



ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

Education

LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES OF CHILD LABOUR AMONG CHILDREN HEALTH

KEY WORDS: Child labour, Impact, Physical health, psychological health

Sriparna Mallick Research Scholar (Ph.D) Department of education Bankura University Bankura West Bengal

Dr. Kartik Chandra Pramanik* Professor Department of education Bankura University Bankura West Bengal*Corresponding Author

ABSTRACT

Child labour is a phenomenon of worldwide but it is creating a terrific situation among lower socioeconomic countries. Child labour in India is more prevailing than many other countries. Children are moved into this work for multiple reasons like poverty, insecurity, emergencies or poor condition of family and lack of education quality etc. As an outcome of long term work in agriculture, industry and factory, it has created a problematic physical and psychological health among children like lung diseases, hearing loss, asbestosis, malnutrition, pesticide poisoning, anxiety and depression, lack of sleeping and emotional balance. In this study it has been find out a wide-ranging effect of child labour among children's physical and psychological health.

I. Introduction:

Every child is precious for our society. According to Tagore, the boys and girls should be fearless, free and open minded, self-reliant, full of spirit of energy and self-criticism, with their roots deep in the soil of India but reaching out to the whole world in understanding, neighborliness, co-operation and material and spiritual progress [9]. So, according to their own potentiality every child has their own development right. Childhood is the period when children are adopted social skill, learn about their physical and mental development and prepared themselves for future citizenship. They need a healthy environment for their development. But our society is not able to fulfill every child's need.

Child labour is a chronic disease for our society. Children are move into this situation for multiple reasons. According to ILO, the term 'child labour' is often defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potentiality and their dignity and which is harmful to physical and mental development. Particular form of 'work' can be called 'child labour' which depends on the child age, types and hours of work performed. According to work performance, child labour differed for country to country [12].

According to the latest global report 160million children where 63million girls and 97million boys were in child labour all over the world at the beginning of 2020, which was almost 1 in 10 of all children globally. As per new analysis suggested that 8.9million children will be moved into child labour at the end of 2022 as an outcome of covid-19 pandemic. "The ILO's simulation model adds a note of caution in the absence of social protection coverage, the number of child labourers could increase to 46million because of pandemic"[8]. In south-Asia, India and Bangladesh are home of the majority of child labourers as per the report of ILO. According to 2011 census report 10million children who belong in 5-14 years were working in India. In this matter Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh are the worst incidences of child labour in India. "A report from Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation, after considering the rate of child labour population in the last four decades, says the total child labour population in the country will reach 81.2lakh by 2021 and then decline to 74.3lakh by 2025"[8].

Around 115million workers engaged in hazardous works. According to a recent national level large survey revealed that almost 3.76million children were economically active in the country where 60% children engaged in hazardous works which included 19% children biological, 26% children chemical, 51% children environmental hazards during their

work. Among 70% of total girls and boys, there were exposed a large number of boys. Almost there were 39% of children who suffered illness-divided whether 49% of them were injuries and the other 51% were illness. Numerically, the most frequent injuries were cuts/wounds/punctures which close to 69% of all injuries. However there were also several injuries which were affected less but those results were deadly; for example, burns 7% of total injuries, dislocation/fracture/sprains 6%, crushing injuries 3%, and amputation 1% for a total of 134,300 of total injuries and about 4% of total working children. Annually estimated 6million children were injured by their work which outcomes in 2.5million disabilities and 32000 fatalities every year. Children often work under hazardous conditions in the manufacturing and agriculture sectors in developing countries. Those children have been suffered physically and psychologically.

For leading a life, every person has a right to engage in any kind of work. But there are some responsibilities to concern about workers occupational health, safety, and welfare etc. There are some law about labour protection, safety and welfare all over the world. However all occupation will have needed a goal for health and safety programs to foster a safe work environment.

II. Objective:

1. In this study, we focus on physical health of children who are working.
2. To find out the impact of child labour on psychological health of working children.

III. Methodology:

Qualitative method has been used in this study.

IV. Sources used:

The paper is based on the secondary information collected from different sources such as research journal, book, news article and website etc.

V. Impact on Physical Health:

There are 73million children engaged in hazardous work that directly endangers their health and safety, as per the most recent global estimates of child labour of 2017. Some children operated heavy machinery, equipment and tools or heavy loads and be exposed to hazardous substances, agents or process, or to temperature, noise levels or vibrations which is cause of serious damage to their health. Hazardous works are cause of death, serious illness or injury, and permanent disability etc. which effects depending on the sectors where

children are going to work. The highest numbers of children (71%) are involved in agriculture sector. In agriculture, domestic, construction, mining, and manufacturing sectors, children are facing hazardous toxic, fertilizer and pesticides, heavy load, and unhealthy environment etc.

A study conducted in India and reported that working children suffered from anemia, gastrointestinal tract infections, vitamin deficiencies, respiratory tract infections, skin diseases and high prevalence of malnutrition.

A secondary analysis of data from Bangladesh labour force survey (2013) revealed that 19% children were involved in hazardous work, 25% children significant injury and 79% had been temporarily absent from work due to injury. 50% superficial injury, 5% fractures, 33% dislocation, sprain, strain, amputation, 35% concussion, internal injury, 5% burns, scalding, frostbite and 1% infection were found among child labours.

A total 4008 children (6-16 year old) were selected from five main governorates in Jordan. The results showed that both non-school and school working children have various physical problems such as common cold, flu, hearing and vision problems.

A survey study was conducted on 573 lime kiln worker of Madhya Pradesh. It is observed that 39.08% health anomalies and eye disorders, 20.06% respiratory disorders, 17.445 cardiovascular disorders, 15.075 skin disorders and 7.64% gastrointestinal disorders among workers.

