

## **CHILD LABOUR IN INDIA AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS - AN ASSESSMENT**

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### **Abstract**

Child labour refers to the exploitation of minors through any type of employment that robs them of their youth, prevents them from attending a regular school, or is detrimental to their mental, physical, social, or moral development. Child labour enriches minors and infringes their rights. MGNREGA lacks funding but offers unskilled labour. By utilizing women's self-help groups and microfinance, UBIS hopes to eradicate child labour in rural areas by 2025. Prioritizing knowledge production and evidence translation, rescuing and rehabilitating labourers, and implementing free education are essential. By 2025, governments have to prioritize law enforcement, coordinated policies, and small labour rights. Over 75% of Indians are farmers, and large-scale income strategies like MGNREGA and agro-based enterprises are needed to reduce child labour and poverty. By 2025, UBIS, increased budgets, social safety nets, and stronger public policy are needed. The Central Government and states are urged by the UN and ILO to create efficient action plans and implement corrective measures. Since 1981, India's child labour rate has been unequal; in 2025, 74.3 lakh youngsters would be employed. The most populous states are Maharashtra, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh. Proposals for policies are essential to end child labour by 2025. Future human progress depends on children, hence child labour ought to end. Low pay, however, frequently result in the hiring of minors, emphasizing the obligation of people to stop and condemn such activities. Despite the aforementioned and other pertinent difficulties, the main objectives of these research papers are to undertake a macroeconomic theoretical study of Child Labour in India and the scope of labour required for Sustainable Development Goals. From this point of view, the current situation is important and relevant to both economy as well as society as a whole.

**Keywords:** Child Labor, Exploitation, Unskilled Labour, Poverty, Social Safety, Indian Constitution, Unemployment, Child Protection, Social Protection and Migration.

### **The theme of the article**

The exploitation of children through any kind of employment that robs them of their youth, keeps them from attending a regular school, or is harmful to their mental, physical, social, or moral development is referred to as child labour. Child labour in India is primarily caused by poverty, unemployment, and debt. Laws prohibit minors under 14 from hiring, and 10.12 million children aged 5-14 were employed in 2011. India has the highest concentration of under-14-year-old laborers worldwide, with 70% employed in agriculture and related activities. Globally, 160 million children work as minors, an 8.4 million increase in the last four years. COVID-19 has exacerbated this issue, with millions more at risk. The ILO and UNICEF demand adequate social protection, school funding, adult employment, and investments in child protection systems. India's 259.6 million children aged 5-14 are employed, but the pandemic and financial hardships may increase child labor. UNICEF India urges governments, decision-makers, families, and individuals to protect all children's rights.

For the advancement of society and human development, childhood is essential. However, child labour frequently happens when kids are too young to work, which compromises their welfare and limits their potential to earn money in the future. Children are forced to work exploitative jobs, frequently for little pay and in dangerous conditions, when the economy is severely distressed. Children who work as

children are deprived of the chance to receive an education and cannot go to school. India has taken the initiative to combat child labour by enacting laws requiring universal primary education and implementing committee and commission recommendations. In spite of these initiatives, child labour continues to pose a serious threat to the future of the nation. The nation's judiciary has demonstrated compassion for the problem, but more work has to be done to guarantee the welfare and education of the nation's youth.

### **The concept of child labour**

Child labor is defined as work that robs children of their childhood, potential, and dignity, as well as being harmful to their physical and mental development. Children are forced to leave school prematurely or are forced to combine school attendance with excessive work because of it. As defined by UNICEF, child labour exists when children between the ages of 5 and 11 do at least one hour of economic activity or 28 hours of domestic work per week. The Census 2001 office in India defines child labor as engaging in any economically productive activity, regardless of whether it is compensated, waged, or profitable. Children who work as main workers or marginal workers are classified by the Indian government. The Constitution of India prohibits child labour below 14 years of age and provides infrastructure and resources for all children to receive free and compulsory education.

