Research Abstracts on Child Labour and Women Labour

1998 - 2009

2010

Documentation Centre for Women and Children
National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development
5, Siri Institutional Area, Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110016
Project Team

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Computer Assistance : Pawan Kumar
Foreword

Research on women and children reveals that there are several areas which require the attention of planners and programme implementers. Policy decisions based on research findings are rooted in ground reality, and therefore have the capacity to bring about tangible improvement in the situation, whether it is with regard to nutritional status, health practices, income generation, domestic violence or rights of women and children. Research on social issues in India is being conducted by a plethora of organisations, namely research institutes, government ministries and departments, autonomous organisations, home science colleges, social work departments of universities, medical colleges, international and national voluntary organisations. As research is a vital input for development, planners, administrators and researchers are on the look out for social factors which have the potential to impact the outcomes of various government programmes. With this aim in view, the Documentation Centre for Women and Children (DCWC) of the Institute is engaged in the process of collecting and documenting valuable research in the areas of women and children. DCWC collects research findings from many widely scattered sources for the use of researchers. Hence this project was undertaken to bring out compilations of research abstracts on various areas for the benefit of users.

"Research Abstracts on Child Labour, Labour and Women Labour, 1998-2009" has been compiled to present widely scattered research in a compact form, and assist in making encapsulated information and recommendations of research available to planners, programme implementers and researchers. Research studies conducted by various organisations during the period 1998 to 2009 have been summarised on various subjects such as various industries (brass, brick kiln, carpet, construction, diamond, hotel, hosiery, leather, glass, etc.), abuse of working children, education of child labour, elimination of child labour, health hazardous, substance abuse, evaluation of National Child Labour Projects, domestic workers and ragpickers, and working conditions of workers in various industries including the unorganized sector, etc.

It is hoped that this document would be of immense value to all stakeholders working for the survival, development and empowerment of women and children. It would not have been possible to bring out this document without the cooperation of various organisations who have very kindly shared their research studies with NIPCCD. I wish to place on record my appreciation of the efforts put in by the staff of DCWC specially Smt. Meenakshi Sood, Deputy Director, and Dr. Sulochana Vasudevan, Joint Director (WD) for overall guidance and support in completion of this project.

(Dinesh Paul)
Director
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Women Vendors

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Women Weavers

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Research Abstracts on Child Labour

Brass Industry


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR  2. BRASS INDUSTRY   3. LABOUR  4. WOMEN LABOUR  5. MORADABAD  6. EXPORT UNITS  7. UTTAR PRADESH.

Abstract: The demand for child labour, related to technological change in today's developing economies, has not received much attention in contemporary debates on child labour. The present study was done to assess the effects of technological change and industry restructuring on the existence of child labour. The study was conducted in Moradabad city, Uttar Pradesh, and covered 150 production units out of which artisan units constituted 65.3% (98), kharkhanedar units or multi-process units constituted 28% (42), and exporters or fully mechanized units constituted 6.67% (10). Of the total artisan units studied, 68.37% had pucca (permanent) structure and the remaining 31.63% were housed in semi-pucca structure. Space to carry out various manufacturing processes was adequate in 91.84% of the artisans units and grossly inadequate in 95.24% of the kharkhanedar units. All the exporters were satisfied with the space availability. A total of 1105 workers were selected as the sample for the study. In artisan units, 382 workers were employed out of which 311 were adult males, 2 were adult females, 64 were male children and 5 were female children. Almost all the workers in artisan units were on contract basis. In kharkhanedar units, the total number of adult workers were 295 (male 293 and female 2) and child workers were 32 (male 30 and female 2). In kharkhanedar units also all workers were on contract basis. In the exporter units, the status of 63.6% of the total work force was contractual, 17% had permanent status and the remaining were temporary workers. Women constituted 10.3% of the total permanent workers, which included the administrative staff. Export units did not employ any child labour. Around 76% kharkhanedar units and 67% artisan units imparted training/knowledge to its workers. Only 10% export units had this facility and inclination. Not even a single unit owner was aware of the various kinds of training that could be imparted regarding the various skills related to brassware manufacturing. The mode of payment to workers was based on time rate/piece rate, and pocket expenses were also given. Workers who were paid in both time rate and piece rate...
constituted 42.2% of the total, those who were paid in time rate, piece rate and given pocket expenses constituted 47.4%, and the remaining 10.4% of the workers were paid only in time rate. Children were put to work mostly because they were out of school. Their early entry into the workforce was a natural trap due to their reduced working capacity after 30 years. Highest productive capacity of an artisan was at the age of 18 and started declining after 30 years. Reduced physical capacity, declining income, low longevity and ill health were the reasons for pushing children into work at an early age. The two most hazardous processes in the brassware industry were moulding and polishing. The child was employed to do two types of jobs. He rotated the wheel, which was called pankha (hand wheel) to keep the furnace fire burning and the temperature in the furnace was about 1100° C. The child also checked the molten metal by opening the top of the underground furnace. In these processes there was not only danger of getting badly burnt, but he also inhaled the fumes and hazardous gases. Lead and Zinc poisoning were the most prevalent health hazards in Moradabad brassware industry. Dangerous machinery, sharp tools and toxic substances in the working environment of children affected them adversely. Unhygienic living and working conditions make children vulnerable to communicable diseases. Child labour was anyway often casual and poorly paid. Severe malnutrition, anaemia, hard labour, fatigue and inadequate sleep made children more susceptible to accidents. In most units, the machines used in the polishing process neither had any exhaust system, any provision of screens or enclaves to prevent flying metal dust affecting the workers, due to which many injuries could happen. Around 30% of the units’ owners felt that there was risk in adopting new technologies. According to them, lack of finance, lack of knowledge of new technology, lack of skilled manpower, slackness in the demand for products, erratic power supply, etc. were some of the major barriers in adopting new technologies. Overall, the city of Moradabad lacked infrastructural facilities for promoting brassware industry. Introduction of technology had resulted both in the influx of workers and displacement of workers, both adults and children. A vast proportion of karkhanedar and export unit owners and around 62% artisan unit owners strongly believed that the existing practice of employing child labour could be stopped by introducing technology. Interaction with various sections of society indicated that child labour was not a necessity for anyone, but a compulsion for the poor family. Literacy level of the population had a strong correlation with the incidence of child labour, and a substantial proportion of the population above 5 years was found illiterate. The reasons for leaving school and joining work related to supplementing family income, absence of adequate number of government schools, and bad quality of teaching. It was suggested that policies should be made to eliminate child labour; education should be provided to children of poor families; and there is a need to improve the general economic condition of states, so that working conditions in industries are improved and they absorb modern technologies.
Brick Industry


**Key Words**: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2.BRICK INDUSTRY 3.BRICK KILN 4.MIGRANT LABOUR.

**Abstract**: In 2001, a total of 12.5 million children were employed as child labourers. This study attempted to capture the labour process and employer-employee relationships in the brick kilns of NOIDA, Gautam Buddha Nagar district of Uttar Pradesh. 76 brick kilns were observed in the area, there were 56% males and 43.66% females working in the kilns. Maximum number of migrants came from Uttar Pradesh (62.5%), West Bengal (29.3%), Chhattisgarh (6.2%), and Rajasthan (1.0%). All the workers (99.8%) lived in kutcha houses (non-permanent structures). All the workers were paid on piece rate basis, like the pathera (moulder) got Rs 120 per thousand bricks, and the beldar (stacker) got Rs 10 for arranging 1000 bricks in the kiln. It was observed for every 1000 bricks make by pathera, Rs.3 would be deducted as a commission for the jamadar. It was a pittance as arranging 1000 bricks was not an easy task for pathera. Out of 400 respondents, 144 moulded 1000 bricks in more than 14 hours. Monthly income of 11.82% families was above Rs 4000 and 7.81% had income below Rs 1000 per month. In the sample population there were 532 children in the 0-14 years age group, of whom 411 children (77.25%) were working. About 14.34% children entered the work force between the ages of 5-8 years. 98.05% of the working population was illiterate. 8.73% of the children worked between 7-9 hours, 7.54% worked between 10-12 hours, and 2.91% of the children worked between 13-15 hours. 54.98% children in the age group 10-11 years contributed 10-20% of the family income; while 39.65% contributed less than 10% to the family income. A major concern of the brick kiln workers was the wage rate fixed for their work. Efforts should be made to improve the wages of workers in brick kilns, and provide them with social security in terms of jobs, health benefits, etc.
Carpet Industry


Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.CHILD LABOUR ELIMINATION   3.CHILD LABOUR CARPET INDUSTRY   4.CHILD LABOUR RAJASTHAN   5.RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHILD LABOUR   6.CHECKLIST FOR CHILD LABOUR   7.INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE.

Abstract : The study was carried out to examine the situation of child labour in the carpet industry of Jaipur district, Rajasthan. Rajasthan was taken for the case study because the incidence of child labour in Rajasthan is higher than the national average. Field survey and interviews were conducted, and information/data was gathered from primary and secondary sources. Articles 23, 24, 39 (e) and (f), 45 and 51 (c) of the Constitution showed the nation's concern to eradicate child labour. It was found that 92 children were engaged in the carpet industry, and of these 71 were males. Almost all the children described their job as non-hazardous, and 53 children liked their jobs. The main reason for child labour was poverty, and the child's income was used to support the family. It was found that nearly all the children were illiterate, so there should be provision of free and attractive schooling for children. Expenditure on education should also be increased. It was suggested that remedial measures should not only target child labour, but also focus on other forms of child abuse. While advocating a ban on child labour, there should be a scheme for compensating the individual child who loses his job. NGOs should initiate awareness-building programmes for children. South Asian Association against Child Servitude (SAACS) initiated the programme called RUGMARK, which guarantees the buyer that the carpet is manufactured without child labour. NGOs should make an effort to aid poor families in different ways. To restrict the supply of child labour in the market, it may be appropriate to build a centre for vocational training, so that alternative methods of skill building are available.
Child Abuse


Key Words: Child Labour, Child Labour Meghalaya, Street Children, Rights of the Child, Opinion of Children, Out of School Children, Northeast India, Shillong, Child Labour Northeast, Drop in Centres.

Abstract: This study was conducted to understand the psycho-social environment, nature, extent and magnitude of the problem; health and support systems for child labour; and their expectations from the Government and other agencies. A sample of 501 boys, belonging to school going age and working in Shillong, was taken for the study. Data was collected through interviews. It was found that these children worked mostly in commercial areas like Bara Bazaar and Police Bazaar, and a majority of them were 11-14 years of age. 71% children in the sample were literate, whereas 29% were illiterate. Both parents and children were ignorant about the value of education or about the ill effects of child labour. Most of the children felt that their neighbours looked upon them with sympathy, suspicion or indifference, and 19% children said that their neighbours never helped them. These children were engaged in different types of work, like rag picking, cleaning automobiles, selling betel nuts, shoe polishing, tea boy, domestic help, coolie work, etc. These children worked 8-12 hours a day and on an average earned Rs.10-50 per day. Most of these children had attended school at one time or the other, 27% had not attended school, and a majority of them wanted to go back to school if given an opportunity. Children gave up their studies due to family problems to give financial support to their families, and some did not have interest in studies. Most of the children were found to be weak and undernourished except a few (18%). They were found to be suffering from health problems like cough, tuberculosis, skin disease, anaemia, symptoms of deficiencies, physical growth retardation, etc. They lived in unhygienic conditions and slept only 5 hours a day. These children played with friends during leisure, watched movies, and 20% took part in gambling. 50% of these children ate food from wayside shops or hotels. 6% children were arrested once or twice or more and had a harsh experience with the police. 29% of these child labourers never heard about any organization working for children. Many of the parents and children were unaware of the existing laws to protect children or child labour. Children expected organizations to provide some facilities like education, shelter, proper job, money, and health services. They expected the Government to provide facilities for education which would enable them to learn a trade and get better employment. It was recommended that
supplementary income generation activities for parents should be facilitated utilizing Government and NGO schemes for poverty eradication, self employment, etc. Poverty was the most important factor responsible for prevalence of child labour. Community based monitoring system should be developed at local level to cover child labour in agriculture and domestic sector. Policy makers should ensure that studies are conducted from time to time, and necessary recommendations are incorporated. Education should be made interesting, meaningful and relevant to reduce incidence of drop-outs, and should also include vocational/skill training, which would equip children with better job skills and opportunities. Parents should be made aware of the importance and value of education emphasizing its long term benefits, as lack of appreciation of education by parents was found to be a determinant of child labour. Awareness should be spread among exploited children, and employers should be sensitized regarding child rights and labour legislation. Governments, NGOs and the community should work together towards prevention of child labour and providing facilities of education, extra nutrition and health care.


Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.EXPLOITATION 3.CHILD ABUSE 4.EXPLOITATION OF CHILD LABOUR 5.ABUSE OF CHILD LABOUR 6.CASE STUDY 7.CASE STUDIES OF CHILD LABOUR.

Abstract : The study was carried out in Guwahati in 2002 to find out different psychological factors and physically hazardous working conditions of children; and to suggest some measures to prevent child abuse. A sample of 300 child workers upto 14 years were taken and divided into 3 different categories of occupations, namely (i) employed (hotel workers, domestic servants, shop workers, sweepers, handymen); (ii) self-employed (rag pickers, vendors); and (iii) others (helpers). Door to door enumeration, field interviews and observations technique was used to collect data. It was revealed that 79% of the sample were males and 21% were females. About 21% children spoke Nepali. 56% child workers were Hindus, 43.6% Muslims and only 0.33% were Christian. About 20.3% child workers were garage workers, 16% helpers, and 11.3% were hotel workers and shop workers each. It was found that about 48% child workers, with the exception of helpers, vendors and rag pickers, received their wages in cash, 13.46% in kind and 35.58% received both cash and kind. The study showed that 41.6% children worked for 10-12 hours per day, 24% for more than 12 hours per day and 16% worked between 8-10 hours per day. The leisure time activity of 60% children was playing with friends and 17.3% watched movies and television. Child workers were preferred because 42.4% employers felt that child workers can do small
jobs, 15.8% said that child workers were trustworthy, and 8.3% preferred children because of non-availability of adult workers. About 78% (146) parents were satisfied with the child’s income, and 21.4% were not satisfied. Approximately 37.3% children received occasional allowances, 34.5% received first aid when needed, and 32.2% got free food. Regarding the future plans of children, 37% parents wanted their children to get jobs with a better salary after learning the trade, and 15% wanted their children to start a business and become self-employed. It was suggested that adult literacy programmes should be encouraged, and compulsory free primary education should be provided with free mid day meals, free books and uniforms for the poor. Street plays, meetings, etc. can be organized to create awareness among the community against child labour.

V. V. Giri National Labour Ins, NOIDA. (1998).

**Key Words**: 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.CHILD ABUSE 3.STREET CHILDREN 4.EXPLOITATION 5.TRIBAL CHILD 6.JOGIN.

**Abstract**: The document funded by UNICEF, contains abstracts of studies on child labour working in various industries like sports goods, carpet, glass, gem, match and beedi, etc. It also covered studies related to ragpickers and street children, and discussed the involvement of trade unions, legal framework, ILO intervention programmes and involvement of media, etc. Documents widely scattered have been collected together in this compilation for ready reference. Findings of research revealed that these children were exploited by their employers, the police, and persons in their vicinity. Ragpickers worked in extremely hazardous surroundings which adversely affected their health. Many street children were on their own and specially vulnerable to exploitation. The impact of Government programmes was minimal and many children were left out of the ambit of these programmes. To ameliorate the condition of children in vulnerable situations the various studies recommended awareness generation, development of infrastructure, strengthening of the enforcement machinery, involvement of trade unions, setting up of night schools by voluntary organisations, and educating children about their rights.
Diamond Industry


Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.DIAMOND INDUSTRY 3.UNORGANISED SECTOR.

Abstract: Surat is a highly industrialized urban centre of the country in which textile and diamond are two prominent industries attracting large sections of migrant work seekers. Employers find it convenient to employ child labour as they are easy to handle, and are paid low wages which gives scope for higher margins of profit. This study is a part of an all India study commissioned by V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, NOIDA and tries to understand the issue of child labour in the diamond industry of Surat city. The study observed the demographic and socio-economic profiles of 525 child workers engaged in the diamond industry of Surat city. Data revealed that 94% of the child workers were migrants and belonged to poor nuclear families. 45% fathers of child workers were working as diamond workers, 25% as labourers, 10% were cultivating land, and the rest were petty traders selling milk, vegetables, and fish, etc. Female child workers were barely 5% in comparison to male child workers. 80% of the child workers started work when they were 11 to 12 years of age and were mainly engaged in bottom polishing (32%), facet polishing (25%), table (17%) and top (13%). The wage packet depended on the speed and accuracy of the child workers and ranged from Rs.1000-3000 per month. They worked for 8-10 hours a day and were not entitled to any sick/casual leave, etc. Schooling facilities in the diamond zone were satisfactory, but 47% of the total school age children were not getting formal education due to their poor family background. Measures such as land redistribution, substantial increase in minimum wages, delegating powers to local level self-governing bodies, and involvement of community leaders should be implemented with full political will to combat child labour.

Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. DIAMOND INDUSTRY 3. OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN 4. FAMILY PROBLEM.

Abstract: The study, a part of an all India study commissioned by V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, has been conducted to investigate the situation of child labour in the diamond industry of Surat, and seeks to situate the problem in the context of the Child Labour Act 1986. 525 households of child workers and 225 households of control group were surveyed and detailed interviews were conducted. Data shows that proportion of female child workers are very low. Most of the children (98%) were staying with their families and 60% were staying in nuclear families. 80% of the children were in the age group 12-14 years. Two prominent communities, Patels and Kolis, dominated the field. Ninety four per cent child workers were migrants. A majority of the fathers were diamond workers. Child workers, prior to joining the diamond industry work-force (at the age of 11-12 yrs), were studying, and were not involved in any earning activity. Child workers were found doing mainly four operations: bottom polishing (32%), facet polishing (25%), table (17%) and top (13%). Forty per cent of them earned Rs. 1000 to Rs. 2000 every month, and the same proportion (40%) earned Rs. 2000 to Rs. 3000 per month. In more than half of the households, the percentage share of the child workers contribution of the total family income was above 30 per cent. Child workers were not receiving benefits such as permanent status, provident fund, earned leave, sick leave, etc. They worked for 8-10 hours a day. Although 47% of the total school age children in the area were not getting educated, illiteracy was very low in these households. 60% of the child workers had studied up to fifth or seventh standard. The implementation of Child Labour Act, 1986 and other legal measures to restrict child labour was an extremely difficult task, as most of the owners belong to the same social group. In spite of excellent schooling facilities in the area, the parents understand the overall employment scenario vis-a-vis their own social networking and influence with respect to the local employment market. The problem of child labour in Surat has to be dealt with by taking community leaders and NGOs into confidence. As most of the schools are controlled by community trusts, their insight should not be overlooked. The problem has to be addressed from social angles and community themselves should identify the problem. Legal enforcement machinery has a very limited role in the context of the diamond industry in Surat as the entire community feels protective about it.
Domestic Worker


Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR    2.CHILD LABOUR DOMESTIC WORKER    3.CHILD DOMESTIC WORKER    4.DOMESTIC WORKER    5.ROLE OF ICDS FUNCTIONARIES    6.ROLE OF ANGANWADI WORKERS    7.CHANGE AGENTS.

Abstract : Child domestic work has been recognized as one of the most intolerable and hazardous forms of child work. The present study was done to understand the causes and consequences of child domestic work (CDW) prevalent in the consciousness of the work force involved in child development (ICDS personnel), and to suggest ways and means to divert erroneous and deeply engraved notions on sociological perspectives. The KAP (knowledge, attitude, and practices) study covered two ICDS zones, Behala and Kidderpore, Kolkata, and data was collected by interviewing CDPOs, ICDS supervisors and Anganwadi workers (AWWs). From the overall 50 respondents (2 CDPOs, 9 Supervisors and 39 AWWs) 60% expressed that they only had a general idea on the CDW issue but did not possess much information on the intricacies and depth of the contemporary issue. Most of the respondents had jumbled up ideas on child labour and CDW. Only 46% of the respondents correctly identified the characteristics of child labour and child domestic worker. Nearly 80% respondents admitted that their ideas, knowledge and attitudes on the CDW issue underwent a radical change after the sensitization workshop organized by Right Track. The workshop presented intricate details pertaining to research based statistics, real life experiences disseminated through audio-visuals, etc. to the respondents. Around 55% of the respondents opined that the CDWs originated from villages. 82% respondents felt that CDWs were mostly girls in accordance with the standard notion that girls were most adept in domestic chores and were more compliant in nature. Most respondents (64%) were aware that CDWs belonged to the 6-18 years age group. The combination of poverty and population were selected as the factors that contributed to 50% of the trend for CDW. 22% respondents felt that girl children from impoverished families were sent to work only to arrange for their own dowry needed during marriage, which was a distant reality for the family and difficult to provide, even in the course of time. Majority of the respondents
(40%) believed felt that CDWs were usually subjected to mental and physical torture of the worst form by employers. Majority of the respondents (40%) suggested that there should be community pressure, responsive and collective action to change the miserable condition of CDWs, despite the absence of a legal framework. Around 18% of the respondent expressed their willingness to be involved in the campaign against CDW issue directly or indirectly. Around 26% respondents put forward the demand for advocacy materials to aid their work on the CDW issue as they thought that films and slides based on true stories or experiences would have greater impact on the community audience rather than just verbal communication. 24% expressed the need for technical knowledge, 12% respondents sought for more protection and security measures, and 18% asked for more supportive local political leaders and clubs who could really contribute to the campaign through their responsive action. The study suggested that proper networking and linkages must be established with government and non-government homes for the rescue and rehabilitation of children in distress.


