

**An Economic Perspective of Child Labour in
Odisha: A Case Study of Rourkela**

**A Thesis Submitted for the Partial Fulfillment of
Master Degree in Development Studies**

by

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that **Ms. Subhadarsani Swain** has carried out the research embodied in the present dissertation entitled “**An Economic Perspective of Child Labour in Odisha: A Case Study of Rourkela**” under my supervision for the award of the Master degree in Development Studies of the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela. This dissertation is an independent work and does not constitute part of any material submitted for any research degree or diploma here or elsewhere.

(DR. NARAYAN SETHI)
Research Supervisor

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Subhadarsani Swain

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Abstract

This study mainly focuses on the current socio-economic condition of those people who were child labor in their childhood. In this study, economic indicators are income and employment status. On the other hand, level of education, health status and role in case of decision making in the society are studied as social indicators. The main reason which gives rise to child labour is widespread unemployment and underemployment among the adult poor strata of the population, inter alia, due to sharp growth of population. Large families with low income and often lack of educational, illiteracy and ignorance of parents about the importance of education as well as about the impact of labour on the health of their children are some of the reasons which breed child labour. The objective of the present study was to study the socio-economic condition of families whose children are engaged in child labour in Rourkela. The child labourers were interviewed in their work places using a predesigned and pre-tested questionnaire. Data were collected and analyzed a total of 60 child labourers participated in the study. This research study finds that person who was not child worker in early stage of his/her life have higher probability to enjoy better socio-economic condition than that of person who worked as child worker in past. In fact, it identifies that a children who is working as a child worker has 61% probability to have low standard of living in his/her future life.

Chapter –I

Introduction, Issues and Objectives of the Study

“The Child is father of the Man” by Wordsworth
Nehru considers children as one of the greatest asset for the nation.

1.1. Introduction

The Child is generally considered to a person who is less than 18 years of age and less developed, The study of child labor is important not only for social reasons but also for economic ones. The impact of child labor on the economy works through its debilitating effect on education which is important component of human capital. The overall population 41,947,358 in Odisha 34,951,234 in rural area 6,996,124 in urban area and child population in the age group 0-6 male 27, 44,552 and female 26, 14,258 total is 53,58,810(Annual health survey 2011). The participation of children in work in home and outside is often considered to be one of the important reasons for low school enrolment in Rourkela. The Census found an increase in the number of child laborers from 11.28 million in 1991 to 12.66 million in 2001. While an absolute increase of 181 million in the country's population has been recorded during the decade 2001-2011. The children are bound to do hazardous toils because of poverty. More than 1.3 million children work in hazardous situation. The Rourkela's children are deprived every winding of social and international aspects such as in trafficking, industrial works, household labors, early marriage, forcedly prostitution, begging, less wages, helping in the vehicle etc. though the government of Odisha has taken many initiatives to prevent child labor and violation of child rights. But the achievement is not satisfactory. Child labor is now a social problem, where infants are been exploited and forced to work at a young age. "Child Labor and American History," children always had worked either at home or later in industrial companies (Hindman, 2002).

Before the Industrial Revolution society did not have alternative programs like schools, or other programs that the children could go to, and because of it, leisure time was seen as being indolent. Therefore, most of the parents decided to use their children's time productively and sent them to work along with them or by themselves. As a result, according to society children were active and "the household itself only stood to gain through any added contribution from the work of the women and children" (Hindman, 2002).

The poor economy reinforced the families need to maximize income and economic security... So they deployed more young family members in the labor force" (Kleinberg, 2005). During the Industrial Revolution many of the manufactured industries and factories employed cheap labor, hired younger people to work for them; to the point that the owners of the factories would rely more on children than adults ((Mishra, 2012). Moreover, families ethnicity also influenced who would go to work and where. For example, "white families preferred to send children rather than mothers" when the household lost their caregiver, or like British, Irish, French Canadians, southeastern and east Europeans were seen more in "cotton mills" (Kleinberg, 2005).

Child labour refers to the employment of children in any work that deprives children of their childhood; child labour can also be defined as the full-time employment of children who are under a minimum legal age. In the name of learning the family craft in our occupation based caste system, we are taking away their childhood, happiness, joy, play, education, affection, independence, emotion and most important is their child rights. In today's seller-buyer market system these children are now considered as a cheap article of trade. Poverty is the prime cause though different multiple factors are responsible for this evil practice. Parents are unable to realize the importance of education in their children's life. This is the reason for which they do not send their kids to schools and treat them as helping hands to supplement the family income.

National Child Labour Project (NCLP) is a government sponsored scheme meant for such children who were living an adult like life in childhood. Special schools were opened under the scheme where working children were enrolled, provided with education, nutritive food, monthly stipend, health care facilities and marketable vocational skill and finally after three years mainstreamed into the regular schools. These special schools act like a bridge for such children which make them students from labors, give them education from exploitation and admit them in a school instead of engaging at a workplace. Children cannot become the hope of the future unless they are properly brought up, educated and trained.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) defines child labour as "work situations where children are forced to work on a regular basis to earn a living for themselves and their families, and as a result they remain backward educationally and socially in a situation which is exploitative and harmful to their health and to their physical and mental development. The children are separated from their families, often deprived of educational and training opportunities and they are forced to lead prematurely adult lives (ILO)". The Factories Act of 1948 states that any work undertaken by children that interferes their full physical development, their opportunities for desirable minimum of education or their need of recreation by a child below 14 years under either compulsion development or their desirable opportunities for a child voluntarily in an organized or unorganized minimum of education, termed as 'child labour' (The Factory Act 1948). The worst forms of child labour are those situations where children work more than nine hours in a day; earn less than a minimum wage or no wages at all; work in hazardous conditions for health and safety; have no access to education; and, work outside of their family's home. Children are the future of the nation, they are vulnerable due to their age and physical power and they cannot make plan for their future and cannot understand the result of any work. So they should be protected from exploitation and should be given opportunities for their physical and mental development. Hence the protection of children is the responsibility of the nation. The Indian constitution also makes safe guards for the children from their exploitation and to eliminate child labour from our society. Indian

constitution makes provisions for the children, such as Article-24 provides that child below the age of 14 years shall not be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any hazardous employment. Government of India is also committed to ensuring protection, rights and development of children in our country to overcome this target government has enacted various legislations such as which prohibit children from working in the particularly hazardous and dangerous activities Child Labour prohibition and regulation act 1986 (Ali and Khan, 2012).

1.2. Historical Perspective on Child Labour

Charles Dickens through *David Copperfield* provided us with a pen portrait of child labour phenomena in the 19th century United Kingdom. Here in India, Raj Kapoor through *Boot Polish* in 1952 and Meera Nair through *Salam Bombay* in 1992 gave us film portraits of child labour in urban slums of Mumbai. These portraits were not only touching but contextually accurate and insightful as well. Recent research re-evaluating the child labour phenomena in the early stages of industrialization in countries of Europe, North America and Japan provides us with useful information, testable proportions and valuable insights for policy formulation. 2 Six generalizations culled from vast historical literature are worth serious attention (Massauda, 2013). These are as under:

1. During early periods of industrialization each of the industrialized nations accomplished a populace blast made by pointedly declining passing rates yet high and rather slow aggregate effectiveness rates. These imbalances affected their population pyramids, increasing the proportion of children (0-14 years) in total population from about 30 per cent to over 40 per cent. It pointed at about 42-45 percent in all cases when the proportion started declining. Incidence of child labour was at its hit the highest point when the proportion of child population was around 42-45 per cent and virtually disappeared when it declined to under 30 per cent. Historically, time taken for this change has differed from country to country.
2. Structural change start by the industrialization process direct to migration of workers and their families from agricultural to non-agricultural activities. Degree of urbanization increased as a by-product, urban facilities, including formal

school education facilities, proved inadequate everywhere adolescent boys lacking discipline imposed by the family and the village community, having recently migrated to urban centers making a trouble of them. Demand for compulsory schooling particularly in these countries was partly to deal with this phenomenon of minor urban crime and indiscipline. The German and Japanese response, built on the foundations of experience of compulsory school education decades before the spread of industrialization and urbanization was qualitatively different from that of these two and other European countries.

