

*Full Length Research*

# An Investigation Into The Attitude of Post-Graduate Students Towards Child Labour In Purulia District of West Bengal

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Child labour refers to the employment of children in any work that deprives children of their childhood, interferes with their ability to attend regular school, and that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful. In the present study an attempt to know the attitude of Post-Graduate Students towards Child Labour in Purulia District of West Bengal. 150 P.G. Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal were taken as representative sample for the whole population. Stratified random sampling technique was followed for selecting the Departments. An attitude scale towards Child Labour was used for collecting the data. The means of both groups were tested for significance of difference by using CR test. Results indicated that the attitude of P.G. Male and Female, General and SC/ST students were statistically not significant. The attitude of P.G. Rural and Urban, Arts and Science students were statistically significant and the attitude of Post-Graduate Students towards Child Labour was satisfactory or average.

**Keywords:** Attitude, Child, Child Labour, Post-Graduate Student, Poverty

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## INTRODUCTION

*“Child slavery is a crime against humanity. Humanity itself is at stake here. A lot of work still remains, but I will see the end of child labor in my lifetime”. --- Kailash Satyarthi*

Children are blooming flowers of the garden of society and valuable asset of a nation. Children are mirror of a nation. They are our future and our most precious

resources. The quality of tomorrow's world and perhaps even it's survival will be determined by the well-being, safety and the physical and intellectual development of children today (Peter H.Wolff, and Gehremeskel Fesseha, 1998). They are also the greatest gift to humanity and Childhood is an important and impressionable stage of human development as it holds the potential to the future development of any society.

Children who are brought up in an environment, which is conducive to their intellectual, physical and social health, grow up to be responsible and productive members of society. Every nation links its future with the present status of its children. (Government of India, Planning Commission, Working Group for Social inclusion of Vulnerable Group like Child Labour and Bonded and Migrant Labour in the 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan (2012-17). Child labor is an insidious problem all over the globe, especially in developing countries. Africa and Asia together account for over 90% of total child employment. Child labor is especially prevalent in rural areas where the capacity to enforce minimum age requirements for schooling and work is lacking. Children work for a variety of reasons, the most important being poverty and the induced pressure upon them to escape from this dilemma. Though children are not well paid, they still serve as major contributors to family income in developing countries. Schooling problems also contribute to child labor, whether it is the aloofness of schools or the lack of quality education which spurs parents to enter their children in more money-making pursuits. Traditional factors such as strict cultural and social roles in certain countries further limit educational attainment and increase child labor. Child labour is a global practice and has many negative outcomes. According to International Labour Organization, child labour is the important source of child exploitation and child abuse in the world today. Child labour is recognized as a serious and enormously complex social problem in India like serious respiratory diseases, T.B., and Cancer. Children, under age 14 are often forced to work for as many as 18 hours a day.

A Nations most grotesque scenario is its incorporation of child labour which is very pathetic and from the fore concerned. We can conclude that India is no exception that means it's a nuclear of the mention phenomenon. Here a child is treated like a slum dog instead of angels. It is accurse to make these genial and innocent little beings a centre of import and export business. "The Child is Father of the Man" said William Wordsworth. Children begin by loving their parents; as they grow older they judge them; sometimes they forgive them. Mahatma Gandhi says, "If we are to teach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children" (Ali, Hasnaim & Khan Samsudin, 2012). Due to an increase in child labour in India, the future of children seems to be in dark prevalence of Child Labour is one of the most important problems confronting the world at large, especially developing countries such as India. In many cases, child labor is mainly necessitated by economic compulsions of the parents. The main reason which gives rise to child labour is widespread unemployment and among the adult poor strata of the population, interalia, due to sharp growth of population. Large families with low income and often lack of educational facilities, 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. Over the years, however, global consciousness about the seriousness of the problem has created. The constitution of India also committed to the protection and promotion of the welfare considerations over the economic ones. Therefore, series of committees and commissions have been appointed by the government of India either specifically on the question of child labours, which gives us insights into the problem and to give suggestions to alleviate this problem (Naidu, M.C. and Ramaiah Dasaratha, K., 2006).

### WHO IS A CHILD?

International conventions define children as aged 18 and under. Individual governments may define "child" according to different ages or other criteria. "Child" and "childhood" are also defined differently by different cultures. A "child" is not necessarily delineated by a fixed age. Social scientists point out that children's abilities and maturities vary so much that defining a child's maturity by calendar age can be misleading.