**Key Words**: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. DOMESTIC WORKERS 3. MIGRANT GIRLS 4. TRIBAL GIRLS 5. ORISSA 6. CHHATTISGARH 7. JHARKHAND

**Abstract**: Several men, women and children from tribal areas of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Orissa migrate every year to other states in large numbers in search of employment as labourers. 9 districts, 3 each from the 3 states of Orissa (Sundergarh, Mayurbhanj), Jharkhand (Gumla, Ranchi, Simdega) and Chhattisgarh (Jashpur, Raigarh and Sargaja) were selected and 43 villages were covered during the survey. 3,171 families from these 43 villages were contacted for the survey. International Labour Organization (ILO) defines the domestic worker as “someone who carries out household work in private households in return for wages”. Domestic workers can be grouped into 3 types, Child Domestic Workers, Live-in Workers (full timers) and Part Time Domestic Workers. The women and girls migrating from Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Orissa to Delhi, fall in the category of live-in domestic workers or full timers. There are many types of trafficking, involving young and old women, and underage girls and boys (children). The purposes for which trafficking occurs are prostitution, child labour, child sex work, bonded labour, camel jockeying, commercial servile marriage, agricultural work, begging, trade in body parts and informal sector work. The reasons for migration are attraction of large cities, poverty, competition with friends who have migrated earlier, boredom with rural life, ambition for earning more
money, and ambition for living a better life. About 78,000 females have migrated from rural tribal areas in search of jobs for livelihood. Proportion of these migrants from Gumla and Ranchi districts of Jharkhand and Raigarh of Chattisgarh appears to be more. Among these female migrants, the number of those going for domestic work to Delhi, Mumbai, Goa, Bangalore, Chandigarh and Chennai works out to be about 20,000. The percentage of females migrating for other wage labour was highest (92%) in Raigarh district of Chattisgarh. Female migrants (FM) usually accompany other members of their families who also migrate for this type of work. Female migrants from Ranchi district of Jharkhand were maximum (73%). Out of 604 migrants for domestic work surveyed, 418 i.e 69% were working in Delhi, 10% in Mumbai, and the rest in distant places like Chennai and Bangalore. Employers contacted placement agencies who matched the needs of employers with the migrant worker. Female Domestic Workers (FDWs) surveyed were found to be engaged in household chores like cleaning/ sweeping (62%), entire household chores (56%), washing clothes (54%), help in cooking (51%), baby sitting (33%), cooking (21%), shopping (20%), looking after aged persons (13%), taking children to schools (8%). These FDWs are paid wages on the basis of type and quantum of work done. Generally wages vary from Rs.1500 to Rs.3000 per month. Chetanalaya NGO carries out field work, takes care of FDWs, fights for their rights if injustice is done, rescues minor girls, searches for and investigates rape cases, investigates physical/ sexual harassment cases, and investigates cases of non payment of wages. Nirmala Niketan, an NGO, provides residential accommodation to FDWs who are not in a position to work. Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, Ranchi (NGO) rescues minor girls and rehabilitates them. Prerana (NGO) in Mumbai works for trafficked women and children. Vanawasi Kalyan Ashram, Vanabandhu Parishad and Vishwa Hindu Parishad are also concerned with the problems of FDWs. They point out the risks or danger involved in migration and discourage them from migrating to Delhi or elsewhere, and their main activity is to provide education in tribal areas and strive for removal of illiteracy and ignorance. Vikas Bharati, Bishanpur (NGO) works in the areas of education, health, employment, environment, agriculture, village industries and technological development, etc. It was recommended that an effective mechanism to discourage migration of minor girls (below 18 years), both tribal and non-tribal, for employment as FDWs should be established by law. There is need to bring in a law for domestic workers to define the quantum of work, hours of work, wages paid to them, and other facilities to be given. It is essential to curb unlawful activities, especially the exploitation of FDWs, both financial and physical by placement agencies. Registration of girls migrating from villages or towns for work in other states as FDWs should be made compulsory. Special training centres/ institutes were established in districts for upgrading the skills of FDWs. Special and independent cells should be opened in the public relation offices of NGOs in Delhi for solving the problems/ difficulties faced by FDWs, and a number of counselling centres should be opened for their benefit.

KAP study on child domestic work: a study on knowledge, attitude and practices in child domestic work. Kolkata: JISC. 30 p.

**Key Words:** 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. DOMESTIC WORKER.

**Abstract:** Child domestic workers (CDWs) are the children working within homes, for wages, in cash or kind, outside their families, in domestic chores and not for commercial purposes. The study was conducted to understand the knowledge, attitude and practices regarding child domestic work in two gram panchayats (villages) of East Midnapore District of West Bengal, India where a 'Rights Based Project on CDWs' was implemented. The objective of the study was to understand the existing knowledge level about CDW, attitude towards it, and to evaluate the practices related to CDW. Data was collected from review of literature, discussions with CDWs using semi-structured questionnaires, and from primary and secondary sources. It was found that community people and key opinion leaders gave importance to the issue of CDW as a social problem. Programme staff had multiple skills, level of motivation was high, and they could handle difficult and challenging situations. It was observed that community people lacked knowledge about the health needs of CDWs. After the intervention, knowledge level of the community increased about causes and consequences of CDW, mobility and working environment of CDWs; and knowledge related to different institutional services/programmes available from the Government. On the attitude aspects, there were gaps in relationship building, and coordination was lacking between the various service and development institutions in the community. Parents were considered more as units of development than a tool for development. Among the parents, fathers generally wanted to deploy children as domestic workers. The practice was to engage girls aged 12 to 14 years as CDWs. They were vulnerable, and they often became school dropouts. There was no practice of maintaining an official database or recording process at the Gram Panchayat level on CDWs of the locality. Trafficking rackets were found to be active in villages which was a major hidden threat. Any strategic framework for advocating about the issue to local authorities and local decision makers was lagging behind. The negligent attitude towards CDWs decreased in the community, but local authorities did not properly utilize the existing legislation on child protection. Strategy should made for advocating about issues related to child domestic work, strengthening parents’ groups and mothers’ groups, and training them in child care practices and livelihood skills development.
Domestic Worker


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. DOMESTIC WORKER 3. SCHOOL DROP OUT 4. BASELINE SURVEY 5. WEST BENGAL.

Abstract: Employing children for household chores is one of the oldest practices in all societies. The present study was undertaken to understand the dynamics of poverty which forces poor children to accept the jobs of child domestic workers (CDWs) and abandon their childhood. A baseline survey was conducted in the area in Midnapore (East) district on CDWs and their parents. There were 2366 households in the region where 75% families belonged to general category and the rest were SCs, STs and OBCs. Only 30.98% respondents had studied till secondary level, 21% were illiterates, and the rest were just literate or able to enter higher secondary classes. Nearly 31.51% of the population including children did not have any occupation, and the rest were farmers (8.4%), daily labourers (14.39%), rickshaw pullers, fishermen, etc., and housewives constituted 25.84% of the total population. About 21% respondents earned between Rs.1001-1500 per month. Only 12.5% respondents lived in pucca (permanent) houses, the rest were in kutcha (temporary) houses. There were 128 CDWs and of them 124 were females and only 4 were males. Majority of CDWs (87.5%) worked in urban areas. Most of the CDWs (41.4%) had 3-5 members in the family, 36% had 5-7 members in their family and 17.18% had 7 or more members. Most CDW families earned between Rs.500-1000 per month which was the main cause for the migration of poor children. Majority of CDWs (85.15%) had to work for more than 8 hours per day. Nearly 92% CDWs had no access to education as per the reports gathered from their parents. CDWs visited their houses once in 3 months or 6 months. Mode of payment to CDWs was generally direct payment to them (60%). About 50% CDWs felt that their salary was good whereas the rest felt it was average. Only 38% CDWs felt that their employer's behaviour towards them was good. Most CDWs (69%) were not satisfied with facilities like proper toilet, proper living conditions, etc. Majority of CDWs (87%) had studied till Class IV-VI. The study suggests that there is a need to make community people aware about the importance of education. Also, Government should start some need based vocational training programmes for the economic upliftment of parents, and free education should be given for grooming a child's future.

**Key Words**: 1. CHILD LABOUR  2. DOMESTIC WORKER  3. WEST BENGAL.

**Abstract**: The most vulnerable and exploited children of all, as well as the most difficult to protect, may well be those in domestic service. The present study was done to understand the factors responsible for leading children into domestic work and the situation of children engaged in domestic work in Kolkata city. The sample was taken from 3 endemic districts of West Bengal namely East Midnapur, 24 Parganas South and 24 Parganas North, and data was collected through surveys. It was found that most child domestic worker (CDW) families were landless and depended on wages of daily labour for their livelihood, which was seasonal and irregular. So children were sent as CDWs to reduce the food expense and earn money for purchasing food stocks. It was found that there were no high schools in the villages due to which many children had to quit studies and work as CDWs. Another reason was that families could not afford school expenses. Most parents of CDWs were illiterates due to which they did not understand the importance of education and considered their children as helping hands. CDWs generally came from large families with many mouths to feed so they had to work to pay for the essential requirements of their families. Sometimes due to chronic illness in the family or demise of the head of family, the child had to work to fill in the gap. In Kolkata, since the children were brought up amidst city life, they saw luxury items around them, and with a desire to experience these comforts, they took up domestic jobs. The study emphasized that though CDWs income improves the economic condition of their households, yet their own lives remain under dark shadows of deprivation and exploitation by employers. The Government should start development programmes for CDWs and community people, the anti-trafficking law should be reformed, children must be informed about their legal rights, some vocational training programmes should be started for parents and children, and free education should be provided to children.

Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR  2. DOMESTIC WORKER  3. WEST BENGAL.

Abstract: In India, 20% of all children working outside the family home are in child domestic labour. The objectives of the study were to understand the socio-economic and cultural factors responsible for leading children into domestic work and to understand the situation/condition of children engaged in domestic work in the selected areas. A structured questionnaire was administered to heads of the households in selected villages in the districts of East Midnapore (6223), 24 Parganas South (2450) and 24 Parganas North (1993), and a structured interview was conducted with 652 children working in Kolkata city as links in domestic help. It was found that child domestic work (CDW) households belonged to the family income bracket of less than Rs. 1000 per month. The average family size in all the study areas varied between 5-9 members, giving rise to the need for higher incomes. Poverty played a dominant role in 80% of the cases, which eventually drove the families to earn money through the labour of children. Nearly 33% of all children who dropped out of school were in Class III or IV and they became CDWs. The main reasons why they dropped out from school were poverty, early marriage, and also due to lack of enough high schools. CDWs generally worked above 8 hours a day. There was very little scope for rest or free time in their daily routine. In 50% cases, working hours increased with age. 60% of CDWs were paid their salaries directly by the employers. 54.4% parents of CDWs ranked the employers' behaviour as good whereas 60% children felt insecure at their respective workplaces. The study found poverty to be the main reason for domestic work. So the Government should plan employment schemes and vocational training programmes for the parents of CDWs, and also free education up to high school should be given to the children, which would help eliminate most of their problems.


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR  2. DOMESTIC WORKER  3. VIOLATION OF CHILD RIGHTS  4. GIRL CHILD LABOUR.

Abstract: There are approximately 20 million people working as domestic workers in India. 92% are women girls and children, and 20% are children under 14 years of age. ILO reports that domestic work is the largest employment for females under the age of 16 years. Child
Domestic workers are children under 18 years who work in other people's households, doing domestic chores, caring for children and running errands. They work for long hours, sometimes 15 hours per day, but get meagre wages or no payment. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 prohibits child labour in some cases and makes recommendations for regulating it in some instances. However, the pre-requisite for the applicability of this Act is that it applies only to an establishment. A private home does not technically fall under this. The Children's (Pledging of Labour) Act 1933 mandates that penalties should be levied against any parent, middleman, or employer involved in making or executing the pledge of a child's labour, or in return for any payment or benefit received or to be received by him. The Bonded Labour (Rehabilitation) Act was enacted with a view to prevent the economic and physical exploitation of weaker sections of society. It is clear that while the problem of domestic child labour is acute, the endeavour by the State has been very minimal. A reservation was made in 1992 when the Convention on the Rights of the Child was signed and ratified with respect to child labour. It is important that the State should progressively work towards abolishing child labour. As far as child domestic workers are concerned, the Government needs to realize that there is absolutely no legal protection available to protect child domestic labour. Children work in extremely vulnerable conditions when they are employed as domestic workers. They are vulnerable to physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect, and children have no access to any medical help, nutritious food, education or any other support, which is needed for overall development. It is important to categorize child domestic work as hazardous and the State should ban children from being employed as domestic workers, and make employing children as domestic workers a cognizable offence.


Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.DOMESTIC WORKER  3.EXPLOITATION CHILD LABOUR 4.MUMBAI 5.JHARKHAND.

Abstract: Child domestic workers (CDWs) are mostly girls, sometimes boys, who come from villages to work and support their parents, feed their siblings and work in three to four homes. The present study was undertaken by the National Domestic Workers Movement to investigate the growing problem of domestic child labour in Mumbai and Jharkhand. Data was collected through structured questionnaires from 225 CDWs in Mumbai and 416 CDWs in Jharkhand. It was found that all CDWs in the sample were girls. Most belonged to the vulnerable age group of 10-16 years and some were even below 6 years of age. Around 43% CDWs of the sample were illiterate and overall educational qualifications were poor.
Majority of CDWs were involved in cleaning and washing in both Mumbai (55.6%) and Jharkhand (53.8%). About 25.3% CDWs had more than 3 family members and only 1.4% had one sibling. Around 87.4% CDWs spent their free time in leisure activities and very little in studies and vocational training. A majority of CDWs (77.2%) received their salary themselves, and the salary of only 23.2% children was given directly to the parents/guardians. The general trend of the pay structure ranged between Rs.500 to Rs.2000 on an average. However, a majority of CDWs worked as part-time workers, and did not earn more than Rs.500 to Rs.1000. Around 80% of the children used the money as a part of their family income. It was found that 74% CDWs did not have even the basic right to a holiday. It is important that child domestic work is included in the Child Labour Prevention and Regulation Act (CLPRA) as a hazardous form of child labour. It may also be necessary to have awareness campaigns in source (high endemic areas usually rural) areas as well as receiving areas (mainly urban) to highlight the issue of child domestic work and also problems faced by such children.

Save the Children, Kolkata. (2006).


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR  2. DOMESTIC WORKER  3. ABUSE CHILD LABOUR  4. EXPLOITATION CHILD LABOUR  5. CHILD ABUSE  6. SAFETY  7. CHILD SAFETY  8. PORNOGRAPHY  9. WEST BENGAL.

Abstract: Child domestic work has been recognized as one of the most intolerable forms of child work and is a sector that has been identified by the International Labour Organization (ILO) as a priority sector for removing children from work. Child domestic workers are vulnerable to physical, emotional and sexual exploitation. This research study focuses specifically on abuse faced by child domestic workers in both urban and rural areas in 4 districts of West Bengal. The universe of the study were 1020 children identified as domestic child labour and of these 513 responses were received. Most of the child participants were girls between 11-15 years of age, and 10% were below 10 years of age. About 46% participants had been working as child domestic workers for 2 years, approximately 52% had been working for 3 to 10 years and most had started working when they were between 8 and 12 years of age. Almost 70% of the child domestic workers had been physically abused. The most common type of physical abuse was beating with an external object and slapping. 5.3% of the total number of respondents had been at the receiving end of all forms of physical abuse, while another 16% had received all types of physical abuse except burning. 441 out of a total of 513 participants had faced emotional abuse in varied forms such as being shouted at (20.1%); cursed/verbally abused (11.1%);
threatened (1.9%); being called a mistake (3.3%); locked in a room (1.2%); compared with another child (1.2%); blamed (0.4%); and a combination of all the above mentioned forms (23.5%). Domestic workers were abused not only by their employers but by employers' relatives, and also abused by their families. Of the 35 boys in the research who experienced sexual violence, 8.4% said that someone had touched their private body parts, 17.1% were forced to touch someone else's private parts, and 5.7% stated that they had been forced/tricked into having a physical relationship with the abuser. Many of the child participants (36%) did try to seek help by speaking to someone about the abuse they were facing, but 33% kept the abuse to themselves, and did not disclose it to anyone. Child abuse, especially when it happens within the context of a relationship of power and trust, is the most fundamental violation of childhood. All children are vulnerable to abuse. The term 'abuse' especially 'child sexual abuse' should be clearly defined, so that it is made distinguishable from commercial sexual exploitation of children. Lobbying at the governmental and non-governmental level, and information dissemination at the public level should be done about the harmful aspects of domestic child labour. It is of paramount significance that this form of labour is also classified as hazardous and relevant legal protection is extended to these children. Personal safety - a curriculum that teaches children life skills and helps them participate in their own protection - can be included as part of the activities of non-formal education. Pro-active action should be taken to help and support them, networking with Childline (24 hours nation-wide helpline for children) should be strengthened for this purpose; building behavioural skills such as assertiveness, decision making, seeking help, communication and boosting self esteem, etc. should be undertaken in order to help transform information into action.


Key Words : 1. CHILD LABOUR 2.DOMESTIC WORKER 3.CHILD DOMESTIC WORKER 4.LEH 5.LADAKH 6.KARGIL 7.JAMMU AND KASHMIR.

Abstract : Child Domestic Worker (CDW) refers to a child engaged in domestic chores in a home outside their families for a wage, in cash or kind. The present study assessed the issue of CDW and its prevalence in Leh and Kargil, factors responsible for leading children into domestic work, and the community's perception about CDWs. The study was conducted with a wider group of stakeholders in Leh and Kargil, and data was collected from CDWs, their parents and community people (school teachers, labour officers, police officers, anganwadi workers, etc.). The study covered 103 children below 18 years who were engaged
as CDWs in Leh and Kargil, and 21 families of these CDWs. Around 53.4% CDWs were girls compared to 46.6% boys. Almost 73% CDWs lacked economic self-sufficiency and were from BPL families. The remaining 33% were above the poverty line (APL) and could manage their household; these families preferred to send their children to work outside their towns. In 80% cases, the head of CDW family was illiterate. The education of their mothers was even worse; around 101 out of 103 CDWs’ mothers were illiterate. Around 72.8% CDWs were school dropouts, and 13.59% had never been to school. It was found that around 45.6% CDWs came from families with more than 8 members. About 67.9% fathers and 88.3% mothers earned their living from small businesses and by working as agricultural labourers respectively. Many families (56%) had some amount of cultivable land. Around 69% respondents mentioned that poverty was the main factor responsible for children to be working as CDWs. Around 61% CDWs did not want to go back home as they had no alternative. About 51% of the CDWs managed to go to school with their employer’s permission. Around 63% children were happy with their working conditions. More than 50% children did not have any idea about their mode of payment, 10% got their wages directly. Around 27% CDWs mentioned that their income was taken directly by their parents, and in 3% cases middlemen who arranged the placement took it. About 33% did not get any wages or received less than Rs.200 per month. Only around 11% of them got Rs.1000/- or more in a month. Only 67% children managed to get health care support when they fell sick. About 5% got treatment only in case of serious sickness, and 9% never got any such support. A majority (72.5%) of the respondents/community people mentioned parental ignorance and illiteracy as reasons for children not attending schools. Trafficking in children was found to be a prevalent practice in the source area. About 38% people knew about child trafficking. Among them 11% knew persons engaged in child trafficking. Local self government and the community should play a proactive role to stop child abuse. Strong conviction about the problem can be considered central to preventing children from becoming CDWs.
Drug Abuse


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. CHILD LABOUR-DRUG ABUSE 3. WORKING CONDITION 4. DRUG ABUSE 5. CASE STUDY 6. CHILDREN IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES.