3. Rural and agricultural child labour was not an important subject of debate or major concern in any of these countries except in Japan where girls (mostly in the age group 10-14 years) working in silk and textile production activities were targeted for compulsory schooling through a concentrated national effort during early decades of this century. In the US, agro-preparing industries dealing with fruit and juice can had widespread use of child labour. Their seasonal work had been a subject of argue and legal authorize.
4. Each state had a Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation law of its own and the issue got entangled in constitutional rights of the states to pass their own laws on the subject.⁵ The Federal Government having found itself entangled in a legal dilemma turned to the use of trade sanctions which were under its influence and above the state laws on child labour. Everywhere else operates as a join to deal with the child labour was not considered seriously.
5. Expansions of school facilities with or without compulsion occur everywhere once output per worker and output per capita started growing. past it total fruitfulness rate, expansion of school enrolment and retention rates in schools occurred virtually simultaneously. Economic historians are still debating the efficacy of the policy instrument like compulsory school education in combating child labour. Nordanellie (1992-1994) has re-examined the phenomena from the point of view of household's economic rationality. The counter view is also supported by extensive evidence.

Myrdal (1968) in his book “*Asian Drama*” devotes one of the three volumes mainly to the issue of school education and human resource development as a major ingredient of modernization in Asia. It shows the experience of South Asia, which is qualitatively different from the East Asia. The whole of India would be seriously misleading because the contrast between Kerala and Bihar in school educational effort and outcomes is much sharper than between East Asia and India. Agricultural and rural child labour, as discussed above, has not been an important concern of the policy-makers and pressure groups dealing with the issue of its elimination historically or in the contemporary world. We argue below that this is short-sighted and ignores the systemic implications of this neglect in terms of current welfare concerns and potential labour productivity losses (Haq and Mahbub-ul 1997).

1.3. Present Scenario of Child Labour

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.

1. The strategy of progressive elimination of child labour underscores India’s legislative intent and takes cognizance of the fact that child labour is not an isolated phenomenon that can be tackled without separately taking into account the socio-economic location that is at the root of the problem.
2. While child labour is a complex problem that is basically rooted in poverty.
3. An International Moral Code of Right and Wrong Behavior 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 legislation.
4. 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. Whether they are sweating in the heat of stone quarries, working in the fields 16 hours a day, picking rags in the city streets, or hidden away as domestic servants, these children endure miserable and difficult

lives. They earn little and are made to work more. They struggle to make enough to eat and perhaps to help feed their families as well.

1.4. Problem of the Child Labour

Child labour and its problems are closely related to the extreme poverty. These children as such contribute to the collection income of the family to fulfill their needs. This is the story of child labor in all the poor developing and underdeveloped countries of Africa and Asia including India. Even after sixty-three years of independence our country has not been able to manage to pay for any reprieve to the poor.

The economic policies of India have never been oriented to fulfill the aspirations on people and provide them with the basic needs to survive. That's why child labour and its problems are very much neglected in the country suffer national level. There are many angles to look over these problem including human rights considerations and development of human resources etc. An international pressure has also been growing to disallow child labour in the industry.

Child labour is closely associated with poverty. So even though the right to education has a central place in human rights, many poor families are unable to afford school fees or other school costs. The family then sends a child to work to contribute to the household's income. Children as young as four are forced into factories, and so they miss out on education. But, more than ever today, children need a good quality education and training to acquire the skills necessary to help lift them out of poverty. When children who've had the benefits of education grow up, they are more likely to choose to send their own children to school. So investing in education is a sound economic decision. This is why, it is so important for our government to take on more responsibility in aiding poorer countries so they can send their children to school, not a factory.

According to a survey of child labour undertaken on orders of the Supreme Court of India, the total number of such labour in India is 5, 00,000 as on record. Out of it,

Orissa is on top employing 2.15 lakh children in industries. The Government has recently warned the international organizations and the western countries that in no way the child labour problem be connected with the trade or any other such issues as it is not desirable to compromise over the matter and is considered a challenge to India's autonomy.

1. Child labors are always better than adult workers because they work for longer time and most of the time underpaid so they are source of cheaper Labour.
2. Education is not very wide spread with all the sections and all the parts of the country so education is one of the biggest problem which helps in neglect the growth of the child labors in India and we have also seen that failure of various educational scheme also added to the increase in the number of child labour.
3. Unemployment and Underemployment of the parents and major members of the family.
4. Use of drugs and alcohols by the parents and the guardian of the child also helps in the increase of the child labour.
5. Homelessness.
6. Wide spread poverty in the country.
7. Other problems due to single parenthood, population explosion, traditional occupations and parental attitudes, lack of minimum wages etc.

India, the largest democracy in the world, paradoxically bears the scourge of having tens of millions of child laborers living a life of bondage and slavery. Use of children as laborers is rampant not only in the agriculture sector but also in industries such as match box, leather, carpet, sarees, stone quarries, gems cutting and polishing, brick kilns, and many more. These children are denied their fundamental right to childhood, to education, to play and to dream like normal children.

According to an authentic report of a UN body, thousands of children have been employed in Italy in a leather industry. While in Portugal, young girls are employed in domestic services and clothing industry. In per cent of the children below 15, are working

in miserable bans and more than 30 per cent are employed illegally. In USA, 28 percent of the children are working in inhuman conditions (Joshi, 2005).

The child labour has been in employment in all the industries hazardous or non-hazardous. The existing “Employment of labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act of 1986” provides for iron of child labour in hazardous industries and hazardous positions and regulates their employment in the non-hazardous. The state governments are empowered to determine the hazardous and non-hazardous industries, But the actual position is that all the state governments have not been able to do so as yet.

1.5. Categories of Child Labour

Societies, from time immemorial, have evolved complex procedures to ensure socialization of their child population. Preparation for the world of work is also undertaken according to accepted norms for different stratus of society. Socialization and preparation for the world of work is done formally as well as informally. Children of the ruling and economically rich classes get it in elaborately specified formal methods while those of the lower strata of the society get mostly informal education usually on the job. This has been true till the advent of twentieth century post-industrial market and planned economies. This can also be observed in contemporary India. Therefore, defining *Child Labour* as a meaningful conceptual category is a rather complex undertaking, but is important for conceptual clarity (Chaudhri and Wilson, 2002).

ILO’s original Charter of 1919 deals with child labour in a number of hazardous activities and industries. The list has been expanded substantially. Specification of minimum age for entry into the work force has also been growing. It was 12 years for early nineteenth century U.K.; 13 years for the ILO’s original Charter and is 18 years in most industrialized countries. In India, it is up to the age of 14. With rising life expectancy and retirement age, rising acceptable age of entry into the work force is understandable (Chaudhri and Wilson, 2002).

Intensity of work, hours of work and working conditions have been undergoing major changes since the advent of industrialization during the last two hundred years. Broadly these three can be either hazardous for the development of a child into a productive and normal adult worker or could be non-hazardous. From the society's point of view, operational division of child labour should be into three groups. These are:

- a) Problem areas with strong conflict of interest between the State, Community, Family and the Employers of cheap child labour.
- b) Areas where the State, community, family - and employers - do not have major conflict of interest.
- c) Minimal conflict between child development, school education and part-time work.

