

CHILD HOPE

Newsletter on Child Labour

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From the Director General's Desk

Children are at different developing stages in life as they grow from infants to toddlers and then into childhood and adolescence. At each stage the child requires a safe and stimulating environment which promotes their physical, socio-psychological, emotional and moral growth. The areas which are less obvious like the development of emotions and development of the mind are often set aside while dealing with the issue of child labour. Child labour has consequences on the mind of the child which forces the child to grow into an adult with maladaptive ways of functioning in society and unable to cope with life in a healthy manner.

Children's minds are growing from the time they are conceived and continues to grow when they are well into adolescence and transitioning to adulthood. The mind of a child is flexible and changing. They observe the environment and continue to assimilate information or accommodate it into their existing information base. Whatever they observe they learn it. If they are brought up in an aggressive environment they will learn to become aggressive. The environment in which a child is brought up is of utmost importance as it has an impact on his/her mind. Owing to their malleable nature, children's minds are not only affected by child labour and the related hazardous, monotonous and degrading work environment but by poverty, discrimination, deprivation and other such issues they see around them.

In order to help the children grow up to be healthy and fully functioning adults who contribute to society productively there are different methods that have been adopted with differing results. Some of them include provision of education, proper nutrition and health care facilities after they are rescued from work. Prevention through raising awareness and community mobilization is also made use of. While government rehabilitation programmes made available to the rescued child labourers and their families it is also important to model a life through which children learn to become individuals who contribute to the progress and development of society of their own accord.

Through the National Child Labour Project Societies across the country many children are rescued and rehabilitated in the special schools. Here children are enabled by the teachers to gain education, learn life skills, vocational skills, obtain health care facilities, proper nutrition etc. and they go on to succeed in life. Children, from the NCLP schools have aspired to become and have become lawyers, police officers, doctors and engineers. It is noteworthy that the rehabilitation brings about a change in their state of mind. The realization of their basic rights helps them become productive members of the society and moulds their minds to imitate and learn behaviour that contributes to their own and society's healthy growth.

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Training Programmes/Workshops conducted by the National Resource Centre on Child Labour

Training Programme on Making National Child Labour Projects Effective was organized by VVGnLI, Noida during 9th to 12th June 2014 with the objective of carrying out effective advocacy and action for the prevention and elimination of Child Labour by way of enhancing the knowledge of Field Officers. The objective of the Training Programme was to make them understand the structure, components and objectives of the National Child Labour Project so that they not only work towards rehabilitation of children rescued from work but also contribute towards overall development of children in their respective districts. The Training Programme was attended by 14 Field Officers from the NCLP Districts namely Vizianagaram, Guntur, Kurnool and Chittoor of Andhra Pradesh, Dharwad District of Karnataka, Districts Virudhnagar, Theni, Tirunelveli and Thiruvanamalai of Tamil Nadu and District Deogarh of Odisha.

Programme on World Day Against Child Labour was organized at the National Resource Centre of VVGnLI, Noida on 12th June 2014. “Hundreds of millions of girls and boys throughout the world are engaged in work that deprives them of adequate education, health, leisure and basic freedoms, violating their rights. Of these children, more than half are exposed to the worst forms of Child Labour such as work in hazardous environments, slavery, or other forms of forced labour, illicit activities such as drug trafficking and prostitution, as well as involvement in armed conflict*”.



Group Photograph during programme on World Day Against Child Labour

* http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_norm/@ipecc/documents/sitstudiosectiondescriptor/sec_512_en.pdf

The matter of Child Labour is one that is quite challenging. Its existence has led to varied problems and varied problems have also led to its existence. The fact that children are the future of this world gives us a very good reason to spread awareness about the existence of Child Labour. So that every individual can in his own way work towards elimination of Child Labour ensuring a safe and productive future. At the V. V. Giri National Labour Institute (VVGnLI) the day preceding 12th June was a busy day. The staff of the National Resource Centre on Child Labour (NRCCL) with Dr. Helen R. Sekar (Coordinator, NRCCL and Senior Fellow, VVGnLI) put up posters at various halls (Vimarsh, Vikalp, Vichar) hallway, reception and the notice board. Along with the various posters by the ILO put up at the seminar halls, all the whiteboards had “World Day Against Child Labour, 12th June” written on them, bringing out various hidden artists at the Centre. The results of the efforts put in by the staff were seen in the following days wherein participants from various training programs came pouring in requesting for copies of the posters. Around 21 sets of posters (3 in each set) were handed out in the following days to the participants from the programmes by Dr. Ruma Ghosh and Dr. Poonam S. Chauhan. Participants from the programme conducted by Dr. Helen R. Sekar were also given 14 sets of posters. The problems associated with Child Labour gnaw the heart of many but only a few act on it. A quote by Kahlil Gibran describes quite passionately who children are and helps us understand why we must work fervently towards elimination of Child Labour. He says, “Your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of Life’s longing for itself. They come through you but not from you, and though they are with you, yet they belong not to you. You may give them your love but not your thoughts. For they have their own thoughts. You may house their bodies but not their souls, for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams†.”

† <http://www-personal.umich.edu/~jrcole/gibran/prophet/prophet.htm>

The training programme was jointly coordinated by Dr. Helen R. Sekar, Dr. Poonam S. Chauhan and Dr. Ruma Ghosh.

Training Workshop on Enforcement, Rescue and Rehabilitation of Child Labour was jointly organized by V. V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida and Tamil Nadu Institute of Labour Studies, Chennai on 20th June 2014.

The workshop was attended by 62 participants comprising of the Officers of the Labour Department and the Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health as per the recommendation of the NCPCR in the meeting of the State Monitoring Committee held on 27th August 2013 under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Labour and Employment Department, Government of Tamil Nadu. The workshop aimed at enhancing the capacity of Enforcement Officials in eradication of Child Labour by imparting training on Enforcement procedures and techniques to be applied while implementing the labour legislations prohibiting employment of children, and orienting them on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012.

Orientation Programme on Dealing with Children Rescued from Hazardous Work was organized by V. V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida from 1st to 4th July 2014 for the Special School Teachers. The aim of the programme was to enhance their understanding and existing knowledge and to sensitize them to the issue preparing them for carrying out effective advocacy and action for the prevention and elimination of Child Labour at the local level and to multiply

the efforts towards realizing the objectives of the National Child Labour Project which seek to withdraw children from hazardous occupation, rehabilitate them in special Training Centres and mainstream them into formal Schools.

