

**A Survey on the Determinants and Consequences of Child Labour  
in Diengkynthong, Laitryngew Village,  
East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya**



**Survey**

**Submitted to the School of Social Work**

**In partial fulfilment of requirement for the degree of Bachelor of Social Work**

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### **Certification**

This is to certify that the thesis “A survey on the Determinants and Consequences of Child Labour in Laitryngew Village, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya” submitted by Paleishisha Nongkhlaw, Proficiency Suliang and Sophia Dahunshisha Suting to the School of Social Work, Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong. This survey was carried out during the academic year 2020-2023 under the guidance of our supervisor.

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Our sincere gratitude to all the people of Laitryngew Village who are willing to spare their time and cooperate with us through their busy schedule.

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## 1. Introduction

Child Labour refers to the employment of children in any work that dispossess them of their childhood, interfere with their ability to attend regular school and that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful (Srivastava, 2011). Child Labour is an issue of substance that forces the children to take up menial jobs and give up their studies at an early stage of life. The parents of the poor children find it hard to continue their education and send their children to earn something and assist the family by all means. The parents of the child labourers face a great difficulty to bring up their children and as a result, send their children to earn their livelihood. These children are really unfortunate as they are forced to take up jobs for food. However, the poor parents will not favour to send their children to schools in fear of loss of income. This exploitation goes on because poverty is the root behind all these (Naeem, et al., 2011).

### Definitions:

According to **United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)** defines "child labour as a child involved in child labor activities if between 5-11 years of Age, he/she did at least one hour of economic activity a day or at least 28 hrs of domestic work in a week & in case of children between 12-14 yrs. of age, he/she did at least 14 hrs of economic activity or at least 42 hrs of economic activity & domestic work per Week".

According to **India's census 2001 office** it defines "child labour as participation of a child less than 17 years of age in any economically productive activity with or without compensation, wages or profit".

The **International Labour Organisation (ILO)** defines child labour as "all economic activities carried out by persons less than 15, regardless of their occupational status, except household work in parents/carers homes".

### Status:

**Meghalaya:** According to the 2011 census, the number of "working children" in the age group of 5 to 14 years in India is 43.53 lakh. This was a 65 per cent decline from the 2001 census where the number of such children was 1.26 crore. For Meghalaya, the 2011 census reported that there were 18,839 working children. The corresponding figure according to the 2001 census was 53,940.

**India:** As per Census 2011, the total child population in India in the age group (5-14) years is 259.6 million. Of these, 10.1 million (3.9% of total child population) are working, either as 'main worker' or as 'marginal worker'. In addition, more than 42.7 million children in India are out of school. However, the good news is that the incidence of child labour has decreased in India by 2.6 million between 2001 and 2011. However, the decline was more visible in rural areas, while the number of child workers has increased in urban areas, indicating the growing demand for child workers in menial jobs. Child labour has different ramifications in both rural and urban India.



## 2. Background of the study

The current study focuses on the determinants and consequences of child labour in Diengkynthong, Laitryngew village, East Khasi Hills District. Laitryngew village is located 44.5 km from Shillong. The majority of residents of Laitryngew village are daily wage labourers' farmers, business and very few are government servant. Child labour in Diengkynthong, Laitryngew village occur due to several reasons such as financial problem, lack of interest in education and the main reasons is poverty.

During the survey the researchers face some difficulties and challenges. Firstly, the researchers cannot meet the respondents easily, because the respondents were very busy with their own work and it took times and days to meet with the respondents. The researchers seek helped form the ASHAs and Anganwadi of Diengkynthong, Laitryngew village to indicate the place where the respondents stay. Through the helps of ASHAs and Anganwadi of Diengkynthong, Laitryngew village the researchers were able to meet with the respondents and that also only on Sunday when the respondents are free, the researchers have to go and meet the respondent for several times since they don't have time to spend with the researchers. Even though the researchers face many difficulties and challenges somehow manage to complete the survey.