### **Statement of the problem**

Over 75 percent of Indians are farmers and reside in rural areas. The efficacy of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Generation Act (MGNREGA) is impeded by inadequate finance and implementation, despite offering 100 days of unskilled physical labour. For the purpose of reducing poverty, funding for these initiatives, agro-based companies, and skill development must be revived and increased. Facilities for vocational training can lessen the demand on land and increase access to jobs in cities. The social safety net, which includes crop insurance and pension programs, needs to be strengthened and revitalized if child labour is to be eradicated by 2025. Their effectiveness is hampered by poor execution and small monthly pension payments. Because common illnesses are not covered by the Ayushman Bharat program, which exclusively provides tertiary healthcare, households are left penniless and in debt.

By 2025, the Universal Basic Income Scheme (UBIS) and microfinance organizations can contribute to lowering rural poverty and discouraging child labour. Child labour is a result of a number of factors, including ignorance, economic concerns, and a lack of educational options. Rural households, particularly women's homes, should value education in order to guarantee it for everyone. To put an end to child labour, free education up to Class XII or upper secondary must be enforced, which may address both child labour and education in rural regions. Improving the infrastructure of rural schools also requires increasing the funding allocated to education. The rescue and rehabilitation of present labourers is essential to the eventual extinction of child labour. Labourers' release is frequently given priority by law enforcement, which discourages cooperation. Psychological and socioeconomic support should be the main goals of rehabilitation, together with sufficient finance and oversight procedures. Public policy must place a high priority on knowledge production and the translation of evidence in order to end child labour and guarantee successful rehabilitation. By 2025, governments ought to put more of an emphasis on integrated strategies, bolster law enforcement, and uphold the rights of minors who are labouring. It is essential to coordinate researchers, academics, and civil society organizations. Continuous reviews of the criminal justice system and capacity building programs are crucial. In this research, the overarching objective is to examine how macroeconomic concepts can be used to determine the Child Labour in India and Sustainable Development Goals. In order to accomplish this, it uses secondary sources which contain data and statistics relevant to the topic of the article. The social, political, and economic environment in which we find ourselves today is significant from this perspective.

### **Objective of the article**

Overall, the purpose of this paper is to examine how Child Labour impacts Sustainable Development Goals from a macroeconomic perspective. This analysis relies on a secondary data source and pertinent statistical data.

### **Methodology of the article**

This research paper utilizes empirical data combined with a theoretical, diagnostic, and descriptive study design related to the subject matter at hand as secondary sources. The data used in secondary research has already been gathered for desk research. The study's effectiveness can only be maximized when the available data is collected and arranged correctly. To encourage more productive research in the future, this study offers guidelines for collecting and arranging pertinent data relevant to the article's problem. Several academics and subject-matter experts were consulted for data and figures relevant to the study's topic. There is still work to be done on this subject. Secondary sources of information and statistical data may include books, specialized media, journals, websites, public documents, research papers, and other published and unpublished resources. The use of a variety of data sources requires equal effort and discussion. In order to give implications and draw conclusions, data and information must be organized and presented in a way that is both consistent with the article's theme and easy to understand.

### **In India, child labor is part of the Concurrent List of labour subjects, which allows the government to legislate on the issue**

The importance of childhood is emphasized in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was included into the 1959 Declaration of Rights of the Child. Child care is also included under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Agreement on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. The International Labour Organization (ILO) forbade children under the age of 14 from working in industrial institutions as part of its first Child Labour Conference, demonstrating its commitment to ending child labour. The Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Minimum Age Convention, and the Minimum Age Recommendation are additional international treaties.

The Indian Constitution contains a number of clauses that aim to safeguard children and forbid child labour. It gives the state the authority to enact unique laws that uphold the right to equality, forbids the taking of life and personal freedom unless prescribed by law, and gives children between the ages of six and fourteen free and required education. It forbids child labour under the age of 14 and the trafficking, begging, and forced labour of minors. The goal of the state is to protect children's health, vitality, and growth in a free, dignified, and healthy environment. Additionally, it offers all children up to the age of six early childhood care and education. By carrying out routine inspections and putting various regulatory initiatives into place, the Indian government is aggressively addressing the growing problem of child employment. The government is concentrating on helping youngsters get back on their feet and making their families' financial situation better. The Children (Pledging of Labour) Act 1933, the Employment of Children Act, the Factories Act, the Plantations Labour Act, the Mines Act, the Motor Transport Workers Act, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) of Children Act, the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, and the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) are some of the significant national laws.

