



CHILD LABOUR

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Abstract: *Under economic distress, children are bound to sacrifice educational chances and take up jobs which are regularly unequal as they are usually underpaid and betrothed in hazardous circumstances. Parents choose to send their child for attractive in a job as a desperate amount due to poor economic conditions. It is therefore no miracle that the poor households mainly send their children to work in early eternities of their life. One of the disturbing aspects of child labour is that children are sent to work at the expenditure of education.*

Keywords: *Child Labour, Poverty, Illiteracy, Occupation*

INTRODUCTION

Children are the utmost gift to humanity and Childhood is a significant and vulnerable stage of human development as it holds the potential to the future development of any society. Children who are transported up in an environment, which is favorable to their intellectual, physical and social health, grow up to be answerable and creative members of society. Every nation links its future with the present status of its children by performing work when they are too young for the task, children excessively decrease their present welfare or their future income earning competences, either by shrinking their future outside choice sets or by plummeting their own future individual creative abilities.

METHODOLOGY

Barpeta is a district in Assam State of India. It has a total of 9 Blocks in this district. The district has an total area of 2,282 sq km. There are 9 towns and 835 villages in this district. Following tools and techniques are used for data collection.

- The nature of the research will be quantitative.
- The types of data included in the research will be both primary and secondary .
- Tools Of data Collection -The primary data will be collected through interview method and the secondary data will be collected from sources like articles , journals ,Books, internet resources etc.
- The sampling method will be Simple random sampling.
- Sample Size -(25 Respondent)

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

Main Earner: The main earner of the respondent family is shown in following table

Table - 1
Main Earner

Main Earner	Frequency	Percentage
Father	9	36%
Mother	8	32%
Brother	4	16%
Self	4	16%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

Data indicate that most of the respondent (36%) depend on father and 32% depend on mother income. Beside these 16% each of the respondents are sole earner in their family.

Total Earner : The Total Earner of the respondent family is shown in following table

Table - 2
Total Earner

No. of Earner	Frequency	Percentage
One Person	1	4%
Two Persons	8	32%
Three Persons	12	48%
Four Persons	4	16%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

Data indicate that most of the earner of the family is three person that is 48% and two persons are 32%, four person are 16% and one person are only 4% of the respondent total earner.

Family Monthly Income : The respondents monthly income of the family is shown in following tables

Table - 3
Family Monthly Income

Monthly Income	Frequency	Percentage
Rs 3K-4k	2	8%
Rs 4K-5K	4	16%
Rs 5K-6K	6	24%
More than Rs 6K	13	52%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

From the above data ,it indicates that 52% respondents family monthly income ranges more than Rs 6000 , 24% respondents family monthly income range from Rs 5000 – Rs 6000. Beside 16% respondent family income range from Rs 4000 – Rs 5000 and rest 8% respondents family income range from Rs 3000 – 4000.

Family size: The respondents family size is shown in following tables

Table - 4
Family Size

Family Size	Frequency	Percentage
Small(1-4)	7	28%
Medium(1-6)	12	48%
Large(more than 6)	6	24%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 48% respondents family size is medium(1-6), 28% respondents family size is small (1-4) and the rest 24% respondents family size is large(More than 6).

Respondents works: The respondents works is shown in following tables

Table - 5
Respondent's works

Respondents work	Frequency	Percentage
Hotel	5	20%
Factories	4	16%
Household	1	4%
Shop	15	60%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data indicates that most of respondents 60% are working in shop, 20% respondents are working in hotel ,16% respondents are working in factories and the rest 4% are working in household.

Occupational Age: The respondents occupation age is shown in followings tables

Table - 6
Occupational Age

Started Working Age	Frequency	Percentage
7 years To 10 years	5	20%
10 years To 14 years	20	80%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 80% respondents started working at the age of 10 years to 14 years and 20% respondents started working at the age of 7 years to 10 years.

Reasons led to work: The respondents reasons led to work is shown in followings tables

Table - 7
Reasons Led To Work

Reasons Led To Work	Frequency	Percentage
Debts	5	20%
Financial Problem	20	80%
Other Reason	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above the data shows that 80% respondents family are suffering from financial problem and 20% respondents family are in debts.

Working Hour in a day: The respondents working hour in a day is shown in followings tables

Table - 8
Working Hour in a Day

Working Hour	Frequency	Percentage
4 To 6 Hours	13	52%
7 To 10 Hours	12	48%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above the data shows that 52% respondents are working 4 to 6 hours in a day and 48% respondents are working 7 to 8 hours in a day.