1.6. Employers Preference of Child

Alongside factors which push children into earning money are others which pull children into the world of work.

(a) Cheap and obedient

The relatively low wages paid to children are often a reason why employers prefer them to adult workers. Some children work unpaid, particularly as domestic workers, in conditions that would be criticized as "slavery" if they involved adults. Employers find children more obedient and easier to control. Unlike older workers, they are unlikely to initiate protests or form trade unions.

(b) Inadequate laws

More than 130 countries have signed an international convention saying that children may not work full-time before 14 or 15 years of age. However, in some of the countries concerned, laws on this are confusing or unclear and not enforced.

(c) Poor infrastructure

Another factor is the practical difficulty of establishing a child's actual age in countries where the infrastructure may not be in place for e.g. systematic birth registration. This can disadvantage children in many ways law enforcers are hampered because they do not

have the means to absolutely establish the ages of e.g. teenagers, and, without appropriate documentation, young people may also be denied access to state services such as schools.

(d) Role of education

Children who receive little or no school education miss out on the knowledge that can create options for them later in life. Without it, they make less contribution as adults and are more exposed to exploitation and abuse. Not attending school is consequently both a cause and effect of child labour.

1.7. Type of Child Labour

Child labour is a term that needs to be unpacked: it cannot be used in a sweeping manner but covers a range and variety of circumstances in which children work.

- **Child labour:** Those children who are doing paid or unpaid work in factories, workshops, establishments, mines and in the service sector such as domestic labour. The Ministry of Labour, Government of India has employed the term ‘child labour’ only in the context of children doing ‘hazardous’ work. By implication, children who are not doing ‘hazardous’ work are not considered to be child labourers and are said to be doing child work. The consequence of this narrow definition of child labour is that the Labour Ministry’s definition only includes a very small percentage of children who are in the work-force and leaves out millions of children who require policy and programmatic support from the Government.
- **Street children:** Children living on and off the streets, such as shoeshine boys, rag-pickers, newspaper-vendors, beggars, etc. The problem of street children is somewhat different from that of child labour in factories and workshops. For one thing, most children have some sort of home to go back to in the evenings or nights, while street children are completely alone and are at the mercy of their employers. They live on the pavements, in the bus stations and railway stations. They are at the mercy of urban predators as also the police. They have no permanent base and are often on the move. So their problem is more acute than that of children working in a factory and living at home.

- **Bonded children:** Children who have either been pledged by their parents for paltry sums of money or those working to pay off the inherited debts of their fathers. Bonded child labour is an acute problem in some states. Bonded children are in many ways the most difficult to assist because they are inaccessible. If the carpet owner has bought them, they cannot escape. If the middle-class housewife has paid for them, they cannot run away. If the landlord in the village owns them, they will spend their life in servitude till they get married and can, in turn, sell their children.
- **Working children:** Children who are working as part of family labour in agriculture and in home-based work. If children are working 12-14 hours a day along with their parents at the cost of their education, their situation is similar to that of children working for other employers. In fact children, particularly girls, are expected to take on work burdens by parents in complete disproportion to their strengths and abilities. This is the largest category of children who are out-of-school and are working full time. And it is here that we find the largest percentage of girls working at the cost of education.
- **Children used for sexual exploitation:** Many thousands of young girls and boys serve the sexual appetites of men from all social and economic backgrounds. Direct links between the commercial sexual exploitation of children and other forms of exploitative child labour are numerous. Factories, workshops, street corners, railway stations, bus stops and homes where children work are common sites of sexual exploitation. Children are especially powerless to resist abuse by employers, either as perpetrators or intermediaries. Village loan sharks often act as procurers for city brothels, lending money to the family which must be paid back through the daughter's work. Almost all such children are betrayed by those they trust and end up with their trust abused. The physical (health, danger of HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases) and psycho-social damage inflicted by commercial sexual exploitation makes it one of the most hazardous forms of child labour.
- **Migrant children:** India faces a huge challenge with "distress seasonal migration". Millions of families are being forced to leave their homes and villages for several

months every year in search of livelihoods. These migrations mean that families are forced to drop out of schools, something that closes up the only available opportunity to break the vicious cycle generation after generation. At worksites migrant children are inevitably put to work. All evidence indicates that migrations are large and growing. The number of children below 14 years of age thus affected may already be in the order of 9 million.

- Migrant populations overwhelmingly belong to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Castes. They comprise the landless and land poor who possess the least amount of assets, skills or education. Studies reveal that the majority of migrant labour is to be found in states like Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. Almost all major states appear to be affected by migration, although to varying degrees. Many industrial and agro-industrial sectors like brick-making, salt manufacture, sugar cane harvesting, stone quarrying, construction, fisheries, plantations, rice mills and so on run largely on migrant labour.
- **Children engaged in household activities:** Apart from children who are employed for wages (either bonded or otherwise) as domestic help, there are a large number of children (especially girls) who are working in their own houses, engaged in what is not normally seen as “economic activity”. These children are engaged in taking care of younger siblings, cooking, cleaning and other such household activities. As seen in the literature on women’s work, such activities need to be recognized as ‘work’. Further, if such children are not sent to school, they will eventually join the labour force as one of the above categories of child labour.

1.8. Causes of Child Labor

Odisha is an economically poor state. Most of the people live in below poverty line and in case of high density all kinds of basic need are not able to meet anybody. The following reason is very much important:

Poverty and family size: In Rourkela the average family size is six persons. In families where children work, the father often works as either a rickshaw puller or day laborer and the mother as a domestic help. Poverty leads to quarrels, tension and can ultimately result in cruel treatment of children. The mother, being over burdened with work, can lose interest in her children and neglect them. Without a stable income the children become a burden to parents and must find work for their own survival.

Victims of migration: In general, neglected children migrate to big cities with their families or alone. Often they must beg or drift on the streets in order to earn a living and will consider any work that helps them survive.

Illiteracy & Ignorance: Many parents of working children are illiterate and unskilled with little prospect of being able to improve their situation. There is a lack of faith in the existing education system as it does not necessarily lead to employment. Many poor parents feel that it is better for their children to learn by working rather than sending them to school presents results on children currently attending school (age 6-17 years) and Children attended before. The percentage of children (6-17 years) currently attending schools varied from 83.1% in Odisha. The percentage of drop out children (age 6-17 years) is highest in Odisha (14.1%) (Annual Health survey (AHS) 2010-11)

Child labor law and rights: Child labor laws in Rourkela do not protect working children. Employers prefer children as they are cheap, productive and obedient. Children working in the industrial sector have no contract of employment and so find it difficult to stand up for themselves and fight for their rights. The demand by factories for child laborers is increasing all the time.

Family breakdown: Migration of families, broken families, parental abuse and abandonment, all lead to child labor.

Natural calamities: Floods, land erosion, cyclones etc, have a devastating effect on many area of Rourkela every year. This further increases the pressures on poor families and leads to many new children entering the labor force.

1.9. Factors Affecting Child Labour

Poverty: Poor families need to keep as many family members working as possible to ensure income security and survival. This makes it very difficult for poor families to invest in their children's education. In fact, educating a child can be a significant financial burden, poverty force parents to send their children to hazardous job.

Over population: limited resource and more mouth to feed, children are employed in various form of work

Parental illiteracy: illiteracy parents do not realise the need for a proper physical emotional and cognitive development of a child.

Urbanization: MNC's and expert industries in the developing world employ child workers.

Unemployment of elders: elders often find difficult to get job. The industrialist and factory owners find it profitability to employ children. They will also create union problem

Orphans: children born out wedlock, children with no parents and relatives, often do not find any one to support them .thus they are forced to work for their own living.