The Training Programme was attended by 41 Special school Teachers from the NCLP Districts, Champa and East Champaran of Bihar, District Sahibganj of Jharkhand, Districts Jabalpur, Katni and Shajapur of Madhya Pradesh, District Amravati of Maharashtra, Districts Raipur and Durg of Chhattisgarh, District Badaun of Uttar Pradesh, Districts Midnapore and Hooghly of West Bengal, District Bolangir of Odisha, and Alwar District of Rajasthan. **Dr. Helen R. Sekar was the Course Director.**

Training Workshop on Enforcement, Rescue and Rehabilitation of Child Labour for the Enforcement Officers was conducted during 18th July 2014 in Madurai and 22nd August 2014 in Tiruchirapalli. The workshop was organized by V. V. Giri National Labour Institute in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Institute of Labour Studies for the Labour Department officials of Madurai Region and the officials of Labour Department and Factories Department of Tiruchirapalli Region. The objective of the workshop was to identify the needs of the enforcement officers for effective enforcement of provisions relating to Child Labour and to enhance their capacity to work towards eradication of Child Labour and to orient them on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, Juvenile Justice Act 2000 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012. **Dr. Helen R. Sekar from the V. V. Giri National Labour Institute and Dr. Ramesh Kumar from**



Organizers and Trainers at the workshop



Glimpse of Organizers and School teachers in the Programme

Tamil Nadu Institute of Labour Studies were the Coordinators and Course Directors for both these Workshops.

International Training Programme on Skill Development and Employment Generation under ITEC/SCAAP Programme was organized by VVG NLI, Noida from 11th to 29th August 2014. The objectives of the programme was to understand the linkage between vocational education and skill training with growth and employment; acquire knowledge about the vocational, educational and training systems around the world and about its various components and to understand the challenge of employment generation and designing appropriate active labour market and skill development policies to meet those challenges. The Programme was attended by 13 Participants from seven countries namely Afghanistan, Ghana, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nigeria, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe. **Dr. Helen R. Sekar was the Course Director.**

Training Programme on Towards Ending Vulnerability to Bonded Labour, Forced

Labour and Child Labour during 1st to 4th June 2015 was organized by VVG NLI, Noida. The objective of the training programme was to enhance understanding on the evils of human bondage, forced labour and labour exploitation of children. The objectives of the programme was to impart skills, methods and techniques for identification, release and rehabilitation of bonded labour, forced labour and Child Labour and to equip the social partners for contributing towards effective implementation of policy and legislation and strengthen rehabilitation efforts towards ending vulnerability to bondage and to work towards ending all enslaved forms of labour. The training programme was attended by 30 Participants comprising Project Officers/Managers, District Councillors, Research Scholars, Trade Unions, Field Activists, from different districts of the country namely Ahmedabad and Jamnagar (Gujarat), Bhubneshwar (Odisha), Agra (U.P.), Bangalore (Karnataka), Hissar and Karnal (Haryana), Guwahati (Assam), District Madurai (Tamil Nadu), Bhilwara (Rajasthan), and Delhi. **Dr. Helen R. Sekar was its Course Director.**



Events of National Child Labour Projects from different parts of the Country

News from NCLP, Hooghly, West Bengal

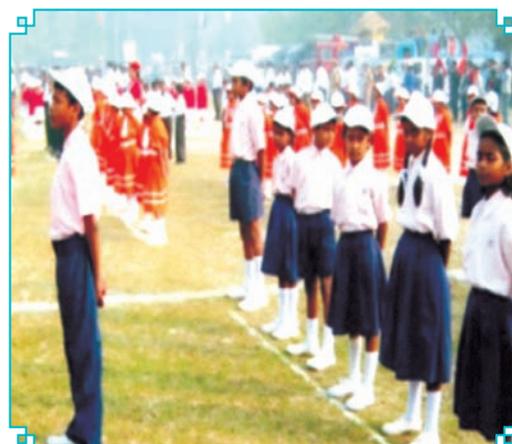
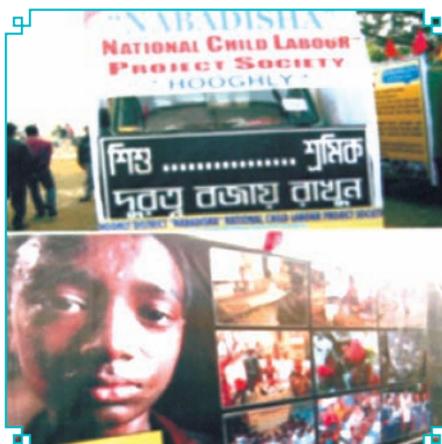


Tableau on World Day Against Child Labour NCLP students at Republic Day Parade



A regular class in progress (left) and a vocational class (right)

*News from NCLP in collaboration with Department of Social Work,
Sri Krishna Arts and Science College, Coimbatore*



Full moon court-Activities are conducted every full moon for the children who have dropped out to bring out the need for education



Elders are asked to name the vegetable they use on an everyday basis and children are asked the same. Children often answer questions which the adults are unable to. The value of education is brought out through interesting activities.



A bird's eye view of the program Activity for highlighting the importance of education



Quotes on Child Labour

News from NCLP, Nagaon District, Assam

Observation of World Day against Child Labour, 12th June 2014



Smt. Junu Das Saikia (Addtl. Deputy Commissioner (Rev.) cum Member Secretary Commissioner of the District's NCLP) planting a sapling on the occasion



The procession arranged flagged off (left) by Shri Premeswar Das (Project Director) and the procession in progress (right)

News from NCLP, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

Commemoration of the World Day against Child Labour



Rally on awareness generation, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh



Distribution of Uniform and Note Books to the children (left) and an awareness generation rally organized by SAVE Trust (right), at Lakshmi Nagar, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh



Rally on awareness generation organized by B. K. Education Society, Vinukonda, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

**News from NCLP in collaboration with Department of Social Work,
Karpagam University, Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu**
Exhibition and sale of Handicraft items made by NCLP students



Over 3000 students from the University visited the stalls and many purchased the items displayed by the children