#### **Factories Act, 1948**

The Act prohibits the employment of children under the age of 14 in factories. Also, the law set restrictions on who, when, and for how long pre-adults aged 15-18 could be employed in factories.

#### **Mines Act, 1952**

Child labor in mines is prohibited under the Act. Measures pertaining to the health, safety, and welfare of employees in coal, metalliferous, and oil mines are outlined in the Mines Act of 1952. The Act outlines the owner's responsibilities for overseeing mining operations, health, and safety. The Development and Regulation Act, 1957, which will go into effect on a designated date, intends to develop and govern minerals and mines under Union administration, including those in India. A mine's owner can be a government agency, a business, an association, or a firm. All of its executives, directors, partners, or members who have been given permission by the government or local authorities to do so may be held accountable for any crimes that the mine owner deems appropriate. For the purposes of the Act, a firm, association, or company is deemed to be the owner if its managers, directors, or partners have been designated to take over management of the mine. The person named will be regarded as the mine owner

for the particular establishment or branch if the firm, association, or company has multiple establishments or branches. However, other people may be nominated for different establishments or branches.

### **The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986- ( CLPR Act )**

An Indian law known as the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 was created to forbid and regulate the hiring of minors for certain types of work. Generally, any person under the age of 14 is considered a "Child" and is prohibited from working as a domestic worker (except for helping ones own family in non-hazardous occupations). Employing a child for any work is a criminal offence. Adolescents are defined as children between the ages of 14 and 18, and the law permits them to work except in hazardous occupations and processes that are listed, such as mining, inflammable substances and explosives, and any other hazardous process.

### **Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009**

The Act, which was passed in the Republic of India's 60th year, mandates free public education for children between the ages of six and fourteen. Without increasing understanding of the significance of incentive-based education systems, the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 falls short in this regard. In India, children aged 6 to 16 are required to get free education, and economically disadvantaged people are given preference for 25% of private school seats. Rehabilitating and combating poverty are the main objectives of the 1987 National Policy on Child Labour. Eliminating child work is the goal of the Rs. 6 billion National Child work Project, yet there is still a big obstacle to overcome.

### **Need for child labour protection in India**

Children's rights are safeguarded by the Indian Constitution, yet despite social awareness and legal prohibitions, child labour persists due to a number of circumstances including low income, poverty, and illiteracy. Child labour exacerbates prejudice and social inequality, regardless of the reason. In contrast to developmental activities like helping out around the house or working over the summer, child employment restricts educational opportunities and stunts a kid's physical, mental, and social development. National economies are seriously threatened by child labour and exploitation, which has both short- and long-term effects on children such as denial of education and problems with their physical and mental health. A serious problem that violates children's and human rights is child labour. Due to their smaller stature, rapid bone growth, and physiological susceptibility, children have increased rates of injury and death. Because of their resistance and lower pay rates, they are given preference in the job market. India's burgeoning youth population underscores the significance of capable and educated youth for the nation's development. Politicians need to be aware of these possible demographic benefits. From its inception, child labour was a significant factor in the Industrial Revolution and was frequently caused by financial hardship. It was expected of impoverished youngsters to supplement their family's income.

### **Children in the Labour Force**

Globally, the Covid-19 pandemic has had a devastating effect on the healthcare, education, economic, and employment-related sectors. India alone has reported about 5,31,843 deaths. But those on the margins, especially women and children, have suffered greatly, which has made them more vulnerable to violence, abuse, and a lack of security in addition to poverty. UNICEF and ILO anticipate an increase in occurrences of child labour by 2022. The main causes of child labor are acute poverty, a lack of social security and safety, and a lack of awareness of the importance of education. According to estimates from the International Labour Organization from 2016, there were 152 million children worldwide who were working as children between the ages of 5 and 17. Of those, 114 million were working as children between the ages of 5 and 14, or 75% of all child laborers. According to data from the 2011 Indian Census, there were 1.01 crore (10.1 million) working children in the 5–14 age category. This is a significant amount. Nearly half of child laborers work in dangerous jobs. According to ILO estimates, 73 million children were working in hazardous jobs in 2016 out of all the children who were employed. The number of youngsters (ages 5 to 17) engaged in hazardous labor decreased by just 15% between 2012 and 2016 (from 85 million to 73 million), although the percentage is still relatively high.

