

①

3. Child Labour: A Neglected Issue

Outline

I- Introduction

A- Thesis Statement:- Child Labour is an important issue in Pakistan that gained less importance than that it deserves. This has impacts on social, economic, and political spheres of life. However, some possible measures are important to implement for resolve the issue.

II. Causes of Child Labour: a neglected issue

- A- Inflation's increase
- B- Increase in poverty
- C- Lack of ^{access to} education
- D- cultural acceptance
- E- Weak Law enforcement

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F - invisibility in economies

G - Economic interests of informal industries

III - Consequences of Child Labour

A - Educational deprivation

B - Increase in street crimes

C - Less skilled workforce production

D - Decline in economic growth of country.

IV.

Way Forward

A - Strengthening Law enforcement

B - Easy access to education

C - Control in inflation

D - Addressing cultural norms by media campaigns.

V - Conclusion

while the world debates artificial intelligence, climate change, and global power politics, million of children continue to work in factories, fields and households robbed of education, health, and childhood. Child labour is one of the most persistent yet neglected human rights crises of the modern world. Child labour is violation of human right and a serious obstacle in the socio-economic development. Child labour in Pakistan exists without discrimination of gender. Girls and boys both facing the issue, in form of factories work, household work and brick kelin. Different Human Right Organizations has highlighted the issue as problem, ^{by highlighting} causes as inflation, poverty, lack of education

④

Date: _____

Day: _____

cultural acceptance, weak law enforcement and stated that it is underestimated issue that is because of invisibility in economies, economic interests, economic exploitation, gender neglect of girls child labour, social normalization child labour as a secondary issue and weak law enforcement. In Fact, child labour is an important issue in Pakistan that gained less importance than that it deserves. This has impacts in social, economic, ^{and} political, sphere of life. However, some possible measures can be implemented to solve the issue.

To begin with the causes of child labour in Pakistan, the most important cause is inflation.

(5)

Date: _____

Day: _____

Inflation is the increase of prices of commodities within specific period of time. Inflation makes the lack of ability to purchase the commodities to consume. Study of International Labour Organization (ILO), found that inflation and economic uncertainty forces families to rely on the earnings of their childrens. So, to meet the basic needs of families child labour increases. Hence it is seen inflation is a major cause of child labour.

Secondly, another important cause of child labour is the poverty. Poverty is capacity of one's financial condition to fulfill the basic needs of hunger. Poverty directly related to inflation. As inflation increases,

the poverty also increases. This increase in poverty compell the families to be dependant on the children's earning. According to UNICEF and ILO, poverty worsened by economic shocks and high living costs is key cause of child labour. the house holds has no choice but to avail child labour including their children. Hence - the Poverty is a cause of child labour.

Moreover, Lack of access to education is also an important aspect of cause of child labor. Lack of access to education is being not having access or reach towards education. This more includes the inflation, poverty along many other factors of having

Date: _____

⑦

Day: _____

not access to educational institutions

According to UNICEF Data, Pakistan has an estimated of 22.8 million

children out of school that are aged between 5-16 years. This represents world's highest total.

The out of school ~~go~~ children go for work to support their families.

So, it is evident the lack of school / education is an important factor of the child labour.

Additionally, Cultural acceptance of child labour is another significant cause of child labor. Cultural acceptance is the normalization of things, tradition or norms by the people living in a society. They accept the happening and do not have any objection and criticism

Date: _____

(8)

Day: _____

on its happening According to International Labour Organization (ILO), Cultural acceptance is also a key cause of child labour along many others. The people do not interfere to stop child labour but some of them starts adaptation of the concept and chain is growing. Hence, cultural normalization is an important cause of child labour.

Last but not least cause of discussion of child labour is lack of law enforcement. Lack of law enforcement is inability to implementation of law within a society on a specific issue. Child labour's Law exists in Pakistan but there weak

(9)

Date: _____

Day: _____

implementation of Law and order also exists. UNICEF and ILO (2023) reports claimed that, Pakistan despite an estimated of 12.5 million children engaged in child labour has gap between Law and its Practice. Hence, child labour is also caused by the weak Law enforcement.

Princeton

Similarly,
the slave

invisibilty in
economies as a cause is crucial
to discuss in child labour.

Invisibilty in the economies is
the hidden work of child girls
and boys in factories, house.

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(10)

Day: _____

holds and basic killings. The working is unrevealed intentionally or unintentionally to hide from media, governing authorities and Human rights organizations. International Labour Organization (ILO), and UNICEF reported that large share of Child Labour occur in agriculture, domestic work, street vendors and family enterprises. All which are hard to detect and regulate. This shows that most of child labour occurs at un documented sectors that are hard to identify. So, invisibility in economies is a neglected issue of cause of Child Labour.

Additionally, Economic interests of industries is another major cause of neglect of child

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Day: _____

labor. Childs are most flexible and cheap workers that attracts the informal industries and employers. For example, A worker may demand (50) fifty thousand salary for performing a work but a child can do the same work in the salary of fifteen (15k) thousand. Hence, the informal industries let not highlighted the issue to authorities for their economic interests, ~~therefore~~ proves the economic interest of industries as a causes of neglected issue of child labour.

To discuss ^{some} ~~the~~ consequences of above made discussion, child labour has increased the ^{educational} ~~economic~~ deprivation most of the child laborers is denial of education, children

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(12)

Day: _____

engage in work limits future opportunities. Besides that ~~that~~ child labour increases street crimes. Children use the illegal and un-ethical means to earn money. Along this, the economy of the country suffers as child labour produces less skilled work force.

It is concluded through above made discussion that child labour is a neglected issue due to multiple factors that directly has impacts on the economic, social and political aspects of the country. It is intentionally and un-intentionally remained a neglected issue, ~~due to~~ consequently increases educational deprivation, increase in street crimes, less skilled workforce production and decline in economic and

⑬

social growth of a country. Therefore, there is need to implement the existing law polices and to ~~new~~ update the new policies if required, make easy access to education, to control inflation and to create awareness by addressing cultural norms ^{through} ~~by addressing~~ media campaigns, so that the country may grow in economic and social development.