News from NCLP School 'Balaka Sishu Bikash Kendra', Hooghly, West Bengal



Vocational Class in tailoring, electric and making of soft toys



Drawing Class



Yoga class



Physical Education Class



Mid-day meal programme



Playing Classes



Health Camp School Uniform distribution



Tree plantation day Hand Washing day



Celebrating Independence Day Celebrating birthday of Rabindranath tagore

वंचित बच्चे

MKVY{eh/kj feJK*

बच्चों को भी कहां बख्शा जाता है,
बच्चे, जिन्हें घर की फुलवारी कहा जाता है।
जो मानव संसाधनों में सबसे ज़्यादा मूल्यवान हैं।
जो मानव विकास प्रत्येक चरण के सबसे कोमल
सबसे रचनात्मक सबसे प्रभावशाली
प्रतिनिधि महान हैं।
वे ही वंचित हैं शिक्षा से,
अपने सबसे मूल्यवान मौलिक अधिकार की सुरक्षा से
उन्हें धकेल दिया जाता है काम पर
कठोर, दमनकारी और असहनीय काम पर।
मानव जीवन की ऐसी उम्र में
जो होती है नाचने-गाने, खेलने-कूदने और पढ़ने के लिए,
उत्साह और आनंद के साथ बढ़ने के लिए।
काम उनको लाता है ऐसे खतरनाक रसायनों के
सीधे संपर्क में,
धुंए और गैसों के अर्क में,
जो मानव के लिए हैं प्राणघातक
ये काम उन्हें करता है पशुवत् पातक।

चूस लेता है बच्चों की सारी स्फूर्ति,
सारी शक्ति!
जब तक वो पार करें बचपन की देहरी,
बच नहीं पाती है
ज़रा सी भी चुस्ती-फुर्ती छरहरी।
जिससे वे झेल सकें
बड़े होने पर काम का बोझ और तनाव,
जवानी और पौरुष के फूलों के रूप में
पूरी तरह खिलने से पहले ही
बचपन की पंखुड़ियां हो जाती हैं खराब।
अगली पीढ़ी के लिए
बर्बादी की कगार है,
क्या हमें ऐसा करने का कोई नैतिक अधिकार है ?
नहीं! लेकिन फिर भी चलता रहता है यही।
और हम दिखाते हैं कि बिल्कुल अनजान हैं,
कि क्यों है इस मानव त्रासदी का भयानक रूप गहरा,
जो घूर रही है हमारा चेहरा।



* भूतपूर्व श्रम सचिव, भारत सरकार

Incidence of Child Labour in India: A Statistical Profile

Minakshi Chakraborty & Deigracia Nonkynrih***

The paper delves into the nature of demand and supply of Child Labour. Using unit record data of Employment and Unemployment Survey of National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), 66th round for the year 2009-10, the nature of activities of children in the rural and urban economy are identified. Also detailed household information collected in the survey is used to identify the compulsions of sending children in the Labour market.

Child Labour has been in existence in different parts of the world at different stages of development, including the developed countries (Abott, 1908; Trattner, 1970). Prevalence of Child Labour has been of concern to researchers and policy makers alike. The systematic collection of statistics regarding the incidence of Child Labour was carried out by the International Labour Organization (ILO), World Bank as well the individual nations. A recent report released by the ILO (2013), revealed that in the year 2012, 168 million children in the age group 5-17 years, worldwide are in the Labour market. These children account for almost 11 per cent of the child population as a whole. Of these, 85 million children are engaged in hazardous activities, which accounts for more than half of the child workers.

Child Labour is most prominent in Asia and Pacific Region where about 77 million children are reported to have been working. However, the estimates of Child Labour widely differ because of the differences in the meaning of Child Labour and different age thresholds used in different countries. Within India, age threshold diverge as they have different age prescribed by the Indian Penal Court (IPC), Juvenile Justice Act, Convention on the Rights of the Child –Article(1) etc. All of which, obscure the estimation of Child Labour.

In this study, the definition of Child Labour used by the International Labour Organization has been followed. ‘A child is classified as Labourer

if the child is in the age group 5-17 years and is economically active. A person is treated as economically active or gainfully employed if he/she does work on a regular basis for which he/she received remuneration or if such Labour results in output for the market.’

The study is based on the large-scale survey on employment and unemployment of National Sample Survey Organization for the year 2009-10. The nationwide survey collects detailed information of individuals and households which enables to identify various social and economic characteristics of households sending their children to work. The survey collected information from 4,59,784 individuals in 1,00,957 households, of which 1,24,521 are children in age group 5-17 years. The survey covers the entire geographical territory of India. Weights defined by NSSO are used to get estimates of Child Labour.

An attempt has also been made in this study to look at both the demand and supply side of child workers. In the subsequent sections the incidence of Child Labour in different activities is presented which reflects the type of industries in which Child Labour is demanded. As the rural and urban economy is distinct by nature, therefore, the two sectors are dealt with separately. Further, the characteristics of household sending children to work is analyzed to look at the supply side of Child Labour.

Nature of Child Labour: Demand for Child Employment

The usual activity status of children collected in the survey is used to ascertain the number of children in the Labour market. The Usual Activity Status relate to the activity status of a person during the reference period of 365 days preceding the date of survey. The activity status on which a child spent relatively longer time (i.e., major time criterion) is considered as the principal usual activity status of the children. Within the

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** Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong

broad activity status so determined, the detailed activity status of a child pursuing more than one such activity is determined on the basis of the relatively longer time spent on such activities. A person whose principal usual status is determined on the basis of the major time criterion could have pursued some economic activity for a relatively shorter time during the reference period of 365 days preceding the date of survey. The status in which such economic activity is pursued is the subsidiary economic status of the children. Thus, both principal and subsidiary status of children has enabled us to identify children in the Labour market pursuing all form of work.

The incidence of Child Labour exists across the country in varying degree. According to the NSSO, estimates in 2009-10, around 6 per cent of the children in the age group 5-17 years and 3.3 per cent in the age group 5-14 years were in the Labour market. The incidence of working children in the older age group (15-17 years) was significantly higher (18.4 per cent).