### 3. Research questions:

- What are the determinants and of child labour in Laitryngew village?
- What are the consequences of Child Labour in Laitryngew village?

### 4. Objectives:

- To explore the determinants of child labour in Laitryngew village
- To determine the consequences of child labour in Laitryngew village

### 5. Methodology:

- **Research design:** The researcher used case study, to explore in depth about the determinants and consequences of child labour in Diengkynthong, Laitryngew village
- **Sample unit:** The sample of the study comprised of child labourer within the age range of 11-12 years old
- **Sample size:** The sample size of the study consisted of only 5 respondents
- **Sampling method:** The researcher used qualitative method
- **Method of data collection:** The researcher used descriptive questions with in-depth answers. The main method for data collection is face-to-face interview by using open-ended questions. The researcher also used observation while interacting with the respondents. The researcher also used recording, by which the researcher used audio recording and then the data was transcribed. After transcribing the data, codes were established as per objectives. After coding, the



researcher looked over the codes that has been created the researcher identify patterns among them and start coming up with themes following with reviewing the themes to make sure that the themes are useful and precise representation of the data. After reviewing the themes, when the researcher has a final catalogue of the themes the researcher's name and define each theme. When all was done, finally the researcher writes up the thematic analysis of the data.

## 6. Demographic profile:

- **Respondent no 1:** The respondent was born in 1 January 2006, and his present age is 17year old. For now, he's staying along with his family member's. and also, he has three sibling, one sister and two brother. So, his religious is Niam Khasi. For now, he is living with his family and they stay in a rent house and also, they have to pay for the house-owner 500Rs per month. The average income of the family it depends on their work approximately 4000per month they get. He said that before he attended school, but when he reaches class 5, he dropout due to the financial problem and also, he had to work for the family because his Father did not work due to his sickness. He's started working in the year 2020 when he is just only 11-year-old, and the owner pay for him only 50Rs. He starts working because in his family no one working, he is the only one who work for his family and fulfil all the need of the family.
- **Respondent no 2:** The respondent was born in 2007, and his present age is 16. He stays along with his parents and siblings. He has five siblings three sisters and two brother and he's the first child in the family. His religious is Niam Khasi and he belong to a nuclear family. Before he attended school but when he was 8 years old, he dropout from school because his parents cannot afford to send him to school and he start working to help the family or to fulfil the needs of the family and also to give better education to his siblings and also, he also wants to help his father for buying medicine because his father has health problem. He works any kind of jobs, sometimes he works in building houses and carrying loads in truck.
- **Respondent no 3:** The respondent was born in 2009, and his present age is 16. He stays along with his father and his siblings; he has four siblings two brothers and two sisters. Two sisters have been married but they stay along in one family. His religious is Niam Khasi, he also attended school but when he was at the age of 14, he starts working because he wants to help his family since his mother did not stay along in the family. He works any kind of jobs he got just to help his father to fulfil the needs of the family and for him selves
- **Respondent no 4:** The respondent was born in 13 December 2007, and his present age is 16-year-old. He stays along with his parents and he has six sibling three sisters and three brothers. His religious is Christian. They stay in a rent house and they have to pay for the house-owner 500Rs per month. The average income of the family it depends on their work approximately is 3500 Rs per



month they get. He said that before he going to school, but when he reached class 4, he dropout from school and he decided to work and help his parents to fulfil the needs of the family, helping his parents to send his siblings to school and to pay a rent house. He works in home, shop, and he work any kind of jobs he got. So, that he can make increase the income of his poor family. He had to work for the family because his father did not work due to his sickness problem.

- **Respondent no 5:** The respondent was born in 14 January 2009; his present age is 14-year-old. He stays along with his mother and siblings and they stay in a Kaccha house in their own house. He has four sibling two sisters and two brothers. His religion is Christian. He starts working when he is just 9-year-old when his father left the family. He works any kind of jobs sometimes he works in mine factory, labor homes, shops, and any kind of jobs he got so that he will be able to fulfil the needs of the family or the need of his sibling.