The most alarming aspect is that, from 2012 to 2016, there was a less than 7% decrease in the number of children in the 5–14 age group engaged in hazardous labor. Around 160 million children work in jobs that rob them of their youth, interfere with their education, or negatively impact their mental, physical, or social development on a global scale. 79 million youngsters labour in hazardous conditions, around half of them. Without a doubt, the biggest factor pushing children into the workforce is poverty. Families are forced to put their kids to work in order to boost the family income when they are unable to pay for necessities like food, water, education, or medical care.

### **Child Labor Trends**

Child labour is defined as employment that is detrimental to a child's physical and mental development and robs them of their youth, potential, and dignity. It is a byproduct of poverty since kids are compelled to work in order to make ends meet, frequently just to survive. This hinders social and economic advancement and maintains household poverty. The continuance of child work is attributed to a number of factors, including inequality, a lack of educational options, a delayed demographic change, customs, and cultural expectations. The International Labour Organization (ILO) asserts that addressing the underlying reasons of child labour can be aided by steady economic growth, observance of labour laws, respect for human rights, respect for the workplace, universal education, social protection, and good work.

The information from the Census of India was looked at over the previous forty years to determine trends in child labor in India. The pattern suggests that during the previous forty years, the number of children in labor in the age group of five to fourteen has changed at an inconsistent rate. The decline in child labor from 1981 to 1991 and 2001 to 2011 was about equal in terms of numbers. But between 1991 and 2001, there was a rise in the quantity of children working. This surge may have occurred as a result of the nation's 1991 economic liberalization policy, which caused an abrupt increase in the rate of economic growth. It goes without saying that such quick expansion would have increased the demand for labor, which is most likely what led to the rise of child laborers at this time. India had 1.01 billion child laborers in 2011 compared to 1.27 billion in 2001. Numerous problems from 2022, such as the conflict in Ukraine, the cost of agricultural inputs, the energy crisis, inflation, labour unrest, and Covid-19, will continue to pose difficulties for businesses and society in 2023. These crises will primarily affect children, particularly those living in rural areas. Multi-stakeholder projects, businesses, and civil society organizations need to give these challenges more thought. The number of under aged workers rescued has almost tripled in 2023 compared with the previous year. Delhi Police data shows 311 children were rescued until June this year in contrast to the 107 rescued from different areas of the city in the same period last year.

### **The average annual rate of change in the number of children in labor**

Child work is primarily a problem in agriculture in many nations. Across the globe, 60 percent of child labourers between the ages of 5 and 17 are employed in agriculture, which includes forestry, fishing, farming, raising livestock, and aquaculture. For children between the ages of five and fourteen, the rate of child labour in urbanized areas has increased by 54%. Furthermore, a research conducted by the Campaign Against Child Labour estimates that there are roughly 12 666 377 child labourers in India overall. The number of children in child labour has increased to 160 million worldwide, an increase of 8.4 million in the last four years, with millions more children at danger because of the effects of COVID-19.

More than 129 million boys and girls make up this number. It has been estimated that the average yearly rate of change has occurred using child labor data from 1981 to 2011. At three different times, namely 1991, 2001, and 2011, the rate of change has been estimated. Every decade over the previous ten has had its average yearly rate of change in the child labor population estimated. The estimates indicate that there was negative growth, or a fall in the number of children working, between 1981 and 1991 and 2001 and 2011. Nonetheless, there was a positive increase in the number of children working between 1991 and 2001; the average annual rate of change during this time was calculated to be 1.16%. The negative average annual rate of change from 2001 to 2011 was 2.21%, the greatest throughout the whole

reference period. This suggests that the number of child laborers in India decreased at the fastest rate in the previous forty years between 2001 and 2011. According to state-level estimates, between 2001 and 2011, the number of child laborers in all major Indian states decreased, with the exception of Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand. One of the most populous states in India, Madhya Pradesh, had an average yearly rate of change that was falling (negative), at 4.11%. Telangana was found to have the greatest estimated dropping rate of change (-7.22%).