### CONCEPT OF CHILD LABOUR

- Child labour refers to the employment of children in any work that deprives children of their childhood, interferes with their ability to attend regular school, and that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Child\\_labour](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Child_labour)).
- Child labour implies that who are in the age group below 14 yrs and who work for themselves or for their family for an income and who contribute a significant share to the labour force of India. (<http://www.ilo.org/ipec/facts/lang--en/index.htm>).
- Any child out of school is a child labour. The definition of child labour therefore encompasses every non-school going child irrespective of whether the child is engaged in wage or nonwage work or whether he or she is working for the family of others, employed in hazardous or non-hazardous occupations, employed on a day wage or on a contract basis is a child labour ( Naidu, M.C. and Ramaiah Dasaratha, K., 2006).
- According to International Labour Organisation (ILO) - The term "child labour" is often defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that: is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children; and interferes with their schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school; obliging them to leave school prematurely; or requiring them to attempt to

combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work.

- ILO Conventions defined Child Labour is a work that children should not be doing because they are too young to work, or – if they are old enough to work – because it is dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for them. Not all work done by children should be classified as child labor that is to be targeted for elimination. Children's or adolescents' participation in work that does not affect their health and personal development or interfere with their education is generally regarded as being something positive. Whether or not particular forms of "work" can be called "child labour" depends on the child's age, the type and hours of work performed and the conditions under which it is performed. (UN Resources for speakers on Global Issues on Child Labour, 2008, <http://www.un.org/en/globalissues/briefingpapers/childlabour>). From table -1, it is clear that, in West Bengal, the child labour has been rising since 1971 (511443) to 2001 (857087) and decreasing in 2011 (234275).

From the above discussion, it is clear that proper understanding / awareness of the problem of Child Labour is inevitable. Since, the Post-Graduate level is crucial stage of the present educational system in our country, it need special attention. The problems of Child Labour acute in all over the world. It is found that there are different reasonable opinions in this regards. But we cannot come to a conclusion about the entire Post-Graduate Students attitude towards Child Labour from several comment or discussions with handful students only. Many questions are arising in the researchers mind about the student's attitude towards Child Labour at Post Graduate Level. Still now it is very important and sensitive issue. It is an urgent need for developing certain strategies which can remove the problem of Child Labour. Therefore, in order to know the attitude of Post Graduate students towards Child Labour, the investigators have decided to take up a systematic and objective attitudinal study of Post Graduate Students towards Child Labour. The investigators intend to restrict their research work to Purulia District of West Bengal.

#### **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:**

The problem for the present study may be specifically stated as below:

“An Investigation into the Attitude of Post-Graduate Students towards Child Labour in Purulia District of West Bengal”.

#### **NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

India is sadly the home to the largest number of child labourers in the world. As a consequence of

development, Child Labour is a symbol and symptom of inequality in which hundreds of children are excluded from a regular Childhood and denied their fundamental right in highly stratified society like India specially West Bengal. Considering the continuation of the practice of bonded Labour in the agrarian rural structure in India, such development will adversely affect children who belong to the deprived communities Industrial units have also started to employ Child Labour. Thus, the existing rigid social makeup of the caste system still percolates into other social problems like Child Labour. Poverty and lack of social security are the main causes of child labour. In order to tackle these complex and inner woven problems there is need to make the preventive measures and solutions to these problem deeply rooted in the minds of the population This justifies the need for Child Labour, which should focus on Child security and how to line in a world infested with diversity. Hence, the researchers chose this topic for their study. Today's Post Graduate students or any students as far as education concerned are the future of India once they will understand the worth and need of Child security, they will want to make the world a better place, a place there is nothing inequalities. P.G. level students are far more mature than other pupils who are studying in lower levels of education. They will understand the problem of Child Labour and the worth of the study.

Therefore the researchers feel that particularly the P.G. students' opinions or their attitude towards Child Labour can never be ignored, rather these should be reviewed or re-explored time to time, it is this feeling that has urged the investigators to take up the present study on a particular region of West Bengal. It is expected that, this study through small, will be able to make some significant contributions in the field of education.

#### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

A study of the Committee on child labour (1979) appointed by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India examined various dimension of child labor in different occupations. Findings were: The study revealed that the incidence 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. The 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%). Weiner, M. (1990) has conducted a study on the child and the state in India. Objective: Historically in our country child labor has been seen as an Economic Phenomenon. Finding: 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. Vemuri, S and Anand, A (1998) A Survey on Child Labour. Objective: Child labour contributes of GNP (Gross National Product) in India. Finding: Reveals that child labour contributes to over 20 percent of GNP in India. Ali, Hasnaim & Khan, Samsuddin (2012), the overcoming of child labour in India: In perspective of constitutional and legislative Framework. Objectives: (i) Give the scenario in which child labour gets increased. (ii) Various challenges that have emerged due to this particular problems like Violence, Child trafficking etc. Findings: (i) The various sections of the paper indicate how far we in eradicating child labour and how hard work we need to do for the welfare of the poor .Ignorant and unheard children. (ii)In this paper we have proposed few major few steps that may be proved worthy in reducing the child abuse, hence a safe and pure society. Kumari, M. (2013) Child labour: A Sociological study of Haryana, India. Objectives: (i) To study the Socio-Economic background and working conditions of respondent. (ii) To find out the factors responsible for child labour and consequences thereafter. (iii)To suggest remedial strategy based on the information gathered. Findings: (i) The child labour working at auto market, tea stall, and dhabas have been selected as per respondent. (ii) Most of them are illiterate and belonged to the age group of 10-14 years. (iii) When we analyse the caste of the respondent, it shows that majority of them were form schedule caste followed by backword class respondent. (iv) A large majority of our respondents belonged to nuclear family. (v) Large majority of our respondent having their parents alive. (vi) It is farther evidence from the research that a vast majority of the respondent belonged to the income group between Rs.25000/ per annum. (vii)Large majority of them were unmarried. (viii)Majority of them started their work as child labour in the age group between 13-14 years.

### DELIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

(A) **Geographical Area:** The investigation was delimited to only Purulia district of West Bengal.

#### (B) Level of Education

(i) The study was restricted to the P.G. students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University of the said district.  
(ii) Among the P.G. Students only the Arts and Science streams (SEM-II and SEM-IV) Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University were considered as the subjects of the present study.

#### (C) Type of Study

This study was conducted only at surface level. It was not an 'in-depth' study. Attempts to know the subject's

attitude by administering an attitude scale constructed by the researchers. No interstate / university comparison was done. Only intra- district / university comparison between the male-Students and female-students, between General and SC/ST students, rural and urban students, Arts and Science students were done.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To ascertain the attitude of P.G. Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal towards Child Labour.
2. To compare the attitude of P.G. Male- and Female- Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district towards Child Labour.
3. To compare the attitude of P.G. Rural and Urban Students of Purulia district of West Bengal towards Child Labour.
4. To compare the attitude of P.G. General- and SC / ST- Students of Purulia district towards Child Labour.
5. To compare the attitude of P.G. Arts and Science streams Students of Purulia district towards Child Labour.

### HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

**H<sub>1</sub>:** The P.G. Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University will have more favorable attitude towards Child Labour in Purulia district of West Bengal.

**H<sub>2</sub>:** There will be significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Male-and Female-Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal towards Child Labour.

**H<sub>3</sub>:** There will be significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Rural and Urban Students Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal towards Child Labour.

**H<sub>4</sub>:** There will be significant difference between the attitude of P.G. General- and SC / ST- Students of Purulia district towards Child Labour.

**H<sub>5</sub>:** There will be significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Arts and Sciences Students towards Child Labour.

### METHODOLOGY

The present study is based on survey method, particularly, the normative survey research method. It is the most popular and scientific research technique, which consist of analyzing the phenomena into their components. The survey of educational problems is one of the most commonly used approaches.

## POPULATION OF THE STUDY

The P.G. Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal comprised the population of this study.

## SAMPLE AND SAMPLING PROCEDURE

150 P.G. Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal were taken as representative sample for the whole population. Stratified random sampling technique was followed for selecting the Departments. There are a number of P.G. Students in each Department. Only 150 students of Arts (75) and Science (75) streams were selected following purposive sampling technique.