7. **Findings:** The findings of the study are presented under the following themes and subthemes:

- a. **Determinants:** determinants are a factor which clearly affect the nature of outcome of something. The determinants of child labor include poverty, family problem, disease/sickness, and substance abuse.

I. **Poverty:** *The reasons of poverty as expressed by the respondents are presented below:*

**Respondent no 1:** the main reason for child labor is a) lack of good jobs, his parents don't have a good job and not getting a good income. b) lack of food and water, his parents do everything to get food and water in the family, but they cannot save any money because it all goes towards their daily needs and when there is not enough sustenance, they will not have the energy to work and they are also way more likely to get sick which make their financial situation even more. c) due to high cost, nowadays everything is expensive even the books and basic facilities can be too expensive and food prices are also very unpredictable. Lastly, d) lack of good healthcare, healthcare is often too expensive, without money they cannot take medicine and give better treatment for his father and they just went to PHC for the treatment, his father who sick get sicker and cannot work which make the situation even more dire and if they seek treatment the cost often ruins the finances.

Due to this reason mentioned above, his parents cannot afford the studies of their Children and this make him started earn their wages from the very young of age. His parents send his youngest brother to school and he have to pay the school fees, uniform and books. he has to work in mine factory, home, shops and any kind of works so that he can make increase the income of the poor family. These decisions are taken only for the purpose of making out a living for their family.

**Respondent no 2:** the main reason for child labor a) lack of good jobs, parents don't have a good job and not getting a good income b) lack of good healthcare, healthcare is often too expensive, without money they cannot take medicine and give better treatment for his father and they just went to PHC for his treatment, his father who sick get sicker and cannot work which make the situation even more dire and if they seek treatment the cost often ruins the finances. c) due to high cost, nowadays





factory, labour, homes, shops, and any kind of jobs he got so that he will be able to fulfil the needs of the family or the needs of his siblings.

*II. Family problems: the reasons of family problems as expressed by the respondents are presented below:*

**Respondent no 1:** some of the reason that cause family problem are a) Illness of a family member, his father has a heart problem and cannot go for work to help his family, so he has to go for work to support his parents and his siblings. As his mother has to do all the household work and has to look at his youngest brothers, so he has to provide support to his father and has to take responsibility to ensure that his father is adhering to the treatment process and not skipping medication. b) financial problem, his family has financial challenges that make it difficult for the whole family to get the things they need such as buying groceries and for saving. Not having a proper or good jobs is one of the leading causes of financial problem in the families and this can cause a lot of anxiety and issues with relationship and due to lack of money sometimes he feels no matter how many jobs he is working he just don't have enough money. c) alcohol, his father uses to drink alcohol and sometimes it causes fight and once his father drinks, he loses his temper and sometimes he beat his son because he is drunk. d) lack of support, as we all know that family is the only one who can really understand and bring back to that place of peace. Family is important because they can offer support and unconditional love. But he is alone and no one support him and have to stand on his own feet to earn money for his own and family living.

**Respondent no 2:** the main reason of family problems is illness of a family member, his father suffers from Tuberculosis TB and he cannot go for work every time, so the child has to go for work to support his parents and his siblings. As his mother has to do all the household work and has to look at his youngest siblings, so he has to provide support to his father and has to take responsibility to ensure that his father is adhering to the treatment process and not skipping medication. Lack of money his family do not have enough money to fulfil the needs of the family, because they don't have proper jobs to work but somehow, they just manage the money that they got for their living. His family has financial challenges that make it difficult for the whole family to get the things they need such as buying groceries and for saving.

**Respondent no 3:** some of the reason that cause family problem is due to lack of financial, his family face financial problem because they don't have good jobs or a daily job to work and not getting enough money to fulfil the needs of the family. They face financial challenge that make it difficult for the whole family to get the things they need such as paying for rent house, buying groceries and for saving.

