CHILD LABOUR IN ODISHA: A CASE STUDY OF PURI DISTRICT

ABSTRACT:
This paper focuses on various concepts and studies associated with child labour, their socio-economic issues, the OIDHSA and PURI DISTRICT scenario of child labour. It analyses the driving factors responsible for child labour in and . The various forms of child labour and health hazards they are faced. Various causes of child labour like the cure of poverty, lack of educational resources, Social and economic backwardness, Addiction, disease or disability. The lure of cheap labour, Family tradition Discrimination between boys and girls. Consequences of Child Labour such as General child injuries and abuses like cuts, burns, and lacerations, fractures, tiredness and dizziness, excessive fears and nightmares. Sexual abuse, particularly sexual exploitation of girls by adults, rape, prostitution, early and unwanted pregnancy abortion, sexually transmitted Disease (STDs) and HIV/AIDS, drugs and alcoholism. Physical abuse involves corporal punishment, emotional maltreatment such as bluming, belittling, verbal attacks, and bad remarks. Emotional neglect such as deprivation of family love and affection, resulting in loneliness, and hopelessness. Physical neglect like lack of adequate provision of food, clothing, shelter and medical treatment. Lack of Schooling results in missing educational qualifications and higher skills thus perpetuating their life in poverty. We suggest for a new approach that puts people and the work they do at the center of economic and social policy and business practice: a human-centered agenda for the future of work. Children are the future citizens of the nation and their adequate growth is the topmost priority of the nation. Children around the world are engaged in a large number of activities classified as work. These ranges from harmless extremes. The pretest of nation. Child labour needs to be looked into not only by the Legislature, the Executive and the courts, but also to the social reformers, research and educational institutions of the NGO who look after the development and development of nation. Child labour cannot end overnight because its roots are very deep. Laws should be strictly implemented to prevent child labour. The Objective of the present study was to study the socio-economic condition of families whose children are engage in child labour in Puri. The child labourers were interviewed in their work places using a predesigned and pre-tested questionnaire. Data were collected and analyzed a total of 60 child labourers participated in the study. This research study finds that person who was not child worker in early stage of his/her life have higher probability to enjoy better socio-economic condition than that of person who worked as child worker in past. In fact, it identifies that a children who is working as a child worker has 61% probability to have low standard of living in his/her future life.

Keywords: Child Labour, Constitution, Dangerous, Laws, Social factors, Government, poverty, illiteracy, health hazardous, sexual abuses.

INTRODUCTION:
Children are the greatest gift to humanity and childhood is an state of vulnerable human development it has the budding for future development of any society. “The child is a father of man,” Wordsworth said, Nehru considered that “The child to be the greatest asset of the nation”. The child is usually a person who is less than 14 years of age and develops less, immature and cannot understand the consequences of any work and is not aware of his rights. Children are the future of the society. Every child has the right to enjoy his childhood. Children of every society have always participated in economic activities; Children help their families at home, in farms, in shops, etc. Not all work is bad for kids. Some activities make a positive contribution to their development, prepare them for their future task and helps pass traditional skills from one generation to another. Therefore, difference is there is child work and child labour and it helps to pass the traditional skills form one generation to another. The pre- permissible falls under the category of work whereas later it is under exploitative. As committee on child labour observed that “Labour becomes an absolute evil in the case of child when he is required to work beyond his physical capacity, when heaves of employment interfere with the education, recreation or rest, when his wages are not proportionate with the quantum of work done, and when the occupation in which he is engaged endangers his health and safety”. Still, it is not easy to draw a sharp line between destructive and beneficial child labour. Most of the child labour, Most of the child labour fall into a grey area in these two extremes.

DEFINITIONS OF CHILD LABOUR
Children who are engaged in work unsuitable for their capacities as children or in work that may jeopardize their health. Education or moral development and whose age is below 14 years. Children who practice and engage in economic activities, on a part or full-time basis. (ii) The practice deprives children of their childhood and is harmful to their physical and mental development and (iii). Child labourers constitute a group of working children who are either too young to work or are engaged in hazardous activities, that is, work that is potentially harmful to their physical, social, psychological or educational development.
The term “child labour” is frequently defined that work deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is detrimental to physical and mental development. It refers to the work that: socially dangerous and harmful to children, and interferes with their schooling: by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school, By forcing them to leave school prematurely, or by requiring them to try to combine school attendance with excessively loss and heavy work”.

