

# Current Scenario of Child Labour in Haryana

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**Abstract-** Child Labour is one of the major concern of India. A large number of Schemes, Projects and laws have been introduced by the Government of India to overcome the problem but the problem has not been solved yet rather the number is increasing day by day. The union Budget Gives least importance to the problem, also the amount which is allocated every year is not being spent as per plans. Presence of child labour is the violation of the child labour laws as well as the lack of implementation of primary education or Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Present paper deals with the of Current Scenario Child labour in Haryana state. Paper also finds out some major problems regarding implementation of the law. Suggestions to eradicate the problem have been given at the end of the paper.

**Index Terms-** Child Labour Laws, Budget for children, Employment, Child Labour schemes.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Child labour refers to the employment of children in any work that deprives children of their childhood, interferes with their ability to attend regular school, and that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful. Child labour was employed to varying extents through most of history. Before 1940, numerous children aged 5–14 worked in Europe, the United States and various colonies of European powers. These children worked in agriculture, home-based assembly operations, factories, mining and in services such as [newsies](#). Some worked night shifts lasting 12 hours. With the rise of household income, availability of schools and passage of child labour laws, the incidence rates of child labour fell. In developing countries, with high poverty and poor schooling opportunities, child labour is still prevalent. [Child labour](#) is the practices of having children engage in economic activity, on part or full-time basis. The practice deprives children of their childhood, and is harmful to their physical and mental development. Poverty, lack of good schools and growth of informal economy are considered as the important causes of child labour in [India](#). The 1998 national census of India estimated the total number of child labour, aged 5–14, to be at 12.6 million, out of a total child population of 253 million in 5-14 age group. A 2009-2010 nationwide survey found child labour prevalence had reduced to 4.98 million children (or less than 2% of children in 5-14 age group). The 2011 national census of India found the total number of child labour, aged 5–14, to be at 4.35 million, and the total child population to be 259.64 million in that age group. The child labour problem is not unique to India; worldwide, about 217 million children work, many full-time. India has largest number of children employed than any other country in the world. Around 90 million out of 179 million

children in the age group of 6-14 year do not go to school and are engaged in some occupation or other so around 50 percent of children of our country are involved in child labour. A large numbers of children are engaged in cottage industries: carpet, matches, firecrackers, bidis, brassware, diamond, glass, and hosiery, hand loomed cloth, leather goods, plastic, bangles, sporting goods, at shops as helpers.

## II. OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

- To study the socio-economic background and working conditions of child labour
- To find out the factors responsible for child labour and consequences there after
- To suggest remedial strategy based on the information gathered

## III. REASONS FOR CHILD LABOUR

- Insufficient family income
- Family occupation
- Encouragement from parents
- Lack of interest in studies
- Large family size

## IV. CHILD LABOUR LAWS IN INDIA

1. Children (Pledging of labour) Act 1933.
2. Employment of child Act 1938.
3. The Bombay shop and establishment Act 1948.
4. The Indian factories Act 1948.
5. Plantation labour Act 1951.
6. The mines Act 1952.
7. Merchant shipping Act 1958
8. The apprentice Act 1961
9. The motor transport workers Act 1961
10. The atomic energy Act 1962
11. Bidi and cigar workers (condition of employment) Act 1966.
12. State shops and establishment Act
13. The child labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986.
14. The juvenile justice (care and protection) of children Act, 2000.
15. Article 24 of our constitution and section 67 of the factories Act, explicitly direct that children below the age of 14 years are not allowed to work in factories.
16. Article 21A (added by the 86th amendment Act 2002) provides that state shall provide free and compulsory education to children of age group 6-14 years.
17. Article 45 provides for free and compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14 years.