**Respondent no 4:** some of the reason that cause family problem is due to lack of financial, his family face financial problem because they don't have good jobs or a daily job to work and not getting enough money to fulfil the needs of the family. They face financial challenge that make it difficult for the whole family to get the things they need such as paying for rent house, buying groceries and for saving.

**Respondent no 5:** firstly, financial problem; his family has financial challenges that make it difficult for the whole family to get the things they need such as buying



groceries and for saving. Not having a proper or good jobs is one of the leading causes of financial problem in the families and this can cause a lot of anxiety and issues with relationship and due to lack of money sometimes he feels no matter how many jobs he is working he just don't have enough money. Secondly, illness of his younger sister, he has to work and earn money to help his mother to be able to buy medicine to his younger sister. And lastly, lack of supportive father, his father never supports him he always shouts at him, and most of the time he quarrels with his mother, and when his mother is about to have her baby, his father left the family.

**III. *Diseases/sickness: the reasons of diseases/sickness as expressed by the respondents are presented below:***

**Respondent no 1:** some of the diseases that usually occur in his family is cold and flu, flu symptoms come on suddenly and affect their body all over and having fever, headache, more instant pain and fatigue and more severe, often dry cough and cold mostly affect above the neck and also having a runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat and cough. They also suffer from Diarrhoea, having watery loose stools and cramping or pain in the abdomen. For treatment they mostly refer to self-medication and only if the sickness is serious, they went to Primary Health Centres (PHC), but they only get sick when the seasons is changing. And his father having a heart disease, and have such symptoms as chest pain, nausea, stomach pain, arm, jaw back or leg pain and fatigue and treatment still going on and they give treatment in Primary Health Centre (PHC). Having these kinds of diseases, it affects the family as they cannot go for work and it will be difficult to earn money for their living.

**Respondent no 2:** some of the diseases that usually occur in his family is cold and flu, flu symptoms come on suddenly and affect their body all over and having fever, headache, more instant pain and fatigue and more severe, often dry cough and cold mostly affect above the neck and also having a runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat and cough. They also suffer from Diarrhoea, having watery loose stools and cramping or pain in the abdomen. For treatment they mostly refer to self-medication and only if the sickness is serious, they went to Primary Health Centres (PHC) but they only get sick when the seasons is changing and by having these kinds of diseases, it affects the family as they cannot go for work and it will be difficult to earn money for their living. And his father suffers from Tuberculosis (TB) and having symptoms such as bad cough that last 3 weeks or longer, pain in the chest, weakness or fatigue, weight loss and fever and they still undergo treatment in Primary Health Centres (PHC).

**Respondent no 3:** some of the diseases that usually occur in his family is cold and flu, flu symptoms come on suddenly and affect their body all over and having fever, headache, more instant pain and fatigue and more severe, often dry cough and cold mostly affect above the neck and also having a runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat and cough. They also suffer from Diarrhoea, having watery loose stools and cramping or pain in the abdomen. For treatment they mostly refer to self-medication and only if the sickness is serious, they went to Primary Health Centres (PHC) but they only get sick when the seasons is changing

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**IV. *Substance abuse: the reasons of substance abuse as expressed by the respondents are presented below:***

**Respondent no 1:** the common form of substance abuse is tobacco smoking, before he used to smoke with his friends in the workplace. It has been three years that he smokes. He started smoking because he saw that his friends were smoking so he also wants to smoke with them. When he smokes for the first time, he feels that it is bad for him but he did not stop using it he still continue to smoke and then he starts feeling better, relax and nice when he smokes and he used to smoke one packet for two days. After few months he have headache, dizziness, nausea, coughing and wheezing and then he feels that it is not good for his health. So, he tries to reduce and smoke only one cigarette in one a day.

**Respondent no 2:** the common form of substance abuse is tobacco smoking, he used to smoke with his friends in the workplace. It has been one years that he smokes. He started smoking because he saw that his friends were smoking so he also wants to smoke with them. When he smokes, he feels relax and he also has tried to stop smoking because he feels that it is not good for his health.