India like many other countries witnessed a decline in the incidence of child workers from 8.3 million in 2004-05 to 4.5 million in 2009-10. Notwithstanding the perceptible decline in the incidence of Child Labour, the very fact that it prevails despite legal bans and starting as young as 5 years old is a matter of concern. Statistics of Child Labour is heart rendering when we look at the absolute number of children earning their livelihood. As per the estimates from the survey data of NSSO 2009-10, from a total of 216 million and 68 million children of the age group 5-17 years in rural and urban segment respectively, 85 lakh children in the rural segments and 21 lakh children in the urban segments were engaged fully in economic activity. Even more disturbing figure is that about 16 lakh children in the rural segments were found to be engaged in other subsidiary economic activities, apart from being fully engaged in one principal activity. Similarly, in the urban segment about 1 lakh children were found to be engaged in both principal and subsidiary activity. Children engaged in economic activity either partly or fully are open to exploitation. Therefore for further analysis we have considered both principal and

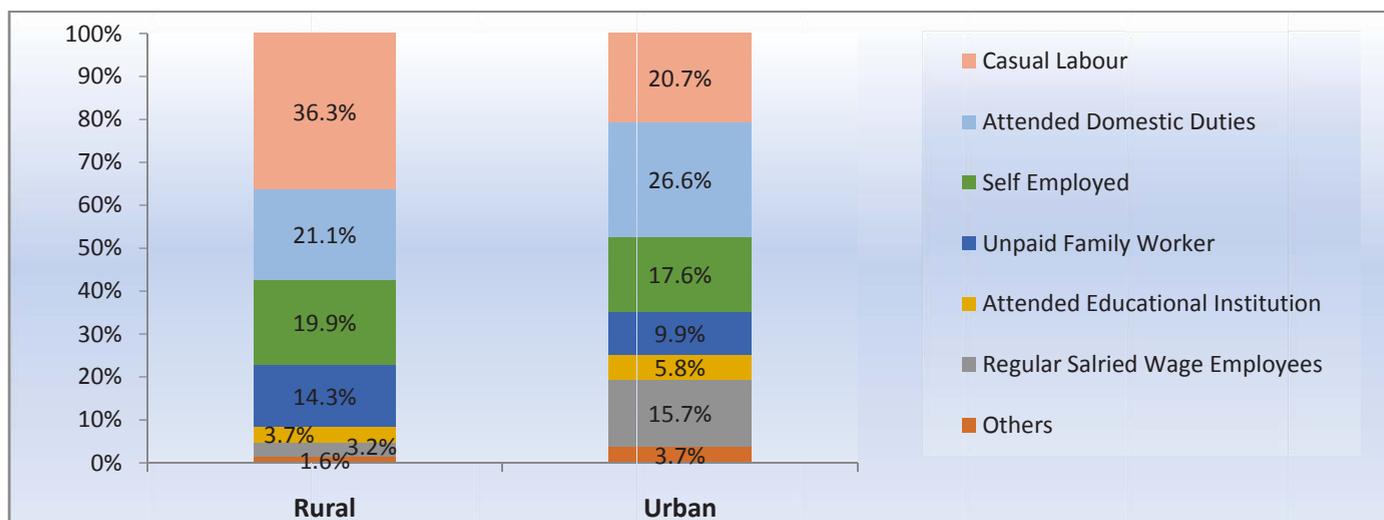
subsidiary activity status of children to identify children in the Labour market.

Figure 1 below illustrates the type of activities of working children in the age group 5-17 years in both rural and urban segment. Clearly, in both rural and urban segment a large section of children are employed as casual Labourers. In the rural segment about 36 per cent of the children employed are casual Labourers. The next large segment of Child Labourers in the rural areas is domestic duties, about 21.1 per cent of the child workers also attended domestic duties. Close to it, are the self-employed child workers who constitute 20 per cent of the child working population. Also unpaid family workers form an important component constituting 14.4 per cent of child workers.

In the urban segment children in domestic duties formed the largest component of working children. A large segment of the urban child workers are employed as casual Labourers (20.7 per cent) and self-employed (17.6 per cent). Unlike the rural segment, in the urban areas significant proportion (15.7 per cent) of child workers are regular salaried employees. A somewhat considerable proportion of children employed also attended educational institutions. About six (6) per cent of the urban child workers attended educational institution apart from being economically active. Also, in the rural segment about four (4) per cent per cent of children attended educational institution despite being employed.

Children in India are often stated to be working in hazardous conditions and employed in different industrial sector. It has been ascertained by various researchers that the demand for Child Labour is in specific jobs that require long continuous hours of work or hazardous working conditions. Given the dimension of activities a child is engaged, it is imperative to identify the type of industries in which a child gets employed. For analyzing the nature of activities of children we have used the National Industrial Classification-2004 recorded for each worker in the NSSO data. This is presented in Table 1.

Figure 1: Percentage Distribution of Employed Children (5-17 years)



Source: *Special tabulation by the authors using unit record data on Employment and Unemployment collected by the National Sample Survey Organization during 66th Round (2009-10) of survey*

Table 1: Distribution of Children (5-17 years) Employed Across Industries by Activity Status (in %)

Activity Status of Children	Rural			Urban		
	Agriculture	Industry	Services	Agriculture	Industry	Services
Self-Employed	40.4	35.1	24.5	0.4	43.2	56.4
Unpaid Family Worker	80.1	11.1	8.9	12.5	49.6	37.9
Regular Salaried Wage Employees	19.5	28.9	51.6	0.1	42.0	57.9
Casual Wage Labour	67.4	26.6	6.0	8.2	70.0	21.8
Total	68.7	21.1	10.2	6.1	54.0	39.9

Source: *Special tabulation by the authors using unit record data on Employment and Unemployment collected by the National Sample Survey Organization during 66th Round (2009-10) of survey*

In a rural economy, a large segment of the child workers are employed in agriculture sector. Casual Labour being the dominant segment of child workers in the rural economy, we find around 68 per cent of the children working as casual wage Labour are in agricultural sector, around 27 per cent of this segment of child workers are in industry and only 6per cent are in the service sector. Children employed as unpaid family workers in the rural economy are also largely in the agricultural sector accounting for almost 80 per cent of child workers in this segment. Significantly high proportion of children self-employed are seen in all the three sectors. Agriculture though being the largest segment, around 35 per cent and about 25 per cent of the self-employed children are also seen in industry and service sector respectively. More than 50 per cent of the regular salaried child workers in

the rural economy are involved in service sector, though it is a small constituent of child working population. In the urban economy, children are largely employed in the industrial sector. It is seen that about 70 per cent of the children employed as casual wage Labour are employed in industry. Self-employed children another prominent segment in the urban sector are largely seen in services (56 per cent). Also around 58 per cent of the children employed as regular salaried employees are involved in service sector.

