained here under:

### **Area of Study**

Being post-doctoral research study to be undertaken by an individual scholar, the study is confined to the Andhra Pradesh State. Within the state, one district from each region such as Visakhapatnam District from Northern Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Guntur from Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Kurnool District from Rayalaseema Region has been chosen for the study based on highest percentage of child labour or highest incidence of child labour prevailing in each region of the state.

### **Sampling Design**

A combination of purposive and snowball sampling methods have been adopted for the conduct of the study. Firstly, three districts were selected on the basis on highest percentage of Child Labour in each region of Andhra Pradesh. Accordingly three districts viz., Visakhapatnam district from North Coastal Andhra Pradesh Region, Guntur from Coastal Andhra Region and Kurnool from Rayalaseema Region were chosen. Further, 5 Mandals /



Villages were selected on the basis of highest percentage of Child Labour prevailing in the Mandals, however, and taken to cover all the five Industrial Establishments / Work Sites to be taken for the selection of Child Labourers, Employers and other Stakeholders. The area of the study has been purposively chosen based on its special characteristics such as proneness to droughts, concentration of industrial activities and incidence of child labour in a semi-urban and urban set-up. In view of the nature of the child labour problem and challenges involved in the identification of child labourers, the researcher has used different methods to select the sample for the study. Based on direct observation and discussions with key informants, it was learnt that child labourers are prevalent in five work sites / establishments in the study area. These include Agriculture, Hotels & Restaurants / Shops, Automobile workshops, Construction Sector and Household Sectors. Accordingly, it is decided to choose 40 sample child labourers from each major work site / establishment in each sampled district covering 5 Mandals. In addition, 40 samples were taken from each work site / establishment in the state as a whole. Hence, it comes to a total of 800 samples (600 samples from Child Labourers and 200 from employers), in which 120 samples from each work site / establishment, in the state. The sample child labourers were selected on the basis of direct observation and information from key informants on the existence of child labourers in a given industry/ establishment.

### Results

The children have been attending for work in various activities in the society. They don't have any idea about relations, how to talk, how to move, how to work and how to live. Only they went to organisation for poor economic status of family, large size of the family, clear of old debt and not interested to go to school. Hence, the employer will treat to every children as their children, then only they will stay with happy any organisation. Based on this background, the researcher has collected opinion from the sample respondents, 82 per cent of the sample respondents have strongly agreed on well caring of child labour by the employer. This can be presented in the table 1.

**Table-1, Opinion of the stakeholders on maintain good relation with the child labour by the employer**

S.No	Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage to total
1	Strongly agree	470	48.00
2	Agree	333	34.00
3	Disagree	147	15.00
4	Strongly disagree	30	03.00
	Total	980	100

Source: Field Survey

**Table-2, Strictly maintain rules and regulations which is formulation by the various child labour acts**

S.No	Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage to total
1	Strongly agree	559	57.00
2	Agree	235	24.00
3	Disagree	107	11.00
4	Strongly disagree	79	08.00
	Total	980	100

Source: Field Survey

Number of Amendments and Act has been providing every government to how the treated childlabour in various activities in any societies and also strictly implement rules and regulations in case anyone obey that rules. Especially in underdeveloped areas, India has large population, unemployment, poverty, and youth. Hence, the eradication of poverty, everyone should work together. Based on this, how the various units were maintain rules and regulations in case of child labour issues. According to the statements, 81 per cent of respondents have stated that they strongly agreed to just agree. While 19 per cent of stakeholders have stated negative opinion, because of



some of the organisation has not followed rules and regulations which is formulated and implemented by the central, state and local government in the study area.

**Table-3, Best protection and precaution measures can be implemented by the employer at work place**

S.No	Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage to total
1	Strongly agree	637	65.00
2	Agree	304	31.00
3	Disagree	39	04.00
4	Strongly disagree	00	00
	Total	980	100

Source: Field Survey

The children don't have any idea about how to work safely at work place. So, the employer should keep and implement best protection and precaution measures for welfare of the child labours at the working environment in the study area. Based on this, the stake holders have suggested that whatever the best precautions and protections measures implemented by the employer, child labours will be quite satisfactory in respective environments.