#### **Estimated Number of Children in Labour**

According to the most recent estimates, there are 160 million child labourers in the world, an increase of 8.4 million over the previous five years. The population estimates for child labor in India through 2025 are included in this section. We have examined the pace of change in the number of children employed as laborers in India over the past forty years in the preceding section. It is believed that the child labor population will continue to fall at the same rate in the future because the decline in child labor was shown to peak between 2001 and 2011. According to that supposition, the overall number of children working in India is predicted to be 81.2 lakh in 2021, the year of the next Census, and is predicted to drop even further to 74.3 lakh by 2025. According to state-level projections, by 2025, only four states would account for around three-fifths (56%) of all child laborers in the nation. Uttar Pradesh (30%), Bihar (12%), Maharashtra (8%) and Rajasthan (6%), are the states. Five percent of the nation's child laborers are anticipated to be employed in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Jharkhand in 2025. The number of children working in each state in 2011 as a whole, the rate at which that number changed between 2001 and 2011, and the anticipated numbers of children working in each state in 2021 and 2025 were used to rank the states. Table-1 provides information on the classification of states based on child labor, the number of children in labor, and the rate of change from 2001 to 2011.

**Table -1**

#### **Classification of states Considering Child Labor, shown Number of Children in Labor, and Rate of Change in Child Labor from 2001 to 2011**

S.No	States	On the basis of a rate at which child labor changed between 2001 and 2011	On the basis of the overall number of child laborers in 2011	Depends on the predicted number of children among labourers	
				2021	2025
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	13	9	7
2.	Assam	11	10	13	13
3.	Bihar	16	21	21	21
4.	Chhattisgarh	10	8	10	9
5.	Gujarat	15	16	17	18
6.	Haryana	2	5	2	2
7.	Himachal Pradesh	21	6	6	8
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	4	3	3
9.	Jharkhand	17	14	16	16
10.	Karnataka	3	15	12	11
11.	Kerala	22	2	4	4

12.	Madhya Pradesh	7	18	18	17
13.	Maharashtra	14	19	20	20
14.	NCT of Delhi	12	1	1	1
15.	Odisha	13	12	14	14
16.	Punjab	18	7	8	12
17.	Rajasthan	8	20	19	19
18.	Tamil Nadu	9	9	11	10
19.	Telangana	1	11	7	6
20.	Uttar Pradesh	19	22	22	22
21.	Uttarakhand	20	3	5	5
22.	West Bengal	5	17	15	15

**Sources:** How Far Is India from Complete Elimination of Child Labour as Per Sustainable Development Goal 8.7.,

Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation, 2020.

**Note:** 1.Ranking based on 'Rate of Change in Child Labour' has been done from highest to lowest i.e. State/UT with

highest rate of change ranked as 1.

2. Ranking based on 'Child Labour Population' has been done from lowest to highest i.e. State/UT with lowest

number of children in labour ranked as 1.

Looking at the table aforementioned, one can see that the State of Telangana witnessed the fastest reduction in the number of children working between 2001 and 2011, earning the top spot based on this state's shift in the number of child laborers. The rankings for the states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Haryana are 2, 3, and 4, respectively. Conversely, the States with the highest rates of child labor are grouped together at the bottom of the list. The rankings for the states of Uttar Pradesh (19th), Bihar (16th), Maharashtra (14th), Gujarat (15th), and Jharkhand (17th) are as follows. Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal are the only two states with high rates of child labor yet good rankings in terms of the population's drop over the time. A look over of the illustration will also reveal that, in descending order, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Jharkhand would have the highest rates of child labor in the age bracket of 5 to 14 in 2025. As was said in earlier sections, 74.3 lakh children are expected to be working as children in 2025. The seven States listed in the previous lines together will account for 60.2 lakh of this total population of child laborers. Consequently, the incidence of child labor in India will significantly decrease; if not completely disappear, if special attention is paid to these states when implementing steps for abolishing it.