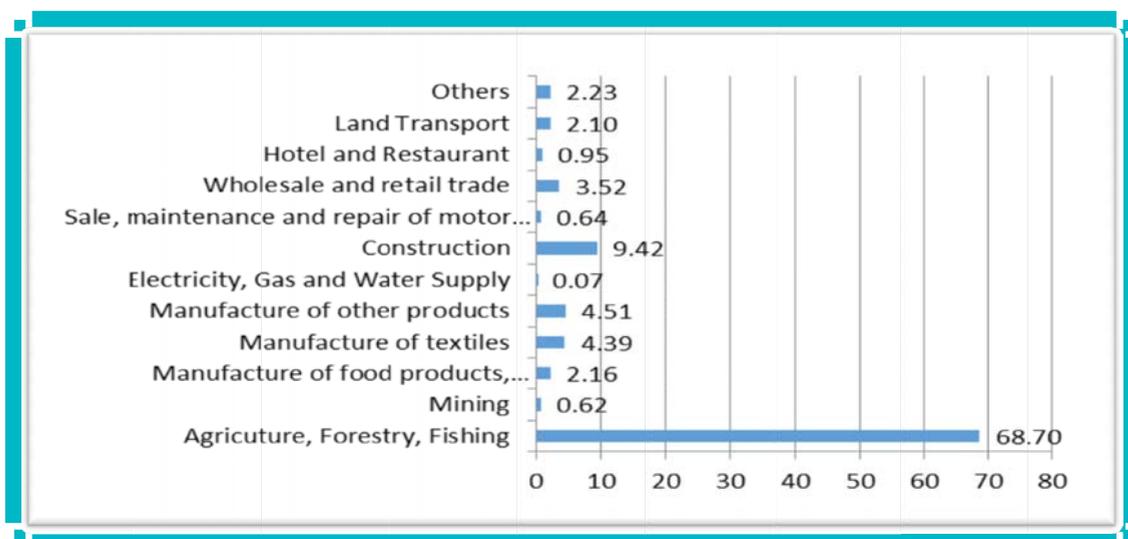
A detailed industrial classification of child workers for both rural and urban economy is presented in figure 2 and figure 3 below, respectively. Clearly almost 70 per cent of the child workers in the rural segment are in agriculture sector. Amongst the remaining 30 per cent child workers, 4 per cent of

the child workers are engaged in textile industries, 2 per cent in manufacturing food products or tobacco products, and 5 per cent in manufacturing other products which includes, chemical products, non-metallic mineral products etc. Considerable proportion of the rural child workers (9 per cent) are also seen in construction sector. About 4 per cent of the rural child workers are identified in trade activities.

In the urban economy child workers are spread out across various sectors. Children are seen

to be engaged in various types of activities. Significantly large proportions (17 per cent) of child workers are employed in textile industries. About 4 per cent of the urban child workers are engaged in manufacturing food products and tobacco products. Construction forms another major component of child workers in the urban economy, about 19 per cent of the child workers are seen in this sector. Around 20 per cent of the urban child workers are also seen in trade activities, in wholesale or retail trade.

Figure 2: Industrial Classification of Child (5-17) Workers in Rural Economy



Source: *Special tabulation by the authors using unit record data on Employment and Unemployment collected by the National Sample Survey Organization during 66th Round (2009-10) of survey*

Figure 3: Industrial Classification of Child (5-17) Workers in Urban Economy



Source: *Special tabulation by the authors using unit record data on Employment and Unemployment collected by the National Sample Survey Organization during 66th Round (2009-10) of survey*

Characteristics of Household Sending Children to Work: Supply of Child Labour

Researchers assert that households send their children to work only when driven to do so by poverty. Households, whose adult income is very low, cannot afford to keep children out of some productive activity. Only when adult incomes begin to rise do households take children out of Labour force (See for instance: Basu and Van, 1998; Swinnerton and Rogers, 1999, Edmonds, 2001; Admassie, 2002, Grootaert and Patrinos, 2002).

Compulsion of the households to send their children to work is also evident from figure 4 below. The average daily wage of adult employed members in the household sending their child to work is far below from those who do not send their children to work. The difference is wider in case of urban areas. The average daily wage of urban households sending their children to work is Rs. 96 while for those not sending their children to work is Rs. 289. On the other hand, the difference is narrow in case of rural segment. The average daily wage of rural households sending their children to work is Rs. 70 while that of households not sending their children to work is Rs. 105.

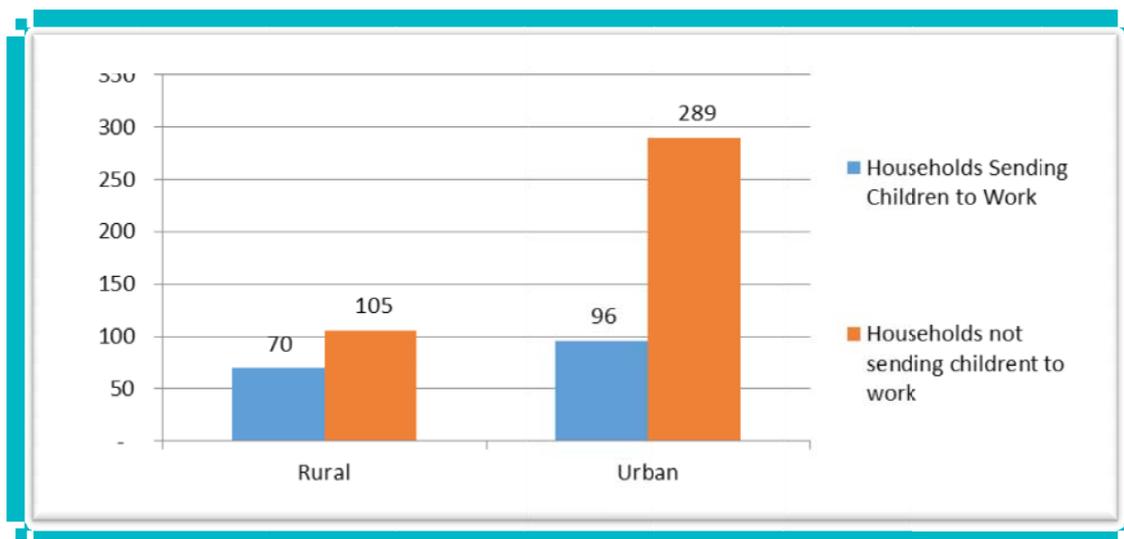
Clearly low wage rate of the households lead to poor economic condition, which induces them to

send their children to work. In the rural segment, however, the narrow difference in daily wage rate between households sending or not sending their children to work suggest that there are many other social factors which play a role in influencing parental decision.

The nature and type of work from which a household derives its major income is an important indicator of the activity pattern of its members. The means of livelihood implies that 50 per cent or more of the household's income comes from that source. Utilizing this information, households in the rural sector, have been categorized into four broad groups, (i) self-employed in agriculture (ii) self-employed in non-agriculture (iii) casual Labour in agriculture (iv) casual Labour in non-agriculture and (v) others. Similarly, the households in the urban sector have been put into four main groups: (i) self-employed (ii) regular wage/salary employment (iii) casual Labour and (iv) others. The last category 'others' in both rural and urban sector consists of households where no one income source contributes 50 per cent or more.