Review of Literature:
The present chapter contains the review of various related studies and the theoretical framework. We have suggested that the incidence of child labour may increase or decrease with income depending on the level of development and the economic relationship between the parents and the child.

- The prevalence of child labour is one of the most important problems confronting the world at large, especially developing countries such as India. Millions of children are engaged in hazardous situations, or conditions, such as working in mines, working with chemicals and pesticides in agriculture or working with dangerous machinery. Lal (2016)
- Child Labour is a global phenomenon. It exists both in the developing and the developed countries though with a difference in cause and magnitude. Its prevalence is more in the developing countries as compared to the developed ones, because the families, to which the working children belong, are in an urgent need of income of child labor for their subsistence, whereas children in the developed countries are often working for pocket money. Lal (2006)
- The working children themselves may not be productive but are capable of relieving the adults for productive employment by engaging themselves in domestic chores and looking after younger children in the home. This way, they allow their parent to spend more time, on income generating activities. They also free adults to enable their migration to the areas of high employment. Lal (2016)
- Tribal people migrated to urban areas usually get unskilled wage employment in the construction sector which is uncertain. They also work as domestic bits of help, in shops, in commercial outlets and also engaged in other miscellaneous works for livelihood. They face many problems at workplace and a place of stay, B.Suresh(2015)
- Myrdal (1968) in his book “Asian Drama” devotes one of the three volumes mainly to the issue of school education and human resource development as a major ingredient of modernization in Asia. It shows the experience of South Asia, which is qualitatively different from East Asia. The whole of India would be seriously misleading because the contrast between Kerala and Bihar in school educational effort and outcomes is much sharper than between East Asia and India. Agricultural and rural child labour, as discussed above, has not been an important concern of the policy makers and pressure groups dealing with the issue of its elimination historically or in the contemporary world. Haq (1997)
- Basu and Van (1998) examined the child labour in India between the time periods (1997-1998), the major variables used in poverty, illiteracy, income, standard of living, unemployment, method used in only secondary data. He found that parents only allow the child to engage in when the family cannot otherwise meet its subsistence needs.
- Mishra (2011) examined that enforcing Ban on Child Labour in India: A Socio-Legal Perspective between the time periods (2009-2010). The major variable used in income, family size, education, population, attractive towards earn, dislike school etc, the method used in this paper only secondary source form articles and book. He found that a strong positive correlation between parents being ex-child labours and their children being employment. The parent’s education level increase the probability of the children being employed decreases.
- Mishra (2012) examined the Child Rights and Situation of Children in Odisha between the time periods 2010-2011. The major variable used Income, education, standard of living, lack of education, poverty, and unemployment etc. method used in this paper only secondary data. He found that migrant family and uneducated adults generally send their children to work in an early age.

The review of literature recommended that the government should facilitate income-generating activities for enhancing poor people’s income, population growth needs to be curbed, Ignorance and illiteracy should be removed through introduction of educational program and providing necessary facilities. People must be educated about the negative impact of child labour upon children’s health and future career.

OBJECTIVES AND METHODS
The study broadly examines an economic perspective of child labour in Odisha. Specifically the objectives are:
1) To examine the working condition, income, health hazards of child labour associated with the varieties of industry, hotel, restaurant and household activities in Puri, Odisha.
2) To examine the socio-economic conditions of families of child labours in Puri, Odisha.
3) To investigate the socio-economic background of child labour in Odisha.
4) To identify the factors responsible for child labour in Odisha and Puri district
5) To examine the forms of child labour and health hazards, and
6) To study the consequences of child labour.

Methodology of the Study:
This study used both primary and secondary data collected from primary and secondary sources. For primary data, working children were directly approached and interviewed industry, hotel, restaurant and household activities in Puri, Odisha. The sample surveys by using an interview schedule were carried out for the collection of primary data. The data with respect to interest of education, literacy status, illiteracy reason or reason of leaving school, nature of activity , daily working hours, payment pattern, daily contribution, employee behavior, father monthly income and education qualification, working condition, family size etc has been collected in sample area. The study surveyed the four categories of working children of Puri, Odisha.
50 different categories of child working in different place have been interviewed personally. The secondary data have collected from different record, child labour commission in India and ILO.