## TOOL USED

An Attitude Scale (Likert Type) was used for knowing the attitude of the P.G. Students towards Child Labour. In the scoring procedure, Likert's method was used. In this method, a number of statements or items regarding the issue have to be constructed. The subject is asked to indicate the degree of agreement towards each item on a five point scale: Strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree and strongly disagree weight age was given in the following manner: Favourable item (in this study those items are against Child labour / regarded child labour as a problem): 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 & in case of Unfavourable item (those items support the child labour): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. The tool consisted of 30 Items (16 favourable and 14 unfavourable).

## STATISTICAL TECHNIQUE

CR test was used to analyze the collected data and verify the hypotheses.

## ANALYSIS OF DATA

1. To ascertain the attitude of P.G. Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal towards Child Labour.

**H<sub>1</sub>:** The P.G. Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University will have more favorable attitude towards Child Labour in Purulia district of West Bengal.

Through the help of cut-off point the Investigators verified the H<sub>1</sub>. Here Cut-off Point is  $M + 1\sigma$ . It means, Mean=105.64, N=150 and  $\sigma=10.16$  Hence  $M + 1\sigma$  is  $105.64 + 1 \times 10.16 = 115.8$ . And  $M - 1\sigma = 105.64 - 10.16 = 95.48$ . Most of P.G. students (112 in number) i.e.,

74.67 % of students were lies between 115.8 to 95.48 scores. Hence, it can be said that the attitude of P.G. students of S.K.B. University in Purulia district of West Bengal is neither more favourable nor unfavourable towards Child Labour i.e., satisfactory or average in attitude towards Child Labour (see table-2).

2. To compare the attitude of P.G. Male- and Female-Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district towards Child Labour.

**H<sub>2</sub>:** There will be significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Male-and Female-Students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal towards Child Labour.

The table 3 shows that there is no significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Male- and Female- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district towards Child Labour, the M-Att. Score of P.G. Female being greater than that of P.G. Male- students. Hence, it can be said that, the attitude of P.G. Female- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district towards Child Labour is comparatively more favorable than that of P.G. Male students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district.

3. To compare the attitude of P.G. Rural and Urban Students of Purulia district of West Bengal towards Child Labour.

**H<sub>3</sub>:** There will be significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Rural and Urban Students Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal towards Child Labour.

The Table 4 indicates that there is significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Rural students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University and P.G. Urban students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University towards Child Labour. The M.Att. Score of P.G. Urban – students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University being greater than that of P.G. Rural- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University. Hence, it can be said that, the attitude of P.G. Urban- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University is relatively more favorable than the P.G. Rural – students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia District towards Child Labour.

4. To compare the attitude of P.G. General- and SC / ST- Students of Purulia district towards Child Labour.

**H<sub>4</sub>:** There will be significant difference between the attitude of P.G. General- and SC / ST- Students of Purulia district towards Child Labour.

The Table 5 shows that there is no significant difference between the attitude of P.G. General students and P.G. S.C./ S.T. students (as a whole) of the Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district toward Child Labour. The M.Att score of P.G. General – students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University being greater than that of P.G. S.C/S.T- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University. Hence, it can be said that, the attitude of P.G. General- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University is comparatively more favorable than the P.G. S.C/S.T –

**Table –1:** State wise details of working children in the age group of 5-14 years as per Census 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 and Census 2011 in India are as under:

SI.No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of Working Children in the age group of 5-14 years				
		1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
1	Andaman & Nicobar Island	572	1309	1265	1960	999
2	Andhra Pradesh	1627492	1951312	1661940	1363339	404851
3	Arunachal Pradesh	17925	17950	12395	18482	5766
4	Assam *	239349	**	327598	351416	99512
5	Bihar	1059359	1101764	942245	1117500	451590
6	Chandigarh U.T.	1086	1986	1870	3779	3135
7	Chhattisgarh				364572	63884
8	Dadra & Nagar H.	3102	3615	4416	4274	1054
9	Daman & Diu U.T.	7391	9378	941	729	774
10	Delhi U.T.	17120	25717	27351	41899	26473
11	Goa			4656	4138	6920
12	Gujarat	518061	616913	523585	485530	250318
13	Haryana	137826	194189	109691	253491	53492
14	Himachal Pradesh	71384	99624	56438	107774	15001
15	Jammu & Kashmir	70489	258437	**	175630	25528
16	Jharkhand				407200	90996
17	Karnataka	808719	1131530	976247	822615	249432
18	Kerala	111801	92854	34800	26156	21757
19	Lakshadweep UT	97	56	34	27	28
20	Madhya Pradesh	1112319	1698597	1352563	1065259	286310
21	Maharashtra	988357	1557756	1068427	764075	496916
22	Manipur	16380	20217	16493	28836	11805
23	Meghalaya	30440	44916	34633	53940	18839
24	Mizoram ***		6314	16411	26265	2793
25	Nagaland	13726	16235	16467	45874	11062
26	Odisha	492477	702293	452394	377594	92087
27	Pondicherry U.T.	3725	3606	2680	1904	1421
28	Punjab	232774	216939	142868	177268	90353
29	Rajasthan	587389	819605	774199	1262570	252338
30	Sikkim	15661	8561	5598	16457	2704
31	Tamil Nadu	713305	975055	578889	418801	151437
32	Tripura	17490	24204	16478	21756	4998
33	Uttar Pradesh	1326726	1434675	1410086	1927997	896301
34	Uttarakhand				70183	28098
<b>35</b>	<b>West Bengal</b>	<b>511443</b>	<b>605263</b>	<b>711691</b>	<b>857087</b>	<b>234275</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>10753985</b>	<b>13640870</b>	<b>11285349</b>	<b>12666377</b>	<b>4353247</b>

Note: \* 1971 Census figures of Assam includes figures of Mozoram.

\*\* Census could not be conducted.

\*\*\* Census figures 1971 in respect of Mozoram included under Assam.

(Source : Census India, State-wise Distribution of Working Children according to 1971, 1981, 1991, 2001 & 2011 Census in the age group 5-14 years, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Govt. of India)

students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia District towards Child Labour.

5. To compare the attitude of P.G. Arts and Science streams Students of Purulia district towards Child Labour.

H<sub>5</sub>: There will be significant difference between the

attitude of P.G. Arts and Sciences Students towards Child Labour.

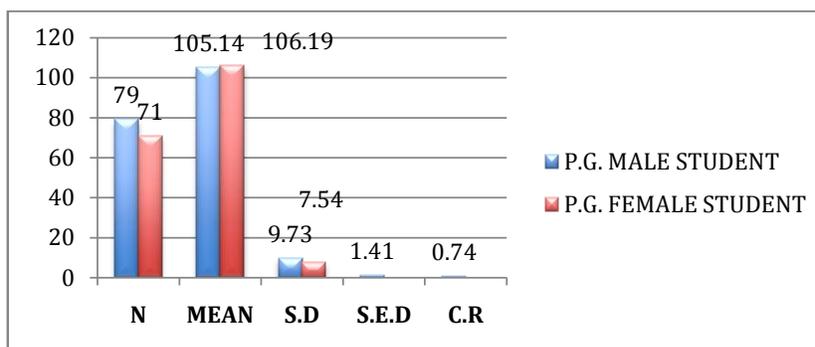
The table 6 shows that there is significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Arts and Science students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district towards

**Table- 2:** The attitude of P.G. level student of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district of West Bengal towards Child Labour.

Category	N	Mean	SD
Students	150	105.64	10.16

**Table – 3:** Showing significance of difference between the attitude of P.G. Male and Female students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district.

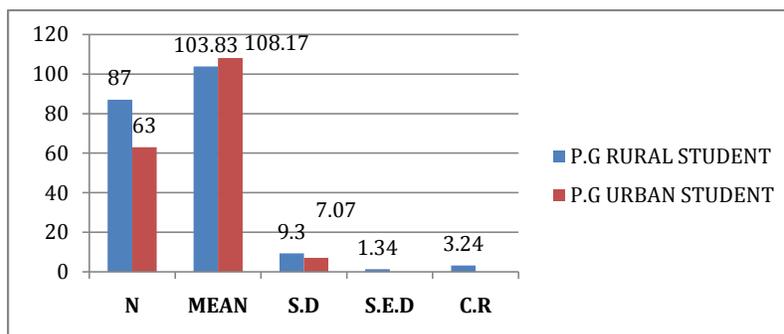
GROUP	N	MEAN	SD	S <sub>ED</sub>	CR	REMARK
P.G Male Students	79	105.14	9.73	1.41	0.74	Not Significant at 0.05
P.G Female Students	71	106.19	7.54			



**Figure-1:** Showing significance of difference between the attitude of P.G. Male and Female students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district.