### **The scope of labor demanded to fulfill Sustainable Development Goal 8.7**

Goal 8.7 of sustainable development calls for immediate and effective action to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, and human trafficking, to prohibit and eliminate child labour's worst forms, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and to end all forms of child labor by 2025. It is clear from the estimate that India will have difficulty achieving the Sustainable Development Goals 8.7. Nevertheless, there is still time and room for improvement in the fight against child labor. An attempt has been made to estimate the amount of time and energy required to accomplish the enormous objective of totally eliminating child labor in this present research. In order to eradicate child labor entirely by 2025,

there must be a 667% yearly increase in the number of youngsters leaving the workforce each year. Similarly, the number of child laborers must decrease from 1.9 lakh to 12.4 lakh year if our nation is to totally eradicate child labor. The current attempts to decrease the number of young laborers must be multiplied seven times in order to succeed. The endeavor to eradicate child labor has required exponential increases in people, finances, social and political commitments, and effort.

**Table -2**

**The estimated amount of work demanded to completely eradicate child labor in India by 2025 between 2020 and 2025**

S.No.	Measurement	Worth
1.	Number of Children estimated to be in labour by 2025	7,432,247
2.	Number of Children estimated to be reduced between 2019-2020	185,580
3.	No. of Children needed to be reduced annually to end child labour by 2025( starting from 2020)	1,238,708
4.	Annual reduction in number of child labour to be increased by (in percent)	667%
5.	Annual effort needed to be increased by ( Number of times)	7

**Sources:** How Far Is India from Complete Elimination of Child Labour as Per Sustainable Development Goal 8.7.,

Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation, 2020.

**Impact of Child Labour on Indian Economy**

Child labour is a long-standing form of exploitation that involves employing minors under the legal age, harming them physically and psychologically, and denying them access to fundamental rights like freedom and education. Children employed in dangerous export industries such as glassblowing, lock manufacturing, and brassware manufacture have a major risk of developing life-threatening illnesses by the time they reach puberty. A child's health, intellectual achievement, and school performance are all adversely affected by child labour. Even though many kids work and go to school, it may have a detrimental effect on their academic achievement. There are 250 million child labourers worldwide between the ages of 5 and 14, according to UNICEF; the ILO estimates that number at 165 million. The risk of work-related hazards is increased by long hours, poverty, starvation, exhaustion, and anemia, which can result in severe impairments and early death. Significant dietary deficits, such as those in iron, protein, and vitamin B complex, are common among child labourers. These deficiencies have a detrimental effect on the physical, mental, and intellectual development of the labourers and can result in abnormal hormone secretion and biochemical function problems.

The financial toll that child labour has on households, with an emphasis on how it raises revenue temporarily while prolonging poverty over time by lowering human capital. It looks at long-term growth, adult labour market, international economic effects, and microfamily effects. In the near term, child work boosts income and survival prospects, but it also reduces human capital, which keeps people in poverty. Education might not result in increased fertility, skill development, or human capital accumulation. Child labour reduces the accumulation of human capital, which might impede long-term growth and societal development. It happens in tiny businesses with little capital equipment and disorganized sectors. While reducing child labour may encourage capital investment and technical advancement, it may also widen the wealth gap. It might have an impact on more girls, exacerbate gender disparities in schooling, and replace adult labour. Child labour raises a household's income and chances of survival in the near term. Over time, child labour contributes to household poverty by reducing human capital.

**Conclusion**

India faces severe child labour issues, impacting children's livelihoods and development due to unemployment, poverty, lack of education, and informal sector growth. The UN and ILO urge efficient action plans, and citizens need remedial action to stop child labor since 1981. The 2011 Indian Census

revealed 1.01 crore children in labor, potentially preventing India from meeting SDG 8.7's target of abolition by 2025. By 2025, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Maharashtra will account for half of all child laborers. Implementing policy suggestions and dedication from Central and State Governments could accelerate the transition to child labor-free standards. The poorest and least educated households in underdeveloped nations, including India, face sociocultural and economic pressures, leading to child labor. Insufficient education and ignorance about child labor exacerbate this issue. Recommendations to eradicate child labor by 2025 require a mission-oriented approach from the Indian state and society. Children are crucial for humanity's future development, and child labor should be eradicated. However, low wages often lead to hiring children, highlighting the responsibility of citizens to prevent and discourage such practices.

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