Abstract: The present study focused on the problem of drug abuse among male child workers in Punjab. The study covered male 200 drug users and 200 male non-drug users among child workers from the cities of Chandigarh, Ludhiana, and Jalandhar. Data revealed that majority of drug users among child workers were younger, predominantly Hindus and scheduled caste or OBC in comparison to the non-users of drugs working in similar conditions. About 50% of the users had no education and 40% had education up to primary level, whereas the non-users included 7.5% matric and 25% educated up to middle level. Due to poverty children worked under unsatisfactory working conditions. It was the in-thing to smoke/drink/abuse drugs in the group to which these children belonged. Drug abuse was introduced to them by their friends (60%), co-workers (30%), and fathers (10%). Fathers of 70% drug users and friends and siblings of 50% drug users were also using drugs. Even the employers were using drugs. About 50% of them were willing to leave drugs. 40% drug users and 37.5% non-drug users would like to study, if given a chance. The remaining would prefer to keep on working and not study. Non-drug users (37.5%) were more uncertain about their future plan than the drug users (10%). 60% of the drug users would like to continue with the same work, whereas 30% of the drug users and 52.5% of the non-drug users want better and alternative jobs. It was observed that 70% of the users had no suggestions to offer while 30% suggested that the Government or some agency should do something and help them to study. From the above study it was found that children work due to poverty; working conditions, wages and work itself was not at all satisfying; and general awareness about their future is absent. Hence, it was recommended that the problem should be tackled with the joint collaboration of different agencies, by pooling resources, manpower and know-how, so that meaningful social action could be taken up. It also recommended preventive strategies at primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. Early prevention and early treatment constituted early intervention activity. At the national level, policies and programmes regarding drug abuse must be supported by a well-conceived organizational structure, that has the full support of government.
Abstract: Right Path of Education (RPE) is a specialized project launched by Committee for Legal Aid to the Poor (CLAP). RPE is a comprehensive advocacy and action oriented programme for elimination of the child labour system in a specific area Badamba, Orissa, promoting children's right to education as guaranteed under Article 21 (A) of the Indian Constitution. The project area Badamba in Orissa has the largest number of child labour, who are engaged mostly in secondary and tertiary sectors like beedi making, weaving, collection of minor forest produce, agriculture, etc. The intervention strategy under RPE was made comprehensive, child centred, rights based and participatory as it involves Government, non-government agencies, the community, parents, etc., and under the Project, children at risk of child labour are educated in sub-contracted activities in targeted communities. Panchayati Raj Institutions plan for education as per the provisions of the Constitution and Gram Panchayat law. The RPE Project became a part of Winrock's well conceived programme called CIRCLE, which promotes Community Based Intervention to Reduce Child Labour through Education, therefore the Project is also named as CIRCLE/ RPE. This Project publicized its definition that any child out of school is child labour. Preliminary estimates showed that out of 3011 children identified, there were around 900 children who were either in school or children who crossed the upper age limit by January 2006, double counted children, girl children who got married, and children who were studying or working outside the target area. 783 boys and 682 girls out of 2100 children who were at risk of child labour, were re-admitted into school. During the survey, some critical legal issues were raised by the respondents' families which could not be responded to immediately by the survey team. Discussions centred around laws relating to women and children. Since women play an important role in the family, more particularly in matters of education of children, they need to be sensitized and made aware of the Educational Rights of their children. Without the involvement and support of the block official it would be fairly impossible to promote the idea and action relating to convergence. A block level meeting on convergence was organized to reduce child labour, and literature was distributed among the participants for bringing clarity on the issue. The issue of absenteeism of
teachers, poor quality of education and infrastructure was central to the discussions held with community members. Some parents used their children in bidi making (local cigarettes) activities at the household level, but the problem was identification of these families. On 8th May 2006, notice had been served to the owners of Bidi Establishments, requesting them not to engage children under the age of 14 years. ICDS has been supporting RPE cause by participating in its programmes and helping it in locating non-school going children. They appealed for support to identify child labour in their respective areas. The RPE Project used multi-prolonged public awareness campaigns to increase understanding of the dangers of child labour and the importance of education through the use of posters, wall paintings, street programmes for creating awareness about law, distribution of leaflets and brochures, exhibition stalls, signature campaigns and open public debates. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) organized training and orientation programmes for its teachers around the State in different phases. CIRCLE/RPE interacted with the communities, and played a supportive role to teachers for mobilizing parents and children. Introduction of new promotional offers for children, especially for girl children, like dresses, bicycles, scholarships, etc. promoted enrolment. CLAP seems to be very well networked with a variety of local, national and even international bodies. The lack of intervention aimed at livelihood enhancement may negatively affect the Project's ability to meet its targets for enrolment and retention.

Committee for Legal Aid to Poor, Cuttack. (2006).
Survey report on the state of child labour and primary education in Badamba block.
Cuttack : CLAP. 104 p.

Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.EDUCATION 3.CHILD LABOUR EDUCATION 4.RIGHT TO EDUCATION 5.ELIMINATION CHILD LABOUR 7.ORISSA.

Abstract : Employment of child labour is a widespread and universal phenomena, and child labour is a major agro rural problem with illiteracy and poverty as aggravating factors. The present study was done to identify the factors responsible for forcing the child to work and forego education, understanding the existence of child labour in different occupations, their nature of work, wages received, family background of children, attitude of parents, and condition of schools. Data was collected from 138 villages in the ambit of 36 panchayats in Badamba block of Cuttack district of Orissa, where children 6-14 years of age, who were not going to school were found in 127 villages. Around 92% villages had primary schools inside the village, and 52% students were boys while girls were 48%. About 65% school buildings existed in semi- pucca (with asbestos and tile roof) structures and 31% had pucca (permanent) buildings. Regarding the basic amenities in primary schools, 73% had drinking
water facility, 47% had playgrounds, 30% had play materials, 28% had lavatories, and only 18% had electricity connections, etc. Only 5% villages had health care facilities inside the village, and villagers in the remaining 95% villages had to run to other places to avail such benefits. About 70% parents of child labour belonged to BPL (below poverty line) families and had a monthly income below Rs.1000/- per month. Major factors that were responsible for hindrance in the education of the child were poverty or death of the earning member. Illiteracy of parents was positively associated with the non-school going behaviour of children, and the study found that most parents of child labour were either totally illiterate or functionally illiterate. Other reasons were parents’ apathy, they related education with less economic returns and forced the children to work, and also disinterestedness of the child due to non-availability of facilities in schools. Parents involved their children in traditional occupations, and as children spent their time in the learning and working process, their interest in education was dampened. Around 70% children were engaged in household work and 12% were engaged in traditional occupations. The highest amount of wages, Rs.370 per month, was paid for 7 hours in construction work, whereas Rs.203 was paid for the same period in traditional occupations (weaving, blacksmith, goldsmith, barber, washerman, etc). For 5 hours of daily work, Rs.125 was paid as monthly wages for work in garages, Rs.170 for stone cutting and Rs.230 for beedi (local cigarette) making along with no holidays and rest. The study suggested that Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act should be strictly implemented with simultaneous development of Rehabilitation Programmes for BPL households, along with alluring incentives in schools and other education oriented institutions.


Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR   2.CHILD LABOUR INDIA   3.STATISTICS CHILD LABOUR  4.CHILD LABOUR STATISTICS  5.CHILD LABOUR EDUCATION   6.ELIMINATION CHILD LABOUR.

Abstract : The issue of child labour cuts across policy boundaries and is the cause and consequence of poverty, illiteracy and adult unemployment. Child labour has connections with distress displacements, gender inequity, social and human under development, conflict situations and insecurity, and poor governance. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, Teacher Education Programme and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyadhan are initiatives that aim to provide quality elementary education to all children in the 6-14 years age group by 2010. Between 1950-51 and 2003, the number of primary schools in India increased from about 210,000 to a little over 664,040 and the number of upper primary schools increased almost 15 times from 13,600 to
219,626 schools. According to District Information on School Education (DISE) there were 931,471 primary and upper primary schools in India. More than 95% population has access to primary education within a distance of one km. However, several mountainous regions and tribal areas lack access to primary schools even within the distance of 2 to 3 kms. The increase in the magnitude of child labour during 1991 – 2001 was in spite of tremendous efforts by Government, United Nations, other international agencies and NGOs for universalizing primary education and removing children from work through education and other rehabilitative interventions. According to the latest Census figures of 2001 released in August 2005, out of 226 million children aged 6-14 years, 65.3 million children (29%) were not attending any educational institutions. The proportion of out of school boys was 25%, while it was 33% for girls. The Government should take all possible steps to enforce child labour and bonded labour laws. The SSA requires scaling up of public investment for improving school infrastructure, quality of teaching and school environment to ensure full implementation of newly incorporated Article 21 A of the Constitution, providing free and compulsory quality education to all children below 14 years. The Central and State Governments should internalize the linking up processes of poverty alleviation, health support and elementary education in a unified manner to eliminate child labour supply and demand aspects effectively.

Children, work and education I and II : field study in UP : general parameters. 

Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2. EDUCATION 3. FAMILY PLANNING 4.SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTOR.

Abstract : The study discussed various parameters associated with child labour, namely poverty, illiteracy and high fertility levels. The simultaneous prevalence of both features necessitates and stimulates the participation of children in the labour force. In the second part of the study the view that schooling and family planning are restrained by limited choice rather than by cultural factors was traced during the course of field work in two villages in Faizabad district of U.P. Socio-economic profile of two villages revealed low literacy rate among females, discrimination in land ownership among castes, poverty and prevalence of high fertility rate. In spite of the fact that access to education was a general wish among parents and children, the access remained limited due to ill-equipped and poor functioning of Government schools. It was generally approved that children should go to school, but dissatisfaction with the functioning of schools induced the children and parents to forego education and poverty forced them to start earning.
Elimination of Child Labour


Abstract: The study was conducted by NIPCCD Southern Regional Centre, Bangalore for the prevention of child labour and to identify the target group. An action plan was launched by NIPCCD. Four pilot areas were chosen in Andhra Pradesh covering in all 135 villages. 39 villages of Hindupur in Ananthpur district; 38 of Markapur from Prakasam district; 47 villages from Kuppam, Chittoor district; and 11 villages in Vishakhapatnam district were selected for the study. One NGO in each of the pilot areas was identified as an executive agency; namely Seva Mandir, RASS, ASSIST and TARA respectively. Information was collected with the help of an interview schedule, by community workers who were local persons. It was found that of the 21,822 families in the four pilot areas, 6,788 families had child labour (CLF), and 15,034 families did not have child labour (NCLF). 38,537 children below 14 years were identified in the survey and of these 15,755 belonged to CLF and 22,782 to NCLF. At the time of the survey, 5041 children were employed for wages. It was reported that 1673 children were neither working nor going to school. Another group of 2550 children were reported as 'never enrolled'. Around 5% children were educated up to Class 8. Only 18% of the children from CLFs had education up to Class 8 or 9, compared to 81% from NCL families. About 64% children were going to school and the remaining 36% were not attending any school. 10% of the children dropped out at some stage, and 50% children had dropped out during the last year. Around 43% of the children were engaged in agricultural, domestic or construction work. Around 25% of the children were idle at home. Training to Anganwadi Workers (AWW) and teaching learning materials was provided to them, and all efforts were made to put the children back, who had dropped out recently from the school. Early warning system in schools is an innovative school based strategy
conceived to prevent dropout and promote retention. An alert community is the most efficient watchdog to prevent child labour, hence the Project aimed at mobilizing the community and building an environment to prevent child labour. Community can be mobilized through motivational meetings, door-to-door visits, Bal melas, child-to-child campaigns, rallies, Gram Sabha, Janmabhoomi programmes and audio-visuals. Inter-departmental coordination should also be promoted to prevent child labour. The entire processes of the Project were documented to provide hindsight on the operations. Print, photo and video documentation was undertaken, and the experiences gained in implementation of the action programme were recorded. A preventive model for elimination of child labour was field-tested and operationalised in the action programme undertaken. From field experiences, it could be surmised that the preventive model on child labour had encouraging results. The strategy of focusing interventions to a specific target group by a number of implementing agencies was effective. However, greater interface and networking is required.


Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.ELIMINATION  3.ILO PROJECT 4.SC/ST CHILDREN.

Abstract: The ILO/IPEC programme in the Chatna Block of Bankura District, West Bengal was executed by Chamtagara Adibasi Mahila Samity since 1993 with the objectives to wean children away from the work force, enroll them into formal schools, and to improve the living conditions of the poor, through community awareness and linkages with Government programmes. To achieve this target, a United Village Committee and Mahila Mandal were formed. United Village Committee besides monitoring, identifies the constraints of the programme and suggests remedial measures. Mahila mandal, formed with the mothers of the target group, have interaction with the families of child labour and educate them regarding health measures, family planning, kitchen garden and other programmes. To provide credit facilities to the families of the target group, groups were formed on the basis of mutual trust and voluntary association. The group members initially pooled their savings to support economic activity. The main thrust areas of the project were non formal education, health improvement of child labour and the community, and mobilisation of the community for betterment and self development.
Elimination of Child Labour


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. ELIMINATION 3. ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR 4. ERADICATION CHILD LABOUR 5. CHILD LABOUR STATISTICS.

Abstract: After 70 years, in which the international community viewed the child labour problem in purely market terms, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) has provided a human rights lens and dramatically altered the perspective. According to 55th Round of National Sample Survey (NSS) Organisations conducted in 1999-2000, child labour numbered 10.41 million (5.57 million males and 4.84 million females). Highest number of child labour were in Andhra Pradesh (17.89%) followed by Uttar Pradesh (13.14%), West Bengal (7.93%), Orissa (3.28%), Punjab (1.53%), Rajasthan (1.39%) and the least were in Delhi (0.67%). The main objectives of the project were to withdraw children, working in hazardous occupations in Murshidabad district, and rehabilitate them. The low rate of literacy and lack of employment opportunities forced both children and adults to roll bidis. 4,000 child labourers were engaged mostly in bidi industry, on lathe machines, and in brick kilns. They were 8-14 years of age, and about 60% were girls. Out of 88,000 preliminary identified child labourers, 2000 were brought under 40 NCLP centers, which were located in Jangipur sub-division. In 2000-2001, 836 students were enrolled in Class II while 1164 were enrolled in Class III. Each student was paid a monthly stipend of Rs 100/- and a tiffin (meal) of Rs 2.50 per day. School hours were not less than 4 hours a day and books used were prescribed by National Literacy Mission (NLM). Vocational training, nutritional supplements at Rs 2.50 per student per day, stipend, and health check ups were the interventions implemented. The Ministry of Labour should collaborate closely with the Department of Education and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to combat the problem of child labour. Convergence of child labour eradication programmes with the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, and programmes of other Departments need to be strengthened. Convergence has gender dimensions too. Teachers from the local community should be an important eligibility criterion for their appointment. Local climatic and cultural factors should be kept in mind for the standard menu for mid-day meals that are provided in schools. Involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in rural areas and local bodies in urban areas in decision making processes should be solicited. Many more micro level experiments would have to be made. Emphasis should be on retaining children in the education system.


Abstract: Andhra Pradesh has a large number of child labourers, and efforts are on to eliminate this problem. MV Foundation (MVF) implemented the programme for elimination of child labour by strengthening the institution building processes at the local level. Mandal Task Force was constituted in each mandal, that met once in a quarter to discuss children's rights in their constituency. One mandal covered 50 villages in Rangareddy District. Hundreds of girls in the 13-18 years age group joined the campaign for their rights, especially their right to education and against child marriage. Programme on health rights of children below 6 years was taken up under which every pregnant woman was monitored, along with every child born in that area. MVF also acted as a networking agency to take the lead on the programmes against child labour. Thus, it brought together about 40 NGOs to stop mass marriages of children in the temple town of Kalahasthi. This effort helped in preventing over 1000 child marriages, and built advocacy support to amend the Child Labour Act 1986. About 50 Gram Panchayats had been activated for protecting child rights. They began issuing birth certificates and registering marriages in their constituencies. MVF also works in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Bihar. In Bihar, the importance of education of older children was realized by the community, and pressure was created regarding dropout from schools, lack of teachers and other infrastructure in schools. After that, a residential camp was started for older girls, and other children were admitted in neighbouring Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) centres and schools. Soon the community learnt not only to focus their attention on out-of-school children, but also on retention of children in schools. MVF networked with national advocacy groups such as Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL), CRUWSF, HAQ, IACR and facilitated a campaign to bring about an amendment to the Child Labour (Prevention and Regulation) Act 1986. MVF helped to release 558 bonded labourers in Ranga Reddy and 563 in Nalgonda districts, and also rescued 542 girls from child marriages in the same villages. MVF had to take on the responsibilities of being a technical training and resource agency. It also focused attention on building its institutional capacity through systematic training and capacity building of its senior staff. Its senior programme personnel participated as resource persons in national and state level workshops on child labour and right to education hosted by the Government.
of India, State Government, NGOs and others. The model of advocacy against child labour can be replicated in many states where the problem is endemic.


Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.ELIMINATION  3.STRATEGIES FOR ELI MINATION
4.SITUATION OF CHILD LABOUR.

Abstract : International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimated that 317 million children are involved in work in 2004. According to the survey of ILO (2006), 69% of working children are in agriculture, 22% are in service sector, and 9% are in the industry sector. In India (2001), the number of child labour has been estimated to be 12,591,667. Some states are showing a decreasing trend of child labour, namely Andhra Pradesh (1363339), Kerala (26156), Gujarat (485530), Orissa (377594) and Tamil Nadu (418802). The National Child Labour Project (NCLP) implements model programmes consisting of key elements such as: stepping up enforcement of the prohibition of child labour, providing employment to parents of children, expanding formal and non-formal education, promoting school enrolment through various incentives such as payment of stipend, raising public awareness, and evaluation. Presently NCLP are operational in 250 districts spread over 20 states of India such as Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. NCLP address the issue of child labour by establishment of special schools, provision of vocational training, involvement of parents in various income and employment generating activities, withdrawal of children from factories, creating a work environment through awareness generation, and enforcement of the Child Labour Act, 1986. So the emphasis should be on sensitization of parents, employers and working children. This could be done by designing an year long calendar of activities which may include staging of nukkad natak (street plays), publicity through local radio programmes/ wall posters and by conducting rallies and other related events. Project societies are required to set up child labour special schools by encouraging voluntary efforts for imparting formal/ non-formal education and voluntary training, nutrition, stipend and health care services. In the 10th Plan, child labour elimination efforts were linked with the scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) of the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy of Ministry of Human Resource Development. The functioning of the projects is to be monitored and reviewed by the State Department of Labour. A number of areas where intervention of the State Government is essential are finalization of the uniform curriculum, course content, etc: coordination with State.
Elimination of Child Labour

Education Department for facilitating enrollment of children passing out of special schools; finalization of craft and pre-vocational training module for children enrolled in special schools; ensuring inspection of the Child Labour Projects and sending periodic inspection reports to the Ministry of Labour and Employment, etc. The Indus Child Labour Project operational in Aligarh, Allahabad, Ferozabad, Kanpur and Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh recognizes that working children belong to specific sections of the population that continue to be marginalized. Its goal is to target marginalized populations of children in selected areas and to improve their attendance, performance and retention in the education system. The key strategies of the programme are enrolment in public elementary education, withdrawal from work and provision of transitional education, strengthening vocational training, strengthening public education of child workers and social mobilization. The beneficiaries are identified young child workers (5-8 years) who will be directly enrolled in regular schools; older child workers (9-13 years), who will be provided with transitional education and support services; adolescent workers (14-17 years) who will be provided vocational training; and parents of working children will be organized into self help groups (SHGs) and later provided with skills for additional income generation. International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) has the objectives to enhance the capability of ILO constituents and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) to design, implement and evaluate programmes for child labour elimination; to identify interventions at community and national levels which can serve as models for replication; and create awareness and social mobilization for securing elimination of child labour.


Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.POVERTY  3.ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR.

Abstract: The study explored the causes of child labour and suggested an action plan for implementation and elimination of child labour. Based on the situation of child labour in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh, it was observed that poverty, traditions like low value for female education and early marriages, preference for child labour by employers, and short-comings of the education system were numerous factors pulling children into the labour market. Analysis of the situation revealed that the following preventive measures could be adopted to eliminate child labour: (i) economic development and better income distribution; (ii) social security and assistance policy; (iii) discouragement of children from entering employment; (iv) encouraging technical advancement; and (v) effective enforcement of child labour laws. As it is impossible to eliminate child labour totally, it was also suggested that a rehabilitative approach should be adopted to minimise any deleterious
effects from it, through the provision of basic health, education and other services. Labour legislations must be accompanied by a wide range of measures encompassing employment and income generation projects, reforms, and expansion in education to eradicate child labour. It suggested that families below the poverty line should be selected for receiving benefits under Poverty Alleviation Programmes and accredited VOs must be involved to ensure proper functioning of the programme. Parents should be exposed to the benefits of education, and free uniforms and text books, along with mid-day meals should be provided to all school children. Vocational education for children should also be introduced. Rural development programmes can be dovetailed with women and child welfare and girl child schemes.


Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.ELIMINATION  3.ELIMINATION CHILD LABOUR  4.ECONOMIC IMPLICATION  5.CHILD LABOUR ANDHRA PRADESH  6.ANANDRA PRADESH.

Abstract: In the prevailing scenario, many children from poor families in rural and urban areas do not go to school because their labour is essential to supplement as well as to substitute their family income. The study attempted to investigate the possible economic and social consequences that may affect (positively and negatively) the industries where child labour has to be replaced by adult workers. Data was collected by interviewing child labour from different industries namely cotton industry, leather industry, automobile workshops and beedi industry, their parents, and employers in Andhra Pradesh. In Andhra Pradesh, as per official statistics, there were 16,61,940 child labourers in the age group 7 to 14 years. Autonagar is one of the biggest and well organized automobile industry units which has 26 automobile workshops regulated by the Umbrella Body called Automobile Technicians Association (ATA). In 2001, there were about 2403 child labourers but at the time of visit there were only 446 child labourers working in different shops. These children worked for 6 hours and thereafter attended the education program at Bal Vikas Kendra at Autonagar which was financially supported and sponsored by ATA. In the leather industry, child labour was predominantly employed in slaughter houses, followed by tanneries and footwear units. The nature of jobs they were involved in slaughter houses and tanneries were unhygienic and hazardous. Leather products manufacturing units do not have child labour, but girls in the age group of 16 years and above worked there. In the unorganized units, mostly entire families were involved. In the cotton ginning industry, labour belonging
to migrant families entered into a contract under family package deal, hence along with
parents, children also worked. Girl child labour was found more in ginning units. Beedi
industry was one of the oldest agro-based industries where most of the work took placed
manually by women in their houses. Children, mostly girls, helped their mothers in rolling
beedis, and some children attended schools. Majority of the girl children from poor
families worked as daily wage labourers. Child labour who worked in semi-skilled jobs in auto
workshops got Rs.100 to Rs.150 per day and a daily batta (allowance) of Rs.10 to Rs.20,
whereas those who worked as helpers to skilled labour got Rs.25 per day. Girls who worked
in ginning were paid Rs.25 per day, and boys who were in pressing units were paid Rs.30 per
day. Children who worked in the leather industry were paid Rs.10 per day for 7 hours work,
and child labour who worked for 14 hours a day were paid Rs.20 per day. Children who
worked in the beedi industry earned Rs.10-15 for 12 hours of work. With regard to
employers' perceptions, except the employers of leather industry, employers in the other
industries did not show much interest to eliminate child labour. According to parents the
main reason for sending their children to work was poverty because most families belonged
to low income group. Majority of the child labourers were satisfied with their work, and
some were also enthusiastic to learn more skills as they got more money at a very young age.
Hence, while planning for elimination of child labour, it is advisable to adopt 'realistic
strategies' instead of going by 'optimistic strategies', that is forcefully throwing child
labour into schools, designing flexible employment hours, and facilitating them with a
recommended combination of work with education, not just 'learning literacy', but also
provide 'functional literacy' with skills development.