1.10. Significance of the Study

The child labour is still exists today some cause of child exploitation are poverty , lack of education and bottom of feeding, poverty is the main reason for child labour poor family need money to survive and thus need to have as many families members

working as possible. This means that their children also have to work as they additional source of income also sometimes in extremely.

Child labor was important to factories because the factory could pay them less than an adult for similar work and also the children could fit their hands into small places to fix things or work in which adults could not making them more beneficial. The Industrial Revolution led to a population increase, but the chances of surviving childhood did not improve throughout the Industrial Revolution (although infant mortality rates were reduced markedly). There was still limited opportunity for education, and children were expected to work.

Having children work in this way obviously benefited the family economically, but it also benefited the children by teaching them naturally all the skills they would need as adults. Child labour only became oppressive when instead of working with their own families, children were sent into factories, mines and mills to work for capitalists who had no care for their safety or wellbeing schooling and literacy became the norm in society, so that any child who was kept away from school was thereby being deprived of vital skills and disadvantaged for their whole lives (UNICEF, 2006).

1.11. Objectives of the Study

The study broadly examines an economic perspective of child labour in Odisha. Specifically the objectives are:

1. To examine the working condition, income, health hazards of child labour associated with the varieties of industry, hotel, restaurant and household activities in Rourkela, Odisha.
2. To examine the socio-economic conditions of families of child labours in Rourkela, Odisha.

1.12. Methodology of the Study

This study used both primary and secondary data collected from primary and secondary sources. For primary data, working children were directly approached and interviewed

industry, hotel, restaurant and household activities in Rourkela, Odisha. The sample surveys by using an interview schedule were carried out for the collection of primary data. The data with respect to interest of education, literacy status, illiteracy reason or reason of leaving school, nature of activity, daily working hours, payment pattern, daily contribution, employee behavior, father monthly income and education qualification, working condition, family size etc has been collected in sample area. The study surveyed the four categories of working children of Rourkela, Odisha. The 50 different categories of child working in different place have been interviewed personally. The secondary data have collected from different record, child labor commission in India and ILO.

1.13. Organization of the Thesis

The present study is organized into five chapters including the present one. The present chapter introduces the study, gives an overview idea of the factors affecting the child labour and spells out the scope and objectives, methodology, data sources and the period of study. The second chapter reviews some of the existing theoretical and empirical studies made on the child labour. The third chapter analyses the socio economic characteristics of study area. The fourth chapter discusses the methodology and result. The final or the fifth chapter summarizes the study and suggests some policy implication.

Chapter-II

Review of Literature

The present chapter contains the review of various related studies and the theoretical framework. We have suggested that the incidence of child labour may increase or decrease with income depending on the level of development and the economic relationship between the parents and the child. In this chapter, we begin by discussing the net cost or net economic value of children. Both the money costs as well as the time costs are evaluated and compared at different stages of development. We consider the role of such costs in the household fertility decision. We present a model of household choice. First, we discuss the mathematical model of child demand introduced by Becker which essentially illustrates the case for an advanced stage of development. This is followed by an extension of the model to incorporate child time use in an effort to explain the decision faced by households at a lower level of development, where there exists an earnings potential for children. The objective of this chapter is to illustrate the changing valuation of children at different stages of development.

2.1. Review of Related Studies

Anker (2000) examined that "Conceptual and research frameworks for the economics of child labor and its elimination". The major variable used in income, nutrition, size of family, adult education, method used in anthropometric data on 410 children over a 17 year period in a rural area in India. He found that in developing countries, child work is frequently hard on children, however recognized fundamental for family survival. In spite of widespread understanding that child work ought to be killed, actuality mediates, and numerous kids work. Numerous work extend periods of time and in dangerous conditions in more level pay nations. Least age laws and necessary training laws are inadequate, all by themselves, to kill tyke work, including unsuitable types of youngster work in numerous creating nations. Despite this worldwide agreement on the need to dispose of youngster work, particularly perilous and other most noticeably bad structures, there is additionally across the board understanding that a few parts of work done by youngsters

could be useful for kids under the right circumstances. Non-unsafe work can instruct, for instance, independence and obligation. For sure, in created nations, numerous youngsters work doing administration segment occupations, conveying daily papers, and keeping an eye on others help low maintenance on their family cultivate/business.

Giuffrida et al. (2005) examined the income and Poverty in Brazil. The major variable used in control for age, race, education, wealth, housing conditions, and unemployment status. method used in both primary and secondary data However, he found that children who enter the labor force, carry out work that could very well be done an adult, this is, they usually deprive an adult of the job question. The child does the job for much lower wages then would have to be paid to an adult. For this reason many employer prefer to engage children. There are various circles. Child labor increase unemployment among adults and reduces their income and the employment and low wages force the adults to put their children to work in order to boost the family income.

Satyanarayana et al. (1986) examined the Effect of Early Childhood Under nutrition and Child Labour on the Growth and Adult Nutritional Status of Rural Indian Boys around Hyderabad. The major variable used in income, nutrition, size of family, adult's education, method used in anthropometric data on 410 children over a 17 year period in a rural area in India. He found that children who worked in agriculture, small-scale industry and services gained less in height and weight when followed through to adulthood than those who attended school.

Rao's (2000) analysed the dimensions of child labour in India and the broad trends and multidimensional approaches to the problem of child labor, the nature, magnitude, working conditions, causes and consequences are discussed at length. Present position of child labour engaged in different industries in different parts of the country. It also reveals and analyses the socio-economic characteristics of child labour, their levels of earning, levels of living and impact on household income. Further, various aspects of migrant child workers are discussed and suggest strategies to eliminate the problem of child labour.

Khan and Ali (2011) examined the perspective of constitution and legislative framework of child labour in India between the time period (2010-2011), the major variable used in socio – economic backwardness, poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, over population, lack of education facility, ignorance of parents about important of education, ignorance on impact on children of labour, government apathy etc. method used the UNICEF 2006 report children of the age group (5-14 yr.) children in India. They found that the situation is overcoming the challenges that have emerged due to the child labour.

Mohapatra and Dash (2011) examined the socio-economic problem of child labour between the time periods (2009-2010). The major variables used in poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, low wages, ignorance, social prejudice, regressive tradition, poor standard of living, backwardness, superstition, low status of women have combined to give birth to the terrible practice of child labour of women have combined to give birth to the terrible practice of child labour. Method used in growth rate sample data through investigation or interview, they found that the migrant's family form various district of Odisha their social economic condition is very poor which make them to go for labour.

Mishra (2012) examined the Child Rights and Situation of Children in Odisha between the time periods 2010-2011. The major variable used income, education, standard of living, lack of education, poverty, and unemployment etc, method used in this paper only secondary data. He found that migrant family and uneducated adults generally send their children to work in an early age.

Ranjan (2001) examined the 'credit constraints and the phenomena of child labor, the major variable used in income, size of family, lack of education, method used in statistical calculation. He found that there is positive relationship between inequalities of income distribution with child labour.

Nafees et al. (2010) examined the Situation analysis of child labour in Karachi, Pakistan between the time periods 2009-2010. The major variable used in education, income, mentality of family member, backwardness, over population, unemployment etc. method used both secondary and primary data though interview questionnaire. They found that lack of basic education of parents, norms and culture, large family size and physical and verbal abuses by family members were the major factors identified to send their children to work.

Mishra (2011) examined that Enforcing Ban on Child Labour in India: A Socio Legal Perspective between the time periods (2009-2010). The major variable used in income , family size, education, population, attractive towards earn, dislike school etc, the method used in this paper only secondary source form articles and book. He found that a strong positive correlation between parents being ex-child labors and their children being employed. The parent's education level increase the probability of the children being employed decreases.