Helped in finding work: Helped the respondents to find their work is shown in followings tables

Table – 9
Helped In Finding Work

Helped In Finding Works	Frequency	Percentage
Parents	15	60%
Neighbour	10	40%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above the data shows that 60% respondents parents are helped to finding their works and the rest 40% respondents neighbour helped to finding their works.

Monthly income of respondents: The respondents monthly income is shown in followings tables

Table-10
Monthly Income of Respondents

Monthly Income	Frequency	Percentage
RS 1000	3	12%
RS 1200	1	4%
RS 1500	12	48%
More Than RS 2000	9	36%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above the data shows that 48% respondents monthly income is Rs 1500 , 36% respondents monthly income is more than Rs 2000, 12% respondents monthly income is Rs 1000 and only 4% respondents monthly income is Rs 1200.

Purpose of income: The respondents purpose of income is shown in followings tables

Table – 11
Purpose of Income

Income	Frequency	Percentage
Give To Parents	19	76%
Self	4	16%
Pay Debts	2	8%
Pay For School Fees	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

Data indicates that most of the respondents 76% income give to their parents, 16% respondents income for self and 8% respondents are paying debts.

Payment mode: The respondents payment mode is shown in the followings tables

Table – 12
Payment Mode

Payment Mode	Frequency	Percentage
Hourly	Nil	Nil
Per Day	4	16%
Weekly	Nil	Nil
Monthly	21	84%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 84% respondents get their payment monthly basis and 16% respondents get their payments per day basis.

Payment Receiver: The respondents payment receiver is shown in following tables

Table – 13
Payment Receiver

Payment Receiver	Frequency	Percentage
Parents	4	16%
Self	21	84%
Relatives	Nil	Nil
Middle Man	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 84% payments received by the respondents and 16% respondents payments received by the parents .

Payment during absence in works: The respondents payment during absence in works is shown following tables

Table – 14
Payment During absence in works

Payment During absence	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	24	96%
No	1	4%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 96% respondents get their payment when they are in leave and only 4% respondents not getting payments during leave in works.

Respondents can left their works as per wish: The respondents can left their works as per wish is shown followings tables

Tables – 15
Respondents can left their work as per wish

Respondents Answered	Frequency	Percentage
YES	23	92%
No	1	4%
Don't Know	1	4%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 92% respondents can left their works as per respondents wish ,4% respondent can't left their work as per respondents wish and another 4% respondents have no idea about this.

Respondents like his/her work : The respondents like his/her work is shown following tables

Tables – 16
Respondents Like his/her Work

Work liked by respondent	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	19	76%

No	6	24%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 76% respondents are like their works and rest 24% don't like their work. Reasons for like/don't like their work: The respondents reasons for like/don't like their work is shown followings tables

Tables – 17
Reason for like/don't like their work

Reason for like work	Frequency	Percentage
Can support family	16	64%
Can earn money for school	1	4%
Earn money for food	2	8%
Other reason	Nil	Nil
Reason for don't like work		
Work hazards make his/her sick	1	4%
Can't go to school, too tired	1	4%
Don't like the work	3	12%
Paid less	1	4%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 64% respondent liked their works because they can support their family, 8% respondents liked their works because they earned money for food and rest 4% respondent liked their works because they earned money for school activities. The above data also shows that 12% respondents don't liked their works, 4% respondent don,t liked works

because they works hazards make them fall sick,4% respondent don't liked work because can't go to school and 4% respondent don't liked work because paid less.

Employer treat respondents: How employer treat respondents is shown followings tables

Tables – 18
Employer treat respondents

Employer treat respondents	Frequency	Percentage
Kind	25	100%
Scolding	Nil	Nil
Beating	Nil	Nil
Others	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

Data indicates that 100% respondents employers treated kindly with them.

Going to school: The respondents going to school is shown followings tables

Tables – 19
Going to School

Going to school	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	11	44%
No	14	56%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 56% respondents are not going school and rest 44% are going to school.

Aims in life: the respondents aims in life is shown followings tables

Tables – 20
Aims in Life

Aims	Frequency	Percentage
Continue working in the present sectors	5	20%

Govt. Service	8	32%
Self employed	3	12%
Business	9	36%
TOTAL	25	100%

Source:- Field Data

The above data shows that 36% respondents aims is to be Businessman, 32% aims to do govt. Service, 20% respondents are interest to continue working in the present sectors and rest 12% respondent are interest in self employed.