V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, NOIDA. (2000).

Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.CONVERGENCE OF SERVICES  3.ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR.

Abstract : This study was a joint effort of V.V.Giri National Labour Institute and UNICEF.
The main objective was to examine the convergence of different development programmes
to eliminate child labour. It also aimed to establish linkages between economic variables and
concomitant changes in the organisation of society, particularly with regard to class
structure, education and the role of Government in assuring basic social and economic
security. A sample of 114 districts from 12 states and 25 development programmes were
selected. The states were Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya
Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, U.P. and West Bengal. The various
development schemes selected were National Literacy Mission (NLM), Indira Awaas Yojana
Elimination of Child Labour


Zutshi, Bupinder et al. (2002).
In the name of child labour: eradication and evaluation programme. Delhi : Shipra. 224p.

Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.EDUCATION 3.EVALUATION PROGRAMME 4.NON-FORMAL EDUCATION 5.CHILD WORKER

Abstract : The present study evaluated and assessed non-formal education (NFE) schools run by local NGO's in Muapul-Bhadohi carpet weaving area. Information and data was collected from secondary sources viz, Labour Ministry, National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) and other national and international voluntary organisations and NGOs associated with rehabilitation of child labour in general and carpet weaving in particular. Data was also collected from several NGOs partners. The secondary data collected from NGOs and voluntary organisations was analysed to identify the schools providing NFE programme to the child labour released and rescued from the carpet industry. The field survey covered 18 NGOs, 58 NFE schools, 311 children, 73 teachers/technical staff and 171 parents. The respondents surveyed represented males and females as well as all social groups including SC/ST/other backward castes and higher castes. Results revealed that the magnitude of child labour in India is under-estimated due
to inadequate and unreliable data. The working conditions prevailing in these looms are highly inappropriate. Basic amenities like safe drinking water and toilet facilities are absent. The spatial distribution of non-formal schools in the carpet weaving belt is highly concentrated and comparatively less than the demand. Dropout rates and attendance records of the enrolled children in these NFE schools were related to provision of multiplicity of activities, especially mid day meals, stipend to children and quality of education provided by teachers. NGOs have been able to create a conducive atmosphere in these rural areas by enrolling large proportion of girls. Recommendation derived were related to: generation of employment opportunities; coordination to integrate government efforts with voluntary organizations; strengthening, monitoring and evaluation of NFE special schools, and lastly, the initiation of awareness generation programmes.
Exploitation

Calcutta, the city of joy also has exploitation of children in the work field.

Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.EXPLOITATION 3.CASE STUDY 4.CHILD LABOUR 5.WEST BENGAL.

Abstract: The study was undertaken in 3 wards of Calcutta Corporation 61,62 and 66 and was confined to 15 case studies in various industries in the unorganised sector. The industries covered were leather goods, motor parts shops, garages, hotels, rubber and PVC units, shoe making industry, tailoring, embroidery and zari units, etc. The industrial units did not have licences or address and employers employed children through contractors. The incentives for children were food and shelter, or very little wages which helped their parents or children to be financially independent. The average family size was seven. In the garage industry, the working hours were long 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. While doing jobs like welding and grinding, the child could sustain cuts and burns, and injuries on the body. Training period was extended so that no wages were paid. In hotels children worked all seven days, and more than half the workers were children. In the leather bag stitching industry, children were given no wages other than food and lodging and some festival allowances. During the peak season they work from 9 a.m to 4 a.m. the next morning, in cramped floor level sitting position, for no extra wages, which is exploitation. In the tailoring industry, the child worker got no cash, only food, lodging and clothes for working from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. and they had a weekly off. In the rubber/PVC sector, children earned a decent amount for working from 9 a.m to 9 p.m., but rubber dust and the strong smell of rubber was inhaled, which has long term adverse effects on health. In the motor parts industry, child workers worked 12 hours a day continuously in an environment of heat and dust, which affected their health. Only 3 of the 17 child workers were literate, and 14 of them had migrated from Bihar. Legislation was not adequate and did not cover all hazardous industries, nor was its enforcement effective. Efforts are needed to increase family income, therefore it is suggested that cottage and small scale units should be promoted in rural areas. Licensing policies should be restricted with reservations where production of items produced by small scale and cottage industries should not be allowed in the large scale sector.
Germ Industry


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. CHILD LABOUR LEGISLATION 3. EDUCATION SYSTEM 4. WORKING CHILDREN

Abstract: The study attempted to understand the extent of the impact of the child labour legislation in the gem polishing industry of Jaipur and the fall out of the child labour legislation in this industry. It also analysed the demand and supply side factors as well as the cultural context that perpetuates child labour in the gem polishing industry. The study is based on primary data collected through multistage random sampling. A total sample of 750 households has been taken for the present study of which 500 are those with child labour and the remaining 250 households are those with non-child labour. The study was conducted in three mohallas of Jaipur city with a sample of 375, 225, 150 households. The study besides obtaining quantitative data has also sought qualitative information through observation and focus group discussion with different target group. There were a total of 727 working children in gem polishing industry out of the sample of 500 child labour households which consist of a total of 1944 workers. Children thus constitute 37% of workers in the child labour families and 28% of all the workers in the sample. It was revealed that of the total sample of 750 households, 85% families belonged to Muslim community. Thus child labour was more in Muslim families. Lower levels of literacy and education was found in households with child labour compared to other households and the literacy level in Jaipur city. The work force participation rate of boys was quite high especially in the age group of 12-14 years. The minimum age of entry into work was 6 years for both boys and girls in the gem polishing industry. The study recommended a more holistic framework for alternative interventions which calls for re-examination of existing legislation and enactment of necessary amendments with the collaboration of different stakeholders to ensure that the objective of providing a better future for the children is met.
**Girl Child Labour**

From girl child labour to students in formal school: reallocation of work in families.  
Secundrabad: M. Venkatarangaiya Foundation. 15 p.

**Key Words**: 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.GIRL CHILD LABOUR 3.GIRL CHILD 4.HOUSEHOLD ACTIVITY 5.ROLE OF GIRLS IN HOUSEHOLD 6.GIRLS EDUCATION

**Abstract**: For girls in rural areas, working is a widely accepted way of life from the age of 5 years. They support their mothers by doing outdoor work, look after their siblings, and they also work in stone and lime quarries, where they carry head loads of earth and rubble from pits at least 50 feet deep. Very few girls have spare time for play or school. This study was conducted in Rangareddy district of Andhra Pradesh. Nearly 1000 eligible girls aged 8-15 years from 225 families were contacted. The average family size was six, and literacy rate among the population was 50%. Only 20% had education up to primary level, and only 2% had accessed college education. About 90% children aged 5-14 years were in school and the remaining were engaged in one or the other form of labour. Girls also took care of animals after they came home from grazing, and if the girls went to school, animals were sold because no family member was available to look after them. Participation of girls in agricultural work was 20%, and a few went for wage work on holidays to supplement the family income. The MV Foundation programme aimed at universalizing education among girls and made efforts to encourage families to send girls to school. The main activities girls were engaged in were fetching water, washing clothes, going to the market, delivering food, fetching firewood, cleaning the house and front yard, cleaning utensils, child care, house security and cooking. A significant part of the burden of the work done by girls subsequent to their enrolment was done by the female members of the family, especially the mother. Male members took up outside activities, but with the majority of boys in schools, the work was initially transferred to girls, and now it went back to adult male members. It was found that sibling care was not an issue as this work was not reallocated. The current study indicated the elaborate arrangements made by family members to retain their children in schools. The study also indicated that in order to withdraw girls from work, the mother has to be strongly motivated since she is the one who has to bear the brunt of the withdrawal of the girl child from work.
Glass Industry


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. GLASS BANGLE INDUSTRY 3. CHILD LABOUR FIROZABAD 4. CHILD ABUSE 5. LABOUR LEGISLATION 6. CHILD MOLESTING 7. CHILD NEGLECT.

Abstract: The study was undertaken in the glass bangle manufacturing industry in Firozabad district of Uttar Pradesh. The objective was to understand the impact of relevant legislation on child labour, keeping in view demand-side factors, supply-side factors and the state of education in the area. A sample of 1013 households was taken for study, out of which 312 households had migratory status. Study was conducted through observations, questionnaires and focus group discussions with parents of the working children; education department officials; labour department officers and other government officials; school teachers; Panchayati Raj representatives; trade union representatives and employers who helped in gathering quantitative and qualitative information. Bangle production is done at two stages - initial making of glass spiral is done at factory level and then the entire work is transferred to household sector, where child labour is quite high. As the contribution of child labour income to the family is substantial, withdrawal of children from this industry would require a well-planned strategic effort, and the formalisation of informal sector may also provide an opportunity for non-involvement of children in work. In India, the Factories Act of 1881 for the first time banned the working of children below seven years in factories. Further, Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and the National Policy on Child Labour, 1987 was formulated to provide relief to children who work in factories. Health and education schemes were started under Child Labour Projects for their welfare. Legislation were enacted so as to increase the minimum age of work for children, decrease the total working hours of the children in non-hazardous work, and prohibit work during night. Legal provisions of various kinds that prevented the growth of child labour included ban on child employment in hazardous jobs, and ban on import of goods from countries and industries using child labour. Compulsory school education and supportive programmes to promote enrolment led to further interventions, discouraging child labour. As a result of the historic judgement by the Supreme Court on December 10, 1996, a child labour survey was conducted by the district administration from April 4, 1997 to May 12, 1997, which identified 4,978 working children, out of which 4,537 were in hazardous occupations and 441 in non-hazardous occupations. Based on this survey, notices were issued to employers to deposit money in
Child Labour Welfare and Rehabilitation Fund. The enforcement of child labour legislation at Firozabad faces problems such as inadequate staff to implement labour laws, false certificates with employers showing the age of child workers to be more than 14 years, attitude of the workers who side with the employers as they do not want to risk losing their jobs and want to avoid the hassles of being involved in court cases. Efforts have been made to introduce new technological interventions in the existing organizational structure in order to bring about improvements in working conditions. Study highlighted the fact that workers should be encouraged to organize themselves so that they can bargain for higher wages, and also eliminate contractors; join savings and credit groups so that they can have easy access to their money, and seek education so that they can improve their lives. The system should be improved and enforcement of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act should take place at the home-based level so that the factory owners cannot shift their work from the factories to homes in order to escape the provisions of law.

Save the Children UK, New Delhi. (2000).

**Key Words**: 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.GLASS INDUSTRY  3.BANGLE INDUSTRY  4.FEROZABAD  5.CHILD LABOUR UTTAR PRADESH  6.UTTAR PRADESH.

**Abstract**: Child labour remains a serious problem in India. According to ILO, every fifth child in the age group 10-14 years is part of the country's active labour force. Around 86.4% of the child work force is employed in agriculture and allied activities in rural areas. Child labour is rampant in the glass city - Ferozabad. They are involved mainly in home based or cottage units. State Government estimated that around 5,000 children were engaged in glass factories. Children in the age group 10-12 years carry burning rods of molten glass stuck on the tip of eight feet long iron rods. Children carry these rods from the furnace to skilled persons and back again. The role of girl child workers was limited, and they were engaged in sorting broken bangle pieces of different colours. Children earned Rs.10 to Rs.15 per day. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 was strongly enforced since 1995 by the Labour Department and district authorities of Ferozabad. There are 446 registered factories employing 9000 workers, in which 22% women and 20% children work. Around 12,793 families are engaged in glass work in Ferozabad district. Around 5757 families have working children under 14 years, and 8290 child labour work in the informal sector. Active TB disease, either pulmonary or extra pulmonary, was detected in 4.1% (39 out of 946) children working as child labour as compared to 2.4% (7 out of 290) children of the non-labour group. Bronchial asthma was the commonest non-tubercular illness affecting 12% of the children. Of the total child
labour surveyed, 91% had attended school while 9% had never been to school. The dropout rate was as high as 40%. Efforts made by the Government to eliminate child labour had mainly been execution of an enforcement drive, bringing out 1644 children from factories. To initiate the rehabilitation package, 67 special schools under the National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) have been opened to provide education to children. This initiative has made little change in the life of child labourers, particularly in the area of education. Realizing the negative impact of the enforcement drive on socio-economic pattern, the Government officials want to go slow. Attempts by the Government machinery to implement the rehabilitation package in terms of providing jobs or loans to one adult from the child labour family is not visible. 58% parents were apprehensive that withdrawal of child labour from home based industry would affect their economic status as between 8-25% of the family income was brought in by children. It is suggested that concerted efforts of all key players is necessary to bring about a change which would result in sustainable improvement in the lives of child labourers. Awareness building and sensitization is required to gradually remove child labour. Providing alternative skills/ business opportunities/ choices during slack season is likely to help in enhancing family income.
Hazardous Industry


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR  2. HAZARDOUS INDUSTRY  3. CARPET INDUSTRY  4. GLASS INDUSTRY  5. DIAMOND INDUSTRY  6. GEM INDUSTRY  7. LOCK INDUSTRY  8. MOSAIC INDUSTRY

Abstract: International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) and Centre for Operations Research and Training (CORT) organised a three day national workshop to examine the economic implications of replacing child labour with adult labour in certain selected industries. Papers based on field research and surveys were presented by different scholars at the workshop. This study is the collection of these papers based on child labour working in carpet, glass, diamond, gem, mosaic chips and limestone industries. Analysis of survey findings revealed that most of the industries engaged child labour because children were less aware of and able to act on their rights, more willing to take orders, work without complaining, were less troublesome and more trustworthy (gem and diamond industry). Children were generally found to be absent less often and were less likely to get drunk. Child labour also depressed the wage rate by increasing labour supply. Results revealed that the maximum number of child workers were engaged in the carpet industry numbering about 115,000 and the minimum number were in limestone industry, estimated at about 3,000. Most of the industries covered had complex production structures with work often divided into many separate activities. Researchers estimated that the elimination of child labour would cause only a small increase in the cost of production, almost below 5%, but this cost was large for informal sector employers who directly hired children. Due to occupational and work place stresses the health of child labourers was generally poor. The study recommended that comprehensive approach implemented through the community may be adopted to eliminate child labour. Product boycotts were not appreciated as they would only harm poor families and place them at even greater risk situations. Half time school and half time work arrangement was also recommended so that children who were compelled to work due to their life situation were not deprived of their right to education and full development.
Health Status

Nagda, B.L. (2005).

Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.HEALTH  3.WORKING CHILDREN  4.SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS  5.SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS  6.HEALTH STATUS CHILD LABOUR  7.OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Abstract: Working children can be broadly defined as that segment of the child population which participate in work either paid or unpaid. World Bank (2002) revealed that there are 6 crore working children in India including one and a half crore bonded working children. Working children are engaged in agrarian, industrial and service sectors. UNICEF has classified working children into three categories namely, within the family, within the family but outside home, and outside the family. The main objectives of the study were to investigate the socio-demographic and economic background of working children and their families and assess the type of work done by them along with its impact on their health. Five towns in the urban areas of Udaipur district, including district headquarters, were selected for the study. A total of 200 children were selected who were engaged in different types of economic activities in the unorganized sector. Interview schedules and observation methods were used to collect data. It was found that about 89% of the children belonged to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The mean family size was 5.9 and the mean monthly income of working children was Rs. 578 per month. About 71% of the parents and 75% working children were illiterate. More than half of the working children were in the age group 10-12 years. They worked at construction sites of buildings and roads. Some of them worked in factories and also as domestic servants. Mean working hours of male and female children were 8.1 and 7.6 respectively. The length of working hours varied from 6 to 12 hours per day. The children strongly agreed that it was poverty, disinterest in studies, motivation by friends to take up a job, death of parents, and the need to supplement family income that compelled them to take up jobs. The children worked in uncongenial conditions which deteriorated their health. About 66.67% of the working children were suffering from various diseases such as fever, cold and cough (18% females),
tuberculosis (2.3% males), respiratory infections (15%), and diarrhoea (13%). A majority of them did not know the symptoms of diseases, availability of treatment and sources of immunization, etc. For the physical and mental development of working children, some special safeguards are needed such as the existing child labour laws need to be enforced more effectively; the Government should appreciate those villages and panchayats where there are no working children; and all the Government departments should work together in order to eliminate the evil of child labour. The Government should make sincere efforts to promote the small family norm which would help to reduce fertility and the number of family members who have to be fed within the limited resources available.
Hotel Industry


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. HOTEL INDUSTRY 3. COIMBATORE 4. CHILD LABOUR COIMBATORE.

Abstract: Child labour in India is the highest in the world with 5.5 per cent of the total child population working as child labour. Unemployment, poverty and indebtedness of children’s parents, illiteracy and ignorance are the main factors that induce children to take up employment at a tender age in developing countries. The cheap availability of child labour is also a major factor for employing children. The widespread existence of child labour has been viewed by the Government with concern. The exploitation of children continues unabated despite several guarantees and laws. The involvement of panchayats for elimination of child labour in hazardous industries has proven successful. Compulsory and free primary education along with vocational training could go a long way in helping children to acquire proper skills. The main aim of the study was to study the difference between the socio-economic and living conditions of migrant and non-migrant child labour engaged in hotels and restaurants in Coimbatore city. The study investigated the situational factors which compelled children to work, the work environment of child labour, and the family background of the child labourers. 50 migrant children and 50 non-migrant children were interviewed. Data was collected through questionnaires and interview schedules. The design adopted in this study was descriptive and diagnostic in nature. It was found that a majority of the respondents (78%) were in the age group of 13-14 years. 80% of the respondents were Hindu and the remaining were either Muslims or Christians. Majority of the respondents (80%) spoke Tamil and the rest spoke Malayalam, Telugu and Urdu. Most of the migrant respondents (78%) came from Ramanathapuram, Madurai and Tirupur. 50% of the migrants and 44% of the non-migrants belonged to backward castes. The educational qualification of most of the respondents (62%) was up to the eighth standard. 76% of the migrant respondents and 64% of the non-migrant respondents belonged to nuclear families. 60% of the migrant respondents owned their houses and 62% of the non-migrants did not own their house. 60% of the migrant respondents lived in accommodation provided by their employer, while 70% of the non-migrant respondents stayed outside the hotel. 50% of the
migrant respondents stayed with their friends and 70% of the non-migrant respondents stayed with their parents. 48% of the migrant respondents and 34% of the non-migrant respondents took up work under their parents' compulsion, 34% of the migrant respondents and 12% of the non-migrant respondents joined work to earn more money, and the remaining respondents worked without any specific reason. 40% of the migrants had been working for a period of above 12 months in the present job, 52% of the non-migrant respondents were working between 6-12 months. The mean duration of service in the present job was nine months. 50% of the migrant respondents went to their native place once a year. Most the respondents (52%) had a monthly income between Rs. 300-500 per month and the mean income was Rs. 426 per month. 50% of the respondents spent their income for maintaining their families. 48% of the non-migrant respondents spent the money for paying debts. 44% of the migrant respondents sent 66.7% of their total monthly income to their families, and 64% of the non-migrant respondents sent their full monthly income to their families. 60% of the migrant respondents and an equal percentage of the non-migrant respondents went to the work place walking, while the remaining respondents went by cycle and bus. 42% of the migrant and 54% of the non-migrant children had no problem at the workplace, while 29% of the migrants and 46% of the non-migrant children had problems. 58% of the migrant children preferred to stay in the same job, while 76% of the non-migrant children preferred to take up some other job. The majority of the respondents (60% migrants, 96% non-migrants) had plans about their future. The study recommended that the Government should enact new special legislation to eradicate child labour, and promote family planning measures in the country to counter the population explosion. Employers who exploit child labour should be punished. The Government should ensure that child labourers have good working conditions and receive high wages. Parents should also take care of their children's physical, mental and spiritual development. The public should also come forward and act together with the Government to eradicate child labour from our country, as the Government alone cannot deal with the problem of child labour.
Hosiery Industry


*Key Words :* 1.CHILD LABOUR. 2.HOSIERY INDUSTRY. 3.CHILD LABOUR-TAMIL NADU.