Basu and Van (1998) examined the child labour in India between the time periods (1997-1998), the major variables used in poverty, illiteracy, income, standard of living, unemployment, method used in only secondary data. He found that parents only allow the child to engage in when the family cannot otherwise meet its subsistence needs.

Ghosh (2008) examined the geographical review of child labour between the time periods of 2005 to 2007. The major variables or indicators used in income, poverty, unemployment, dependency load etc. the method is used in the 2001 census of child labour. He found that found that economic growth leads to an increase in child labour rather than decrease.

Ray (2007) examined the child labour in India between the time periods of (2005 to 2006). The major variable used in poverty, unemployment; over population, income, female education, dependency etc. the method used only secondary data provided by the

census of India in the year 2001. He found that an increase in female education within a household decreases child labour.

Gangrade (1998) examined child labour in India between the time periods 1996 to 1997. The major variable used in illiteracy, unemployment, income, standard of living etc. the method used in based on both primary and secondary data collection through field observation. He found that rapidly increase of industrializations they need more children rather than adults and generally they attracts to children those are below 15 age.

Neumayer and Suysa (2005) examined the trade orphans foreign direct investigation and child labour between the time period 2003 to 2004. The major variable used in poverty, illiteracy, income, orphans, female education, dependency etc. the method used in the census data for 1991 and 2001 data form state education department and field study and quantitative survey. He found that the family of working children in towns was more than five members. Thus large size of family is one of the positive determinants of child labour.

A study of the Committee on child labour (1979) appointed by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India examined various dimensions of child labour in different occupations. The study revealed that the incidence of child labour was highest in Andhra Pradesh, where it accounted for about 9 percent of the total labour force, 9.2 per cent of the total child population and 3.7 percent the of the total population of the state in 1971. T he child labour was more prevalent in rural areas than in urban areas. The participation of children in the labour force in the age group of 10- 14 years was very high (28.9%) for males as compared to females (20%).

Another study on the working children in Bombay by Singh, M.(1980) reveals that in the age group of 6- 15 years found that most of the working children belonged to low income groups in urban centers who generally reside in slums and depressed areas. This study was conducted on 203 boys (67.7%) and 97 girls (32.3). Out of these 300

working children 211 (70.3%) worked under employer and 89 (29.7%) were self employed. The study stated that male children shouldered the family's economic responsibility to a large extent than the female.

Singh (1980) revealed the implementation of various laws for the working conditions and welfare of child labour is concerned that employees had colossal ignorance about the existing laws. Only 20 were in favour of legislation for regulating employment of children.

Sharma (1982) revealed on the working children to examine the extent of exploitation and socio- economic background of child labour found that 565 of the respondents had to work for 15 to 18 hours per day for earning their livelihood 44% for 10 – 15 hours per day. As for as payment of wages, 815 of the respondents were receiving up to Rs.50/- per month, while only 35 respondents received more than Rs 100/ - per month.

Weiner (1990) revealed that, historically in our country child labour has been seen as an economic phenomenon. As per his study the relationship between children and work is dictated to a great extent by the state of economic development or the system of production prevalent in the country. Another survey conducted by Vemuri and Anand (1998), reveals that child labour contributes to over 20 percent of GNP in India.

Narang (2009) examined the empirical study of the child labour and school attendance between the time periods 2007 to 2008. The major variable used an indicator used in income, poverty, ignorance, lack of female education, standard of living etc. the method used in semi- parametric single- index, profit model, statistics. He found that found that scheduled caste children work at a younger age for their own and their families' economic support" Scheduled caste (lower caste) children tend to be pushed into child labour because of their family's poverty.

Akhtar (1998) identified determinants of child labor participation in Peshawar city. The study was based on a sample of 150 respondents distributed equally over three categories; manufacturing, trade and transport. The study found that amongst all factors, economic condition of respondent's families occupied a vital role in forcing children to work. House hold income and education level as well as family size were linked with child labor. The study put forward various recommendations for solution of child labor issues including forceful enforcement of child labor law, awareness of the harmful effects of the child labor, provision of employment opportunities adult members of the house hold, etc.

Rahatullah (2001) discussed social and economic causes of child labor in Mingora, district swat. The study was based on a sample of 100 respondents equally distributed and four categories; workshops, brick kilns, hotels and self-employment. He found that amongst all causative factors is the economic condition of respondent's families and its large size. Parent's income and education level occupy a vital role in forcing the child to labor. The study recommends that a campaign should be organized everywhere to make people aware of harmful effects of child labor. Labor laws concerning child labor should be enforced forcefully. Education should be made compulsory and free for all at least till primary level. Family planning should be followed. To overcome unemployment, job opportunities should be provided to make efforts to improve the working and living conditions of child workers.

Rana (1985) found that majority of the child workers were working for 9 to 12 hours a day. She also found that more than seventy percent children were inducted by their parents. She described that main reason for inducement is poverty, other social and traditional factors. She also found that these children were very regular to go to work.

Bibi (1980) reported that majority of the parents send their children to work due to their poor economic conditions. She concluded that thousand of the children under the age of 15 years were working under highly unhygienic conditions and ratio of female

workers was higher than male. They were paid low and worked hard for 60 to 90 hours per week.

2.3. Conclusion

The study recommended that the government should facilitate income-generating activities for enhancing poor people's income. Population growth needs to be curbed. Ignorance and illiteracy should be removed through introduction of educational program and providing necessary facilities. People must be educated about the negative impact of child labor upon children's health and future career.

Chapter-III

Socio Economic Conditions of Child Labour in Odisha

The present chapter analyses the socio economic characteristics, Poverty is consider as the most driving force that drives children into this hazardous profession, where society is characterized by poverty and inequality the incidence of child labor is likely to increase for poor families, the small contribution of assistance at home is important. It can be said that poverty necessarily causes child labor phenomenon. The second factor is that in those certain areas families have a tradition that children will follow their parent's footsteps; if the family has a tradition of engaging in this occupation then the children will follow their parents. Hence, developing a strategy requires the in depth assessment of socio-economic and cultural causes of child labor in this hazardous industry.

3.1. Introduction

The socio-economic parameters including place of origin, caste and religion parental occupations influence the incidence of child labour. In this chapter the focus is on the socio-economic background of the sample population of household, picking or work relating to rag picking. Child labour has been an important area of social concern both nationally and internationally. Millions of children worldwide start working at a very young age and these children are exposed to various forms of exploitation. Children continue to work in large numbers in various sectors of the economy. Numerous children are engaged in occupations and processes, which are plainly dangerous and hazardous and it is difficult to arrive at the actual number of working children in these occupations and processes. Some of the glaring examples are the children engaged in rag picking, working in restaurant, grocery shop, garage, working on household(servant), bagging on the street etc,