**Table- 4:** Showing significance difference between the attitude of P.G. Rural and Urban students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia District.

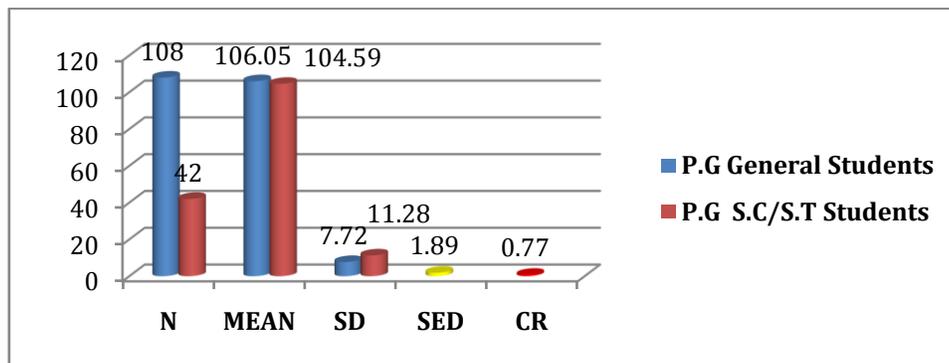
GROUP	N	MEAN	SD	S <sub>ED</sub>	CR	REMARK
P.G Rural Students	87	103.83	9.30	1.34	3.24	Significant at 0.01 & 0.05 level
P.G Urban Students	63	108.17	7.07			



**Figure-2:** Showing significance difference between the attitude of P.G. Rural and Urban students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia District.

**Table 5:** Showing significance of difference between the attitude of P.G. General students and P.G. S.C./S.T. students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district.

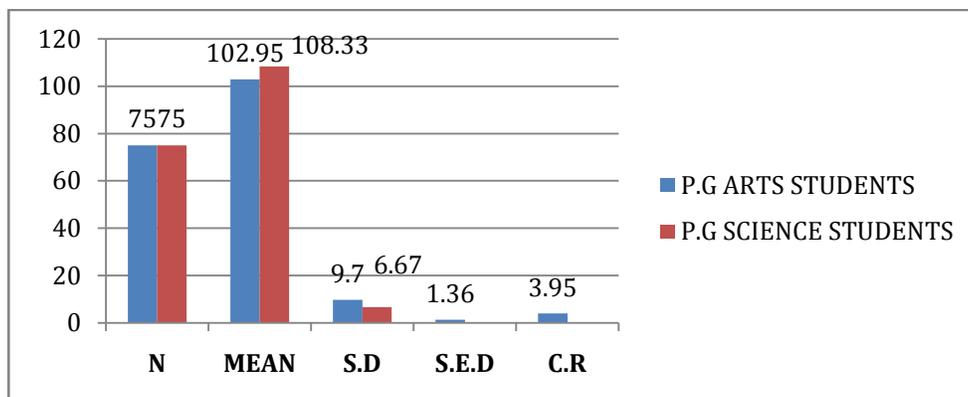
GROUP	N	MEAN	SD	S <sub>ED</sub>	CR	REMARK
P.G General Students	108	106.05	7.72	1.89	0.77	Not Significant at 0.05
P.G S.C./S.T Students	42	104.59	11.28			



**Figure-4:** Showing significance of difference between the attitude of P.G. General students and P.G. S.C./S.T. students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district.

**Table- 6:** Showing significance of difference between attitude of Arts Students and Science students of the Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district.

GROUP	N	MEAN	SD	S <sub>ED</sub>	CR	REMARK
P.G Arts Students	75	102.95	9.70	1.36	3.95	Significant at 0.01 & 0.05 level
P.G Science Students	75	108.33	6.67			



**Figure-5:** Showing significance of difference between attitude of Arts Students and Science students of the Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district.

Child Labour. The M.Att score of P.G. Science – students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University being greater than that of P.G.Arts- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University. Hence, it can be said that, the attitude of P.G. Science - students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University is comparatively more favorable than the P.G.Arts – students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia District towards Child Labour.

## DISCUSSION

Analysis of data shows that, the attitude of P.G. students of S.K.B. University in Purulia district of West Bengal is neither more favourable nor unfavourable towards Child Labour i.e., satisfactory or average in attitude towards Child Labour. The P.G. students are agreed that child labour is neither good nor bad. They are average in attitude towards child labour.

