



A SCHOOL BASED PROJECT TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOUR IN THE COMMUNITY



D.A.V. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, AHMEDABAD

Off Prahald Nagar Corporate Road, Ahead Ofvodafone Corporate House,
Adjacent Adani VidyaMandir, Makarba ,Ahmedabad

Phone 079-39815500

E mail-Info@ davahmedabad.net

THE TEAM

- MitaliDeoskar
 - R. Sarvesh
- Aditi GovindHiwrale
- Deepanjan Mukherjee
 - Anish Gupta
 - Yashvi Shah
- AbhiramKuchibhotla
 - RajhansBayad
 - Yomil Shah
 - OomRawat
- Moli Mukherjee
- Sourabh Mishra
- Anik Mukherjee
- JalormiBrahmachari
 - NishmaSoni
- ArunikaNashkar
 - Sreya Lal
 - Satyam Dave
- Pruthvish Patel
- Parinika Joshi
- VishrutiRewatkar
- Nibodita Sharma
- AshleshaSonam

Name of the principal

Dr.NiveditaGanguli

Teacher Incharge

MS. Urvi Vaidya



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INTRODUCTION



Every child is a gift of God –a gift must be nurtured with care and affection, with in the family and society. But unfortunately due to socio-economic and cultural problems, the code of child centeredness was replaced by neglect, abuse and deprivation, particularly in the poverty afflicted sections of the society. While child labour is a complex problem that is basically rooted in poverty. An International Moral Code of Right and Wrong Behaviour said that **“human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings”** and as a result such rights may neither be granted nor be taken away by legislation. The position of India in terms of child labour is not an appreciable one; with a credible estimates ranging from 60 to 115 million, India has the largest number of working children in the world. They earn little and are made to work more. Child labour is a conspicuous problem in India. Its prevalence is evident in the child work participation rate, which is more than that of other developing countries. Poverty is the reason for child labour in India. According to one study, **more than a quarter of the World’s total number of child labourers are in India and every third household in the country has a child labour.**A majority of children work in dhabas or roadside restaurants/hotels, factories, specifically textiles and firecracker (matchstick) factories, where the conditions are appalling and hazardous. And while a 2006 law mandated that no child under fourteen work, like many laws in India,it is rarely enforced.

The students of D.A.V International school students had done a survey in Ahmedabad city.

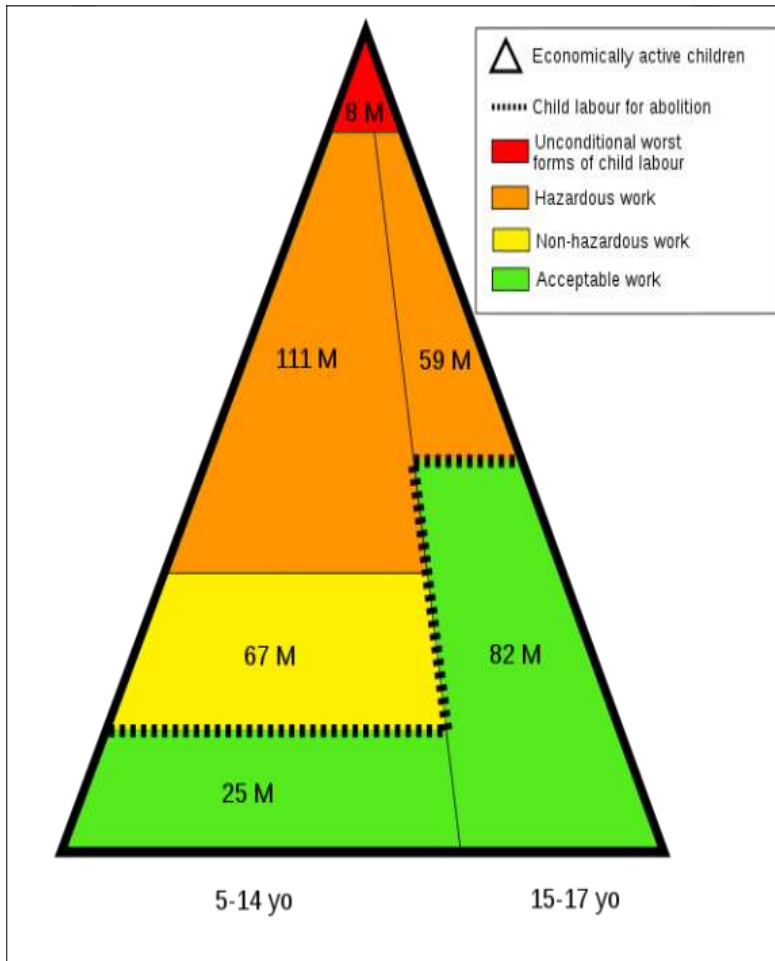
Present Project covered each and every minute detail regarding survey.