**Respondent no 3:** the common form of substance abuse is tobacco smoking, he used to smoke with his friends in the workplace. It has been one week that he smokes. He started smoking because he saw that his friends were smoking so he also wants to smoke with them. When he smokes, he feels relax and he also has tried to stop smoking because he feels that it is not good for his health.

**Respondent no 4:** he is non-smoker or a person who don't smoke. He never smokes even his friends forced him to smoke he will not smoke because he understands his own health and think of himself. He knows that if he smokes, he will have a health problem it will affect his life and he don't want that to happen and he also understand that by not smoking it will improve his health status and enhances quality of life, it



reduces the risk of premature death and also it saves his money and can help his family by saving a small amount of money.

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**b. Consequences:** an outcome or result of something that has happened, mainly an unpleasant result. The consequences of child labor are health, education and relationship.

**I. *Health: the causes of health as conveyed by the respondents are presented below:***

**Respondent no 1:** child labor is an evil that implies physical growth and overall development and well-being of children. Involving in dangerous or hazardous occupation at a tender age, at a very young age are at a great risk of loss of life and limb. Some of the work that he is working that affect his health are: A) brick kilns, he has to do works like clay-mixing, brick-making, loading and unloading, and he tend to suffer from watery eyes, itching in eyes because of smoke and flying ashes. Other health problem reported are stomach ache, being cut with bricks while loading/uploading them, and cutting foot by sharp objects. B) construction of houses, he has to do work like digging earth, preparing mud and mortar, carrying head loads of mud, watering bricks and newly plastered walls and he tend to have a back pain, being cut with bricks while loading/uploading them, and cutting foot by sharp objects, having stomach pain when he carried heavy load and tiredness. C) coal mining, he works in coal mining factory he has to load and unload the mine in the trucks and cart pulling, and he tend to have a back pain, being cut with sharp materials while loading/uploading them, and cutting foot by sharp objects, having stomach pain when he carried heavy loads and tiredness. By working in coal mining children are most likely to suffer from malaria, diarrhoea, tuberculosis, chronic cough and skin disease. He also undergoes fatigue, stress and ergonomic strain or the pain felt in muscles, nerves and tendons due to repetitive movements and overuse injury.

**Respondent no 2:** child labor is an evil that implies physical growth and overall development and well-being of children. Involving in dangerous or hazardous occupation at a tender age, at a very young age are at a great risk of loss of life and limb. Some of the work that he is working that affect his health are: A) brick kilns, he has to do works like clay-mixing, brick-making, loading and unloading, and he tend to suffer from watery eyes, itching in eyes because of smoke and flying ashes. Other health problem reported are stomach ache, being cut with bricks while loading/uploading them, and cutting foot by sharp objects. B) construction of houses, he has to do work like digging earth, preparing mud and mortar, carrying head loads of mud, watering bricks and newly plastered walls and he tend to have a back pain, being cut with bricks while loading/uploading them, and cutting foot by sharp objects, having stomach pain when he carried heavy load and tiredness. C) coal mining, he works in coal mining factory he has to load and unload the mine in the



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**Respondent no 4:** child labor is an evil that implies physical growth and overall development and well-being of children. Involving in dangerous or hazardous occupation at a tender age, at a very young age are at a great risk of loss of life and limb. Some of the work that he is working that affect his health are: A) brick kilns, he has to do works like clay-mixing, brick-making, loading and unloading, and he tend to suffer from watery eyes, itching in eyes because of smoke and flying ashes. Other health problem reported are stomach ache, being cut with bricks while loading/uploading them, and cutting foot by sharp objects. B) construction of houses, he has to do work like digging earth, preparing mud and mortar, carrying head loads of mud, watering bricks and newly plastered walls and he tend to have a back pain, being cut with bricks while loading/uploading them, and cutting foot by sharp objects, having stomach pain when he carried heavy load and tiredness. C) coal mining, he works in coal mining factory he has to load and unload the mine in the trucks and cart pulling, and he tend to have a back pain, being cut with sharp materials while loading/uploading them, and cutting foot by sharp objects, having stomach pain when he carried heavy loads and tiredness. By working in coal mining children are most likely to suffer from malaria, diarrhoea, tuberculosis, chronic cough and skin disease. He also undergoes fatigue, stress and ergonomic strain or the pain felt in muscles, nerves and tendons due to repetitive movements and overuse injury.