*Abstract :* The study examined the socio-economic profile of child workers working in the hosiery industry in Tamil Nadu. The study included one male child worker and / or one female child worker below 14 years from 48 hosiery industries. Most of the respondents belonged to Hindu backward castes, low income group and were from nuclear families. The parents were illiterates and were involved in wage labour. Monetary benefits compelled the children to work and contribute towards their family’s sustenance. Although most of the child workers attended school, only 11 per cent could read and write some alphabets. Parents preferred to send their male children to study rather than to work. The lower percentage of female child workers’ school attendance also confirmed the attitude of parents and discrimination meted out towards female children’s education. Results confirmed the hypothesis that besides economic factors, there are several sociological factors which are responsible for the sustained participation of children as full time and part time workers in the labour force in the hosiery industry.
**ILO Project**


**Key Words** : 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.WORKING CONDITION  3.EXPLOITATION CHILD LABOUR  4.HEALTH STATUS  5.HEALTH STATUS CHILD LABOUR

**Abstract** : Child labour is a major social problem. In 2002, the International Labour Organization (ILO) had estimated that about 246 million children aged 5-17 years were employed worldwide and 98% of these were in developing countries. With more than 10.4 million child labourers in the 1991 Census, India has the largest number of child labourers in the world. These children mostly live in urban slums and are exposed to the risk of infectious diseases, malnutrition and impaired cognitive development. The present study investigated the socio-clinical profile of 335 working children (5-15 years), engaged in different sectors, in Berhampur town of Orissa. The study was conducted by the Department of Community Medicine, MKCG Medical College, Berhampur during October-December 2003. Data was collected through observational technique, interviews, questionnaires and physical examinations. It was observed that 55% of the children were between 13-15 years, 44% were from rural areas and 61% were from large families (parents with more than 2 children). In 41.7% cases, more than one sibling had joined the labour force. It was also found that 35% of the children did not attend any school while 51% had primary and 14% had secondary level education respectively. The various reasons given for joining the labour force were to support or supplement the family income (62%), less or no interest in studies (18%), being beaten or scolded by the teacher (11%) and out of self interest (9%). The study also revealed that many children had to work beyond their physical capabilities, the working hours varied from 3.5 hours per day to 12 hours and 75% children were not given any food during working hours. The wages were exploitatively low, i.e. Rs 297.90 per boy and Rs. 306 per girl per month for an average 8 hours working day. Different grades of malnutrition were observed among 85% boys and 73% girls. The common diseases among these children included anaemia (51.34%), respiratory tract infections (22.08%), helminthic infestations (21.49%), scabies and skin infections (16.41%) and minor injuries (5.67%). One girl had goitre. More than two thirds of the children (68.4%) were addicted to betel nut or chewing tobacco products like *khaini* or *zarda*, 23.4% were bidi smokers and 7.7% consumed alcohol. Thus, immediate action by Government and NGOs is required for alleviating the plight of working children, by establishing more vocational and educational institutions, creating awareness among the public about the hazards of forced labour, providing nutritional benefits and compulsory primary education for children, and placement services for children who had undergone vocational training in schools.
Innovative Projects


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR  2. INNOVATIVE PROJECT  3. INNOVATIVE PROGRAMME  4. TRAFFICKING CHILD LABOUR  5. CHILD TRAFFICKING LABOUR  6. REHABILITATION CHILD LABOUR  7. STREET CHILDREN  8. VOCATIONAL TRAINING  9. GIRLS HOSTELS  10. TRAFFICKING LABOUR  11. OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Abstract: Despite being considered the 'supreme asset' of our country, a large number of children in India have remained deprived of their right to health, physical and psychological development. Child labour is defined as paid or unpaid work of children below the age of 14 years. There is no definite or even an approximate estimate of the number of children at work in India because of various reasons like differences in definitions, typology of the work involved, guess estimates and varying perceptions of the different agencies working for curbing this problem. As per the 1991 census, the total number of children between 5-14 years in India was 203.3 million of which 11.28 million were working children (6.18 million boys and 5.10 million girls). This number rose to 12.59 million in Census 2001. The 55th Round of the NSSO Survey conducted in 1999-2000 estimated the child labour population to be 10.4 million. These estimates are far less compared to the NGO estimates of 100 million child labour in India possibly because it considers every out of school child to be either engaged as child labour or as potential child labour. The reasons behind child labour are complex and vast. At the macro level, lopsided developmental efforts in rural areas, unemployment and underemployment, stark poverty affecting millions, globalization creating an unsupervised employment hierarchy often misused by local level employers, and poor infrastructure development comprise the most common reasons. The incidence of child labour is high wherever access to primary education is low. The educational scenario in India continues to be bleak despite programmes launched under Directive Principles of State Policy, 93rd Amendment reiterating universalization of free and compulsory education for children 6-14 years and the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). Inadequate vocational skills and training opportunities in the existing educational system are major contributory factors to the problem of child labour. The proportion of formally vocationally trained youth (20-24 yrs) in the labour force constitutes only 5.06% which is much below the international
Innovative Projects

standards. In spite of all legal and policy commitments and recent notification banning domestic child labour all over India, curbing the problem of child labour remains a complex issue and a matter of grave concern. Delhi itself has an estimated 0.5 million child labourers. Delhi has a large number of street and working children engaged in vending, shoe polishing, working in dhabas (roadside eating places), etc. To curb the problem of child labour, the Labour Department, NCT of Delhi conducted several rescue operations with the support of NGOs to rescue these children from exploitative situations. But, in the absence of an adequate rehabilitation plan and programme linking the rescue operation at the destination point with effective rehabilitation facilities at the source has often made these exercises futile and meaningless. Prayas advocates the total elimination of child labour and believes that this objective can be achieved by adopting needs and rights based approach, and that legislation alone cannot be a solution to the problem. The target group of vulnerable children is those out of school (child labour or potential child labour), street and working children, slum children, children with disabilities, beggars and children, especially girls, engaged in households and working outside their homes. In their free time, these children could attend school and learn skills that would provide them stability in future. Prayas concept of Alternative Education (AE) is a planned structured programme with options are suited to meet the needs of every out of school child between 6-14 years. The main focus of AE programme is to prepare children for entry into the formal school system and to provide vocational skills training. Further, Prayas has created several mechanisms and institutions like the Child Helpline (1098), Crisis Intervention Centre (CIC), Shelter Homes for Boys and Girls, and Railway Assistance Booths. All these institutions cater to the rehabilitative needs of children in difficult situations. Further more, Prayas got an opportunity to participate in the Indo Norwegian Development Cooperation Programme in 1997 and established the Institute of Juvenile Justice as a National Resource Centre for Child Labour and Child Protection. The organization also works in close coordination with the Labour Department, Government of NCT-Delhi in its rescue and rehabilitation programmes for curbing the problem of child labour. The task involves preventive, promotive, ameliorative, curative, rehabilitative and reformative measures. Prayas has adopted model innovative practices of child protection to promote child rights by promoting social mobilization, sensitizing the community, and building its capacity to encourage community owned initiatives to deal with child labour. Capacity building of the judiciary, the police, and NGOs is undertaken through training and sensitization programmes; and networking with the media is done to bring about social awareness and create a positive environment.
Knitwear Industry


Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.KNITWEAR INDUSTRY 3.CHILD LABOUR LEGISLATION 4.SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE 5.WORKING CHILDREN 6.EDUCATION SYSTEM.

Abstract : The present study on child labour in the knitwear industry of Tiruppur (Tamil Nadu) seeks to understand the problem of child labour in the context of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation Act 1986). Survey covered 982 households spread across 9 location in and around Tiruppur Town. This total comprised 638 child labour households and 344 non child labour households. The study goes against the thesis of positive correlation between poverty and incidence of child labour. Traditional understanding of child labour in terms of household literacy status and household size was also contradicted in the study. Higher levels of household literacy do not always guarantee greater chances for children to attend schools. The incidence of child labour was relatively higher among the migrant households (67%) as compared to natives (62%). It was found that child labour households had more literates than the non child labour households, though the population in general had low educational status. Nearly 33.3% of the population was unlettered, 45% had primary level education and only 6% of the population was educated upto secondary level. 28.2% households had an annual income in the range of Rs.20,000 to Rs.30,000, 22.1% had an annual income in the range of Rs.10,000 to Rs.20,000 and only 3% of the households had an annual income less than Rs.10,000. It was found that 163 and 170 child labour households received 30-40% and 20-30% contribution to the family income respectively from their children. About 81% of the male child labour and 84% of the female child labour were working in the knitwear industry, 10% of the child labour were engaged in weaving, and the remaining were engaged in other occupations. In 1995, Tiruppur Exporters Association (TEA) had decided that no member should employ child labour, and no children were employed in export units. But in the unorganized sector producing goods for local markets, where the competition was severe, children were employed on low wages. Parents considered children's education to be futile. They wanted their children to start work from
an early age, and learn skills to earn a livelihood so that they would not go hungry. A skilled worker could earn between Rs.150 to Rs.200 in a day during the peak season and at least Rs.100 during the lean season. Coimbatore Child Labour Abolition Support Society (CCLASS), formed in 1998, has 80 special school centres in the district which cater to about 2020 students. They could successfully send 534 children into mainstream schools for education. The society tried to increase awareness about the problem of child labour through village level meetings, workshops, rallies, etc. It was recommended that the State should realize the growing importance of its regulatory role.
Knife Industry

Child labour in the knife industry of Rampur. NOIDA : V.V. Giri National Labour Institute. 52 p.

Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR  2.KNIFE INDUSTRY. 3.CHILD LABOUR-UTTAR PRADESH.

Abstract : The study was conducted for the first time on the situation of child labour in the knife industry in Rampur district of Uttar Pradesh. The study analysed the educational status of labour class families, the official measures adopted for their welfare, and the impact of these measures. A total of 202 households were taken for the sample, out of which 75 were fully engaged in knife making, and 127 were involved in knife making along with other occupations. A close ended questionnaire was used to collect basic information and found that the proportion of child labour was higher than adult workers because these industries were on the lookout for cheap labour. Children were working as helpers and apprentices. Findings of the study showed that the people related to knife making have become very alert and cautious. 80% people were aware about the child labour law of 1986 and the Supreme Court judgement. It was found that 41.7% children were neither at school nor at work, and child labour was caused by large family size. The knife industry is declining because of government restrictions, license system related to manufacture, sale and transport of the goods. It was suggested that schooling should be encouraged, and schools should be developed, upgraded and made quality oriented. Child labour can be stopped if the families are able to look for employment, earn their livelihood and thereby provide education to their children.
Leather Industry


Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.LEATHER INDUSTRY 3.CHILD LABOUR TAMIL NADU 4.MIGRANT POPULATION 5.TAMIL NADU CHILD LABOUR 6.CHROMPET LEATHER.

Abstract: The study was conducted on child labour in Chrompet leather industry in Tamil Nadu in 2002. It was a collaborative effort of the National Resource Centre on Child Labour and The Institute of Development Alternatives, Chennai. Random sampling method was used to select households. Out of 250 households, 185 (74%) child labour households and 65 (26%) non-child labour households, were taken for the study. Questionnaire, brief survey of secondary material and informal discussions were used to collect the information. It was found that about 85% households were Hindus, 10% were Muslims and the rest were Christians; 86% were dalit households and 14% were from non-dalit caste group. The study revealed that 44% women were educated only upto primary level. Most of the households depended on the wage income of their children. 33% of the total surveyed child workers earned between Rs.7000/- and Rs.8000/- per annum, 29% child workers earned between Rs.8000/- to Rs.9000/-, 10% of the workers earned less than Rs.6000/- per annum, and another 10% earned more than Rs.10,000/- per annum. Children were sent to school till their primary education, but they were withdrawn from schools because of economic problems, and sent to work in the industry. There was no gender selectivity in child labour. It was suggested that National Child Labour Project (NCLP) should start vocational training for working children. It would enhance the skills of those children. A separate welfare board for leather industry workers needs to be created and activated. A cess should be imposed on leather manufacturers and exporters and the funds accruing should be made a part of the Leather Worker’s Welfare Fund.
Lock Industry


**Key Words**: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. LOCK INDUSTRY 3. CASE STUDY 4. WORKING CONDITION 5. CHILDREN IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES.

**Abstract**: The Aligarh lock industry is mainly a small scale industry, where manual labour and hand work is predominant. Children are engaged in various activities according to their age and skills. The survey of 28 child labourers from Muslim community in Aligarh revealed that poor socio-economic status compelled children to enter into low wage, hazardous work environments that proved harmful to their educational and health prospects. In some cases parents needed the subsistence income from the available labour force within the family for their mere survival. The families of child labourers lived in slums and surrounding villages with poor hygienic conditions. It was found that poor working and living conditions had their impact on the health and lives of children. The ill effects of poor nutrition, long hours of strenuous work that is 10 to 14 hours daily and dark, dingy surroundings had a cumulative effect on the child. The study covered several case studies to illustrate the point. Children worked with dangerous cutting and pressing machines, electroplating units and handled poisonous chemicals. Children suffered health problems like respiratory infections, tuberculosis, eyesight problems which increased with age and number of years of work, problems due to their peculiar postures for long hours of daily monotonous work without any rest leading to backache, shoulder pain, leg pain, etc. It was recommended that the Government should take certain steps against unorganized or unregistered units to control or ameliorate the plight of child labourers. For meaningful improvement in their condition, strong radical political intervention is required.

Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. LOCK INDUSTRY 3. HEALTH HAZARD 4. OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN 5. MORBIDITY.

Abstract: The study was conducted in Aligarh to observed the factors behind the continuance of child labour, and study the impact of legislation on child labour. The survey was conducted to assess household and school status of child labour. Results revealed that most of the home-based lock industries are in muslim dominated areas. Most of the children belong to illiterate families. About 75% of all households are in the income bracket of Rs. 500-2000 per month, indicating poor economic conditions. A majority of the households reported occupation related chronic illnesses like T.B., asthma, cardiac problems. Only 6% of all the children were enrolled and had dropped out of school. Of the total dropouts, about 57% left school before completing 3 years of education. About 70% left school due to financial problems. Work in the lock industry is the primary source of income, contd. and children are preferred due to nimble fingers and low wages they are paid. They spend at least 5 10 hours working every day. Child labourers have no social security and are not aware about relevant laws. 80% of the children reported occupational diseases and mental problems. As a majority of the children’s families are not aware of laws like Factories Act and Child Labour Act, none of them reported any action taken against the employers. No concrete effort has been reported by Government officials to create awareness about labour legislative measures at the local level. Records are not maintained regarding payment of workers. There is no systematic and well coordinated strategy to combat child labour. In the absence of the birth certificate, no reliable evidence is available to prove the age of the child. In most of the cases, employers, if proved guilty, can be let off scot free after paying a meagre fine of Rs. 100 or 200 for violation. The study recommended strengthening educational facilities to combat child labour. Education should be vocationalised. NGOs, local people and Government institutions should start combined efforts to create awareness about education. Alternative avenues of employment may be created to increase the income level of families. Some incentives like scholarships, free books and economic assistance are also recommended. Health camps should be organised to screen the children for infections and diseases like T.B. asthma, lung problems, skin diseases, etc. Counselling to parents is required to facilitate attitudinal change in them. Entrepreneurship training facilities may be provided to adult family members of working children. Only a co-operative effort of district authorities, assistant labour commissioner, NGOs, community leaders, employers and rehabilitation centers may bring about desired change.
**National Child Labour Project**


**Key Words:** 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. NATIONAL CHILD LABOUR PROJECT 3. FEROZABAD 4. NATIONAL CHILD LABOUR PROJECT FEROZABAD 5. CHILD LABOUR REHABILITATION 6. REHABILITATION CHILD LABOUR.

**Abstract:** National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) were conceptualized and put into operation from financial year 1995-96 by the Ministry of Labour. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the content, process and impact of National Child Labour Project (NCLP) on special schools for rehabilitation of child labour and the affected families in Ferozabad. Data was collected from 40 centres/schools by interviewing students and their parents. Out of 40 centres, 27 centres were located in urban areas and 13 were in rural areas, which were run by two agencies namely Child Labour Welfare Society (CLWS) and District Council for Child Labour (DCCL). There were 3165 students studying in these centres of whom 2665 (84%) were enrolled in the schools run by CLWS and 500 (16%) children were enrolled in DCCL. In the schools run by DCCL, 200 students were getting vocational training, but in the schools run by CLWS there was no provision for vocational training. The proportion of female students was below 50% in special schools. The facility of nutritional food, books and stationery were available to 100% students in rural and urban areas. But students and parents were not satisfied with these facilities. Medical check-up was done of only 17.49% students. About 68% students were found to be working while getting education. More than 65% children worked because of their low household income. Out of 362 working children, 56 suffered as they became handicapped, and developed chronic diseases. More than 93% child workers were not provided facilities like drinking water, light and sanitary conditions at the place of work. 57.3% children had started working below the age of 14 years. In urban areas, a large proportion of households (84%) were satisfied with rehabilitation programmes as compared to households in rural areas (74.6%). Only 40% people were aware about anti-poverty programmes. The problem of child labour still persists. It was suggested that there should be proper implementation of NCLP to create awareness among people about anti-poverty and welfare programmes, and awareness campaigns for parents so that they should not permit their children to work as child labour. Also, there should be more trained staff and improved facilities for imparting vocational training in these centres.
V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, NOIDA. (2003).

Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. NATIONAL CHILD LABOUR PROJECT 3. LIST OF CHILD LABOUR PROJECTS 4. CHILD LABOUR ELIMINATION 5. ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR.

Abstract: The study was carried out in 2001 to assess the functioning of National Child Labour Projects, particularly the schools being run by them. Two stage sampling method was adopted. In the first stage, 50 project districts from 13 states were selected based on the following criteria, (i) periodicity of the projects (ii) prohibited occupations and processes, and (iii) spatial spread. At the second stage, 524 schools from sampled districts were taken. Data was collected through questionnaires, interviews, case studies and focus group discussions. It was found that the stipend given and nutrition provided in schools were important determinants of enrolment and retention of children in schools. It was also revealed that at times, staff sanctioned for the project office was not fully in position. Results showed that periodic surveys for identification of working children was often absent in project areas. The amount given for mid-day meals was grossly inadequate, and the meals served were insufficient in quantity and supplied lesser calories. It was suggested that Project Society of NCLPs should hold quarterly camps for officials and non-officials for effective convergence, where interaction can be enhanced, especially with the mothers of child labourers. It was recommended that appointment of a full time Project Director is essential to run the project effectively. Teachers should be given training in multi-grade teaching. A system of awards should be instituted to recognise and appreciate the best performing districts and states, to increase the motivation of project societies.
Rag Pickers


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. RAG PICKER 3. INFORMAL SECTOR 4. UNORGANIZED LABOUR 4. NOIDA.

Abstract: Child labour has been an important area of social concern, both nationally and internationally. The study was conducted in Noida city, and covered 836 households with a total population of 4315, comprising 2407 males and 1908 females. The percentage of ragpickers was higher in Hindu households (83%) compared to Muslims (17%). Only 0.74% migrant households had migrated to the city before 1980, while the remaining 99.26% migrated after 1980. More than 42% households were inter-district migrants, while the other State migrants were from Bihar (31%) and West Bengal (18.49%). 42.02% households had only one earning member whereas 38.40% households had two earning members. 3.10% of households did not have any adult earning member. Of the total households, 63.16% reported monthly income between Rs 1001 to 3000; 83% had income below Rs 1000; and 2.64% had monthly income between Rs 5001 to 7000. Enrolment ratio of ragpickers in 1995-1996 was 90.8% in the age group 6-11 years, and it came down to 55.7% in the age group 11-14 years. Among the sample population, only 28.32% were literate, male literacy being 35.1% and female literacy 19.82%. The reasons for dropping out of school were financial problems (42.52%), lack of interest (33.86%), sibling care (0.39%), etc. Among the children engaged in ragpicking, 0.32% children were below 4 years; 7.24% were in the age group 5-6 years; 14.38% were 7-8 years; 28% were 9-10 years; 29.62% were 11-12 years; and 20.44% were 13-14 years. Children faced various problems such as police harassment, sexual abuse, uncertainty, exploitation by kabariwalas (junk dealers), illiteracy, poor housing, etc. 79.78% of the children expressed negative feelings for ragpicking. 20.22% expressed their liking for ragpicking as it was an easy way of making money. 78.91% became ragpickers due to parental poverty. 65.08% of children entered this occupation on their own, and 18.59% had been introduced by their mothers and fathers. 0.22% children spent up to 13 hours a day in ragpicking, 10.27% spent 6-8 hours per day, and nearly 50% spent 3-5 hours a day. Nearly
45.51% ragpickers collected glass, iron, paper and plastic, and 15.78% focused on collecting glass, iron and plastic. 41.41% ragpicking children earned Rs. 11-20 per day, 26.06% earned Rs. 21-30, and 8.42% children earned above Rs 50 per day. 83.14% earned to supplement the family income, and 16.86% ragpicked to sustain themselves. Mother was the significant member managing the family, and 74.90% children gave the money they earned to their mothers. Only 41.84% of the ragpickers had footwear. 64.22% had regular meals twice a day, 34.27% thrice a day, and 1.51% had meals only once a day. 64.22% children suffered from respiratory problems, 53.19% from headaches and 41.51% reported skin problems. Exposure to alcohol, drugs and commercial sex led them to drug addiction and HIV/AIDS. General public should be made aware of the rights of children, and child rights should be ensured on a war footing. An effective and efficient solid waste management system is required to deal with the problem of child ragpickers.
Rehabilitation


Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.REHABILITATION 3.REHABILITATION CHILD LABOUR 4.GOOD PRACTICES 5.MAINSTREAMING CHILD LABOUR 6.INDUS PROJECT 7.EDUCATION CHILD LABOUR 8.PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN 9.VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