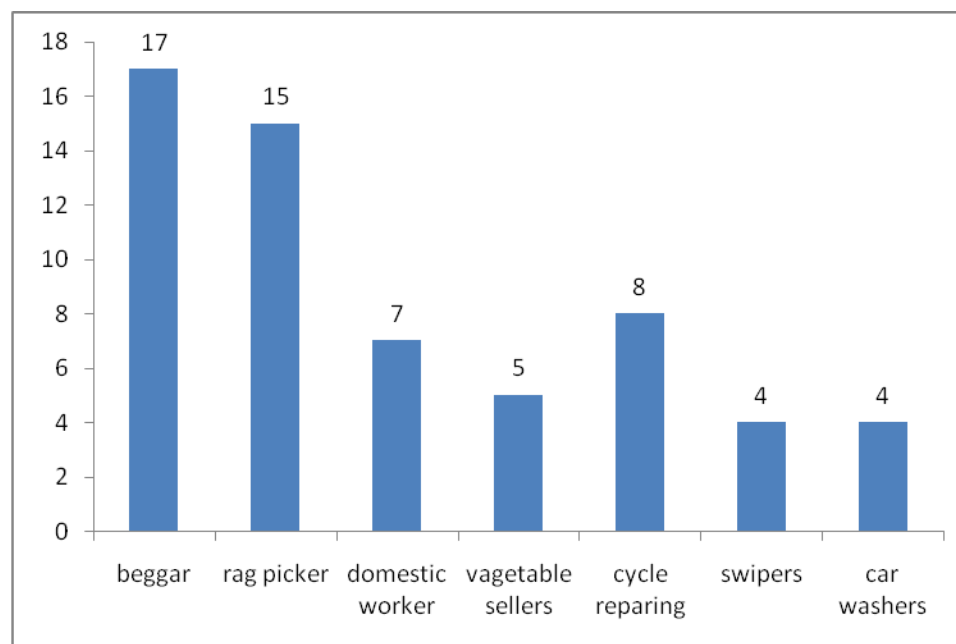
3.2. Different Occupation Groups of Child Labour in Study Area

This chart shows that 60 percent of the working children are engaged in different sector. The selected sample is a representation of the total child labour. As far as possible all the

different occupation groups are given proportional representation in the sample. The analysis of demonstrates the high presence of child labor among children in the different sector.

Chart-3.1

Percentage of child Labours falls under Different Occupation



Source: Field Survey

The above chart-3.1 shows the percentage of child labours engaged under different occupation for their survival. As far as possible all the different occupation groups are given proportional representation in the sample. As such, the sample consisted of 17% beggars, 15 % rag pickers, 7 % domestic workers, 5% vegetable sellers, 8 % cycle repairers, 4% swappers and 4% car washer as shown in the chart 3.2. The occupation of the head of the household is considered as the main occupation of the household.

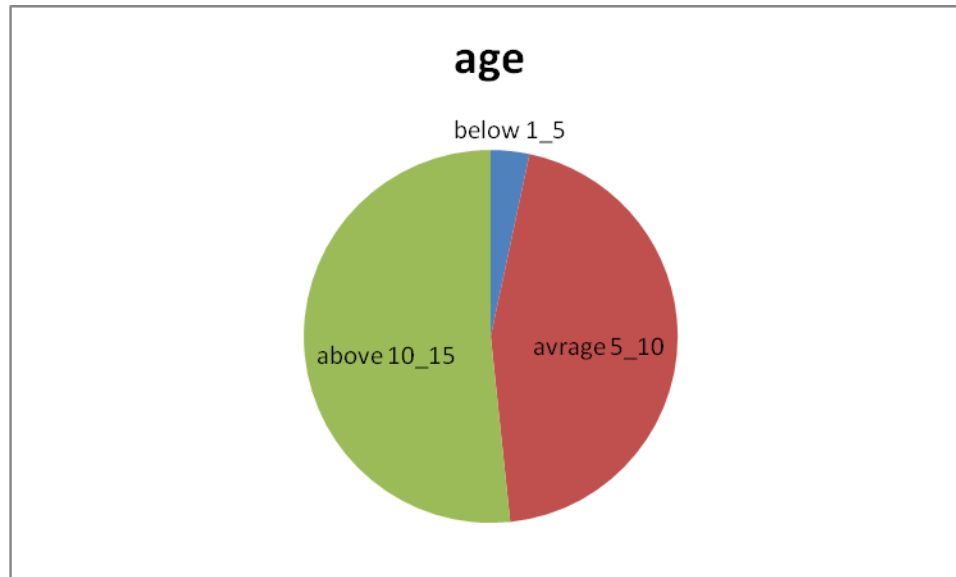
3.2.2. Different Age Group of Child Labours

The main reason of this age differentials is that the majority of the younger children still attend school education is usually continued until either academic failure or the disability to of their families to bear the burden of school expenses forcing them to drop out. This usually takes place after two or three years; hence there is a connection between age and

the percentage of children working. That is, as the children grow older, more of them join the labor force.

Chart-3.2

Percentage of Different Age Group of Child Labour



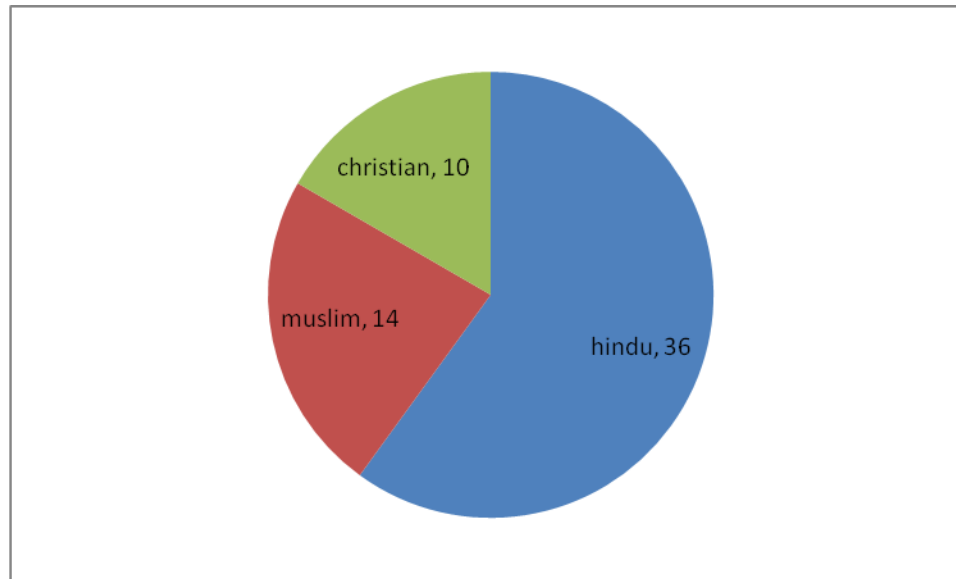
Source: Field Survey

The above chart-3.2 shows the age-wise classification of child labours engaged under different occupation. The average size of the family is 4.96 shows that, 4 percent of the children in the age group (five to nine) are participating in the labor force, while this percentage increases to 37.6 percent in the age group of (10 to 15). The percentage further increases to 58.4 percent for the age group of (15-18).

3.2.3. Different Religion of Child Labour

Religion also plays an important role in affecting the child labour. Different religious communities have their different thinking relating to their children. The following chart shows that the percentage of children fall under the work in Rourkela.

Chart-3.3
Percentage of Child Labour in Different Religion



Source: Field Survey

The following chart-3.3 shows the religion-wise classification of child labours engaged under different occupation. The differences between the region as shown in the chart indicate that the largest percentage about 36 percent of the children of the coastal areas were resident of Hindu, followed by Muslim (14 percent) and Christian (14 percent). These four regions represent the coastal areas where the traditional sector is dominant and somehow they lag behind from the overall development process. These represent the urbanized areas, where parents prefer the education of their children rather than sending them to work for short-term benefit.

3.2.4. Working Hours of Child Labour:

The following table-3.1 shows the classification of child labours on the basis of their working hours engaged under different occupation. Working hours mean the time duration in which the employees in the establishment are at the disposal of the employer exclusive of any interval allowed for rest and meals.

