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## A Case Study on Child Labour in East Delhi

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### Abstract

Child labour deprives children (any person under 18) of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to their physical and/or mental development as per ILO. The present paper caricature the issue of child labour prevelant in the east Delhi region. The different reasons of child labor prevelance were identified to be the lack of awareness, education, insensitivity from the societal member and negligence of instances of child labour which societal members have experienced in their life.

**Key Words:** Child Labour, legal awareness, Mental Health

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### Introduction

According to the ILO (international labour organization) Child Labour refers to work that deprives children (any person under 18) of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to their physical and/or mental development. It refers to work that is mentally, or morally dangerous and harmful to children. Child labor is a universal problem. However, it is highly concentrated in developing countries. (Mathur, A., & Rathore, A. 2016).

Dash, Bishnu. (2013) conducted interviews with 120 child labourers in the age group of 7 to 14 employed in small scale commercial establishments viz; vegetable markets(subzi mandi) garages, dhaba/tea stalls, and shops. Beside that, the views of parents and employers were also included in the study and found the prevelance of child labour and economic causes to be dominant factors for the child labour.

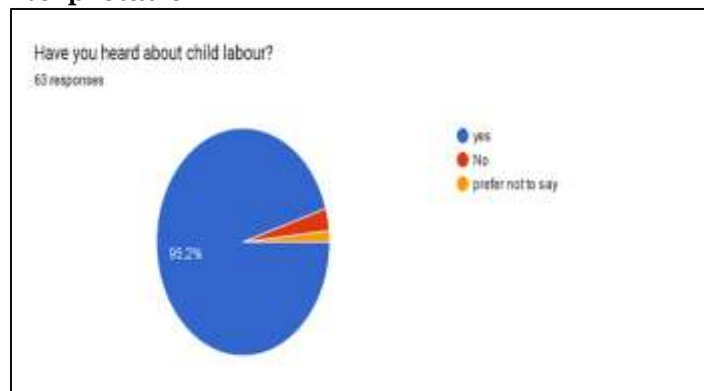
This study aims to find the causes of child labour and it explores the present social and economic condition of child worker. As per many research and survey it is found that poverty being the root cause of child labour although social and psychological factors are

also responsible for it. Child workers have been in extreme exploitation in terms of working for long hours for insignificant pay. The payouts, working conditions and freedom of children are in worse condition. None of the children's working in that conditions are informed about legal provision of child right and most of the children are uneducated thus not in a position to understand those clauses. Child labour may also involve children being enslaved, separated from their families, exposed to serious hazards and health conditions and/are left to stand on the streets of large cities often at a very minor age.

### Methodology :

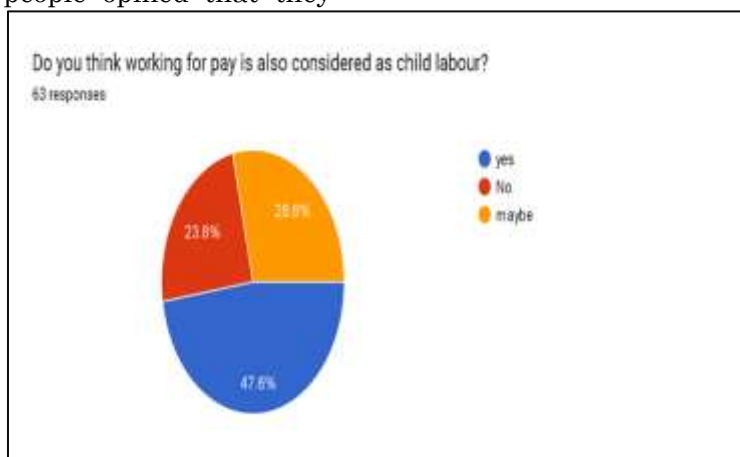
Questionnaire was used to extract responses from the east Delhi residents. The questionnaire consisted of 20 Questions pertaining to check the awareness and sensitivity of societal members on child labour. The content and face Validity have been ascertained using expert opinion. Number of sample taken for study was 63.Survey method with purposive sampling technique was adopted for the study.