Abstract: The INDUS Child Labour Project was launched in 2004 in 21 districts across 5 states, namely Tamil Nadu (5), Maharashtra (5), Madhya Pradesh (5), Uttar Pradesh (5) and Delhi (1). All the districts had concentrations of children employed in hazardous industries and the aim was to get them out of hazardous work into schools and vocational training centres, and create an enabling environment for the elimination of child labour. In 2007, the ILO-IPEC-INDUS Child Labour Project had run for 4 years. As per Census 2001, there were 12.6 million child workers in India, and attempts are on to eliminate child labour in 250 districts of India. PARYAY and Bal Vikas Academy conducted a survey for the INDUS Project in June-July 2004 to identify child labourers and the trades they were involved in. 6639 boys and 2599 girls were employed, total being 9238. In Virudhunagar in TN, children were involved in matchstick and fireworks industries but now child labour has been reduced. Entire villages have been declared free from child labour by panchayats and the local administration. The district administration has launched one of the best social awareness programmes; organized one to one meetings with parents, religious leaders, and small group meetings with self help groups (SHGs) and youth; organized massive awareness raising campaigns and a host of imaginative events. One of the effective programmes at social mobilisation has been the nila palli which in Tamil means 'moon school'. In this a crowd watches the talents of children who have started going to school, and children of all castes mix freely. SR Government Higher Secondary School at Jhiruthangal is a leading school; it has 3096 children from Classes 6-12, and of these 199 children are from INDUS run Technical Education Centres (TECs). Here, story telling and play way methods are used for teaching. Life skills training helps former child labourers, they are given help with their homework, and remedial classes are organized after school hours. Eye check ups were done for school students after which eye drops and spectacles were given. Some children who preferred to stay back at home were counselled and encouraged to go for remedial classes. A residential school in Kundhalapatti village of Virudhunagar taluk was set up in 2007 under
Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, which had 35 children. It took care of the needs of children, giving them shelter, two meals, lessons in Maths, English, Tamil and Social Studies and the opportunity to make friends and feel at home. In Amravati, a district of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, child labour from nomadic tribes like Pardhi and Dombari were found in urban and semi urban areas, and their children worked as domestic servants, rag pickers, at construction sites, canteens, hotels, in fields, brick kilns and stone quarries. Government, non-Government and semi-Government organisations, social organisations and sensitive citizens and their forums worked collaboratively with INDUS team. The Zilla Parishad helped children in getting admission, gave books and provided the mid day meal. Trained TEC teachers simplified the content in text books to help the children learn. Women and Child Welfare District Committee opened its hostels to children who needed shelter. The Municipal Corporation provided children with free medical treatment. 5% of funds were available to Women and Child Welfare Department for eradication of child labour. The Maharashtra Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (MCED) provided vocational training to 1000 children in the age group 14-17 yrs, and ensured that they got a job or became self employed. In Amravati, child labour families felt that youngsters should earn a decent livelihood once their studies were over, which was a pull factor for greater enrollment in schools and retention of the children. These children prepared chalks, candles, wax lamps, jewellery, jute doormats, origami, clay items, festive lanterns, agarbatti/ dhoop (incense) sticks, screen and fabric painting, prepared rakhi, festive lanterns, greeting cards, envelopes, etc. Under INDUS project, children get a stipend of Rs 100. Work education provided in TECs is continued in lead schools. Children learn time management, decision making, self development, build confidence, learn meditation and life skills like control of mosquito breeding, purifying water, first aid, bank transactions, etc. By 2007, in Amravati district, total 1000 child labourers were trained, 662 were employed after training, 239 were self employed, and 99 were retrained. Presently, youngsters were given the freedom to choose the trade of his/her liking, course timings were flexible, and marketing skills were taught to build confidence and generate self esteem. In Aurangabad, TEC teachers and volunteers went to invite children to the centre to ensure decent attendance. Bal Panchayat was organized for a group of girls and boys which took care of their health and hygiene needs. Children used to misuse pocket money for gutka (tobacco laced mouth freshener) or gambling, but they were counselled by teachers who taught them to deposit money in banks for safekeeping. So the idea of Bachat Bank (Savings Bank) was mooted. About 128 children attended courses that included dress making, jute goods manufacture, soyabean products and candle making. The Maharashtra Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (MCED) and the Child and Police Foundation Teen Channel (CAP Teen Channel) from Hyderabad offered training in tailoring (131), beauty parlour skills (311), information technology services (43 females and 55 males for computer education), customer relation (119), hospitality (86), and IT services (146). In Namakkal, Women's Development
Corporation helped in formation of SHGs of mothers of rescued child labourers for promoting income generation activities. 44 SHGs were formed, 49 families got Rs 98,000 from a fund, Backward Welfare Department provided free accommodation in Government hostels for TEC children, Central Board for Worker's Education Department organized 19 training programmes for TEC children and 7 training programmes for TEC children's parents, NGOs and Rotary Club Welfare Department provided free materials like plates, glasses and mats for TEC children, and Rotary Club organized games, variety events, and five arts programmes. Collaborative efforts resulted in increased awareness about child labour.


Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.REHABILITATION 3.REHABILITATION CHILD LABOUR 4.CASE STUDIES 5.SUCCESS STORIES 6.BEST PRACTICE.

Abstract : Corporate social responsibility (CSR) has become an important developmental and global governance issue in recent years, and among such issues eliminating and mainstreaming child labour is one of the important focused social issues concentrated on by several Corporates. Considering this, Council for Social Development (CSD), Hyderabad had documented 3 different case studies which made an impact namely Dr. Reddy's Foundation for Human and Social Development (DRFHSD), Hyderabad; ICT-ILTD, Anarpanthi; and KREBS Bio-Chemicals Limited, Nellore. The objectives of these units were to identify and work with child workers, and also provide a sustainable livelihood education program to enable them to fight against illiteracy, ill-health and ill-fate. DRFHSD mainly worked on child development through its innovative program the Child and Police (CAP) Project started in 1997 with an aim to tackle the problem of child labour. Under the CAP Project, a Bridge School was started to provide education to slum children and child labourers. In the initial stage (1997), there were 250 boys in school but in September 2003, a total number of 5385 children were enrolled in the school. The Project provides free uniforms, books, pays the school fees and provides transportation. The CAP School Project worked in collaboration with 100 Government schools and it networked with various other organizations who provided technical expertise to improve the quality of education. CAP had also started an Incubator Program for young adolescents. CAP found that on an average 55% girls were married before the age of 15 years. So, this project was started to prevent adolescents from dropping out of schools and landing on the street before successful completion of high school. Another programme was Livelihood Advancement Business School (LABS) Program.
for disadvantaged young people, especially youth at risk and poor mothers who had difficulty with traditional learning systems. Another innovative program was started by ILTD, Anarpanthi, which is one of India’s largest multi-business companies. ILTD decided to eliminate child labour from neighbourhood rural areas by starting campaigns in rural areas among poor families to sensitize the community about the negative impact of sending their children to work, and at the same time motivate them to send their children to school. ILTD also designed the Supplementary Nutrition Programme for Child Labourers and implemented it in 14 villages of Andhra Pradesh. ILTD also improved the school infrastructure and provided floor benches, long benches, fans and tubelights to the identified 9 schools. KREBS Bio-chemicals is a pharmaceutical company which worked to eliminate child labour. KREBS started awareness campaigns in villages, and for the employee workers propagated a message “Children to School, Adults to Work” in the factory premises. KREBS also gave financial assistance of Rs.75 per month per child to workers so that the workers to sent all their children to school. KREBS also improved the infrastructure of schools and contributed for the purchase and provision of steel utensils for the noon meal scheme. All these 3 interventions studied were successful and well received by parents, but still more rehabilitation programmes, education programmes and funding programmes are required to eliminate the problem of child labour.
Situation Analysis

Bukhari, Fouzia. et. al.. (1999).


Abstract: The study was conducted in Srinagar, Kashmir, near Dal Lake, to assess the situation of child workers, and understand how these families are coping with their social and economic problems. Interviews and field surveys were conducted in 50 pockets (21 Shia, 26 Sunni, 3 fishermen pockets) and 100 houseboats. 345 families were covered which provided data about 1447 siblings/children. The study covered Houseboat Owners, Vegetable Growers and Fishermen. Houseboat Owners comprising 100 respondents, 90 males and 10 females, were interviewed and of them 73 respondents were literate. These 100 respondents, provided information about 252 siblings, of whom 158 were males and 94 were females. Enrolment rate was 67% for boys and 61% for girls. About 90% children dropped out from school during the peak period of militancy between 1989 to 1993 because of economic hardships and the fear of going out. Prior to militancy, the average monthly income of the houseboat owners was between Rs.20,000 - 30,000. For economic reasons, young boys aged 12-18 years went outside the Valley to work as salesman or as touts. Vegetable Growers belonged to two religious groups, namely Shia and Sunni. 102 Shia respondents were taken, of whom 49 were adults and 53 were children below 21 years of age. All adult respondents were married, with an average of 5 children. It was revealed that 20% children were school-going and remaining 80% were child workers. From these 102 Shia participants, information was collected about 464 siblings. Of the 208 school going age children, 55% were working. A total of 129 Sunni respondents were taken, which comprised 52 adults and 77 children. Information was collected regarding 466 siblings. Of the 175 school going age children, 52% were working. The three reasons given for not sending the children to school were turmoil, poverty and inaccessibility of schools. Fishermen community was the poorest of all the Hanjis. Out of 14 respondents interviewed, 8 were children and 6 were adults. From these respondents, information was collected about 60 siblings. The level of education was very low. The monthly income of fishermen
was around Rs.2000 per month, which forced the families to send their children to earn. It was suggested that a public campaign should be organized to make Hanjis understand the importance of education, so that 100% school enrolment amongst children below 14 years is achieved. Unemployed youth and disguised labour should be involved in micro-enterprise development. Working children, involved in chain stitching, carpet weaving, mat making etc., should be organized to form economic groups; their skills should be enhanced; and non-formal education must be provided. The root causes for which these children work should be addressed. Government should formulate policies and programmes for appropriate interventions.


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. CHILD LABOUR TAMIL NADU 3. HAZARDOUS INDUSTRY 4. ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY 5. UNORGANISED SECTOR.

Abstract: The report provided an overview on the incidence and regional distribution of child labour based on the 1981 Census data as district wise data for 1991 Census was not available at the time. An annotated bibliography has been prepared after reviewing different studies/surveys conducted on child labour in Tamil Nadu by various institutions, research divisions of universities and NGOs. There were 975,055 child workers in Tamil Nadu in 1981 (871,313 main workers and 103,742 marginal workers). This accounted for nearly 6 per cent of all the children below 15 years and for about 5 per cent of the total work force in Tamil Nadu. The report identified the occupations/industries with high prevalence of child labour under bondage and hazardous conditions. The key industries which accounted for a sizeable child work force were beedi manufacture, match and fireworks, tanneries, synthetic gem polishing industry, hosiery industry, handlooms, silver work and steel and aluminium industry, etc. The districts which had the highest proportion of child workers were Madurai (11.42%), Salem (10.93%), North Arcot (10.31%), Ramanathapuram (8.33%), Thirunelveli (8.18%), South Arcot (7.75%), Dharmapuri (7.65%), and Coimbatore (7.59%). The other districts had below 5 per cent child workers, the lowest being Nilgiris (0.51%), Kanyakumari (0.87%) and Madras (1.34%). Girls outnumbered boys in Tirunelveli, Ramanathapuram, Madurai, Coimbatore and Periyar districts. The study suggested recommendations like creating awareness among parents, educational intervention for elimination of child labour, legal measures, and changes in the educational system to deal with the issue.
Slum Children

General profile of child labour in urban slum Pune city. Pune : BJ Medical College,
Department of Preventive and Social Medicine. 102 p.

Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.CHILD LABOUR-MAHARASHTRA 3.SLUM CHILD 4 PROFILE OF
CHILD LABOUR.

Abstract : The present study was undertaken in 1996 to assess the profile of working
children in Urban Health Centre community in Pune. House to house survey of
approximately 2000 families were undertaken. 152 working children were identified as
child labourers. In these 152 children, male child labourers were 122 and females were 30.
It was revealed that 2/3 of child workers were in the age group of 12-15 years, out of
which more than half of child workers were from higher caste. Large family size was
observed more in child workers families than in school going children families. Most of the
parents were doing semi-skilled jobs and were daily wage earners in child labour group than
in control group where one fourth of parents were employed in Government or municipal
department. Illiteracy was observed more in working children parents than in non-working
parents. In the present study economic constraints and lack of interest in the study were
two major reasons observed for child labour practice. It was recommended that in near
future, high proportions of children will continue in labour force due to the problem of
poverty in our country. Therefore attempts must be made to ensure that there is
improvement in overall conditions of child labour and their overall health.
Sports Industry


Key Words: 1. CHILD LABOUR 2. SPORTS GOODS INDUSTRY 3. CHILD LABOUR PUNJAB 4. JALANDHAR 5. PUNJAB.

Abstract: The study, conducted in Jalandhar, was undertaken to gauge the incidence of child labour in the sports goods industry and assess its socio-economic impact. Households were sampled from localities like Basti Danishmandan, Basti Nau, Basti Guzan, Basti Bawa Khel and Bhargo Camp which had a large concentration of home-based workers. About 1000 workers were found in the selected households, of whom 96 were children. Thus, 9.6% of the total labour engaged in football stitching were children, 70.83% were boys and 29.16% were girls. Findings indicated that 64.58% children were in the age group 13-14 years, 26% were in the age group 11-12 years, and about 9% were in the age group 8-10 years. Leather has been replaced by PVC in the manufacture of inflatable balls, so other castes have also entered the profession of football stitching. 10.42% children engaged in this work were from other castes. 85.42% of the child labourers belonged to Punjab and there were a few migrants from Bihar (10.42%), and Haryana, Rajasthan and Nepal (4.16%). In a majority of the cases, there were 6 members in the family. Due to large family size, children had to enter the labour market to augment family earnings. 6.25% of the child labourers had never been to school. About 49% had studied up to the primary level and only a few 6.25% had completed matriculation. 25% of the total children had dropped out of school. Further analysis showed that families of the child labourers were not below the poverty line. Lack of schooling facilities was not a valid reason for not sending children to schools. A large number of Punjab Government schools were located in these areas. The timings of these schools were from 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. which suited children engaged in some economic work. The chief reason behind school dropouts was the lack of interest in education and the desire to contribute to the family income. The majority (43.75%) of child labourers earned Rs.700 - 800 per month. Wages were mostly given to the parents.
About 75% of the child labourers belonged to families whose incomes ranged from Rs.1100 - 2500 per month. All child workers worked in their own households. Children worked in the dark to save electricity. The employer did not provide any medical facility. Majority of the children worked six to seven hours a day. The problem of child labour in sports goods industry can be solved if the work place is shifted from the home to the factory. If household labour is brought under the law, then children may not be sent to work. Child labour is a cause of worry to society as it deprives children of educational opportunities. Vocational education would help children to pursue education and learn skills. To reduce the supply of child labour, massive health care and family planning programmes are needed to reduce family size. NGOs, exporters and foreign importers should come forward to solve the global problem of child labour.

V. V. Giri National Labour Ins. (1999).

Key Words: 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.SPORTS INDUSTRY 3.HOME BASED WORKER 4.UNORGANISED SECTOR 5.CHILDREN IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES.

Abstract: The study sponsored by UNICEF examined the situation of working children, and assessed socio-economic factors and educational status of families of these children working in the exports goods industry at Jalandhar. The study revealed that majority of the sample (94%) belonged to the scheduled castes. Most of the householders were illiterate or had primary level education and belonged to a religious sect known as 'Adharmis'. 64.42% households had working children in the age group 5-14 years. 6.72% children were working full time and the rest combined school education with work, spending between 2-4 hours stitching footballs. Working children's contribution was nearly 30% of the total family income. The strain of work and studies leads to high incidence of dropouts from school, and pain in the finger joints, knee joints, headache and backache. The study suggested that sports goods factory owners should not be allowed to keep workers on contract basis, so that the role of contractors could be eliminated. An independent monitoring mechanism consisting of members from government/NGOs/employers/labour unions should be set up to help in identifying employers/contractors using child labour.
Abstract: The study in Meerut sponsored by UNICEF, is a sequel to a study on the same subject in Jalandhar. The objectives were to investigate the socio-economic status of families of working children, extent of exploitation and probability of younger siblings joining the work force, with respect to the profiles of their elder siblings. Data from 1991 Census for Meerut was analyzed to find out the socio-economic and demographic profile, sex and area-wise distribution of child population, their educational and occupational status, etc. Data suggested that majority of the sample comprising 102 households, were from scheduled castes and illiterate families with working children. Child labour in the sports goods industry in Meerut district was nearly 47%. Most of the children were usually enrolled in school and helped with the stitching of balls after their school hours. On an average, full time child labour in the age group 5-14 years worked for about 6-8 hours a day, and those working on part time basis worked for 3-6 hours a day. The incidence of dropouts among the elder siblings began at the age of 9 years, and maximum dropout was recorded at the age of 14 years. Overall probability of the younger siblings joining the work force was more than 0.5, considering the fact that the elder siblings had dropped out in the past. The study suggested that the prescribed minimum wages should be paid to parents in order to withdraw children from the labour force. An independent monitoring mechanism consisting of NGOs/employers/trade unions may be set up to identify the employers using child labour. It was recommended that labour co-operatives may be formed to transfer all home-based work to common production centres, where only adult workers may be employed to stitch the various sports goods items. Setting up of voluntary organisations in Meerut district should be encouraged.
Unorganised Sector


Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.CHILD LABOUR-RAJASTHAN 3.UNORGANISED SECTOR.

Abstract : The study explored the socio-economic conditions, causes, migration behaviour, and working conditions of child labour in the unorganised sectors in Rajasthan. In Rajasthan, the human development index is low, hence the problem of child labour is on the increase. Being a relatively backward state there is low per capita income, slow pace in the growth of literacy, backward agricultural practices prevail, scarcity of industries and lack of proper exploitation of human and natural resources, which all contribute to slow development, resulting in an increase in the number of child labourers. Most of the parents let or make their children work in occupations similar to those in which they are engaged. Monthly income of the families of child labourers ranges between Rs.1500 and Rs.2000. Due to low income, it is difficult for them to meet their basic needs, which compels them to send their children to work at a young age. Child labourers are also preferred by their entrepreneurs because they are easy to handle and do not hesitate doing petty jobs. In the domestic and construction sector, maximum number of child labourers were from SCs and STs, in contrast to the child workers working in dhabas (roadside hotels), who belonged to the general category. 60.56 per cent of the child labourers were literate. Of the literate children, 79.73 per cent had attained education upto primary level, while 24.58% had received education upto upper primary level and 1.69% had received education upto higher secondary level. The number of non-migrant child labourers was more in the domestic sector, while the percentage of commuters was higher in the construction sector, and in the dhaba sector, the number of migrant child labourers was higher. The average number of working hours of all the child labourers was 8.33 hours per day. It was 7.09 hours a day in the domestic sector, 8.70 hours a day in the construction sector, and 9.20 hours a day in the dhabas. The average wages of all the three sectors was Rs.495, and while in the domestic sector it was Rs.527.50, in the construction sector it was Rs.434.17, and in dhabas it was Rs.523.33. Most of the children worked on temporary or contract or work charge basis. The study recommended the following measures : 1.provision of free and compulsory education to child labour; 2.poverty reduction programme to be started for the families of working children; 3.children working in unorganised sectors should be covered under the Child Labour Regulation and Elimination Act ; 4.National Commission on Child Labour should be established; 5.more voluntary agencies may be encouraged to identify child labour, and community action in all child labour related programmes should be ensured; 6.human development programmes like DWCRA, employment and education of women should be promoted and encouraged.
Zari Industry


Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.ZARI INDUSTRY 3.EMBROIDERY INDUSTRY 4.ZAROSI EMBROIDERY 5.HATHARI EMBROIDERY.

Abstract : The study was conducted in the Zardosi and Hathari industry (embroidery work) in Varanasi in 2003. The aim of the study was to assess the socio-economic conditions of working children and their families, and understand the demand and supply side factors of child labour in the industry. The sample, consisting of 204 households was divided into 3 major age groups namely 5-9 years, 10-14 years and 15-18 years. This study was based on primary and secondary data, group discussions and observation technique. The study revealed that out of the total sample of workers, 30.5% were children. It shows that the industry is highly dependent on child labour. It was also found that 33% of the children in the age group 5-14 years had received some formal education and only 28% of the total children were attending school. 51.2% children who received formal education had dropped out from school because of economic problems. It was also observed that health hazard, namely weak eyesight, affected nearly all people who worked in the industry. No government programme was running in this area for the benefit of these families. It was suggested that good schools with adequate teachers should be located in the areas of child labour concentration and separate schools for girls should be established.
Research Abstracts on Labour

Beedi Workers


Key Words: 1. LABOUR 2. BEEDI WORKERS 3. WELFARE FUND 4. CHILD LABOUR BEEDI INDUSTRY 5. MADHYA PRADESH.