**Significance of the Study**

The child labour is still exists today some cause of child exploitation are poverty, lack of education and bottom of feeding, poverty is the main reason for child labour poor family need money to survive and thus need to have as many families members working as possible. This means that their children also have to work as they additional source of income also sometimes in extremely.

Child labour was important to factories because the factory could pay them less then an adult for similar work and also the children could fit their hands into small places to fix things or work in which adults could not making them more beneficial. The Industrial Revolution led to a population increase, but the chances of surviving childhood did not improve throughout the Industrial Revolution (although infant mortality rates were reduced markedly). There was still limited opportunity for education, and children were expected to work.

Having children work in this way obviously benefited the family economically, but it also benefited the children by teaching them naturally all the skills they would need as adults, child labour only became oppressive when instead of working with their own families, children were sent into factories, mines and mills to work for capitalists who had no care for their safety or wellbeing schooling and literacy became the norm in society, so that any child who was kept away from school was thereby being deprived of vital skills and disadvantaged for their whole live (UNICEF, 2006).

**Forms of Child Labour:**

The worst forms of child labour are slavery and similar issues such as the trafficking of children, debt bondage seldom, children in armed conflict, Slavery is where one person is owned by and made to work for another person without having any say over what happened to them.

In factories like carpet-making, lock-making, brassware, export-oriented garment units, gem polishing export industry, leather units and, diamond industry, etc.

- In Shops and small vendors
- In household
- In farms
- In mines (Labour)
- Near furnaces, welding, hazardous materials
- Children engaged in illegal activities smuggling, prostitution, child pornography etc.
- In countries including some parts of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan children are engaged in terrorist activities.
- Begging 9more common in India](ILO(2017)

**Causes of child Labour:**

Odisha is an economically poor state. Mot of the people live in below poverty line and incase of high density all kinds of basic need are not able to meet anybody. The following reason is every much important.

**The curse of Poverty & Family Size:**

The main reason for child labour in India is poverty. Most of the country’s population suffers from poverty. Due to poverty, parents cannot afford the studies of their children and make them earn their wages from a tender age. In fact, they are well aware of the grief of losing their loved ones to poverty many times, They send their small children to work in factories, homes, and shops. They are made to work in increase the income of their poor families at the earliest. These decisions are taken only for the purpose of eking out a living for their family. But such decisions shatter children’s physical and mental state as they lose their childhood at an early age in Puri the average family size is six persons. In families where children work, the father often works as either a rickshaw puller or day labourer and the mother as a domestic help. Poverty leads to quarrels, tension and can ultimately result in cruel treatment of children. The mother, being over burdened with work, can lose interest in her children and neglect them. Without a stable income the children become a burden to parents and must find work for their own survival.

**Victims of Migration & Family breakdown:**

In general, neglected children migrate to big cities with their families or alone. Often they must beg or drift on the streets in order to earn a living and will consider any work that helps them survive. Migration of families, broken families, parental abuse and abandonment, all lead to child labour.

**Illiteracy & Ignorance:**

Many parents of working children are illiterate and unskilled with little prospect of being able to improve their situation. There is a lack of faith in the existing education system as it does not necessarily lead to employment. Many poor parents feel that it is better for their children to learn by working rather than sending them to school presents results on children currently attending school (age 6-17 years) and Children attended before. The percentage of children (6-17 years) currently attending schools varied from 83.1% in Odisha. The percentage of drop out children (age 6-17years) is highest in Odisha(14.1%)(Annual Health Survey(AHS)2010-11).

**Lack of educational Resources:**

Even after 74 years of our country’s independence, there are instances where children are deprived of their fundamental right to education. There are thousands of villages in our country where there are no proper facilities for education. And if there is any, it is miles proper facilities for education. And if there is any, it is miles away. Such administrative laxity is also responsible for child labour in India. The worst sufferers are the poor families for whom getting their children educated is a dream. Sometimes the lack of affordable school for the education of poor children leaves them illiterate and helpless. Children are forced to live without studying. And sometimes such compulsions push them into the trap of child labour in India.