Table: 3.4
Working Hours of Child Labour

Number of Day	Frequency	Percentage
Whole Day	65	44.5
Seven Day	11	7.4
Whole Month	5	3.4
Total	82	60

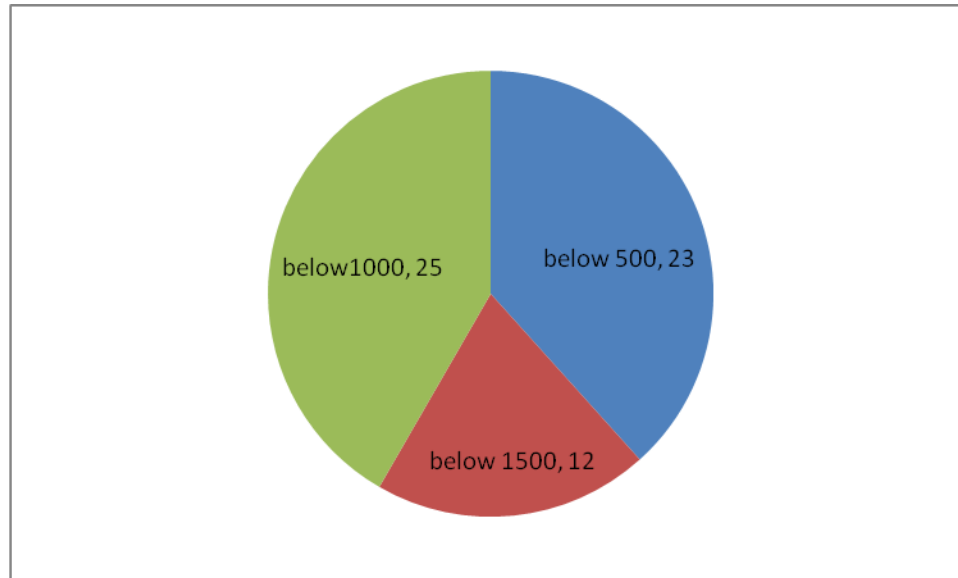
Source: Field Survey

It was evident that 44.5 percent of the child labor work full day. The percentage of those children who work more than one day is also higher, working whole week, and month in the deep sea to catch as much fish as they can (7.4 percent working whole week and 3.4 percent work for whole month). This could be justified by the fact that fishing is mostly done in traditional way where the work could take the whole day from dawn to sunset, week and months.

3.2.5. Child Labour Income per Month

The following chart-3.4 shows the income-wise classification of child labours engaged under different occupation. The child earning increase the incidence of child labor increases. It is highest when the income falls in the 5,001 to 10,000 category shows decline in the last category. Overall,

Chart-3.5
Child Labour Income per Month



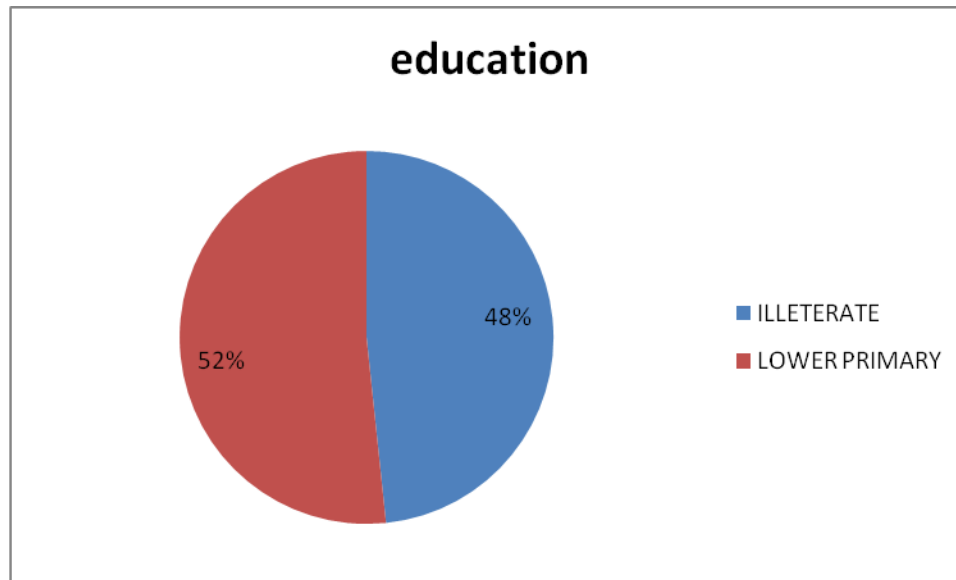
Source: Field Survey

It can be concluded that higher income of children let parents to send more children to work. Because they earn handsome amount as worker and support the financial needs of their families.

3.2.6. Educational Status of Child Labour

The following chart-3.5 shows the educational status of child labours. As shown in 31 percent of the working children were dropped out from the school. Moreover, about 29 percent of the working children have never attended school; only 40 percent are those who currently attending school. Out of the total children currently studying 3 percent is in primary.

Chart-3.6
Education of Child Labour



Source: Field Survey

A close look on educational level differentials shown in reflects that 31 percent children drop out from the primary level. This might be due to the high cost of education or the unattractiveness of the education system. In the survey, numerous parents claim that quality of education is not good in these areas. Lack of job facilities has further distorted the situation. Parents feel that child should work rather than get education as work bring experience, which in turn provide job security for future. From both the tables, it can be concluded that work is negatively related to the education of the child.

3.2.7 Household Size Sample of Child Labour

The following table-3.7 shows the household size of the of child labours. The incidence of child labor increase with the increase in the family size. The relationship between the household size and the number household sending children to work is found to be

positive, as the household size increases number of household sending children to work also increases, this may be because large size families need the help of their children more than the small one, where only adult person take the burden of work.

Table-3.7
Sample Household Size of Child Labour

	Household size	Only one Children work	two children work	three children work	four children work	child labour
Household size No of child labour	Having upto 4 persons	4	-	-	-	4
	Having 5 to 9 persons	22	11	3	1	37
	Having 10 to 14 persons	7	8	1	1	17
	Having 15 to 18 person	1	1			2
In the household	total	34	20	4	2	60

Source: Field Survey

This table shows that Out of the 26 household 15.4 percent of the household having family size of four sends only one child at work. Out of 36 households having family size five to nine people 48.3 percent send their children to work. One household send only one child to work other sends two children at work. Total number of household in this category is four.

3.2.8 Household Head Occupation of Child Labour

The following table-3.8 shows the occupational status of the head of the household. About 34.3 percent of the working children were belong to the family where the father is labor, 24.1 percent of the working children belong to family where father occupation is fishing, 40 percent of the working children belong to those family whose head mostly perform some private work (like shop keeping), while 20 percent of them belong to family whose heads are belong to government services (teaching and public sectors job).

Table-3.8
Occupation of Head of the Household of Child Labour

Household size		Only one Children work	two children work	three children work	four children work	child labour
	Having upto 4 persons	4	-	-	-	4
	Having 5 to 9 persons	22	11	3	1	37
Household size	Having 10 to 14 persons	7	8	1	1	17
No of child labour	Having 15 to 18 person	1	1			2
In the household	total	34	20	4	2	60

Source: Field Survey

It is quite interesting to note that category of government services has such a high percentage of child labor; it reflects the unimportance of education in eyes of parents even though they had some education. But overall from the table, it can be concluded that the relation between child work and the head occupation is not a direct one (as hypothesized that when father work in the modern sector the attitude towards sending children to work is negative), because in all the categories the extent of child labor is around 20-40 percent which is quite high.

3.2.9 Household Income of Child Labour

The following table-3.4 shows the major sources of household income of the child labours. A general assumption regarding incidence of child labor as discuss earlier is poverty (higher the incomes lower the number of child labor). But this is not the case in this study. With the exception of certain areas within each of the six locations where people live in abject poverty, the household income category and the number of household having one, two, three, and four economically active children. It shows that from lowest income group towards highest income group, number of household having economically active children first increases with increase in income it reaches its maximum and in highest income category it decline. The incidence of child labor is highest among the household having income category of (20,001-30,000) and (10,001-20,000). This shows that financial poverty plays no role in the every sector.