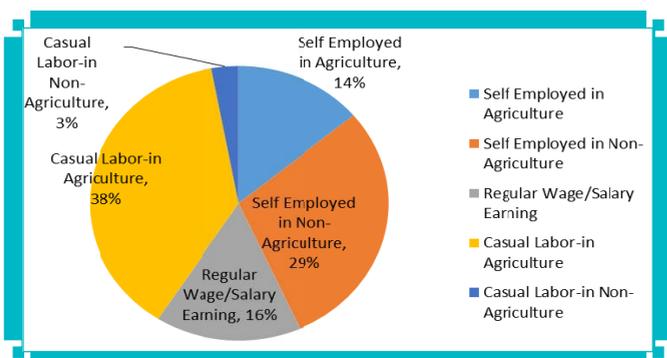
In the rural segment (figure 5), of the total households sending their children to work, 38 per cent of the households derive their major source of income from casual employment in agriculture sector. The casual wage Labourers of agriculture

Figure 4: Average Daily Wage (Rs) of Adult Employed Members in the Household



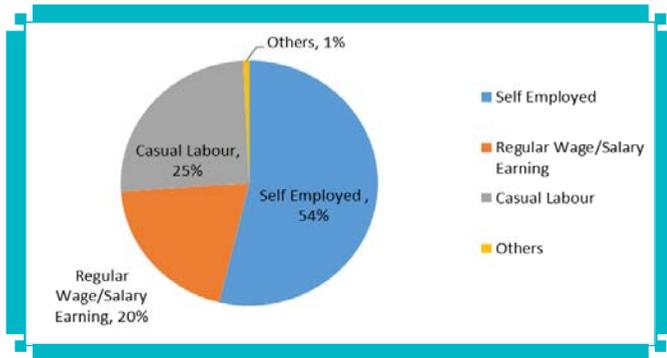
Source: *Special tabulation by the authors using unit record data on Employment and Unemployment collected by the National Sample Survey Organization during 66th Round (2009-10) of survey*

Figure 5: Distribution of Households sending their children to work by household type: Rural (in %)



Source: Special tabulation by the authors using unit record data on Employment and Unemployment collected by the National Sample Survey Organization during 66th Round (2009-10) of survey

Figure 6: Distribution of Households sending their children to work by household type: Urban (in %)



Source: Special tabulation by the authors using unit record data on Employment and Unemployment collected by the National Sample Survey Organization during 66th Round (2009-10) of survey

sector in the rural areas not only form the cheap source of Labour but also prone to insecure employment. Another important component of households in the rural sector sending their children to work is the self-employed in non-agriculture sector accounting for about 29 per cent of the total households having child workers in the family. Again households with principal income derived from self-employed in agriculture sector and regular salary account for 16 per cent and 14 per cent respectively of the total households sending their children to work.

In the urban segment (figure 6), 54 per cent of the households sending their children to work are self-employed. On the other hand, 25 per cent of the households sending their child to work derive their major source of income from casual employment and a relatively smaller section of households, i.e., 20 per cent derive their major income from regular salary.

Clearly instability in the nature of jobs in both rural and urban segment forms a crucial determinant of parental decision to send their children to work. Regular salaried employees are generally perceived as jobs of a more stable nature and, therefore, in both rural and urban sector a small proportion of the households sending their children to work form this component. On the other hand, large proportion of households deriving income from casual wage employment has a relatively higher proportion

of their children at work. Casual employment is generally perceived as more unstable in nature with low wage rates and no amenities or benefits as found in other forms of regular employment. Also, the self-employed in both segments have a higher likelihood of employing their children in their own business. The higher probability of working children in this segment could be attributed to the nature of job which is unstable and hence, is not subject to the Labour protection laws.

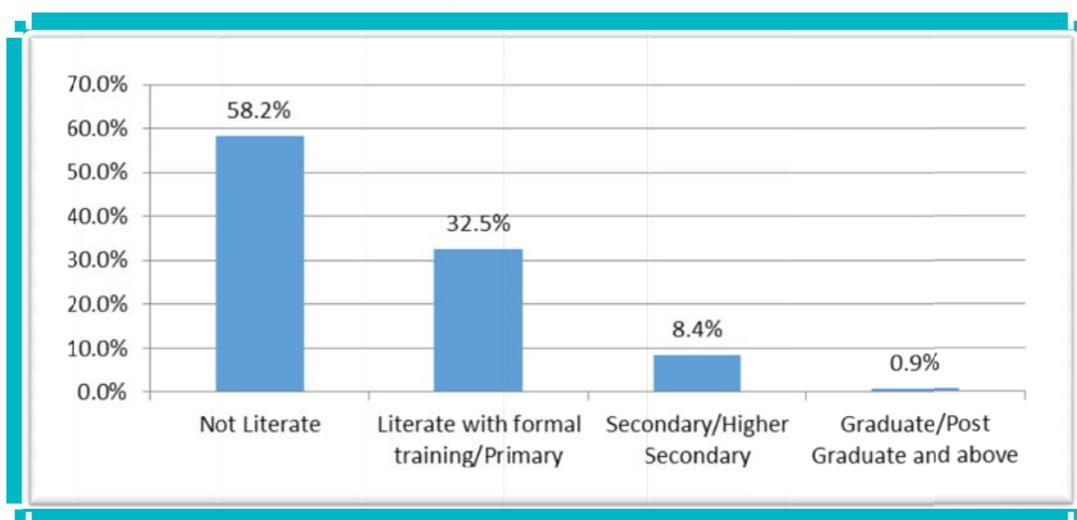
Thus the income of the household and the source from which income generates has a positive influence on Child Labour. Hence, protection given to the workers by increasing wage rate or ensuring steady income is one alternative that can help in reducing the incidence of Child Labour.

Labour productivity influences and is influenced by education. Dessy (2000), states that the incidence of Child Labour could be reduced only by promotion of human capital development, which is the main constraint on poor countries development. Education increases the opportunity cost of an individual and induces them to participate in the Labour market. This contributes to overall efficiency in the economy to the extent that the market wage is higher than the implicit shadow wage of being involved in household activities (Meir and Rauch, 2000). Thereby, education of the parents has a sanguine effect in increasing the Labour productivity and reducing incidence of Child Labour.