MAJOR FINDINGS

Socio Economic Background Of The Respondents :

The socio economic background of the respondents is measured in terms of their family income, family size, educational background, etc. The socio economic of the respondents will help us to understand the background of the respondents who have opted for this occupation and it can guide to the actual reason behind their choice for the studied profession.

Main earner of the respondents family:

Out of 25 respondents family, 9 respondents family depends on father income and their father occupation is Fishermen, Farmer, Carpenters and daily wages earning labours. 8 respondents family livelihood is earned by mother, who worked in hotel, household and int the construction sites . And 4 respondents family depend on brother income and their brother occupation is handyman, vegetables shop and farmer. Rest 4 repondents family depend on respondents income, they were working in hotel, tea shop and factories.

Family monthly income:

Out of 25 respondents family, 13 respondents family monthly income ranges is above RS 6000 and 6 respndents family monthly income ranges from Rs 5000 to RS 6000. Beside 4 respondents family monthly income ranges from Rs 4000 to Rs 5000 and rest 2 respondents family monthly income ranges

from RS 3000 to Rs 4000. This two family going through a very tough situation even they don't have proper cloth to wear and food to eat.

Family size of the respondents:

Out of 25 respondents family, 12 respondents family size is Medium (1-6) and 7 respondents family size is small (1-4) . The rest 6 respondents family size is large (more than 6). Its shows that the family size is doesn't effecting that much in determining a child profession bt family condition and mind sets of the family members does.

Respondents works:

Out of 25 respondents, 15 respondents are working in shops, they worked in chicken shop, vegetables shops and 5 respondents are working in hotel , 4 respondents are working in factories, who worked in bamboo factories and rest 1 respondents is working in household.

Occupational Age of the respondent :

Out of 25 respondents, 20 respondents started working at the age of 10 years to 14 years and Rest 5 respondents started working at very early age 7 years to 10 years and from this group one of the respondents says that, "He forgot that he was a student. He never been a student. Father was not working. What would happen? He have been worrying about it, Nobody thinks so much as he did in that age. He did not enjoy his childhood."

Respondents Working hour in a day :

Out of 25 respondents, 13 respondents are working 4 to 6 hours in a day and 12 respondents are working 7 to 8 hours in a day. Respondents who were working 7 to 8 hours in a day they are completely forgot there childhood.

Monthly income of the respondents :

Out of 25 respondents, 12 respondents monthly income is Rs 1500 only and 9 respondents monthly income is more than Rs 2000 only. 3 respondents monthly income is only Rs 1000 and rest 1 respondents monthly income is Rs 1200 only.

Purpose of income of the respondents :

Out of 25 respondents, 19 respondent monthly income give to parents and 4 respondents monthly income spending all their money on himself. 2 respondents monthly income paying debts of the family.

Respondents like his/her works:

Out of 25 respondents, 19 respondents like their works because they can support their family and earned money for food and also earned money for school fees. 6 respondents don't like their works because working hazards make respondents sick, can't go to school and also paid less.

Respondents goes to school :

Out of 25 respondents, 14 respondents are not going to school and rest 11 respondents are going to school. And most of the respondents are dropout because of they are forced to worked and some of the family condition is very bad. Some of the respondents are still studying as their family not allows them to dropout and working is kind of part time job to them which doesn't hamper their studies. The most of the educated child among them had studying in 8th standard.

CONCLUSION

After going through the socio economic background of the respondent th data shows that all the children are from 7 to 14 years age group , therefore the employers prefers this children as they manage all the works of apprentice and given less wages. And all the respondents from Barpeta, Assam. Moreover, majority (36%) of respondents family depends on father income source. They are mainly daily wages earning labourers. 32 % of the respondents livelihood is earned by mothers ,who worked in household, hotel or in construction sites. As far as the size of the family, 48% respondents family size is 1-6 members and 28% respondents family size is 1-4 members. Rest 24% respondents family size more than 6 members. The respondents monthly family income, 52% respondents family income is more than Rs 6000 and 24% respondents family monthly income is Rs 5000 – Rs 6000. Besides 16% respondents family income is Rs 4000 – Rs 5000 and rest 8% respondents family income is Rs 3000 – Rs 4000. The respondents monthly income Rs 3000 – Rs 5000 their condition is very bad and they don't have cloth to wear and sometimes they sleep with empty stomach. To remove the child labour from this type of sectors a number of steps should be taken ranging from making aware to the customers not to take the services of children and employer that not to engage child labour.

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