Table-3.9

Household Income and Number of Child Labor in the Household

Household per Capital income	only one child work	two children work	three children work	four children work	child labour
200-500	3				3
500-1000	8	4	1		13
1000-1500	7	5	1	1	13
1500-2000	3	6	2		11
2000-2500	5	4		1	10
2500-3000	2	4			6
4000-hi	1	3			4
Total	28	26	4	2	60

Source: Field Survey

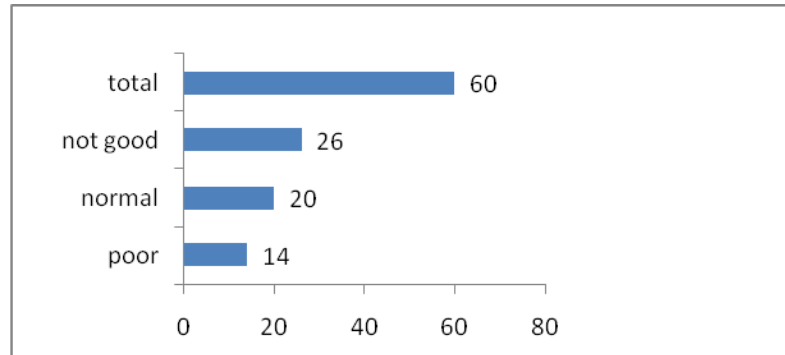
A possible explanation for this kind of household behavior could be that household decide to send their children to work in order to maximize their utility once they feel that their utility has maximize, than they decide not to send their children to work. So, when income start increasing household head start sending more children to work in order to earn more and stabilize income but when income reaches to a sufficient height they feel no use of sending their children to work. Hence, when income is over 20,000 or per capita income is over 2,000 number of household sending their children to work declines.

3.2.10 Health Status of Child Labour

The following chart-3.6 shows the health status of child labours. Children in families with greater material resources enjoy more secure living conditions and greater access to a range of opportunities that are often unavailable to children from low-income families. On average, children living in low-income families or neighborhoods have poorer health outcomes. Furthermore, poverty affects children’s health not only when they are young, but also later in their lives as adults.

Chart-3.10

Health Status of Child Labour



Source: Field Survey

3.2.11 Sample Respondents Describing Reason of their Work

The following table-3.5 shows the response of the sample regarding their selection of occupation as a child labour. Although there may be different reasons for working, but the sample respondents reported two main reasons. Majority (seventy percent) of them reported that their family income was very low and they are forced to work to support their family. Only one-fourth, (twenty-five percent) respondent's wanted to learn some skills.

Table-3.11

Respondent of Child Labor regarding their Occupation

Reason of work	No. of respondent	Percentage
To support family	40	130
To learn skill	26	20
Total	66	60

Source: Field Survey

3.3 Conclusion

The child labours are working in unorganized sector because of lack of institution, organization and absence of family support. The major finding of this study in increase of child labour is unwanted to go to the school and attractive of money because of the ratio of the boys is more than the girls. The ratios of the boys are more than the girls in case of Orissa. They belongs to very poor family, their parents are illiterate and unskilled and most of the child labours are migrated from other state of Orissa, they remain absent for long subsequently drop out at primary stage of education or very low priority is given to education of children of children, which also gets reflected in the child labour state cannot remain as a silent spectator when its future citizens are being continuously exploited.

Chapter-IV

Summary, Conclusion and Recommendation

The present study was conducted in Rourkela. The study is based on a sample of working children. The data was collected in December 2013, with the help of a pre tested interview. Regarding working experience of the sample children most of them have working experience from one to three years. Most of the children revealed that they were working to support their family. They want to learn skills and experience which will help them in their future. The respondents want to open their own workshops, restaurants and shops. Some want to become Ustad, policeman, teacher and also some of them want to get more education.

Child labor is a significant problem of Rourkela. The prevalence of it is shown by contribution of percentage of child worker from employed worker. The extent worked out to be 30 percent. The paper had explored some of the socio-economic determinant of child labor in the coastal areas of Rourkela. It was worked out that the major determinant of child labor is not poverty. Even though children are paid less than adults, whatever income they earn is of benefit to families. Child income, number of earner, age child working, per capita income (representing impact of both household income and household size), percentage of educated children in the household, working hours of children, periodicity of earning of the head of the household education status, The evidence suggests that poverty is not the most pervasive factor affecting child labor. Household per capita income (used to reflect the poverty level) found to be positively affecting the child labor (higher income attracting more children towards work). Child income also found to be attracting children towards work. Hence, increase the number of earner in the household did not force parents to stop sending their children to work. Positive impact of per capita income also shows positive impact of household size (with the increase in the household size incidence of child labor increases). As far as the education is concern percentage of educated children, child own education status and head of the household education status all showing negative impact on percentage of

child labor. This shows some importance of education in the eyes of people but the impact is not significant as the coefficient of both education status of children working and household head was insignificant. Some parents also feel that a formal education is not beneficial, and if children learn skills of fishing through labor at a young age. In some areas, education is not affordable, or is found to be inadequate. With no other alternatives, children spend their time working. Working hours of children was found to be negatively affecting the incidence of child labor as decrease in working hour may increase the child schooling. High illiteracy and dropout rates are reflective of the inadequacy of the educational system. Dropout rates are high because children are forced to work due to the inadequacy of the educational system. The attitudes of the people also contribute to the lack of enrollment – parents feel that work develops skills that can be used to earn income in future, while education does not help in this matter. Compulsory education with training needed to improve fishing skill may help in this regard. Hopefully the future will show that this program of compulsory schooling with training has made progress towards eradicating child labor. However, child labor cannot be eliminated by focusing on one determinant, education. The government must also ensure that the needs of the people are filled before attacking child labor. No matter how hard government tries, child labor will always exist until the need for it is removed.

Conclusion

The prevalence of child labor is more or less seen in all periods of time, it varies in nature and dimension depending on the existing socioeconomic structure of the society. Children are the blooming flowers of the garden of a society and valuable asset of a nation. They constitute a hidden treasure of potential development of a growing nation, childhood has been considered as a most important period of life. During this period molding and shaping of the life take place and the behavior, conduct and sentiments are developed. Paradoxically, it is unfortunate to say that tragically most of the child life is lost due to child work. Child labor is mainly necessitated by economic compulsions of the parents in many cases of the children. The main reason which give rise to child labor are widespread of absolute poverty, unemployment and underemployment among the

adult workers, large families, lack of educational facilities, illiteracy and ignorance of parents about the importance of education as well as about the impact of labor on the health of their children are some of the reasons which breed child labor.

Most people in Rourkela live under poverty line and many begin to work at very early age. Children are found working under hazardous conditions such as mining, auto repair, battery recharging, saw milling, welding, and rickshaw pulling, garments manufacturing and working with dangerous machinery. It is clear from this study that child labor has higher probability to create negative impacts on future life. Since child worker does not get opportunity to get better education, they cannot get better job opportunities in future life. Consequently, their income remains low which only ensure low standard of living. So, poverty and illiteracy are the main causes for leading child labor. Consequently, the vulnerable socio-economic status at adulthood is caused by hazardous child labor. If we can ensure the pragmatic educational program and vocational training to make them skilled, then the negative effects of child labor on later age can be reduced significantly.

The study recommended the following policy measures to summarize.

- The government may provide income generating activity in the area. This will curtail the child labor.
- The government should control the high population growth in the area. Family planning should be widely introduced in the area.
- Illiteracy ranks second to poverty, and leads to child labor, therefore the government must implement its literacy programs more effectively, so that more people become literate and educated.
- In Rourkela the most of the people aware of the negative effects of the child labor. Furthermore, some initiatives are necessary to control the child labor in the area.

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