

## Essay on Child Labour

Child labour remains a serious issue in India, affecting millions of children and depriving them of their basic rights. According to the 2011 Census, over 10.1 million children aged 5-14 were engaged in labour. The main causes of child labour include poverty, lack of education, and unemployment among adults. Children are often forced to work in hazardous conditions in industries like brick kilns, textile factories, agriculture, and domestic work.

Despite strict laws like the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, and the Right to Education Act, 2009, child labour persists due to weak enforcement and social inequalities. The National Child Labour Project (NCLP) and schemes like Mid-Day Meal and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan aim to rescue and educate child labourers.

According to a UNICEF report, India has made progress in reducing child labour, but millions of children are still at risk. Economic upliftment, strict law enforcement, and public awareness are crucial to eliminating child labour. Society must play an active role in reporting cases and promoting education. Only through collective efforts can India ensure a brighter future for its children, free from exploitation and hardship.