## V. LABOUR WELFARE BOARD HARYANA

The Haryana Labour Welfare Board was constituted in the year 1970 under section-4 of the Punjab Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1965 for the Welfare of Industrial Workers. The following schemes for the welfare of workers and their children are running by the Board:

### 1. Scholarship to the Children of industrial workers

Under this scheme financial help is provided to the children of industrial workers by way of scholarship of Rs. 4000/- to 15000/- if they have secured 60% marks in 9th to Graduate, Diploma and Degree exams.

### 2. Cash awards to the children of industrial workers

A cash award of Rs. 1000/- & 2000/- is given to those children of workers, who have secured 75% and 60% marks upto pre-university & post-graduation level respectively.

## CHILD LABOUR (PROHIBITION & REGULATION) ACT 1986

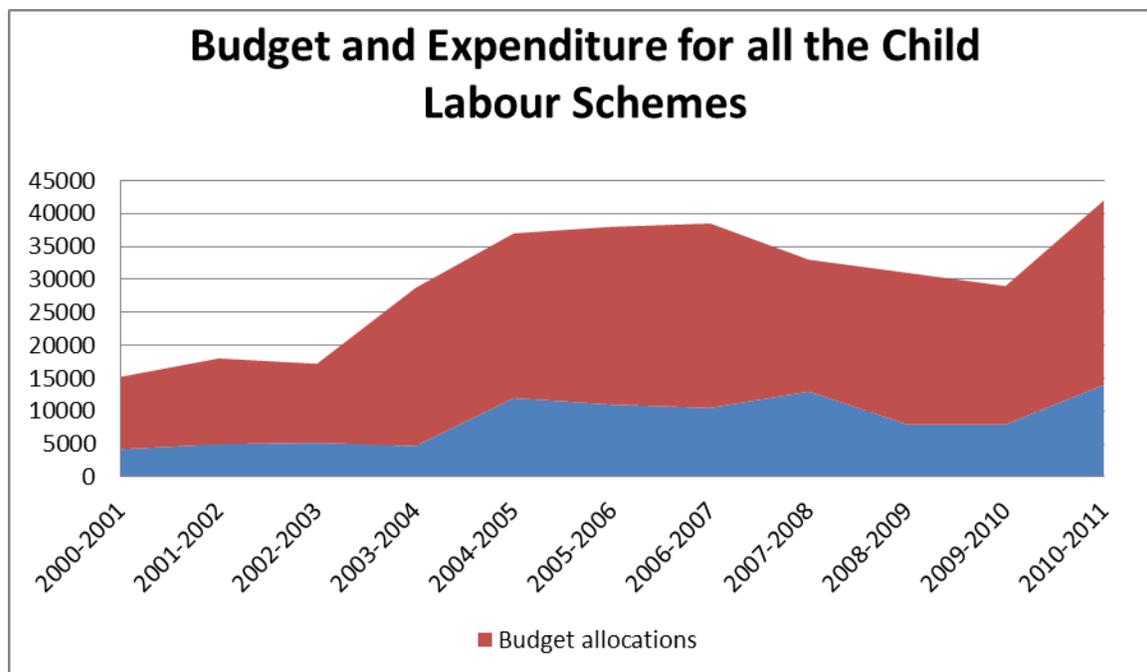
The act defines a child as any person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age. . It outlines where and how children can work and where they cannot. The basic objective of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act 1986, is to ban employment of children below the age of 14 years in factories, mines and hazardous employment's and to regulate the working conditions of children in other employment's.

## National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme

Government had initiated the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 1988 to rehabilitate working children in 12 child labour endemic districts of the country.

### Objectives of the Scheme:

- This is the major Central Sector Scheme for the rehabilitation of child labour.
- The Scheme seeks to adopt a sequential approach with focus on rehabilitation of children working in hazardous occupations & processes in the first instance.
- Under the Scheme, survey of child labour engaged in hazardous occupations & processes has been conducted.
- The identified children are to be withdrawn from these occupations & processes and then put into special schools in order to enable them to be mainstreamed into formal schooling system.
- Project Societies at the district level are fully funded for opening up of special schools/Rehabilitation Centres for the rehabilitation of child labour.
- The special schools/Rehabilitation Centers provide:
  1. Non-formal/bridge education
  2. Skilled/vocational training
  3. Mid Day Meal
  4. Stipend @ Rs.150/- per child per month.
  5. Health care facilities through a doctor appointed for a group of 20 schools.



