

# Topic: Child Labour; Neglected issue -

## Outline

### 1- Introduction

Thesis Statement: Child labour a persistent issue that is neglected due to lack of funds, data gaps, weak political will leading to less national productivity, physical and psychological impacts but this can still be controlled with effective measures.

### 2- Causes of child labour

a. Persistent poverty forces families towards child labour.

Case in point: 832 million people live in extreme poverty - world bank (Oct, 2025)

b. Child labour is economical for the businesses.

c. Conflicts and humanitarian crisis increases the child labour ratio.

Case in point: 8.9 million pushed to child labour due to Covid-19 (ILO & Unicef)

d- Dependence of countries on primary sector fuels child labour.

### 3- Why is it a neglected issue?

a- Inadequate funds to support the measures taken to control the child labour.

b- A huge gap between the reported and the actual cases meaning insufficient data.

c- Cultural acceptance of the child labour as a part of the brought up in the rural parts of the world.

d- Does not make to the priority list of the national issue.

e- Poor enforcement of the laws and policies.

### 4- Consequences of the Child Labour.

a- The education gap between urban and rural increases.

b- Child labour causes physical and psychological harm to the victims.

c- Cycle of intergenerational poverty keeps going.

d- The nation loses potential <sup>skilled</sup> future workforce burdening the economy.

5- Pakistan and its struggle with the child labour.

6- Measures that are need of the time.

a- Universal access to the quality education.

b- Monetary incentives for the children to support the families.

c- Awareness campaigns and projects with various NGO's to ensure its importance.

d- Strengthening child protection system.

7- Conclusion

During the early revolutionary period in Britain (18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century), young children aged 7-14 years were forced to work in coal <sup>mines</sup> mining, textile mills and factories. With long hours of 7-8 hours, young children worked under hazardous conditions such as heavy machinery and the result was paid by this young force in the form of sacrificing their health. The well developed measures and policies were enforced effectively but the damage was done. This showed that the child labour is not an issue of contemporary times but the seeds were sown in the past and it remained persistent due to the negligence ~~neglect~~ of the world as a whole. As per the reports of the International Labour Organization approx 138 million children around the world are the victims of the curse called child labour. Children are forced towards it due to poverty, conflicts

and humanitarian crises that as a result impact their physical and psychological health as well as push the families further into the pits of poverty - The goal sustainable development goal 6.7 - to eliminate it completely in 2025 failed but with the effective measures can produce favourable outcomes -