**Respondent no 5:** child labor is an evil that implies physical growth and overall development and well-being of children. Involving in dangerous or hazardous occupation at a tender age, at a very young age are at a great risk of loss of life and limb. Some of the work that he is working that affect his health are: A) brick kilns, he



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## **II.** *Education: the causes of education as conveyed by the respondents are presented below:*

**Respondent no 1:** education is the key element in the prevention of child labor, and at the same time child labor is one of the main obstacles to education for all. Child labor deprives him of the right to go to school, although he has such a big dream, he wants to become a pilot, he also has his favourite subjects but due to poverty he has to stopped schooling and end up as a child labor. He went to school only for few years and he dropout when he studied in class 5, because his parents cannot afford to send him to school and so he starts working and earn money to help his parents fulfil the needs of the family and also help his parents to send his little brother to school.

**Respondent no 2:** education is the key element in the prevention of child labor, and at the same time child labor is one of the main obstacles to education for all. Child labor deprives him of the right to go to school, although he has such a big dream, he wants to become an army, he also has his favourite subjects but due to poverty he has to stopped schooling and end up as a child labor. He went to school only for few years and he dropout when he studied in class 4, because his parents cannot afford to send him to school and so he starts working and earn money to help his parents fulfil the needs of the family and also help his parents to send his siblings to school.

**Respondent no 3:** education is the key element in the prevention of child labor, and at the same time child labor is one of the main obstacles to education for all. Child labor deprives him of the right to go to school, although he has such a big dream, he wants to become police, he also has his favourite subjects but due to poverty he has to stopped schooling and end up as a child labor. He went to school only for few years and he dropout when he studied in class 5, because his father cannot afford to send him to school and so he starts working and earn money to help his father and his siblings to fulfil the needs of the family.

**Respondent no 4:** education is the key element in the prevention of child labor, and at the same time child labor is one of the main obstacles to education for all. Child labor deprives him of the right to go to school, although he has such a big dream, he wants to become an engineer, he also has his favourite subjects but due to poverty he



has to stopped schooling and end up as a child labor. He went to school only for few years and he dropout when he studied in class 4, because his parents cannot afford to send him to school and so he starts working and earn money to help his parents fulfil the needs of the family and also help his parents to send his little brother and sister to school.

**Respondent no 5:** education is the key element in the prevention of child labor, and at the same time child labor is one of the main obstacles to education for all. Child labor deprives him of the right to go to school, although he has such a big dream, he also has his favourite subjects but due to poverty he has to stopped schooling and end up as a child labor. He went to school only for few years and he dropout when he studied in class 4, because his mother cannot afford to send him to school and so he starts working and earn money to help his mother fulfil the needs of the family and also help his mother to send his little brother to school.

### **III. *Relationship: the reason of relationship as conveyed by the respondents are presented below:***

**Respondent no 1:** child labour deprives children of their childhood, he doesn't have a lot of friends he has only few friends, and spent time with his friends when he finished his own work but most of the time, he doesn't have time to his friends because he's busy, and sometimes he just wants to be alone. He has only one close friend whom he shared his problems and his life. He also doesn't have time to spent with his relatives and neighbours because he doesn't have time as he has to work from morning till evening time.

**Respondent no 2:** child labour deprives children of their childhood, he doesn't have a lot of friends he has only few friends, and spent time with his friends when he finished his own work but most of the time, he doesn't have time to spent with his friends because he's busy, he has only one close friend whom he shared his problems and his life. He also doesn't have time to spent with his relatives and neighbours because he doesn't have time as he has to work from morning till evening time.