## Child labour in Haryana

Child labour in Haryana is one of the major concerns of most developing nations. In a country with a mammoth population such as India, the concern is highlighted by the acute poverty of the masses. In 2001, about 12.6 million child labourers were employed in India of which about 2,53,491 were from Haryana (a massive rise from 1,09,691 in 1991). According

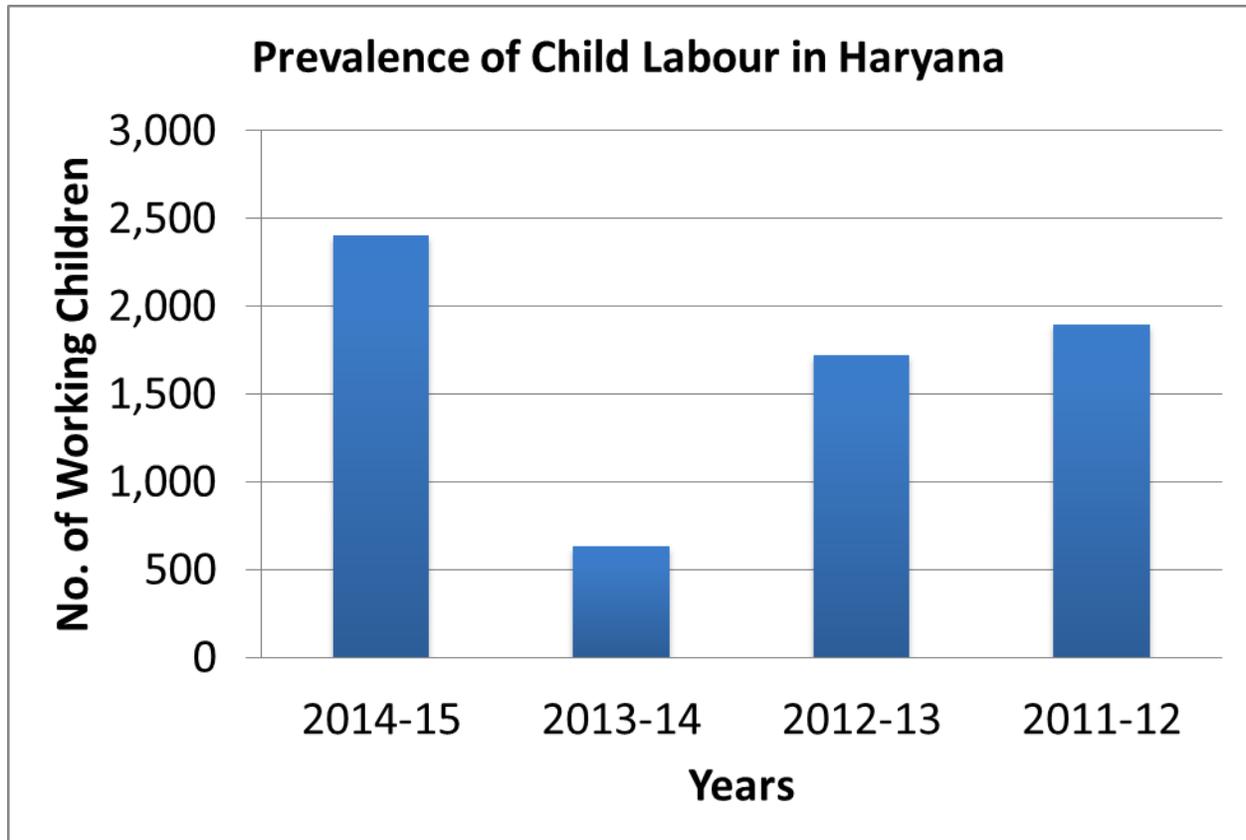
to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act of 1986, children under the age of 14 may not be employed in hazardous occupations. In Haryana, the employment of children, however, in non-hazardous areas is rampant. Not only does child labour take away from children the opportunity to study and play, it gives rise to incidences of inequality, abuse of children, and health issues due to exertion and maltreatment. Children are one