Abstract: Beedi workers constitute one of the most vulnerable segments of the country's labour force. The present study was done to assess the organizational set up of welfare schemes; study the cess collection process in the industry and the mechanism for administration and disbursement of funds; evaluate the impact of welfare measures on beneficiaries of the Welfare Fund; and study the working conditions and employment pattern of beedi workers. The study covered 2 districts of Madhya Pradesh, namely Sagar and Jabalpur, and a total of 194 beneficiaries were selected (97 Sagar and 97 Jabalpur). Data was collected through interview and survey method. It was found that the highest concentration of beedi workers was found in districts Sagar (2.92 lakhs), followed by Damodh (1.37 lakhs), Jabalpur (1.03 lakhs) and Satna (75,000) which accounted for more than 80% of the total beedi workers of the state. Most respondent households had more than one member engaged in beedi rolling and were well conversant with beedi rolling skills. Almost all respondents stated that beedi making was their regular job. The level of awareness about various schemes among respondents was higher in Jabalpur than in Sagar. The overwhelming majority of respondents were not at all aware about some important laws. In Jabalpur, majority of the sample respondents obtained application forms from the Dispensary, while an overwhelming majority in Sagar obtained them from other sources. In Jabalpur more than 80% of the total education expenditure of households was met from assistance provided under the Education Schemes of the Welfare Fund. In Sagar, about 14.58% households received benefits from educational schemes which constituted less than 20% of the total expenditure incurred for their children. For 41.66% households, the proportion of education expenditure constituted between 21 - 40% of their children's annual
education expenditure, for 20.83% households it amounted to 41 - 60% of the annual expenditure, and for the remaining households the proportion of assistance to the total annual expenditure, varied between 61 - 80% and above. In Jabalpur, beedi workers were granted Rs.10,000/- as subsidy amount for constructing one room dwelling units under the Housing Scheme. But due to lack of housing sites and the cumbersome process to avail the Fund, majority of the beedi workers did not encourage many needy workers to venture for the scheme. In Sagar, among those workers who benefited from the Housing Scheme, almost 50% of the amount was accounted for by the subsidy given by the Labour Welfare Organisation, Jabalpur. Under the Heart, Cancer and T.B. Treatment Scheme in Jabalpur, the amount of assistance received for the treatment of heart and cancer, varied between 36% and 40% of the total amount spent by them. In the case of cancer patients, the amount was about 17.37% of the total expenditure incurred. In the case of T.B. patients, none of the patients received any benefit with the exception of one beneficiary, who received 88% of the total money spent. In Sagar almost all patients benefited from the T.B. Treatment Scheme. For Cancer treatment the amount they received from the Welfare Fund constituted between 26% and 65% of the total expenditure they incurred respectively. For Heart treatment beneficiaries received between 3.06% and 6.0% of the total amount covered. In Jabalpur the 5 respondents who received financial assistance under Maternity Benefit Scheme, received between Rs.250 and Rs.500, whereas in Sagar each beneficiary received Rs.500. In both Sagar and Jabalpur districts, under Group Insurance Scheme, the amount received by the beneficiaries varied from Rs.3000/- to Rs.10,000/-. In Jabalpur the amount of assistance received for spectacles varied between 42% and 60% of the total expenditure incurred by them. Regarding the performance level of dispensaries, the highest number of out patients per staff per day attended was found in Jabalpur (1:22.90), followed by Sagar (1:18.09). It was suggested that there is a need to make people aware about the welfare schemes through massive awareness generation programmes, and special measures should also be taken to improve the health status of beedi workers and make their future bright.
Chikan Industry


Abstract: Chikankari or chikan craft refers to delicate and artistic embroidery on a variety of textile fabrics like muslin, silk, chiffon, organza, doriya, organdi and synthetic textiles. At first, designs are printed on the cloth with washable colours mainly indigo. There are 32 types of stitches done in chikan work like Jali Murri, Phanda, Bakhia, Hool, Keel, Tepchi, Dhoor, Joda-Pattee, Ghas-patti, Hath-Katee, etc. It is done on a number of products such as kurta; ladies top, shalwar-kameez, saree, sherwani-kurta, dupatta, tray covers, napkins, bed covers, table covers, etc. Lucknow has been famous for its Chikankari for centuries. Its introduction is attributed to Queen Noorjahan, wife of Mughal emperor Jehangir. The present study was undertaken to find out the income levels and living conditions of the workers engaged in chikan embroidery industry, study their problems, and suggest suitable intervention strategies for improving the conditions of chikan workers. Interviews were conducted with 26 entrepreneurs and 104 chikan workers. An entrepreneur employed 38 workers including agents, salesmen, cutting masters, traders, chikankars, washermen, etc. Hardly 5% of the employees were engaged on regular salary basis. All accountants, 50% helpers and 20% salesmen were employed on salary basis. The rest were given daily wages or paid on piece rate/commission basis. Monthly salary for regular workers varies from a low of Rs. 1000 in case of middlemen/agents to Rs. 3000 for cutting masters and tailors. Similar differences were found in wages paid to different categories of workers employed on daily wages. Cutting masters and tailors are paid around Rs. 150 per day while printer, washerman and salesman get around Rs. 100 per day. The Chikankars get a pitiable wage of Rs. 32 per day. Gross profit margins vary from a low of 13% for an ordinary sherwani to 35% for ladies kurta. For most items the gross profit margins were between 20% and 25%. Net margins are lower and returns to the entrepreneurs are quite high. Average increase in production was about 20%. Around 10% entrepreneurs reported exporting goods to foreign countries. For occupational distribution, the sample covered was 63 chikankars, 6 cutting masters, 6 tailors, 6 washermen agents and 14 printers. Out of total chikan craft workers interviewed 60.6% were engaged as chikankars followed by printers (13.46%) and agents...
(8.7%). Monthly household income of the sampled workers was Rs. 4039. It varied from a low of Rs. 2879 in case of chikankars to Rs. 8766 in case of printers. There was high level of poverty among chikan workers as the per capita income of a chikankar household was only Rs. 538. Chikan work provided around 25% of their total income. The income from other sources was relatively less. Daily working hours for chikankars and cutting masters were about 7 to 8 hours, while other workers like tailors, printers and washermen worked for about 10 to 11 hours daily. Generally work was available for around 25 days in a month. Around 67% chikankars got work through agents and the remaining 33% got work directly from traders. Majority of other category of workers in chikan craft got their orders for work directly. 70% got work regularly. Only 57% chikankars got payment regularly. A small number of cutting masters got regular payment. It was suggested that minimum wages for workers engaged in the chikan craft industry should be prescribed and strictly enforced. Minimum piece rates for different types of work should also be prescribed, taking into account the value of the product and time taken to produce it. An Advisory Council for the craft may be set up, with participation of entrepreneurs, workers, NGOs and Government, which may fix the minimum wages and suggest promotional and welfare measures and supervise enforcement of the policies. The workers should be organized into self help groups with the help of Government agencies and NGOs.
Street Hawkers/ Vendors


Key Words : 1.LABOUR  2.STREET HAWKERS  3.STREET VENDORS  4.URBAN POOR  5.BANGALORE.

Abstract : This study has attempted to understand the nature, size, characteristics, and issues of hawkers and vendors in Bangalore City. Large scale migration to urban centres in search of employment, natural disasters, and closure of existing industries are among the many factors that compel people to seek self employment in street hawking. Data was collected through three questionnaires (household questionnaire, time use questionnaire and questionnaire for currently married persons) in three districts (Bangalore urban, Bangalore rural and Tumkur). The meeting was held in Bangalore City where NGOs were working with hawkers/ vendors and shared their ideas and the problems faced by hawkers. Firstly, they do not have a common platform to fight for their rights. Vendors/ hawkers in all cities face continuous harassment from the police and Municipal Authorities. Hawking and non-hawking zones were a serious issue in Bangalore. The objective of the study was to know the status and socio-economic conditions of hawkers/ vendors in the city. A sample of 162 individuals from five areas namely Majestic, City Market, Ganganagar, Singapur and Gowripalya were selected for the interviews. In Bangalore, hawking is considered to be illegal. Of the total sample, 36% were males and the rest 64% were females. About 50% respondents were from middle income group, 43% from low income group and only 7% were from higher income group. Around 85% respondents felt that they were not a nuisance and only 15% of them said they did create a nuisance sometimes by following people and shouting. 55% respondents said they do obstruct the path, 35% said they weigh less and only 10% said they spread dirt around. When asked about the kind of measures they needed, 83% respondents said that vendors should be provided with space, 52% said they should be given licenses, and 60% of them felt they should be treated as respectable citizens. The problems of hawkers/ vendors needs to be solved jointly and it should be solved in a macro perspective. It was revealed that vendors/ hawkers need adequate representation in various local/ Government bodies since they do not have adequate support.

**Key Words**: 1. LABOUR 2. STREET VENDORS 3. FOOD HAWKERS 4. FOOD SAFETY 5. VENDORS 6. STREET FOOD 7. UNORGANIZED SECTOR 8. MIGRANT WORKERS 9. CHILD LABOUR VENDORS 10. NOIDA 11. UTTAR PRADESH.

**Abstract**: Street vendors have an important role in the informal economy and their contribution is significant. Globally, over 25% of the workers operate in the informal sector. There are over 1 crore vendors in India contributing to over 50% of the country's savings, and 63% of the GDP comes from vendors. Despite their contribution, vendors are seen as 'encroachers' and as a 'public nuisance' who obstruct traffic. The study on street vendors was conducted in Noida and was limited to informal vendors who do not have any fixed premises. They were broadly classified into three categories a) vending in fixed locations; b) vending in weekly bazaars, where location changes every day; and c) mobile and door to door vending. The sample size was 518, constituting 77% males and 23% females, and included child vendors. There were fewer female vendors and many of them earned less than their male counterparts because their vending hours were restricted due to domestic work and cultural reasons. The objective of the study was to understand and unravel the status and special vulnerabilities and insecurities of vendors. It was observed that vendors faced several problems because many of them were illiterate, ignorant and poor; no specific areas/zones have been allotted for the purpose of vending which reflects the attitude of Noida Authority towards them; and the Government has no scheme for those who try to earn their livelihood through vending in the absence of employment. It was observed that in the case of 98% vendors vending was the only or primary source of household income. 67% of the vendors were from more disadvantaged socio-economic groups. The study identified various problems that were affecting street vendors such as police and local government harassment; confiscation and impoundment of goods; legal illiteracy among vendors (authorities take advantage); too small vending sites; availability of space is inversely proportional to the number of vendors; problems with allocation systems of vending sites, problems with permit system in limited vending areas; lack of facilities (e.g. shelters, storage); power struggles among market pradhans and their false promises; lack of unity among vendors, etc. It was suggested that laws on street vending should be enacted and existing laws should be reviewed in the light of Constitutional Rights to earn one's livelihood. Skill training should be imparted to vendors who want to move out of street vending into higher income earning economic activities. Efforts should be made to organize vendors to form a National Alliance of Street Vendors so that they can unite and speak in one voice to the municipalities and National Government. In order to deal with the problem of inaccessibility to credit, self help groups of women vendors should be constituted so that they could raise bank loans and also be targeted for group insurance schemes.
Unorganised Sector/ Labour


Key Words : 1.LABOUR  2.UNORGANISED LABOUR  3.SOCIAL SECURITY  4.FOOD SECURITY 5.HOUSING  6.UNORGANIZED SECTOR  7.SOCIAL SECURITY  8.UNORGANISED LABOUR.

Abstract : The study defined social protection as having an income, food, health and shelter, and economic security. It assessed the needs of workers regarding social protection, and the institutional mechanisms required to address these needs. Findings indicate that the insecurities faced by workers are due to the structure of the household and the nature of work. Casual labourers and self-employed workers are the most insecure. World Bank advocated setting up of a corpus fund towards social safety net programmes for workers. The role of the State in the provision of social security has been diminishing but its basic responsibility towards certain minimum needs cannot be brushed aside such as improving food security at the household level. The household survey was conducted in urban Ahmedabad and in rural areas in five districts around Ahmedabad. The sample consisted of a total of 1236 workers, including 1030 women and 206 men. The sample of women included a sample of 119 women from Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA). It was found that about 10% women in the households went hungry over the last twelve months, compared to 7.6% males. Food deprivation was very high in urban areas (14%), and more among women workers (18%). Households in rural areas and SEWA workers had more food security compared to the others. The six essential commodities supplied through Public Distribution System (PDS) are rice, wheat, sugar, edible oils, kerosene and coal. The commodities were available through a network of 0.42 million fair price or ration shops in the country. Food subsidy of the Central Government was Rs.92,000 million in 1999-2000, 3.03% of the total Government expenditure (Planning Commission, 2000). Under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) each poor family is entitled to 20 kilograms of food grains per month at specially subsidized prices. In the survey in Gujarat it was found that 94% households purchased essential commodities from the PDS system and it contributed to food security of the poor. Institutional support towards meeting the housing needs of the poor has been inadequate. Education is also important for empowering children, and the literacy rate was found to be 59%, being 75% for males and 54% for females. To increase literacy, Government has started night schools and other schemes. About 17% households did not have access to public health care facilities, 26% in
rural and 7% in urban areas. About 19% of the households did not avail of public health facility, as either the treatment was not available, or the facility was too far. The Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) 1975 provided supplementary food to children (0-6 years), pregnant and lactating mothers. The Mid-Day Meal Scheme is also being implemented in some states. According to National Sample Survey (1999-2000), 42% male and 33% female workers in urban areas were engaged in regular salaried jobs. Casual workers were the most insecure and vulnerable sections of the workforce. State efforts at upgrading skills of workers have been limited. One of the major problems of central welfare funds is the identification of correct beneficiaries. Also, needy categories like agricultural labourers, forest workers, etc. are left out of the ambit of welfare schemes. A number of private market and NGO initiatives for social protection have been identified and these need to be strengthened.


**Key Words**: 1. LABOUR 2. UNORGANISED LABOUR 3. INFORMAL WORKERS 4. UNORGANISED SECTOR 5. FOOD SECURITY 6. SOCIAL SECURITY 7. GUJARAT

**Abstract**: The People's Security Survey was intended to help the construction of indices of socio-economic security. Generic questionnaire was developed by International Labour Organisation (ILO). About 44% male and 51% female headed households reported crisis due to social expenditure. 39% households reported crop failure as a major crisis. Maximum crisis was reported due to large debts incurred by 58.2% males and 63.1% females. About 16% households borrowed large debts from formal financial institutions. Vulnerable groups were those who approached money lenders (11%), and worst off were those who had to sell a part of their assets (3%) to tide over the crisis. The average income was lower of women workers (US $ 254) as compared to income of men (US $ 348). Across the status category, more piece rate workers and less salaried workers perceived themselves to be poor. Major insecurity faced by workers in the labour market was irregularity of work. Casual (44%) and piece rate workers (25%) were more insecure compared to all workers (24%). Work insecurity was less among salaried workers, only 4% did not get paid holidays, 14% did not get medical leave, and 31% did not get medical care, while 96% casual workers did not receive any of these entitlements. About 10% households of women respondents went hungry over the last twelve months, compared to 7.6% among male respondents. Food deprivation was relatively high in urban areas (14%) especially among women workers (18%). Across status category, higher proportion of piece rate home based (20%), self employed non agricultural (14%) and casual workers (13%) went hungry over the last 12 months.
Regarding health security, about 19% households did not have access to public health care facilities, the figures being 25% in rural and 7% in urban areas. Self-employed agricultural workers (27%) living in rural areas did not have access to health facilities. Casual workers were more illiterate (51%) and had more irregular work (44%), while 86% of the salaried workers were literate and only 1% had irregular work. Despite having a school in the neighbourhood, a significant proportion (24%) did not send their children to school. Children of school-going age who were not going to school was comparatively high among women headed households (27%) and casual workers (31%). About 16% households did not own the house they lived in and were most insecure. Household insecurity was 28% in urban areas and 17% of households were living in non permanent houses. About 17% workers belonged to an organization of their interest at work, and this was higher among SEWA women workers (52%). A high proportion of workers utilized saving facilities (79%) and this was higher in rural areas (88%). About 66% workers in rural and urban areas had undertaken renovation of their houses, and 14% workers utilized the credit facility for housing, especially in urban areas (24%). A conceptual framework depicted two sources of insecurities faced by workers in the informal economy; one which arose through random shocks or crisis and hit households from time to time, and secondly structural features, which were more or less permanent. In this rapidly changing scenario, to provide social protection to them would mean huge costs, and any policy intervention in this sphere will have to address the issue of mobilizing resources. The role of civil society and member based organizations cannot be ignored.


Key Words: 1. LABOUR 2. INFORMAL SECTOR 3. URBAN INFORMAL SECTOR 4. INCOME 5. URBAN AREAS 6. MICRO ENTERPRISES 7. ARUNACHAL PRADESH.

Abstract: The present study was carried out to know the nature and quality of employment in the urban informal sector in Arunachal Pradesh. Both primary and secondary data sources were used. Primary data was gathered from 150 selected enterprises in three urban localities of Itanagar, Nirjuli and Naharlagun. The variety of enterprises covered in the survey were auto repairing services (16%), hotels and restaurants (9.3%), petty trading in vegetables (6.7%), fabrication units (10%) and furniture shops (10%), etc. 12.7% of the enterprises were less than one year old, 38% enterprises were 2-5 years old, 30% enterprises were 6-10 years old, and the remaining 19.3% were more than 10 years old. 39.3% were Own Account Enterprises (OAEs), while the remaining 60.7% were
establishments, employing at least one hired labourer. In the retail trade and hotels and
eateries group 58.3% were OAEs, 75% enterprises in transport and communication were
OAEs, and 20% of the enterprises in manufacturing and processing were OAEs. 18% of the
enterprises were operating without premises and these were mainly involved in transport,
petty trading in textiles and vegetables. Of the total enterprises surveyed, 19.3% operated
without any electricity and the rest had access to electricity. 32.0% of the enterprises
operated with only one worker, 24% employed between 2 to 3 workers, 26.7% employed 4 to
5 workers, and 17.3% employed 6 to 9 workers. 18% of the enterprises were managed by
female entrepreneurs. 42% of all enterprises in the category retail trade, hotels and
restaurants were owned and operated by females; 21% of the total were owned by
scheduled castes, and the rest by others. 9.3% of the entrepreneurs were illiterate, 5.3%
had studied up to Class 11 or 12, and 1.3% had studied beyond that. 79.3% of the
entrepreneurs did not want to expand their operations. 32.3% of the total workers in this
study were females. Migrants constituted 86.2% of the total workers. The mean working
hours per day in different occupation categories were Construction 8.10, Rickshaw pulling
9.70, Auto repair 8.85, Hotel and Restaurants 8.65, Petty trading 6.90, Domestic service
7.60, IT and Communication 8.33, Handicrafts 7.86. 98.5% of the informal sector workers
did not have any paid leave. 68% received their wages in cash and 32% got their wages
partly in cash and partly in kind. 60% received their wages on monthly basis, 19.4% received
daily wages, 16.3% got weekly salaries, while 4% workers received irregular payments. 50%
of the recruitments were done on the basis of personal contacts, and 45% of the contacts
were made through relatives and friends. Only 4% of the recruitments were through agents
or sardars. 55% of the workers have not changed their employers during the past one year,
but 19.4% changed employers very frequently. Female workers, on an average, earned Rs.
2242 per month, while male workers earned Rs. 2685 per month. Self employed workers in
the informal sector earned Rs. 2837.50 per month, while hired workers earned Rs. 2445 per
month. It was suggested that credit facilities should be available to entrepreneurs in the
informal sector on the same terms as is given for modern enterprises. There is an urgent
need to make provisions for their welfare through awareness building as well as meaningful
state support. There is a special need for safeguarding the rights of migrant workers.
Wages


Key Words : 1.LABOUR 2.WAGES 3.MINIMUM WAGES 4.CASH PAYMENT 5.NON CASH PAYMENT 6.PAYMENT IN KIND 7.PIECE RATE WORK 8.AGRICULTURAL LABOUR 9.MAHARASHTRA

Abstract : Wages, as defined under the Act, means all remuneration capable of being expressed in terms of money. The present study explores the prevalent modes of payment, the workers' preference, and the preference determinants. The study covered five districts of Maharashtra namely, Sangli, Kolhapur, Ratnagiri, Pune and Nagpur. It was found that for the purpose of minimum wages, the State Government has classified workers into three categories: daily rated, mahinedar or monthly rated, and saldar or salkari or working on yearly basis. It was also observed that the mode of wage payment, cash or in-kind is district neutral, taluk neutral and even village neutral. It is, instead, employment relation specific and crop specific. Cash payment as a principle mode of payment is supplemented by kind component (tea, wheat, chilli, onion, coconut and clothes, etc.) as a subsidiary mode. It was found that in Kalamba village of Kolhapur district a large number of agricultural workers were migrants, both inter district and intra-district. They have been engaged as yearly workers for the last 10-12 years. The workers contracted debts from the employers and became permanent farm servants, getting a monthly wage of Rs.1500/- plus breakfast on paper. The actual cash wage was however Rs.20/- per day only. In Basarage village of Gandhingaj taluk, Pune, the situation was identical. The Saldar workers were indebted to employers. Here the wage on paper was Rs.12,000/- per year. In Shankarpur village of Nagpur district employed saldar workers who were engaged in the cultivation of guava, chiku (sapota) and papaya. Monthly wage was Rs.1200/- to Rs.1500/- inclusive of deduction by the farm owner for adjusting the debt amount. In Narbe village of Ratnagiri district mango cultivation provides employment for six to seven months per year. The
Wages

workers were generally yearly workers and some of them were monthly workers also. The cash payment per month was Rs.180/-. The meal component was 0.5 kg rice, 50 gm dal, and 50 gm bajra. Workers of Bhatyle in Ratnagiri who climbed the trees were paid Rs. 41/- per day, and the others got Rs. 37/- per day. As an incentive, the worker gets Rs. 4.50 per day. Further, in Kaseli of Rajapur there were seasonal agriculture workers earning Rs. 65/- for making compounds, Rs. 70/- for applying insecticides and Rs. 70/- for plucking. The male workers of Ganjar Dhak Pala of Dahanoo taluk, Nagpur got Rs. 30/- and female workers got Rs. 25/- per day. In Sangwi village of Bhor taluk women workers were paid Rs. 25/- and male workers were paid Rs. 30/- for paddy harvesting. Similarly in Asawe, Dahanoo, daily wage of paddy harvesting was Rs. 30/- in cash. So the workers did not really have a free choice between two alternatives, the choice was conditioned. It was suggested that in a non-barter and highly monetized economy cash payment to workers would not only grant them the freedom to sell their labour power in the labour market, it would also strengthen the wage goods market, which would be beneficial for the economy as a whole.
Research Abstracts on Women Labour

Domestic Workers


Key Words: 1. WOMEN LABOUR 2. DOMESTIC WORKERS 3. PROBLEMS OF DOMESTIC WORKERS 4. LEGISLATION FOR WOMEN 5. LEGISLATION FOR WOMEN LABOUR 6. CASE STUDIES DOMESTIC WORKER

Abstract: The International Labour Organization (ILO) defines a domestic worker as "someone who carries out household work in private households in return for wages". The report focused on the findings of two public hearings in Mumbai and Delhi. The hearings investigated cases of gross human rights violations against domestic labourers/workers by both state and private parties, and aimed to report, campaign and litigate for the same. A gathering was organized of 140 domestic workers in Mumbai and 200 domestic workers in Delhi. These hearings had a multi-disciplinary panel consisting of professionals ranging from lawyers, journalists, activists to academicians, etc. Domestic workers were categorized into 3 groups namely child domestic workers (CDWs), live in workers (full timers), and part time domestic workers. The problem of each type of worker was not very different from the other but the intensity of exploitation increased with lower age groups (children). The report showed that poverty was the main factor responsible for the plight of domestic workers. Several other problems faced by domestic workers were strenuous working hours, low wages, no job security, physical assault if the work was not done, frequent scolding for minor things like breaking a cup, and most of the times salary was deducted for any breakage or minor accidental damage while at work. One major problem faced by live in workers/full timers was trafficking. They were trafficked from villages and brought to Bombay or Delhi by giving them high expectations of better lives and most of the time false hopes. All the full timers and part time domestic workers complained that no yearly increment, holidays, bonus, medical allowances and maternity leave benefits were given to them. Suggestions given/made by panelists were that CDWs should be treated like children not as slaves or bonded labour by their employers; compulsory registration of domestic workers should be done to avoid the problem of very young children working in homes; awareness and sensitization programmes should be launched for both politicians and government servants on the plight of domestic workers; all domestic workers throughout the country should be guaranteed minimum wages, paid work off, adequate and free medical treatment; and the Labour Commissioner of the states should register all CDWs under the provisions of Child Labour Act.
Landless Labour

Kumar, Hajira et al. (2004).