**Respondent no 3:** child labour deprives children of their childhood, he doesn't have a lot of friends he has only few friends, and spent time with his friends when he finished his own work but most of the time, he doesn't have time to spent with his friends because he's busy, he has one or two close friend whom he shared his problems and his life. He also doesn't have time to spent with his relatives and neighbours because he doesn't have time as he has to work from morning till evening time.

**Respondent no 4:** child labour deprives children of their childhood, he doesn't have a lot of friends he has only few friends, and spent time with his friends when he finished his own work but most of the time, he doesn't have time to spent with his friends because he's busy, he has only one close friend whom he shared his problems and his life. He also doesn't have time to spent with his relatives and neighbours because he doesn't have time as he has to work from morning till evening time.



**Respondent no 5:** child labour deprives children of their childhood, he doesn't have a lot of friends he has only few friends, and spent time with his friends when he finished his own work but most of the time, he doesn't have time to spent with his friends because he's busy. He doesn't have a close friend; his mother is his close friend whom he shared his problems and his life. He also doesn't have time to spent with his relatives and neighbours because he doesn't have time as he has to work from morning till evening time.

## 8. Conclusion and Recommendation

In conclusion, child labor remains a significant problem in Meghalaya, with many children engaged in various forms of work, including hazardous and exploitative labor. The determinants of child labor in the state include poverty, family problem, disease, and substance abuse. The consequences of child labor are severe, including physical and psychological harm, limited educational opportunities, and perpetuation of poverty.

To address this issue, it is essential to implement effective policies and programs that address the root causes of child labor, increase access to education, strengthen laws and policies related to child labor, raise awareness, provide support to families, and work with employers.

Preventing and reducing child labor in Meghalaya requires a collaborative effort between the government, civil society organizations, and the private sector. Only by taking action to protect children from exploitation and promoting their education and development can we create a more just and equitable society for all children in Meghalaya.

Child labor is a significant problem in Meghalaya, with a large number of children engaged in various forms of work, including hazardous and exploitative labor. Here are some recommendations to reduce child labor in Meghalaya:

- i. Increase access to education: The government should focus on increasing access to education, especially for marginalized communities, by building more schools, providing scholarships and incentives for children to attend school, and improving the quality of education.
- ii. Strengthen laws and policies: The government should strengthen laws and policies related to child labor, including ensuring that the minimum age for employment is strictly enforced and that children are protected from hazardous and exploitative work.
- iii. Raise awareness: The government and civil society organizations should conduct awareness-raising campaigns to educate families, employers, and communities about the harmful effects of child labor and the importance of education.
- iv. Provide support to families: The government should provide support to families, such as cash transfers, to alleviate poverty and reduce the need for children to work.
- v. Address root causes: The government should address the root causes of child labor, such as poverty, lack of access to education, and discrimination, through policies that promote economic growth, social protection, and equality.





- vi. Strengthen monitoring and enforcement: The government should strengthen monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to ensure that laws and policies related to child labor are implemented effectively.
- vii. Work with employers: The government should work with employers to create more child-friendly workplaces and to provide opportunities for parents to work while their children attend school.

These recommendations, if implemented effectively, can help reduce child labor in Meghalaya and create a more just and equitable society for children.

## 9. References:




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Survey Submitted to the School of Social Work In partial fulfilment of requirement for the degree of Bachelor of Social Work By Paleishisha Nongkhlaw Regnno: E061200065 Proficiency Suliang Regn no: E061200069 Sophia Dahunshisha Suting Regn no: E061200035 Martin Luther Christian University Shillong- 7930006 2022-2023  
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1. Introduction Child Labour refer to the employment of children in any work that dispossess them of their childhood, interfere with their ability to attend regular school and



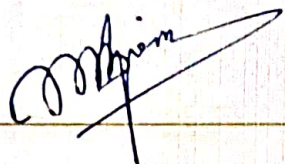


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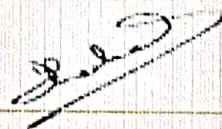
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