of the most vulnerable sections of society; by allowing child labour to flourish, the state administration has failed to protect this defenseless section. There are about 3.58 lakh children employed in cotton farms across the state.

**Cities in Haryana having major share of child labour**

- Fatehabad,
- Hissar

- Jhajjar
- Rohtak
- Sirsa



**According to [IKEA Foundation](#)**

- Haryana has a large number of children working in the agriculture sector with an estimated 16% of them in cotton picking. The NGO-Save the Children, Pratham and Breakthrough will work with panchayat leaders, farmers, teachers, families and Indian state officials in Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, to provide children with access to quality education, improve teacher training, develop local child protection committees and school management committees and tackle issues like gender based discrimination.
- In the states of Punjab and Haryana, Save the Children will work directly at community level to form community groups and increase the reporting of child labour, linking them with the Government's Child Protection Services. Pratham will work at primary & upper middle school level to improve the learning levels across grades 3.
- Breakthrough will generate communication material & provide information on gender discrimination at school & national level in two pilot districts, Jhajjar and

Rohtak, and will train Save the Children to scale it up in all 7 project districts, which include Bathinda, Muksar Sahib, Mansa and Fazilka (earlier part of Ferozepur) in Punjab and Hisar, Sirsa and Fatehabad in Haryana.

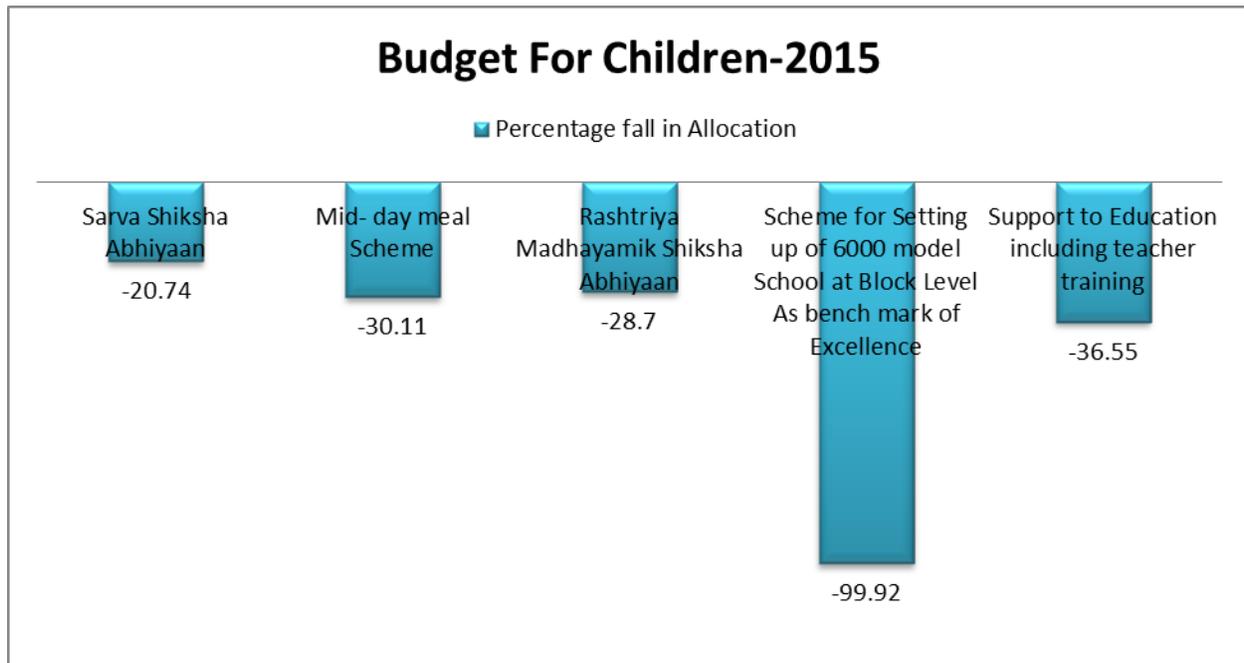
Notably, Haryana's three-point crusade to fight child labour includes 'strict enforcement' of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986, 'awareness' about the same and 'rehabilitation' of children rescued during the raids. According to the officials of State Labour Department, a large number of child labourers were reported from districts like Hisar, Sirsa, Fatehabad, Ambala in the past. While there is more than 90 per cent compliance to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulations) Act in the industrial units, the unorganised sector including the construction sites, roadside dhabas etc continues to flout the child labour laws in Haryana. As the problem of child labour persists at many places, it appears that little impact has been made so far in the State, where children's rights are reportedly violated every day. During census 2001, child workers in Haryana were 2,53,491. During a previous survey for identification of child labour, 5,876 working children were

