

Dimensions and Determinants of Child Labour: A case study of Delhi Slums

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Introduction

•Presently, all over the world, around 215 million children, working as child Labour.(ILO 2015).

•As per the National Sample Survey Organisation survey 2011 (NSSO), poverty emerges to be necessary condition thereby preparing the breeding ground but not sufficient to derive the children to the labor market.

•To explore these, various issues/questions will be raised such as: socio-economic background and incidence of child labour and the role of the family in making the child undertake occupational pursuits, education & health level of children involved in labour and their parents.

•The proposed study examines the situation of child labor of slum area of Jahangir Puri of North Delhi, Okhla in South Delhi, Selampur in East Delhi and Bavana in west Delhi with respect to socio-economic factors except the poverty, there are also various factors that govern the growth of slums.

•The study has interlinked objectives such as to understand the different socioeconomic and demographic conditions of child labour dwelling in different slums of Delhi, to examine the different compelling factors for child labor and to find the effective strategies to deal with the problem of child labour in slums of different zones of Delhi

•The study will also highlight the factors compelling families to migrate and residing in poor conditions of slums. An attempt shall be made to explain the requirement of infrastructure and rehabilitation of migrants so that the increasing intensity of slums leading to high incidence of child labour can be curbed.

CRYING SHAME

➤ 26,473 children (5-14 years) work in capital, according to Census 2011

➤ Only 3,734 child workers rescued from Delhi between July 2009 and June 2013, according to labour dept data

➤ 6,000 kids were to be rescued every year, as per target set in 2009. This would've meant freeing 24,000 kids in 4 yrs, wiping out 90% of child labour in Delhi



➤ Most estimates do not include children in rag picking, begging and street vending

➤ Children trafficked from rural areas of Bihar, UP, Bengal, Jharkhand, MP and Nepal through agents

Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) report 2014
Photo from Times of India Oct 12, 2014

Literature Review

Theoretical and empirical studies on Child Labor seek answers to three basic questions:

- (a) What causes child labour;
- (b) What are the effects of child labour on human development; and,
- (c) How different policies affect magnitude and forms of child labour

Objectives

The study has four interlinked objectives.

- To understand the different socioeconomic and demographic conditions of child labour dwelling in different slums of Delhi.
- To examine the different compelling factors for child labor
- To highlight the reasons compelling families to migrate in slums of urban areas and present the alternative forms of rehabilitation
- To find the effective strategies to deal with the problem of child labour in slums of different zones of Delhi

Hypothesis

There would be the possibilities of-

•Compelling circumstances and family mores and tradition cause child labor of varying character and intensity and the circumstances vary from slum to slums.

•A high prevalence of child labor is linked to poverty and to poor quality or availability of education in every slum.

Research Methods



Photos taken during pilot survey in Jahangirpuri, a slum area of Delhi

Primary data collection

Structured Interview schedules along with simple research instrument will be administered by going door to door.

Sample Selection

- Mixed method Sampling is used which includes Stratified Random Sampling and Purposive sampling.
 - In first stage the four slums of four zones will be selected.
 - The second stage will use purposive sampling through which those households will be selected which have the incidence of child labour.
 - In the third stage, the sample will be selected randomly as most of the households have one or more than one child working. The rationale of using mixed method sampling is to address the specific purpose related to research questions.
 - The size of sample will be 10 percent households of one block of each slum.
- The secondary survey involve the collection of data and information from published literature, reports, write-ups, seminar and conference papers, census reports including the basic statistics available with Municipal Corporation Delhi (Slum Department), Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Government of NCT of Delhi, Union Ministry of Urban Development (GOI) and ILO, UNDP/UNESCO, etc.

Limitation of Study:

The study is limited due to the constraints of time, money and small sample size.

Significance

There have been a very few area specific studies especially in the context of neo-liberal reforms and the dynamics of policy formulation and implementation.

•Study would assess the socio-economic status of child labour dwelling in different slums (area specific) of Delhi

•Study would attempt to explain the requirement of infrastructure and rehabilitation of migrants so that the increasing intensity of slums leading to high incidence of child labour can be curbed.

•The study will also highlight the factors compelling families to migrate and residing in poor conditions of slums.

•This is manifest in the form of many important welfare policies that are pending due to politically motivated non-cooperation. It is important to understand the need for active and efficient policy making and implementation, along with the evolving need for the governance. This study would be significant contribution in this direction.



Seeking hope for Future, a photo of child taken in pilot survey of Jahangir Puri slum area

References

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