There is no significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Male- and Female- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district towards Child Labour. The attitude of P.G. Female- students towards Child Labour is comparatively more favorable than that of P.G. Male students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district. It may seem to be that the P.G. Female students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University have more conscious about the problem of Child Labour than P.G. Male students. On the basis of this finding, it can be said whatever be the attitude of the students regarding this important issue, little difference (and therefore, little change in attitude) is found among students so far as gender concerned.

The present study indicated that there is significant difference between the attitude of P.G.Rural students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University and P.G. Urban students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University towards Child Labour. The attitude of P.G.Urban- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University is relatively more favorable than the P.G. Rural – students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia District towards Child Labour. It seems to be that the P.G. Rural students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University have no more conscious about the problem of Child Labour and its impact to the society and the nation than P.G.Urban students.

However, it is found that there is significant difference between the attitude of P.G. General students and P.G. S.C./ S.T. students (as a whole) of the Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district toward Child Labour. The attitude of P.G. General- students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University is relatively more favorable than the P.G. S.C/S.T – students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia District towards Child Labour. It is due to the more awareness of child rights among the P.G. General students.

The major findings of this study revealed that there is

significant difference between the attitude of P.G. Arts and Science students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia district towards Child Labour. The attitude of P.G. Science - students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University is relatively more favorable than the P.G.Arts – students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University in Purulia District towards Child Labour. It may seem to be that the P.G.Arts students of Sidho-Kanho-Birsha University have no more conscious about the problem of Child Labour. On the other hand P.G. Science students have more awareness about the problem of child labour in their society.

## EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

1. This study was important because it should be improved the Childs security.
2. Developing awareness among the teachers, parents, and students about the Child Labour
3. Providing knowledge about Childs Rights and Duties.
4. This study was important because it suggests some remedial measures for improving the condition of Poverty and lack of social security.
5. More activities should be organized in order to improve the awareness of child labour among the P.G. Male, Rural, SC / ST and Arts students of SKB University.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDIES

The following studies may be undertaken by the future researchers to further strengthen the research areas of the Child Labour:

1. The same study can be extended to the remaining other districts.
2. Further study can be undertaken in various levels of education.
3. Further study can be conducted to measures students Aptitude, Emotion etc. towards Child labour.
4. The study was conducted to the only Arts and Science stream students; it may be extended to the other streams of education.
5. Comparative surveys on this problem can be undertaken in different states of India.
6. Indepth studies may be conducted in order to know real attitude of the subjects. A team work may be required for this purpose.

## CONCLUSION

Children are backbone of the nation. The progress and the future of the country depend upon how the child of

today develops and taken care. In spite of all this, the children have been subjected to many hardships to earn their livelihood. In India, millions of children are working in different occupations are all over the country. From the facts given above, it is unambiguously clear that incidence of full-time child labour in India particularly West Bengal has been declining for the last decade but continues to be overwhelmingly rural phenomena. There is predominance of rural boys and girls still working within the family modes of employment. Various committees and Commissions on Child Labour have been working in order to abolish Child labour in our country. The Act, 1986, is to ban employment of children below the age of 14 years in factories, mines and hazardous employments, and regulate the working conditions of children in other employments. The Government Authorities identified all the hazardous sectors and have to take appropriate measures for preventing the child labour in their working place. The Govt. also identified the Below Poverty Level (BPL) families and to help them economically as well as morally. NGOs are playing an important role in order to remove this problem. Free and Compulsory education one of the most useful instruments for removing child labours. But it is a matter of great regrets that child labour still prevailing in rural areas. However, the patchy nature of our approach to diverse facets of child welfare, rural education, rural development and child labour policies at the local level needs to be recognized and machinery for a co-ordinated effort at the village level has to be put in place. Without such a synchronized effort, we cannot successfully deal with the issues of child development of which child labour is a component. It is the high time to remind the quote of Poet Rabindranath Tagore:

*“A nation’s child is its supremely important asset and the nation’s future lies their proper development. An investment in children is indeed an investment in the nation’s future. A healthy and educated child of today is the active and intelligent child of tomorrow. Bestow blessing on those little, innocent lives bloomed on earth, who have brought the message of joy from heavenly garden.”*

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