VI. Impact on Psychological Health:

Child labour is badly affected of child's emotional and developmental process. They develop behavioral and emotional problems in the form of violent and aggressive tendency into working environment. Different types of disorders observed among working children basis on their working load and time that is depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, mood disorders, psychosomatic disorder, adjustment disorders, substance abuse, attachment issue, generalized anxiety disorder, psychogenic seizures. Mental health always neglected in the developing country. A large number of adolescent children suffered into different mental issues around the world.

According to a new research 'save the children' reported that children had trouble sleeping, faced more violence at home and greater numbers were forced into child labour during the covid-19 pandemic across India.

A survey studied on 90 working children (60 male and 30female) from different organization and workplace in Pakistan. It found that female child labour had high level of depression and anxiety as compared to male child labour and male working children in hazard conditions had high level of depression and anxiety as compare to non-hazard male child labour.

Work during childhood was positively related to the risk of developing mental depression in adulthood and also found that family health status and chronic physical illness in individual play a substantial role in their risk of developing mental depression according to evidence from Brazil.

A study examines the heterogeneous effect of child labour on adolescent mental health using longitudinal household data from the Indonesia family life survey. It observed that child workers are likely to develop depression later in life and the effect of child's work on mental health of adolescent is higher for boys as compared to girls.

A study conducted in Jordan on 4008 working and non-working children at school and industrial sites. It showed that

psychosocial problem included like feeling lonely, feeling depressed, problems at home and work, and high level of anger expression, smoking cigarettes and using drugs among them.

A study on mental health impacts on child labour conducted in Vietnam and India. It found that boys are negatively affected by child labour while girls' reduced emotional symptoms in India. Household chores can have beneficial effects on the mental health of children in Vietnam, while a mixed result is found in India.

VII. Conclusion:

Children are most vulnerable members of our society. But children who are working in difficult conditions to lead their life; they are suffering higher level of illness and injury. 22000 children are killed at work every year according to ILO estimation. Children involved in hazardous work over night or long hours and have to work in dangerous situations such as underground, underwater, at dangerous heights, heat, and cold or in isolated and confined spaces; as a result of it psychological and physical problem had been occurred. As per the previous study girls are involved more to perform heavy domestic work and victimized of sexual abuse and exploitation, while boys are more engaged in agriculture, operating machinery, handling dangerous chemicals and faced health problems. The impact of hazardous work can cause of long-term health problems. There are lack of efficient health and social security schemes in developing country and also political negligence about child labour and their health.

VIII. REFERENCES:

- [1] Aransiola, T. J. & Justus, M. (2017). Child labour hazard on mental health: evidence from Brazil. *Texto Para Discussao*.ISSN 0103-9466.
- [2] Arshad, M., Razaq, Z. & Mahmood, K. (2015). Anxiety and depression level among child labour. *European Journal of Psychological Research*, Vol.2 ISSN 2057-4794.
- [3] Bharti, S. & Agarwal, S. (2013). Physical & psychological hazards faced by child labour- a review article. *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, Volum 13, Issue 6, pp- 29-33, ISSN 2279-0837.
- [4] Ibrahim, A., Abdalla, S. M., [..], Vires, N. D. (2018). Child labour and health: a systematic literature review of the impacts of child labour on child's health in low and middle income countries. *Journal of Public Health*, Oford, England, 41(1):18-12, doi: 10.1093/pubmed/tdy018.
- [5] Jayawardana, D., Barysnnikova, N.V., & Cheng, T.C. (2021). The long shadow of child labour on adolescent mental health- a quintile approach. *Empirical Economics*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00181-022-02241-5>.
- [6] Kaur, N. & Byard, R.W. (2021). Prevalence and potential consequences of child labour in India and the possible impact of covid-19 – a contemporary overview. *SAGE Journal*, Volume 61, Issue 3, Page- 208-214.
- [7] Mansour, A. M. H., Gamal, E.A., Matrouk, R. & Nawaisen, M. A. (2013). Health status of working children in Jordan: comparison between working and non-working children at schools and industrial sites. *International Journal of Psychology*, 3, 55-62, doi:10.4236/ojh.2013.31007.
- [8] Pandey, S. (2022, July 12). India's pledge to end child labour by 2025 needs a resolute time-bond action plan now. *News 18*.
- [9] Roy, S. (2008). *Theories & philosophies of education*. Soma Book Agency.
- [10] Sharma, P. (2017, August 30). Fear, depression and abuse: a look at the ignored mental health of adolescents in forced labour. *The News Minute*.
- [11] Trinh, T.A. (2020). Mental health impacts of child labour: evidence from Vietnam and India. *The Journal of Developmental Study*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2020.1746280>.
- [12] ILO- <https://www.ilo.org/ipecc/facts/lang-en/index.ntm>
- [13] ILO and Unicef- <https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/-ednorm/ipecc/documents/publication/wcms-800278.pdf>
- [14] Unicef- <https://www.unicef-irc.org/files/documents/d-4178-compendium-summaries%20final.pdf>.
- [15] <https://www.savethechildren.net/news/covid-19-left-children-india-anxious-facing-more-violence-rise-child-labour-study>.
- [16] <https://www.humanium.org/en/child-labour/>
- [17] <http://www.viet-studies.net/kinhte/mentalhealthchildlabour-JDE2020.pdf>.
- [18] <https://www.unicef.org/protection/child-labour>
- [19] <https://www.unicef.org/rosa/media/18201/file/Child%20Labour%20and%20Disability:%20A%20Sector%20Review%20.pdf>