A Study on Problems Faced by Female Child Labor in Unorganized Sector of Palladam Taluk in Tirupur District

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Introduction:

Child labor in India is to be found in almost every sector of the informal economy. Despite India´s fast economic growth since the 1990s, many challenges remain for youth at risk, particularly the girl child. The Indian Girl Child who faces gender discrimination on various levels. Due to her lower status in the society, a girl child laborer is even more deprived. Child labor is still a prevalent issue in India. Gender is a crucial determinant of whether a child engages in labour. While child labour is an infringement of the rights of all children boys and girls alike girls often start working at an earlier age than boys, Girls also tend to do more work in the home than boys. Hence, this study focused on what are the problems faced by female child labor and their socio- economic conditions in Palldam taluk of Tirupur District of Tamilnadu.

Child Labour

All those persons who are engaged in an economic activity between5-14 years of age, have been taken as the working children.

Situation of Girl Child Laborers

Worldwide domestic and household work is very often not seen as work as such. Also, if a girl helps her mother in the household, it is in most parts unrecognized because home-based work is seen as an unskilled nature with low status. Their lack of educational or vocational training, due to the preference given to boys, blocks their ability to move upward. Because she lacks education, she has less possibility on the labor market and is only relegated to low-paid and unskilled jobs. This vicious cycle is hard to break because the exploited young girl becomes the exploited adult woman who often does not see her work as an economic activity but as under-valued.

The fact sheet of the *Andhra Pradesh Child Rights Advocacy Foundation* (A.P. CRAF) on girl child labour recorded that 246 million children are engaged in child labor worldwide. To say it in other words, one in every six children around the world is doing some kind of work. This number can be broken down into two categories. The first one includes children between the ages of five and fourteen years. 186 million of them are working, often exposed to the worst forms of child labour. 49% of them are girls. Children between the ages of 14 and 18 form the second category and make up 59.2 million child laborers. Out of them, 42% are girls.

Significant characteristics of the girl child laborer:

- Invisible work which is not recognized as an economic activity and which is not under the purview of law
- No identifiable employer
- Home-based work
- Long working hours
- Poor conditions that prevent them from attending school
- No skill formation
- Low pay and low status
- Physical abuse and Sexual Harassment

Working Areas of Girl Child Laborers in India

Over 80% of child laborers are found in the rural sector, whereas only less than 20% are found in the urban sector. The degree of urbanization in India is 27,57%. The rural girl child laborer is generally engaged in agriculture and in household activities as compared to a female urban child laborer, who also works in the informal and unorganised sector, which includes small scale cottage industries and factories. The girl child laborer is

also found in the domestic work and prostitution, in urban and rural areas. Generally girl child laborers work in:

- Dangerous industries, such as glass making, mining, beedi making and carpet weaving,
- Domestic service, which may subject them to physical and sexual abuse, isolation and extremely long working hours,
- The agricultural area, doing heavy work and being exposed to the hazardous conditions of modern machinery and chemicals,
- The streets, working as rack pickers, vendors and as sex workers,
- The export industry of carpets, textiles, clothing and footwear,
- Home, which is generally seen as hidden child labour, not obvious to society, and includes taking care of the younger siblings, doing the household and preparing the food

Tirupur District

Tirupur also known as Kint city of India, Dollar City of India and Textile City of India. Tirupur District one of the Indian state Tamilnadu, formed in February 2009. The district is well developed and industrialized.

Palladam Taluk and Textile Industry

Palladam is a town of tirupur in the state of Tamil Nadu.It is a First grade Municipality in the Tirupur district. It is one of the fastest growing suburb of Coimbatore. Palladam is one among the seven taluks namely Udumalaipattai, Kangeyam, Dharapuram, Palladam, Madathukulam, Tirupur, Avinashi Taluk of Tirupur District. Palladam is a major panchayat with large source of income collected from the business community.

In and around Palladam there are many weaving and knitting centers mostly meant for export to foreign countries, thus earning a considerable foreign exchange. Most of the major textile houses are set up as vertically integrated units enabling them to produce clothing at a better quality and

competitive price. This sector along with the poultry sector provides direct and indirect employment to numerous people in the region. The region also attracts laborers from other part of the nation.

Statement of the Problem

Taking birth as a Girls in the Indian society can be said as curse for the women. Girls in India face lots of social issues and problems all through the life which are big struggle for them right from their beginning of life. Female infanticide is the most common practice of killing girl child in mother's womb in the Indian society. Another common problem for women is sex discrimination which they face from their birth and

continues till their death. Illiteracy, lack of proper education, responsible for household works, rape, sexual harassment at workplace, etc.

Hence, This study focus on Problems faced by female child labor.

Research Methodology

The present study taken up in Palladam city of Tirupur district. The study mainly based on primary survey. 20 female child labor were interviewed through structured interview schedule. Percentage analysis used for getting the result.

Objectives of the study

1. To study Socio-Economic conditions of the Female Child Labor in the Study Area.
2. To find main cause for female child became a labor.
3. To find Problem Faced by female Child Labor.

Problems Faced by Female Child labor in Palladam Taluk

The empirical evidence attained from the statistical analyze are presented and discussed on socio economic conditions of female child labor and what are the problems faced by female child labor in Palladam taluk of Tirupur District.