identified in Panipat and out of the total 3,112 children were found working in hazardous industries or occupations.

### Statistics

- Children constitute 39 % of India's population
- BfC analysis for the last 15 years shows that children have never received more than 5 % of the total Union Budget allocation.

- In 2014-15, out of every 100 Rupees allocated in the Union Budget, the share of children was only Rs 4.52.
- children have received a little over 3% of the total budget in 2015-16 compared to 4.52% in the 2014-15 budget
- Budget for children reduced by 29 %
- 22% reduction in health related schemes for children
- 25% reduction in overall education schemes for children



### VI. FINDINGS

- Underutilization of allocations the little that is allocated for schemes under child labour often remains unspent
- Lack of attention to budget allocations and spending for children
- Largest number of children suffering from malnutrition
- Falling sex ratio
- Increasing violence against children
- Retention of children in schools

### Prevention and Rehabilitation

- Controlled system for compensation of families for the loss of income
- Maintenance of homes where destitute children may be provided, food, clothing, shelter, and allowed to study without resorting to work.
- Educating village leaders and parents
- Implement legislation supporting the Indian child labour act
- Effective schemes to complement the national child labour project.
- Massive awareness drives, in partnership with media and NGOS to instill the
- Schemes that have failed need to be immediately rethought and replaced

### VII. SUGGESTIONS TO OVERCOME CHILD LABOUR

- Give child protection concerns top priority
- Step-up investments under Restructured ICDS for addressing the rights of the young under-served children
- convert all Anganwadi Centres into Day Care Centres
- Initiate measures to check under-spending in schemes for children
- Restriction to Job Market
- Poverty Elimination Programmes
- Increase in Income
- Adult Education
- Strengthening of Inspection
- Increase the Age limit
- Need of a Comprehensive Legislation
- Recreational Facilities
- Removal of income disparity
- Families must be provided some incentives
- Evening schools should be started
- Free books and other stationary items must be provided
- Vocational training centers must be started
- Minimum wages of children should be increased and free nutrition mean may be provided at their workplace.

### VIII. CONCLUSION

The existing child labour concern is not a change that can be effected in a short while. Policy making is the key. The Government of Haryana needs to implement legislation supporting the Indian Child Labour Act. Implementation of legislation requires effective schemes to complement the National Child Labour Project. Creation of awareness at a grass roots level by educating village leaders and parents is important, especially about the necessity of sending girl children to school. The state is in need of massive awareness drives, in partnership with media and NGOs to instill the sanctity of childhood development and healthy growth of children. Schemes that have failed to curb child labour need to be immediately rethought and replaced with effective measures.

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