CHILD LABOUR – FACTS

- **1 in 7** children around the world is a child labourer. That is 218 million children who are working instead of going to school. They work in factories, in fields, they serve tea on streets, they sell toys at traffic signal, they mine, they dig and they serve in homes.
- They are trapped in poverty with little hope of escape. They have been denied their rights to a childhood and full-time, quality education.
- **22%** of child labourers work in the service industry – retail, restaurants & hotels, transport, finance, business, community and social services
- **69%** of child labourers work in agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing.
- **9%** of child labourers work in industry – mining, quarrying, manufacturing, construction and public utilities.



ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE CHILDREN



- Child labour for abolition.
- Unconditional worst forms of child labour.
- Hazardous work.
- Non-hazardous work.
- Acceptable work





SURVEY

Kids deserve to be happy, healthy and safe.

As a part of “Child Labour” campaign, we students of D.A.V International School went on a survey. The motive was to interact with children and find out the reasons that lead them into such situation. We also tried to find the emotional state of these children.

First we met a girl **Deepika** working as a rag picker. She was assisting her mother. As the other siblings of Deepika were younger than Deepika, so she accompanies her in the rag picking work to help the family financially. Her father works in a house keeping. They are not able to make their ends meet and live in a nearby slum. But at the same time she was keen in sending Deepika to school if she gets an opportunity.

We then met another boy **Karim** aged 10, assisting in a tea stall. At first he was reluctant to talk to us, but when we clicked some photographs with him and talked to him in the local language, he started interacting with us. Karim has been working in the tea stall from 2 years and felt happy working there. He didn't know anything about school, education and was not even eager to join one.

He felt he was living a contented life and didn't know how education can change his life. We took his address so that we could talk to his parents and convince them to send Karim to school. He seemed to be a very innocent child unaware of his future.

Next we met a boy who was playing in front of a shop. His name was **Rafiq**. He was just 8 years old. He got so friendly talking to us that he took us to his home.

He had 8 siblings. Some of them did household chores for a living, but the best part was that the mother was willing to send them to school if their fees was paid. We took this as a challenge.

When we returned school, we asked Principal Ma'am if we could help the child in some way and get his father a job. Immediately ma'am agreed for his rehabilitation and asked our teachers to work to help him gain admission in a school of his locality. She even promised to get Rafiq's father a job as soon as there is a vacancy in the house keeping in school.

This motivated us and our happiness knew no bounds. We were very excited after our survey and felt like making our friends as well as all our school mates aware about child labour and our interaction with them.

We made a P.P.T which included our discussions, videos and photos of these children. We also discussed the rehabilitation and all that as students of our age can do to eradicate this problem from our country. It was an eye-opener for us as we have only read about child labour but never met one nor discussed their plight and emotional quotient.

We thank our teachers for giving us an opportunity to feel the world in close.





COMPILED REPORT OF CHILD LABOUR ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

(P.P.T/Poster Making/ Skit)

As already mentioned in the project report, we a group of students from the school went for survey to a site where child labour was being employed.

Also, we went to an eminent lawyer in order to know about what laws Indian government has implemented to get rid of the problem of child labour. It was very learning and enlightening experience for us as we discovered the support what government has already provided.

We also prepared a power point presentation and showcased it in classes to spread awareness against Child labour. It included all the statistics of child labour in past years. The rising number was a complete shock.

Later we decided to conduct a poster making activity. These posters showing the plight of child labour were displayed in the school campus to spread the message against child labour to all the students.

Taking a step further, we conducted a small skit telling a story of young girl who had to forcibly step into this mess of child labour due to the circumstances in her life and how she was being rescued by a social worker. The play was done in such a simplified manner that even younger students could understand the story and became compassionate towards child labour. It was really touching for all the students of the school.

INTERACTION WITH THE LAWYER

Child labour is a practice of having children engaged in economic activity, on part/full time basis. This practice deprives children of their childhood and is harmful to their physical and mental development. Poverty, lack of good schools and growth of informal economy are considered as the important causes of child labour.

30th July, 2015

Thursday

Child Labour is the practice of having children engage in economic activity, on part or full time basis. The practice deprives children of their childhood, and is harmful to their physical and mental development. Poverty, lack of good schools and growth of informal economy are considered as the important causes of child labour in India.

