

**Project Title: CHILD LABOUR IN INDIA**

**Name:** [Your Name]

**Class:** 10

**Roll Number:** [Your Roll Number]

**School:** [Your School Name]

**Date:** [Submission Date]

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## Acknowledgement

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my subject teacher for her constant support and guidance throughout the completion of this project on "Child Labour in India." Her valuable suggestions and encouragement helped me complete the project in a timely and organized manner. I also thank my parents and friends for their support and motivation.

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## Certificate

This is to certify that [Your Name], a student of Class 10 at [Your School Name], has successfully completed the Social Science project on "Child Labour in India" under my supervision. This project is in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

**Teacher's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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# 1. Introduction to Child Labour

Children are the foundation of a nation's future. Childhood is a vital and impressionable stage of life that must be protected. Unfortunately, many children in India are forced to work due to poor socio-economic conditions, depriving them of their right to education, growth, and safety. Child labour refers to the employment of children under the legal age, typically in hazardous or exploitative conditions. It is a major issue that hinders the nation's progress and violates children's rights.

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## 2. Magnitude and Statistics

India has witnessed a significant decline in child labour over the past few decades. According to the 2001 Census, around 1.26 crore children aged 5-14 years were engaged in economic activities. States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh report the highest numbers. Many of these children work in hazardous sectors like construction, bidi-making, carpet weaving, and domestic work.

For example:

- Pan, Bidi & Cigarettes: 2.5 lakh
- Construction: 2.1 lakh
- Domestic Workers: 1.8 lakh

Despite the decline, child labour continues to persist, particularly in informal sectors and rural areas.

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## 3. Causes of Child Labour

- **Poverty:** Families unable to meet basic needs send children to work.
  - **Illiteracy:** Lack of awareness among parents about the importance of education.
  - **Unemployment:** Lack of job opportunities for adults forces children to contribute.
  - **Migration:** Children from migrant families often drop out of school.
  - **Cultural Factors:** In some communities, child labour is normalized as a means of training.
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## 4. Government Measures and Laws

- **Constitutional Provisions:**

- Article 24: Prohibits employment of children below 14 in hazardous jobs.
    - Article 21A: Provides free and compulsory education to children aged 6-14.
  - **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986:**
    - Prohibits employment in 18 hazardous occupations.
    - Regulates working conditions in non-hazardous sectors.
  - **Right to Education Act, 2009:**
    - Mandates admission of out-of-school children into age-appropriate classes.
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## 5. National Child Labour Project (NCLP)

Launched in 1988, the NCLP aims to eliminate child labour by:

- Running special schools for child labourers.
- Providing formal/non-formal education and vocational training.
- Offering mid-day meals, health checkups, and stipends.
- Mainstreaming children into regular schools.

By 2011, the project expanded to cover 271 districts across India.

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## 6. International Efforts and Collaborations

India collaborates with international organizations to combat child labour:

- **ILO-IPEC (International Labour Organization - International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour):** India was the first country to join in 1992.
  - **INDUS Project:** Supported by the US Department of Labour, rehabilitated over 1 lakh children from hazardous work.
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## 7. Challenges in Eradication

- Weak enforcement of laws.
  - Gaps in identification and tracking of child workers.
  - High dropout rates in schools.
  - Inadequate coordination between government departments.
  - Deep-rooted poverty and social inequality.
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## 8. Role of Society and Youth

- Creating awareness in communities.
  - Reporting child labour incidents.
  - Supporting NGOs working on child welfare.
  - Promoting education among underprivileged children.
  - Encouraging peer support groups in schools.
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## 9. Conclusion

Child labour continues to be a critical issue in India, demanding a multifaceted approach. Despite various policies and laws, many children are still trapped in labour due to poverty and lack of education. Government efforts like the NCLP and international partnerships have shown positive results, but a lot remains to be done. By raising awareness, strengthening enforcement, and providing socio-economic support to families, we can work towards an India where every child enjoys their right to a safe, healthy, and educated childhood.

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## 10. Bibliography

- Government of India, Ministry of Labour & Employment Reports
  - Census 2001 Data
  - ILO Reports on Child Labour
  - National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Guidelines
  - CBSE Social Science Textbook
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