**Social and economic backwardness:**
Social and economic backwardness is also the main reason for child labour in India. Socially backward parents do not send their children to receive an education. Consequently, their children are trapped in child labour. Due to illiteracy, many times parents are not aware of various information and scheme for child education. Lack of education, illiteracy and consequently the lack of awareness of their rights among them have encouraged child labour. Also uneducated parents do not know about the impact of child labour on their children. The conditions of poverty and unemployment give rural families a compulsive basis for engaging children in various tasks. In fact, feudal, zamindari system and its existing remnants continue to perpetuate the problem of child labour in India.

**Various Laws against Child Labour:**

(a) The child labour prohibition Act 1986 bans the employment of children below the age of 14 in many professions, such as domestic labour, and in the hospitality made for example in roadside dhabas (restaurants), restaurants, hotels, motels, and spas, it does not ban child labour in agriculture.

(b) The Right to Education act 2009 ensures all children 6-14 years to free and compulsory education,

(c) The Indian Constitution ensures the right of all children 6-14 years to free and compulsory education prohibits the employment of children below 14 years in hazardous occupations, and promotes policies protecting children from exploitation.

(d) Wherever employs a child or permits a child or permits a child to work is punishable with imprisonment from three months to one year or with fine no less than INR 10,000-20,000 rupees or with both.

(e) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000 defines a child as being below 18 years of age. Under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), ratified by India in 1992, all children have the right to be protected from work that is dangerous, or that might harm children’s health or education.

**Socio Economic Conditions of Child Labour in Odisha, Puri District Data**

Introduction

The socio-economic parameters including place of origin, caste and religion parental occupations influence the incidence of child labour. In this chapter the focus is on the socio-economic background of the sample population of household, picking of work relating to rag picking. Child labour has been an important area of social concern both nationally and internationally. Millions of children worldwide start working at a very young age and these children are exposed to various forms of exploitation. Children continue of work in large numbers in various sectors of the economy. Numerous children are engaged in occupations and processes, with are plainly dangerous and hazardous and it is difficult to arrive at the actual number of working children in these occupations and processes. Some of the glaring examples are the children engaged in rag picking, working in restaurant, grocery shop, garage, working on household (servant), bagging on the street etc.

**Different Occupation Groups of Child Labour in Study Area**

This chart shows that 60 percent of the working children are engaged in different sector. This selected sample is a representation of the total child labour. As far as possible all the different groups are given proportional representation in sample. The analysis of demonstrates the high presence of child labour among children in the different sector.
The above chart-1.2 shows the age-wise classification of child labours engaged under different occupation. The average size of the family is 4.96 shows that, 4% of the children in the age group (five to nine) are participating in the labour force, while this percentage increases to 37.6 percent in the age group of (10 to 15). The percentage further increases to 58.4 percent for the age group of (15 to 18).

**Different Religion of Child Labour**

Religion also plays an important role in affecting the child labour. Different religious communities have their different thinking relating to their children. The following chart shows that the percentage of children fall under the work in Puri.

**CHART-1.3**

The following chart-1.3 shows the religion-wise classification of child labours engaged under different occupation. The differences between the region as shown in the chat indicate that the largest percentage about 36 percent of the children of the coastal areas were resident of Hindu, followed by Muslim (14%) and Christian (10 percent). These four regions represent the coastal areas where the traditional sector is dominant and somehow they lag behind form the overall development process. These represent the urbanized areas, where parents prefer the education of their children rather than sending them to work for short-term benefit.

**CONCLUSION**

The problem of Child labour appears serious and involves various factors. The incidence of child labour in India is complex and deeply rooted in the society. The problem of child labour is challenge before the Nation. This practice is depriving them of their livelihood and is detrimental to their physical and mental development. Poverty, unemployment, lack of good schools and development of the informal economy are considered important reasons for child labour. So, the problem of child labour is universal. As a possible solution to this chronic problem, the central Government and the respective governments in the States will still have to prepare a more effective action plan under the guidance and supervision of the International Labour Organist ion and of the United Nations Organisation. It is a challenge and long term goal to eliminate all types of child labour in many countries. Especially in developing countries, it is considered as a serious issue these days. The Government of India has put in on
various proactive policies towards eradication of child labour. There are a number of child labour projects in India which have been implemented to help and educate children from hazardous occupations. Every citizen should be aware of his responsibilities and take corrective measures to prevent child labour.

References: