



AWARENESS OF STAKEHOLDERS ON WORKING CONDITIONS OF CHILD LABOUR IN DROUGHT –PRONE AREA OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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Abstract

The child labour was multi-dimensional and it occurred not only because of parental selfishness, but also because of poverty and their low wages. Parents would not send their children to work if their own wages were high or employment prospects were better. Therefore, banning child labour will help in solving various problems at one time. Furthermore, parents would then send their children to school and help in improving the literacy rate of the country. The present paper analysed and presented with awareness of the stakeholders on working conditions of child labours in Andhra Pradesh.

Introduction

Some common causes of the child labour are poverty, parental illiteracy, social apathy, ignorance, lack of education and exposure, exploitation of cheap and unorganised labour. The family practice to inculcate traditional skills in children pulls little ones inexorably in the trap of child labour, as they never get the opportunity to learn anything else. Adult unemployment and urbanization also causes child labour and hence, exploitation can be seen in garment industries. The industrialisation has also had a negative effect by giving rise to circumstances which encourages child labour. Strict implementation of child labour laws and practical and healthy alternatives to replace this evil can go a long way to solve the problem of child labour. Children who are born out of wedlock, orphaned or abandoned are especially vulnerable to exploitation. They are forced to work for survival when there are no adults and relatives to support them. Livelihood considerations can also drive a child into the dirtiest forms of child labour like child prostitution and organized begging.

Objectives

1. To study the conceptual framework of child labour
2. To analyse the awareness of stakeholders on child labour in the study area
3. To draw the findings from the study and given suitable suggestions

Methodology

The present study covers the Andhra Pradesh area and selected altogether 980 sample respondents includes 600 are child labours/family members, 200 are employers, and other stake holders are 180 respondents were selected in the study area.

The study were collected the both primary and secondary data. Primary data were collected from the selected sample respondents through a structure Interview-Schedule after pre-tested. And also secondary data were also collected from the various sources like dailies, periodicals, published and unpublished theses, and various government reports.

Results and discussions

Table -1,Details of age defined for a child under child labour

| S.No | Age | No. of Respondents | Percentage to total |
|------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Lessthan 14 years | 637 | 65.00 |
| 2 | Lessthan 18 years | 304 | 31.00 |
| 3 | Others | 39 | 04.00 |
| | Total | 980 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey



Table 1 portrayed that the particulars of age of child labour which is fix by the child labour Act. It can be found from the table that the selected stakeholders like 980, 65 per cent of the sample stakeholders stated that who have less than 14 years, those children’s are treated as child labour by their best of knowledge, 31 per cent (304) sample respondents have stated that whose age less than 18 years that they are treated as child labour, and only 4 per cent of the respondents, they don’t have any idea about the age factor for treating children’s as labour in the study area. It is clearly concluded from the table that, almost all the sample respondents have an idea about the child labour and their considering age in Andhra Pradesh state.

Table 2,Maximum hours per day for which a child according to childlabour Act

| S.No | Maximum hours | No. of Respondents | Percentage to total |
|------|--|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 4 hours stretches including one hour interval | 147 | 15.00 |
| 2 | 6 hours stretches including one hour interval | 265 | 27.00 |
| 3 | 8 hours stretches including one h our interval | 176 | 18.00 |
| 4 | Don’t know | 392 | 40.00 |
| | Total | 980 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey

The researcher has tried to understand and aware about the working hours of the child labour, collection information from the selected sample stakeholders from the study area (Table 2). It can be found that, 15 per cent of the stakeholders has stated that the working hours for children is 4 hours stretches including one hour interval, 27 per cent of the respondents have stated that children are working with six hour including one hour interval, and 18 per cent of them have stated that wherever children are working, maximum 8 hours including one hour interval. It can be concluded that majority of the sample respondents have stated that the don’t have any idea regarding to the working hours of child labour and child labour Act.

Table 3, Working conditions under which a child cannot work

| S.No | Statement | No. of Respondents | Percentage to total |
|------|---|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | No child is allowed to work on overtime | 88 | 09.00 |
| 2 | No child is allowed to work in morethan one place in a given days | 147 | 15.00 |
| 3 | A child must receive a holiday from work every week | 206 | 21.00 |
| 4 | Don’t know | 539 | 55.00 |
| | Total | 980 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey

The present table shows that the working conditions under which a child cannot work in any sector in India. The researcher has identified various factors, and collected primary data from the sample respondents in the study area like Andhra Pradesh. It can be found from the table 3 that, 9 per cent of the sample respondents stated that ‘no child is allowed to work on overtime’, 15 per cent of respondents stated that ‘no child is allowed to work in morethan one place in a given days, and 21 per cent of the stakeholders agreed on ‘a child must receive holiday from work every week’ statement. It is noticed that majority of the respondents (539), i.e., 55 per cent of the respondents stated that, they don’t have an idea about working conditions of the child labour at work place in the Andhra Pradesh.



Table 4, Details of which age group free & compulsory education is given to children

| S.No | Age group | No. of Respondents | Percentage to total |
|------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 4-16 years | 216 | 22.00 |
| 2 | 6-14 years | 206 | 21.00 |
| 3 | 8-14 years | 411 | 42.00 |
| 4 | Don't know | 147 | 15.00 |
| | Total | 980 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey

The above table demonstrated that compulsory education and age group of children is analysed and presented in the table 4. It is stated that 22 per cent of the sample stakeholders has stated, 4-16 years age group children compulsory & provide free education in any society, 21 per cent of the respondents have stated that age group 6-14 years must be attend to the schools, and 42 per cent of the selected sample respondents have stated that whose age group 8-14, they must be enroll their names in the school in the study area of Andhra Pradesh. It can be conducted that majority of the respondents have stated that 6-14 years age group children have entered into the school and empowered all the dimensions. It is further concluded that a little percentage of respondents don't have any idea about the age-group factor regarding to children education.

Table-5, Main source of information regarding to child labour

| S.No | Source | No. of Respondents | Percentage to total |
|------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | Television | 147 | 15.00 |
| 2 | News Papers | 118 | 12.00 |
| 3 | Radio | 98 | 10.00 |
| 4 | Magazine | 176 | 18.00 |
| 5 | Brochure | 69 | 07.00 |
| 6 | Hording | 127 | 13.00 |
| 7 | Training programmes | 245 | 25.00 |
| | Total | 980 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey

Information is very important to know about the various rules and regulations, various Acts, amendments in relating to the child & child labour. The researcher has identified various channels for distribution of information into various sections of the people in the society. The table 5 shows which is transformation of information from one person to another about child labour. It is found from the study that 15 per cent of the sample respondents have to know about child labour through television, 12 per cent of respondents are came to know from the news papers regarding to child labours, 10 per cent of the stakeholders have got the information from the Radio, 18 per cent of the selected sample stakeholders through Magazine, 7 per cent of respondents have got Brochure, 13 per cent of the population from the total respondents have got hoardings, and 25 per cent of the sample respondents have stated that they get rules and regulations, procedures, Acts, amendments through training programme. It can be concluded that majority of the sample respondents have got information from the training programmes, Magazines, hoardings and television in the study area.



Table- 6, what kind of service are provided under child line number

| S.No | Service | No. of Respondents | Percentage to total |
|------|---|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 24 hours service | 108 | 11.00 |
| 2 | Free emergency phone service for child in need | 176 | 18.00 |
| 3 | Respond to care & Rehabilitation needs of children’s calling child line | 235 | 24.00 |
| 4 | Don’t know | 461 | 47.00 |
| | Total | 980 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey

The researcher has found their empirical data, analyse and presented about the child line number service which is rendered by the government. This service will help to child labour, to any emergency, care of them, and rehabilitation to the needy child labour. It can be noted that (Table 6), 11 per cent of the sample stakeholders stated that, the child line number have been providing 24 hours service to the child labours, 18 per cent stated that the number is provide free emerging phone service for child in need, 24 per cent of the stakeholders stated that child line number will help and respond to care and rehabilitation needy of the children calling child line number. It is quite interesting that 47 per cent of the respondents have no idea about their service in the study area. It clearly concluded that who have minimum qualification, knowledge about society, teacher, have much idea about the service in the study area of Andhra Pradesh.

Table 7, Minimum legal age of marriage in case of girls

| S.No | Age | No. of Respondents | Percentage to total |
|------|------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 16 years | 314 | 32.00 |
| 2 | 18 years | 265 | 27.00 |
| 3 | 21 years | 333 | 34.00 |
| 4 | Don’t know | 68 | 07.00 |
| | Total | 980 | 100 |

Source: Field Survey

The table portrayed that the minimum legal age of marriage in case of girl in India is presented in 7. Based on this statement, the researcher has collected their opinion from the sample respondents. It can be found from the table that 32 per cent of the stakeholder stated that whose age of 16 years, they are eligible for get marriage, 27 per cent of them have stated whose age is 18 years, they are eligible, 34 per cent of the respondents stated that whose age is 21 years, they will be marry, only seven per cent of them sated that, they don’t have any idea about the age factor to marriage of any girl in the Indian society.

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