The study was conducted using well structured interview schedule.

Table No: 1 Age wise distribution of Sample Respondents

To understand the age of the sample respondents, data were collected and presented in the following table. The age of the sample respondents were classified under different categories as 6 – 10 Years and 11- 14 years.

S. No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)
1	6-10 Years	1	5%
2	11-14 Years	19	95%
3	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

From the above table is inferred that majority of the respondents that is 95 percent belonging to the age group of 11 to 14 years and 5 percent of the respondents belonging to 6 – 10 years.

Table No:2 Religion Details of the Sample Respondents

Background information of the sample in terms of the distribution of sample by religion is presented in the following table.

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)
1	Hindu	13	65%
2	Christian	6	30%

3	Muslim	1	5%
4	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

From the above table it is inferred that majority of the respondents that is 65 percent belonging to the Hindu Religion and Remaining 30 percent is belonging to Christian and 5 percent of the sample respondents belonging to Muslim Religion.

Table: 3 Social Background of the Sample Respondents

Social Background of the sample Respondents presented in following table.

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)
1	SC/ST	10	50%
2	MBC	4	20%
3	BC	3	15%
4	Others	3	15%
5	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

The above table shows majority of the sample respondents that is 50 percent belonging to SC/ST. Remaining 20 percent belonging to MBC, 15 percent Belonging to BC and 15 percent belonging to other categories.

Table No:4 Type of Working Company

Following table shows Female Child Labor working in the type of company.

S. No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)
1	Banian Company	13	65%
2	Power Loom	4	20%
3	Thread Company	2	10%
4	Others	1	5%
5	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

From the above table is inferred that majority of the sample respondents were engaged in Banian Company work that is 65 percent. Remaining 20 percent were engaged in Power loom, 10 percent engaged in Thread Company and 5 percent were other works.

Table No:5 Type of Work

Following table Mentioned Type of work

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)
1	Assistant	6	30%
2	Checking	9	45%
3	Packing	4	20%
4	Others	1	5%

5	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

From the above table shown majority of the female child workers that are 45 percent engaged in checking work in textile industries. Remaining 30 percent were engaged in Assistants, 20 percent were Packing and 5 percent of the sample respondents were other work.

Table No:6 Nature of Family

The following table shows the details about nature of the family

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)
1	Joint Family	2	10%
2	Nuclear	18	90%
3	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

From the above table shown majority of the sample respondents belonging to Nuclear family that is 90 percent. Remaining 10 percent of the sample respondents belonging to joint family.

Table No:7 Details of Weakly Income

The Weakly Income of the sample respondents is analyzed under 2 Categories 501-700 and 701- 1000.

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)

1	501-700	13	65%
2	701-1000	7	35%
3	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

The above table shows the weakly income of the sample respondents. Majority of the sample respondents earn up to 700 Rs per week that is 65 percent. Remaining 35 percent of the sample respondents earn up to 1000 Rs per week.

Table No: 8 Main Cause for Female Child Became a Labor

The main cause for Female child became a labor shown in following table.

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)
1	No Father	2	10%
2	No Mother	4	20%
3	Economically Poor	13	65%
4	Other	1	5%
5	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

From the above table inferred that Majority of the female child became a labor is the are economically poor that is 65 per cent. Remaining 20 percent of the female child did not have mother as well as 10 percent of the female child not having father. Because father or mother were died. Remaining 5 percent of the sample respondent has other reason.

Table No:9 Details of Respondents Father Drinking Habit

Following table shows Details of Respondents Father having Drinking habit

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)
1	Father Having Drinking Habit	18	90%
2	Father Not Having Drinking Habit	2	10%
3	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

Above table inferred that 90 percent of the respondents Fathers having drinking habit. Remaining 10 percent of the respondents not having drinking habit. This is clearly shows that one of the another main cause for female child become a labor is father having drinking habit.

Table No: 10 Main Problems Faced at Work Place

Following table shown Main Problem Faced by female child worker in the work place.

S.No	Particulars	No. of Respondents	Percent(%)
1	No Rest	6	30%

	Time		
2	Night Shift	13	65%
3	Others	1	5%
4	Total	20	100%

Source: Primary Survey

From the above table observed that 65 percent of the sample respondents faced main problem in work place is Night shift. 30 percent of the respondents not having rest time in work place. Remaining 5 per cent of the sample respondents have other type of problems.

Major Findings of the Study

1. Majority of the Female Child workers that is 95 percent belonging to the age group of 11 to 14 years.
2. 65 percent of the Female child workers belonging to Hindu Religion.
3. 50 percent of the Female Child workers belonging to SC/ST.
4. 65 percent of the female child workers engaged in unorganized banian companies. In that Banian companies they are engaged in checking work that is 45 per cent.
5. 65 percent of the female child worker earning up to 700 Rs per week.
6. 65 percent of the female child became a labor is economically poor.
7. 65 percent of the female child main problem in working place is night shift and continues work.

Conclusion

Palladam is a town of tirupur in the state of Tamil Nadu., It is a First grade Municipality in the Tirupur district. It is one of the fastest growing suburb of Coimbatore. Majority of the female child became a labor because economically poor. The study mainly found the socio economic conditions and problems faced by female child labor in palladam taluk.

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