Education levels of the adult members in the household sending their children to work clearly indicate that parents with no or less education have higher likelihood of sending their children to work. In the rural segment, of the total households sending their children to work about 58 per cent of the adult members in the household have no education. Also, it is apparent from figure 7 below, with the increase in education levels, the proportion of households sending their child to work decreases significantly.

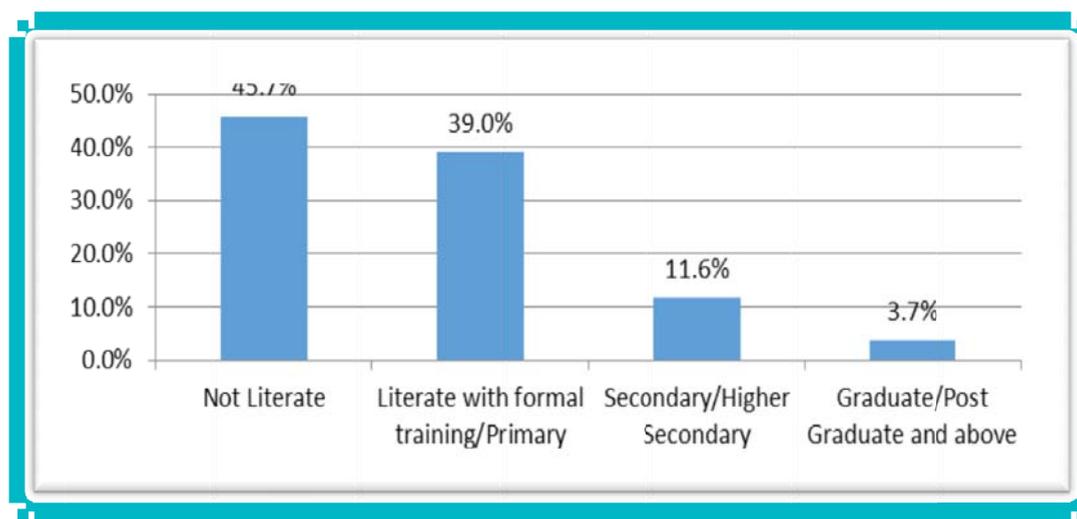
Similar pattern is evident in the urban sector (figure 8). Out of the total households sending their children to work, about 48 per cent of the adult members in the household do not have any education. Around 39 per cent of the adult members acquired minimal education either through formal training or attended up to primary level of education. However, it is worth noting that though proportion of households sending their child to work decreases with the increase in education levels, yet apparently significant proportion of the households in the urban sector send their child to work despite attaining high education levels.

Figure7: Distribution of Households Sending their Child to Work by Education of Parents: Rural (in %)



Source: *Special tabulation by the authors using unit record data on Employment and Unemployment collected by the National Sample Survey Organization during 66th Round (2009-10) of survey*

Figure 8: Distribution of Households Sending their Child to Work by Education of Parents: Urban (in %)



Source: *Special tabulation by the authors using unit record data on Employment and Unemployment collected by the National Sample Survey Organization during 66th Round (2009-10) of survey*

Conclusion

This article highlights the magnitude of the incidence of Child Labour in India and the nature of activities in which children are employed. The incidence of Child Labour in different industries also reflects the demand for child employment. In the rural sector children are largely employed in the agriculture sector while in the urban economy demand for child employment is spread out across manufacturing industries mainly textile, food and tobacco products, construction, shops and other trade activities. Several factors induce households to send their children to work. The income of the household and the source from which income is generated is shown to have positive influence on Child Labour. Households with unsteady income mainly from casual work have a high probability of sending their children to work. Low wage rate of the casual Labourers, insecurity of income form a crucial factor in influencing parental decision to send their children to work. Our analysis also suggests a strong correlation between parental education and incidence of Child Labour. Important policy implications that emerge from our analysis are that universalization of education and proper enforcement of minimum wage regulation can aid the alleviation of Child Labour.

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Digitizing Information on Child Labour

Nisha Kumari

Computers have revolutionized the work and operations of libraries not only in the area of creating and providing bibliographic records but, more recently, in providing full-text equivalents of books and other printed materials. Scanning, storage and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) advances in the past few years have made their use practical in digitizing operations as well. This article has made an attempt in examining that how the digitisation process will help in utilising the vast information on Child Labour at National Resource Centre on Child Labour (NRCCL) of V.V. Giri National Labour Institute (VVGNI) for effectively addressing the issue of Child Labour.

Introduction to Digitization

Digitization is meant to generate digital resources. According to Merriam Webster Dictionary, 'Digitize is to change (information or pictures) to digital form'. Oxford Dictionary states, 'Digitization is the conversion of text, pictures or sound into a digital form that can be processed by a computer'. Digitizing of child labour materials justifies the extraordinary efforts of archivists, librarians, information specialists and knowledge managers to preserve and make the documents available for research. The essence of child labour news clippings and research is in its diverse, heterogeneous and ephemeral nature. First of all, one must critically assess whether a revolutionary paradigm shift must necessarily be tied to a shift towards the digital. The primary purpose of digital technology is not to shift paradigms. Rather, digital technology is, most often, simply used to enlarge the efficiency of existing processes. Google is also working within an environment of digital technologies, organizing digital content and tools to find and use digital information as it had built massive collections of digital content through its Google book search initiative (<http://books.google.com/>).

Digitization of NRCCL Collection

National Resource Centre on Child Labour (NRCCL) at V.V. Giri National Labour Institute