**Table-4, Opinion of the stakeholders on reduce the working hours**

S.No	Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage to total
1	Strongly agree	804	82.00
2	Agree	176	18.00
3	Disagree	00	00
4	Strongly disagree	00	00
	Total	980	100

Source: Field Survey

Industrial act have mentioned minimum working hours in private or government organisation in India. Minimum working hours is eight in any organisation fixing by the various acts. Based on this, the researcher have collected information about working hours of child labour, when they will be satisfied for reduce work pressure through reducing the working hours in the study area. It can be found that all sample respondents have suggested that, when reduce the working hours to the child labour, they will be satisfied in their respective activities.

**Table-5, Opinion of the stakeholders on avoiding poisonous environment by the child labour in the study area**

S.No	Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage to total
1	Strongly agree	412	42.00
2	Agree	264	27.00
3	Disagree	147	15.00
4	Strongly disagree	157	16.00
	Total	980	100

Source: Field Survey

The children did not have high immunity power generally. Everyone should keep very carefully for avoiding diseases. So, the employer will supervise and take care their child labour at work place. Hence, the researcher has put a statement to the selected stakeholder. 69 per cent of the sample respondents stated that strongly agree to just agree. And rest of them, i.e., 31 per cent of the respondents has given negative dimensions, why because no employer can take careful of their children's.



**Table-6, Opinion of the stakeholders on improve the health conditions**

S.No	Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage to total
1	Strongly agree	441	45.00
2	Agree	314	32.00
3	Disagree	147	15.00
4	Strongly disagree	78	08.00
	Total	980	100

Source: Field Survey

The above table shows what is the responses were collected by the researcher from the selected sample stakeholder regarding to health conditions of child labour in the study area. Every employer should maintain well equipment, first aid box, tool kits, cleanliness of surrounding areas, regularly tested the child labour health conditions etc. based on this, the stakeholders were suggested that whenever the provide above all necessities, the child labour have overcome their problems in the study area.

An attempt has been made by the researchers to find out what the respondent stakeholders opinion about the role of government in tackling the problem of child labour. Different dimensions have been expressed by the select sample stakeholders are capitulated in 7 tables.

**Table -7, Perception of select stakeholders on government role among child labour**

S.No	Reasons	Frequency	%
1	Government should implement poverty alleviation programme	255	26.00
2	Government should provide compulsory education to children	215	22.00
3	It should take measures for creating social awareness of the problem	196	20.00
4	It should enforce strict implementation of legislation	137	14.00
5	It should go for framing of new legislation	177	18.00
	Total	980	100

The reveals that the opinion of employer on the role of government among the child labour in the society. The researcher was collected data, tabulated and presented. The study was found that 26 per cent of the employers were given the suggestions-the government has been implementing rural poverty alleviation programmes, 22 per cent of the employers expressed that government should provide compulsory education to the children, 20 per cent of them said that- it should take measures for creating social awareness of this problems, 14 per cent of the employers are said that strictly implementing the legislation and rest of them expressed their opinion of government role- forming new rules and regulations it is represented 18 per cent. The study concluded that the government can be observed the cost of living, income levels of the people, awareness about the legal issues and providing all necessary information and implementing fair wage system to every individuals or implementing income generating activities then only people are satisfied their needs and wants. Ultimately we can reduce the child labour.

### Conclusions

The child labour is very high in under developed and developing countries like India. The present study reveals evidential proof of solving the problems of child labour in the various sectors. Any how, the child labours are not entertained by the employer, in case of allowing the child labour, they treated as very nice and implement strictly rules and regulations which is provided by the state and central government. The government and NGOs are



strictly implementing various awareness programmes on importance of education, problems of child labour, and also their bright feature. Ultimately reduce the child labour in our society.

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