Key Words: 1. WOMEN LABOUR 2. LANDLESS LABOUR 3. SOCIAL INJUSTICE 4. WOMEN LANDLESS LABOURERS 5. AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS 6. POOR WOMEN 7. VULNERABLE GROUPS 8. VULNERABLE WOMEN 9. DELHI 10. HARYANA 11. UTTAR PRADESH.

Abstract: Landless unorganized female labour force is probably one of the most vulnerable sections of society. In India, 97% of the labour force works in the unorganized sector. NSSO Survey 53rd Round (1997) showed that 57% of the women in rural areas are self-employed, 2.1% are regular employees and 40.9% are casual labourers. The purpose of the study was to address the issue of landless unorganized female labour force in India. The sample for the study consisted of 750 Land Less Labourer Women (LLLW), 250 each from Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. The main objective was to suggest measures that could bring about improvement in LLLW's lifestyle, profile and socio-economic status. LLLWs are victims of social injustice as 85% were illiterate and only 15% had reached primary level of education. Among the 108 LLLWs who were above 50 years, 67 were widows. 90% of the LLLWs belonged to the backward (OBC) or schedule castes (SCs) and scheduled tribes (STs). Majority of respondents were from Uttar Pradesh as landlessness is more common there. Only 7% of the respondents had their own land and over 90% were landless. Gender disparity can be judged by the fact that literacy level of LLLW was 15%, while that of their husbands was 50%. 90% of the households were headed by men. Out of 80 households headed by women, 76 were widows. Nearly 40% of the respondents wished to educate their boys for alternate occupations. Barely 17% wished their daughters to study and only 3% discussed about the career of their girls. 60% of LLLWs had monthly income between Rs. 2000 to Rs. 4000; 30% had income less than Rs. 2000 and only 10% had more than Rs. 4000. Apart from seasonal agricultural work, 97.61% worked as domestic help/ workers. About 84% of the LLLWs income was spent on food and less than 1% on education. LLLWs faced multifarious problems such as sexual harassment, wage differential and indebtedness. Only 2% could say ‘no’ to the work place harassment (WPH) and only 7% had good work
atmosphere. As many as 37.6% preferred to remain silent about the events of Work Place Harassment (WPH). Only 2% to 3% were ready to complain against the assailant. 12.39% were of the opinion that Government should appoint inspectors to keep a check on WPH. Regarding wage differences, 37.6% LLLWs were unaware about the difference in wages between men and women. 15.9% women received equal wages. Only 26% of LLLWs were clearly aware that they received lower wages. The illiterate landless labourer women (LLLW) were found to be ignorant about various Government efforts to emancipate them. 70% of the LLLWs were in favour of reservation for women in various sectors of work; 5.9% respondents preferred welfare schemes; and only 3 respondents had heard about any NGOs working for them. To improve the status of LLLWs suggestions offered to Government were: creating cells to check work place harassment (WPH); providing subsidies to LLLWs; vocational training programmes; gender sensitization; reservation for women in Class I and Class II Government jobs; making education free and compulsory for children; and empowering village panchayats to develop various schemes for LLLWs.
Abstract: Women play a paramount role in the socio-economic development of a country. The pace of economic development of a country can be accelerated by enhancing the status, position and living conditions of women. Household labour is not calculated as paid work, and its contribution to the economy is typically undervalued or ignored. The Female Economic Activity Rate (FEAR) for India was 42. The study analyzed the time use pattern of the poor so that employment and welfare programmes could be planned for them. A survey was conducted covering 2000 households (1000 rural and 1000 urban) spread over 11 divisions categorized by the Slum Clearance Board of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation. It was found that the average household size was 3.97 in rural areas and 4.12 in urban areas. 71% of the rural households were nuclear and in urban areas 59% of the households were joint families. Overall, only 6% households in rural areas and 8% in urban areas were headed by women. In rural areas 49% of the women were working, while in urban areas 31% women worked. About 58% of the working women in rural areas were in the active working age group of 15-35 years, 38% were in 36-59 years age group, and 4% were 60+ years. More than 90% of the working women were married, widowed or separated. About 91.82% of the working women in rural areas were in full time jobs, and this percentage was 65.60% in urban areas. On an average in rural areas, males spent about 6.223 hours in a day on SNA activities (Standards of National Activities) and 0.7155 hours on extended SNA activities. In rural areas, females spent about 2.8252 hours on SNA activities and 3.4466 hours on extended SNA activities in a day. In urban areas, the time spent by females on SNA activities was only 1.6374 hours, while males spent 5.3108 hours on SNA activities per day. Females spent about 5.8457 hours in a day on extended SNA activities, while males spent about 1.6487 hours in a day on extended SNA activities in urban areas. In rural areas working males spent about 11.81 hours on personal care, while females spent about 10.96 hours per week. Females spent 1.86 hours per day on cooking, 0.97 hours on washing clothes, cleaning utensils and cleaning the house. The economic cost of activities such as cooking, washing utensils, washing clothes and cleaning the house were estimated in monetary terms. It was found that the per capita monthly expenses incurred would be Rs. 40 for each of these activities. It was recommended that a macro level policy is needed that could integrated women's paid and unpaid work, reduce their drudgery, and lessen the burden of extended SNA activities.
Unorganised Sector


Key Words: 1. WOMEN LABOUR  2. WOMEN LABOUR UNORGANIZED SECTOR  3. UNORGANIZED SECTOR  4. INFORMAL WORKERS  5. LABOUR FORCE  6. FOOD  7. HEALTH  8. WOMEN WORKER  9. VULNERABLE GROUP  10. SURAT  11. GUJARAT.

Abstract: The structure of employment is changing across the world with manufacturing and servicing processes being relocated from high income countries to low income countries. An attempt was made to understand what risks and vulnerabilities influence the livelihood outcomes of workers in the informal sector in Surat city in Gujarat. The basic needs relate to food, shelter, health, education and income. Surat city has a population of two million people and the female population is about 48%. The working age population in the city was about 69 percent, which was similar across gender. The total labour force in the city was about 935,000, comprising 35% females and 65% males. The employment status was 99% of women in the working age group were employed; about 95% of men were gainfully employed. About 65% of the workers in the informal sector were casual wage labourers, 16% were self-employed, 6% were unpaid family helpers and 9% were engaged in home-based work. The average days of work available to the workers were 302 days, with women having slightly higher number of days of employment. The most vulnerable were the piece rate and casual workers in terms of number of days of work. On an average, these workers reported 82 and 67 days of unemployment respectively. The migrant population in the city was about 70%. Across gender, men’s annual earnings were much higher than women, in all the activities. The average annual household income of Rs. 52058 was much above the poverty line, but about 15.4% households obtained incomes below the poverty line. About 70% women perceived that there was likelihood of losing either their present job or the economic activity they were pursuing. About 27% women had the privilege of working in a job of their choice, but about 37% had no choice. About 48% households had small children below the age of ten years. The literacy rate among the sample respondents was 76% and there was a wide disparity across gender. About 12% households did not send their girl child to school,
while only 8% did not send their boy child to school. About 64% self-employed women operated from within their homes, and 35% of them were operating on streets, without any legal status. About 37% households did not own the house they lived in, and they lived in rented or other premises. A high proportion of women workers (53%) had very little or no work for four months in a year, and another 30% had a slack season for about 3 months. About 54% households did not have access to public health care facilities, and of those who had government health facilities, about 21% did not avail the public health facility. The risks that informal workers faced were that of the death of an earning member in the household, loss of job due to illness, loss of job or assets, loss of work, etc. About 13.1% of all households and 30% poor households faced this crisis. About 41% households reported expenditure on illness as a major crisis, especially among poor households; 17% experienced the birth of a child as a vulnerable situation, and 24% households had large outstanding debts, in both female and male headed households. Women, with their dual burden, had to deal with provision of both basic and economic needs of the households. There is a need to address the economic insecurities of these women. Economic policies must be developed in conjunction with policies concerning reproduction and child care. A mechanism through which the insecurities of the women could be addressed is organization of these women into groups or unions, as hardly 2% of them were part of unions at the time of the study.
Women Construction Workers

Mathew, Anna. (1999).

Key Words: 1. WOMEN LABOUR 2. CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY 3. WOMEN CONSTRUCTION WORKERS 4. ANDHRA PRADESH.

Abstract: This paper is based on a research project sponsored by the University Grants Commission, titled 'Problems of women in the unorganized sector with special reference to women construction workers (WCW) in the city of Hyderabad'. The increasing growth of female participation in the construction industry has major implications for the nature of work and family life. This study ascertained whether the employment of women construction workers had positive bearing on the type of relationship WCWs shared with their husbands. It also examined their level of satisfaction about contribution towards family income and extent of help rendered by their husbands in domestic labour. The sample comprised 690 WCWs from the various construction sites of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. Data was collected using interview schedules. Findings revealed that 56.4% WCWs felt a sense of satisfaction by contributing towards the family income, 30% were indifferent towards their contribution, and 14% felt that they were obliging their relations and family members. Results also showed a higher percentage among both WCWs (83.4%) and their husbands (61.4%) subscribing to an egalitarian relationship than to ‘husband dominance’ or ‘wife dominance’ relationships. The percentage of respondents with a relationship of ‘wife dominance’ was glaringly low as compared to that of ‘husband dominance’. However, decisions taken on household chores, child care, money matters and employment plans were found to be made on consensus basis and mutual agreement. It was found that 57% husbands extended help under coercion, 31% did not help at all, and only 12% willingly helped in domestic work. About 57.7% husbands encouraged their wives to work, 38% were indifferent towards their wives working, and 20% did not want their wives to work because of the continuing influence of traditional gender roles. Though more than 50% husbands approved of their wives working, but only 9.8% willingly extended help to their wives in doing household chores. Therefore, there is an urgent need to create awareness among both, the WCWs and their husbands, regarding advantages of working together as partners within the household. Social workers can play a vital role in creating this awareness by holding group discussions on these aspects among WCWs and their husbands.

**Key Words**: 1. WOMEN LABOUR 2. WOMEN WORKERS 3. BRICK KILN INDUSTRY 4. HARYANA.

**Abstract**: The study was conducted to know the socio economic status of women workers in the brick industry of Haryana. It investigated the different economic activities adopted for survival; and explored various aspects relating to the family, migration, and women's working conditions. A sample of 410 women workers were drawn using multi stage random sampling technique. Structured interview schedules were used, and employers and significant persons were interviewed to gather information. More than 87% women workers of brick kilns were found to be less than 45 years of age. The largest number of workers was from the neighbouring states namely Uttar Pradesh (32%), Bihar (29%), Haryana (22.68%) and Rajasthan (13.41%). For most of the women, it was the husband's decision to work in the kiln. The chief attraction was that money could be obtained in advance. Women workers in brick kilns were at the bottom of the hierarchy. Only a few of the respondents (6.34%) mentioned that women were either looked down upon or physically harassed. Almost 98.04% workers came to the brick kiln only for the season, that is, from October and November to May or June. Family size of workers varied from two to five members (67.56%), six to ten (24.15%), and eleven to fifteen (8.29%). In all the brick kilns of this area employers gave some money to workers for their day-to-day expenses on the 15th day of the month. This money was actually paid to the male workers, and women did not receive money for expenses separately. Most of the women said that their families were unable to save. Control and decision making usually rested with males. The lives of women working in brick kilns was exhausting and tough because of the double burden of working at home as well as at the work site. They hardly got any time for recreation or leisure activities. Although all of them contributed to the family's survival, it was disheartening to note that they did not receive any independent income and had to depend upon their men folk entirely.

**Key Words**: 1.WOMEN LABOUR 2.CONSTRUCTION WORKER 3.INFORMAL SECTOR 4.UNORGANISED SECTOR 5.MULTIPLE JOBS 6.LABOUR CONSTRUCTION WORKER 7.CASUAL LABOUR.

**Abstract**: The present study was undertaken to assess the challenges faced by construction workers, due to mechanization, wage structure, etc. The sample consisted of 250 workers (150 females and 100 males) in the construction sector. For every 3 females 2 male respondents were picked up at random from each of the 50 kadiyanakas (labour points) of Ahmedabad. Due to rampant unemployment, many educated people and unemployed factory workers had joined construction work. Increased competition led workers to work for lower wages and sometimes they failed to find work. Also, migrant labourers worked for very low wages and further harmed prospects of the regular workforce. Respondents said that communal violence also affected their work as they were scared to move to another area in search of work. Mechanization had also led to a decreased demand for these workers. More than 30% of the total workers reported that they had met with an accident or had experienced an episode of sickness related to work. This led to declined work efficiency in addition to medical expenses. More than 23.2% of the workers met with accidents. 16.4% of the female workers faced sexual harassment, while 9.2% of the workers faced mental harassment due to abusive language and low wages. It is necessary to provide workers with skill training to enable them to adapt to the rapidly changing construction industry. Construction Workers Welfare Board should compensate workers for accidents. Also, it is important to identify the safety measures and equipment that is required and to ensure the implementation of safety norms and measures.
**Women Vendors**


Women vendors in urban informal sector : a study in West Bengal. Kolkata : JISC. 
~100 p.

**Key Words**: 1.WOMEN LABOUR 2.WOMEN LABOUR VENDOR 3.VENDORS 4.WOMEN VENDORS 5.PROBLEMS WOMEN VENDORS 6.WEST BENGAL.

**Abstract**: A sizeable proportion of the street vendors are women in the urban informal sector, who provide an important service by supplying fresh vegetables, fruit, food items and household goods to the urban population. The present study focused on the situation of women vendors, their working environment, need for a license system, access to social welfare programmes including education and training, need for credit support, the nature of attainment of autonomy and respect as earners, nature of inputs and market facilities available, etc. About 500 women vendors were selected for the study in four corporation areas in West Bengal, and data was collected from different organizations who were connected in any way with issues concerning vendors. Nearly 41% respondents were in the age group 36-45 years, 38.60% belonged to the age group 26-35 years, and 9.4% were in the age group 15-25 years. Majority of women vendors (93%) were Hindu. Most of the respondents (82.2%) were illiterate, only 12.40% had education up to primary level. About 62% women vendor were found to be selling vegetables, 31.68% were selling fruits, 11.2% were selling flowers, and only 8% were found to be selling fish. Majority of respondents (78.4%) stated that they procured their goods from the wholesale market. The major problems faced by women vendors were shortage of space due to which they were chased/harassed by police, unhygienic working environment, open area without any shelter from the sun, wind and rain, and no toilet facilities. Nearly 97.2% women vendors were not even aware of the license system due to which they had to pay money/fees to police and members of political parties. Average daily income of 44% respondent ranged between Rs.30 to Rs.40, and only 6% earned more than Rs.1200 per month. A large proportion of respondents (64.80%) could not save any money due to family expenses. Findings showed that 67% women vendors had borrowed money from moneylenders and other people. Most women vendors (60%) have suffered from several diseases viz jaundice, TB, asthma, malaria, and typhoid. A large number of vendors (86%) had also suffered from occupational health hazards like backaches due to inconvenient seating position, headaches, cold and cough, joint pains (95.2%) etc. Around 64.2% of the married vendors had adopted some kind of family planning measures. Women vendors had very little time for leisure. Majority of women vendors (96%) mentioned that they were not satisfied with their profession. The Government should provide adequate space/shops with sanitation, water facilities, and a
hygienic environment to street vendors to sell their goods. License/ identity cards should also be given, and an educational programme and health programmes should be organized twice a month for women vendors.

Women vendors : a study of Varanasi. Varanasi : Banaras Hindu Univ., Faculty of Social Sciences, Centre for Women’s Studies and Development. 45 p.


**Abstract**: Working women in the informal sector is an important segment of the labour force. The economic and social conditions of those working in this sector are dismal. It was estimated that about 15% urban informal sectors workforce are street vendors. Participation rate of female workforce in the informal sector is as high as 49% as against 15% to 17% in the case of males. The objectives of the study were to ascertain the motivational factors for choosing the trade/ business; ascertain the impact of women’s economic activities; understand the gendered nature of the activities and roles performed by women. In all 21 women were interviewed. Purposive sampling method was used for interview because it is difficult to ascertain the exact number of women vendors. Majority of them were illiterate and only a few were literate upto primary and middle levels. Nearly 29% women sellers under study had large families (5 to 6 children). Majority of the respondents came from families which have an income of even less than Rs. 50 per day. Only 2 had a daily earning of between Rs. 81-100. Majority of them worked for at least 8 to 10 hours and a few worked 14 to 16 hours. The most frightening experience for these women sellers is the regular eviction carried out by the district or municipal administration. Although these poor women have been selling seasonal fruits, vegetables, etc. for the last 15-20 years, yet they do not have a secure a place to sit and vend. Majority of them reported that their activity gives them a ready source of money everyday; it also releases them from the monotony and drudgery of household work. Most of the times, in the absence of any knowledge about calculations, they are cheated by customers. Working women generally bear double burden as worker, homemaker and mother. Majority of the women sellers had no aspirations or expectations, but left their destiny on fate. They faced economic uncertainties due to police harassment, eviction drive by the municipality, frequent clashes with local shopkeepers, as well as hostilities of the urban middle class people. Town planning must take into consideration vending lanes on the road so that traffic need not be obstructed. The police and the municipality must take an attitude of helping these women rather than harassing them. The periodic ‘encroachment’ clearance should be done only after providing some alternatives.
Women Weavers

V. V. Giri National Labour Institute, NOIDA. (2002).
Women weavers of Sualkuchi, the silk town of Assam. NOIDA : VVGNLI. 50 p.

Key Words : 1. WOMEN LABOUR 2. WEAVERS 3. SILK INDUSTRY 4. SUALKUCHI 5. ASSAM.

Abstract : Handlooms provide a utilization of leisure to the women folk of rural Assam who work for a few hours a day to produce hand-woven cotton fabrics, mostly for personal use. 247 women wage weavers were randomly selected for the study. In addition, 50 male wage weavers and 168 master weavers (of whom 27 were women) and 32 entrepreneurs were also selected. The study was carried out through field visits in Sualkuchi area of Assam. It was found that there were 1,122 looms of 200 weavers, giving an average of 5.6 looms per weaver. Of the 200 weavers, 82 (41%) were financing their activities from their own sources, altogether 49 weavers also took the help of their friends and relatives. 50 weavers had taken loans from financial institutions under different schemes of the Government. Most of the sampled weavers (54.5%) were selling their products in the local market. 19% Sualkuchi workers sold their products locally as well as in Guwahati. Sualkuchi produced 15 million square metres of silk and 15,000 square metres of muga fabrics. Out of the 200 firms, on an average, 68 had unused looms and 2 were lying idle. 52 of them reported shortage of labour. A few weavers were selling their products directly to consumers (9% only). 91% weavers do not sell their products directly to the ultimate consumers. 49% of the master/entrepreneur weavers belonged to the scheduled caste community. Master/entrepreneur weavers from OBCs constituted 27% of the sample. In 109 master/entrepreneur weaver households at least one illiterate member was found. 5% entrepreneurs/weavers were earning less than Rs. 20,000 in an year, which was below the poverty line. 60% earned more than Rs. 48,000 per year. Most of the women wage weavers (80.6%) were unmarried, whereas the situation was reverse in the case of male wage weavers and 52% of them were married. 45 women wage weavers, out of the total women wage weavers, had a family income of less than Rs.19,650 per annum. 55% workers reported that they got free accommodation and tea and snacks during work hours from their employers. 32 women wage weavers (12.9%) reported that they got tea and festival advance
from their employers. 76.9% women and 44% male weavers remitted home a part of their earnings after meeting their own expenditure. Only 39 women weavers (15.8%) and six male weavers (12%) reported that their income was just sufficient to meet their own consumption needs. 65.2% women and 84% male wage weavers had taken advance from their employers prior to joining their jobs. 9.7% women and 14% male wage weavers reported that they had their own bank accounts. Most of the weavers appeared to be happy with their jobs and only 42 wage weavers were found to be unhappy. It was suggested that the handloom weavers of Sualkuchi need the administration to play a supportive role in the form of improving infrastructural facilities, the most common request being uninterrupted supply of electricity, at a reasonable price. An institutional arrangement for regular supply of silk yarn at competitive prices is also required.