India has a federal form of government, and labour being a subject in the Concurrent List, both the central and state governments can and have legislated on child labour. The major national legislative developments include the following:

- **The Factories Act of 1948**
- **The Mines Act of 1952**
- **The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act of 1986**
- **The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) of Children Act of 2000**
- **The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act of 2009**

In order to create awareness to abolish Child labour, CBSE has assigned a project. As a part of the project, five students (each from grade 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10) and educators (**Baishali Niyogi and Agrima Singh**) along with Co ordinator **Urvi Vaidya** had gone for the interaction with **Mr. Satyajit Desai (Senior Lawyer, Gujarat High court)**.





GLIMPSE OF THE INTERACTION

1. According to you, how many children are engaged in child labour in India?

A) In 1998, national census of India estimated the total number of child labour, aged 4-15 to be at 12.6 million, out of total population of 253 million in 5-14 age group.

2. What laws are implemented by the government to stop childlabour?

A) There are many laws which are implemented by the government such as-

- 1) **The factories act of 1948-** the act prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in any factory.
- 2) **The mines act of 1952-**the act prohibits the employment of children below 18 years of age in a mine.
- 3) **The juvenile justice of children act of 2000-**this law made it a crime, punishable with a prison term for anyone to employ a child in any hazardous employment.
- 4) **The right of children to free and compulsory education act of 2009-** the law mandates free and compulsory education to all children aged 6 to 14.

3. What kind of life does a child doing labour work goes through?

A)A child doing labour work has very depressing life. They have to work whole day and are not given proper wages. They have no time for education. They also do not get proper food due to lack of money. So this tells that condition of these children is very bad.

4. It is very unfortunate, but it is a fact that the police that take bribes from the owner of the shops or factories where child labour is going on. But when we approach this matter to the police, the police does not take any action. So, whom should we approach or go to for this matter?

A) If the police does not take any action against the wrong doer, then we must:-

1. Take the matter to the court or any organization dealing with the matters.
2. We can also file a PIL (Public Interest litigation).
3. Make a complain to the respective officer or authority.

Therefore, "More strict the punishment, better is the implementation."

5. If we see child labour in our locality, whom should we complain about this and what are the steps which we can implement?

A) If we see child labour in our locality then we should complain the police of our locality. We can take major steps like:-

1. We can create awareness about this by conducting small rallies.
2. We can also approach high courts and PIL for this matter.

6. What are the punishments given to the person promoting child labour?

A) There is no penalty provision for parents for the first offence; the employer would be liable for punishment even for the first violation.

In case of parents, the repeat offending may be penalized with a monetary fine up to Rs. 10,000. In case of first offence, the penalty for employers has been increased up to two and a half times from the existing up to Rs.20, 000- Rs.50.000.



CONCLUSION

Child labour is a deep-rooted problem as it denies the child his/her basic right to education. This, in turn, leads to unskilled adult labour force, which causes early physical decay, economic insecurity, low quality of life and ultimately high poverty. Child labour is a vicious circle of poverty, unemployment, underemployment and low wages. Over the years, the Government has multiplied its efforts to address the needs and rights of exploited children. **However, the high number of children working (4.9 million) is still worryingly high. Something that should bother not just policy makers but also well-meaning parents everywhere.**

STOP NOW.

We are smashed, beat, and bruised all day if we don't do it right.

Why can't we be educated? That is

ALL WE WANT!

This work is harsh and wrong.

We are so tired from doing the long hours,

We have no time to play or even rest

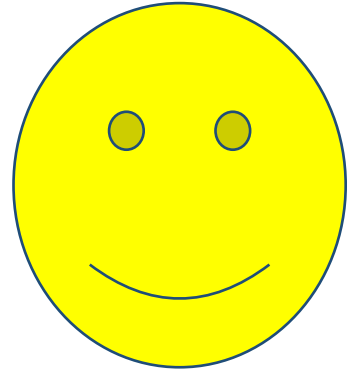
SO STOP CHILD LABOUR!

-Josh Newport



Acknowledgement

- **Our Principal:-** Dr. Nivedita Ganguly
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- **Our School Library**
- **British Library, Ahmedabad**



Our Team:- Rajhans Bayad, Yomil Shah, Anish Gupta, Yashvi Shah, Saurabh Mishra, Deepanjan Mukherjee, R. Sarvesh, Jalormi Brahmachari, Nishma Soni, Satyam Dave, Pruthvish Patel, Om Rawat, Jinanash Shah, Aditi Govind Hirwale, Mitali Deoskar, Anik Mukherjee, Arunika Nashkar, Sreya Lal, Parinika Joshi, Vishruti Rewatkar, Nibodita Sharma, Ashlesha Sonam

- **Our Teachers:** - Uroi ma'am, Baishali ma'am, Anu ma'am, Sushma ma'am, Agrima ma'am, Kashish ma'am

THANK YOU



A project by-
STUDENTS OF DAV
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL,
AHMEDABAD