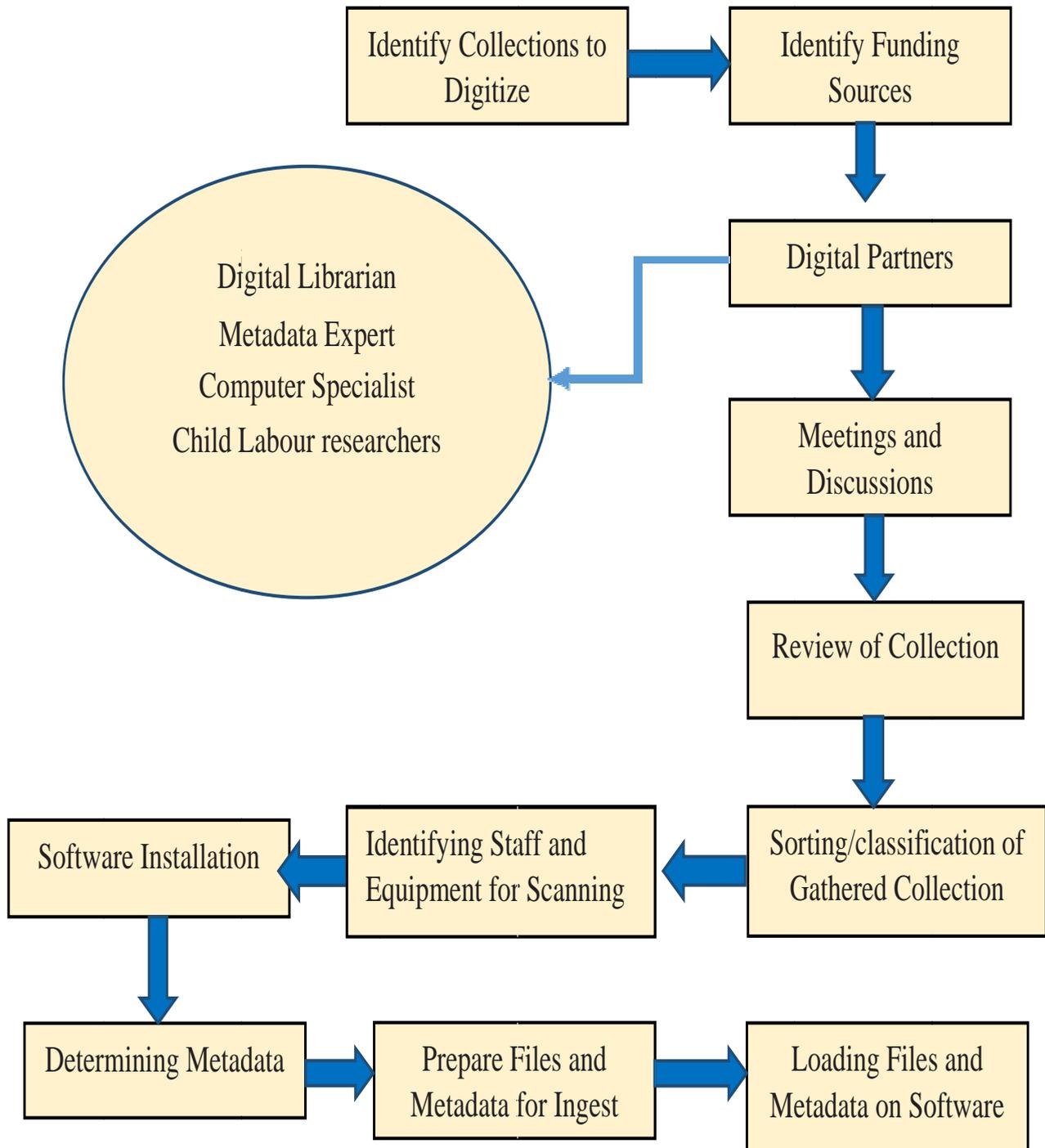
(VVGNI) has systematically collected documents for almost over quarter century on child labour. The NRCCL has continuously been in the process of digitizing materials on Child Labour so that it can be documented, retrieved for accessibility to the public with the purpose of sensitising, making them aware and motivating them towards elimination of Child Labour. The collection which is more at risk of deterioration has been given the highest priority for digitization. The purpose is to make the collection available to a larger user base through digitization and e-delivery. Meanwhile, the combined expertise of the Librarian, metadata experts, computer specialists and child labour researchers has made the initiative possible. All experts rely on one another's professional strengths to create the NRCCL digital collection collaboratively. The mission of digitization is to identify records and papers of enduring value to preserve them and make them available to patrons.

Digitised collection of NRCCL can be a rich resource that serves the large number of officials of the Central and State Governments and of foreign countries, Labour administrators, Managers and officers of the public and private sector industries, trade unions leaders & organisers of the organised and unorganised sectors, researchers, trainers, field workers and students to meet their need of accessing the content for scholarly research, special events, etc. The objective of such an exercise is to use the identifiable arrangement and description, scanning collection and metadata to streamline the discovery of and access to this vast child labour collection while preserving the materials. The desire to make the digitized child labour collection available was the key factor driving digitization. There is also a proposition to create tools for digital exhibition and sharing (blogging and social media). This collection will link the history of the Institute and its faculty members to local, state and national issues and others towards elimination of child labour which was found in the cabinets.

In digitising process at NRCCL, technology is playing a significant role in identifying, preserving and sharing the collections of the Institute with end users. During the process a good part of each day is spend to make sure that collections of materials are of interest to the faculty members; Officials of the Central and State Governments and of foreign

countries; Labour administrators, Managers and officers of the public and private sector industries; trade unions leaders & organisers of the organised and unorganised sectors; researchers; trainers; field workers and students. The process has begun on the basis of broad coverage and precise investigation of the user requirements.

Digitization at NRCCL



Benefits of Digitization

1. Increase in Usage

The biggest single benefit from our pioneering digitization efforts will be tremendous increase in the use of digitized material. If we make the special collections of materials available via the Web or on a server with appropriate metadata and software, preferably for free, they will be used more frequently. Hard copy of the collection can deteriorate and at best a few hundred copies might circulate each year. After digitizing the collection, the user could take notes and browse through the work more easily while reading. The work could be downloaded in a pdf format. It will allow searching via keywords, language, author, etc.

2. New dimensions of Research

The second major advantage of the digitization of research materials would be its easy and wider use for research which would not otherwise be possible. Digitization can be more than just a substitute for page viewing; it can also generate new and exciting research opportunities. It will save researcher's time in manual searching of the material in a huge flood of collections.

3. New Users and New Uses

The first two major contributions of digitization i.e. an increase in traditional use of the material and the development of new avenues of research are based on the assumption that it is the traditional user of special collections who will be using the material. The third major change with digitization will be the appearance of new types of users using special collections. The digitized special material collection at NRCCL will not only be used by the researchers, trainers, field workers here, but by the Officials of Central and State Government & of foreign countries; labour administrators; trade union leaders and others too.

4. Preservation

Digitization activity is important from the point of view of long-term preservation. It encourages wider access, support preservation of vulnerable, often fragile and original materials. It will help in mitigating the problems associated with the acidification of paper. It will also help in paper preservation from the environmental point of view.

Conclusion

Digitization is transforming collections into useful new forms and extending their practical life. It continues to keep in close synch the work of librarians, computer experts and scholars in the digital age. The activities relating to select materials for digitization, creating digital representations with full and accurate descriptions and then compile images and text into a coherent product will help in increasing the usage, extending new dimensions of research, attracting new users, preserving the collection and accelerating the search and retrieval of the content.

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