## Data Analysis and Interpretation



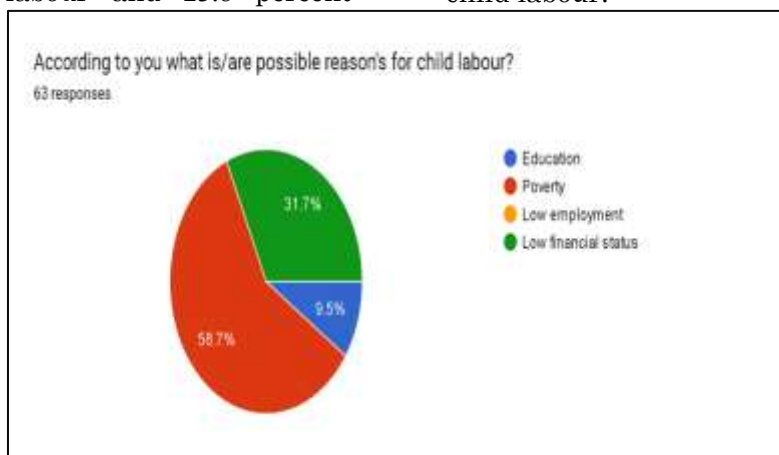
In Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 96.2 percentage people said that child labour is prevalent and 3.2 percent of the people opined that they

have not heard about child labour in the area. However 1.6 percentage people opined that they do not wish to express their opinion on this issue in East Delhi



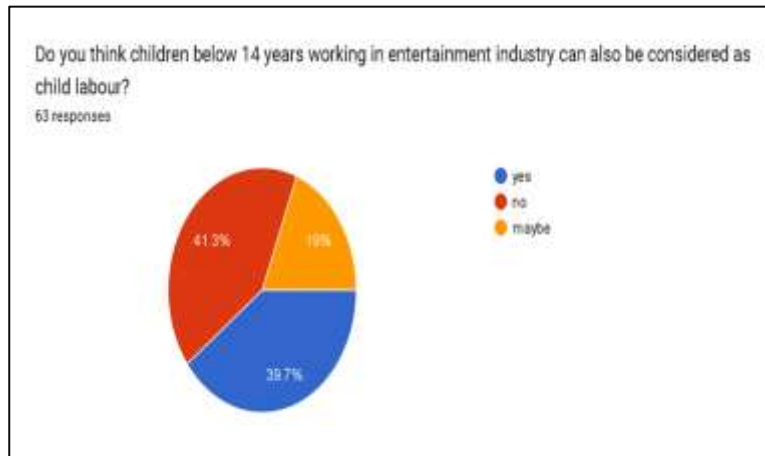
In the Delhi study, especially in East Delhi, the researcher found that around 47.6 per cent of the sample said that working for pay by children part time should also be considered child labour and 23.8 percent

believed that for pay. Working is not to be considered as child labor. However, 28.6 per cent people are of the opinion that perhaps they would also come under the category of child labour.



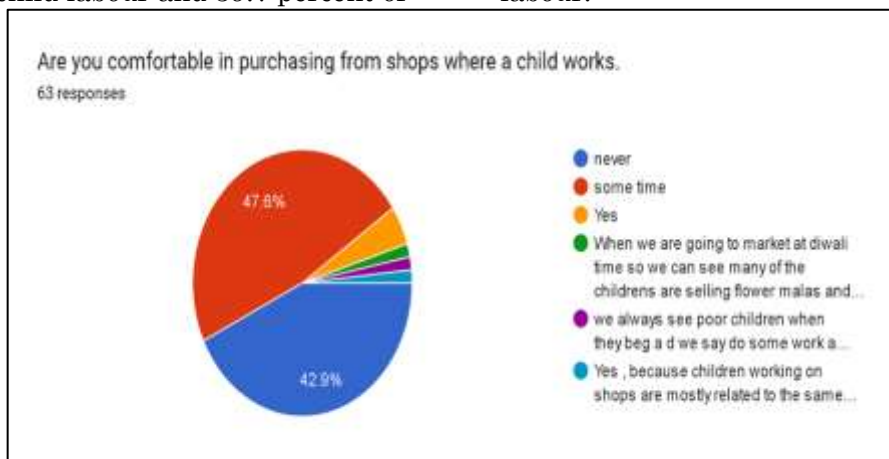
In Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 58.7 percentage people said that poverty is the reason for child labour and 31.7 percent of the people

opined that low financial status is the reason child labour. However 9.5 percentage people opined that lack of education is the reason for child labour.



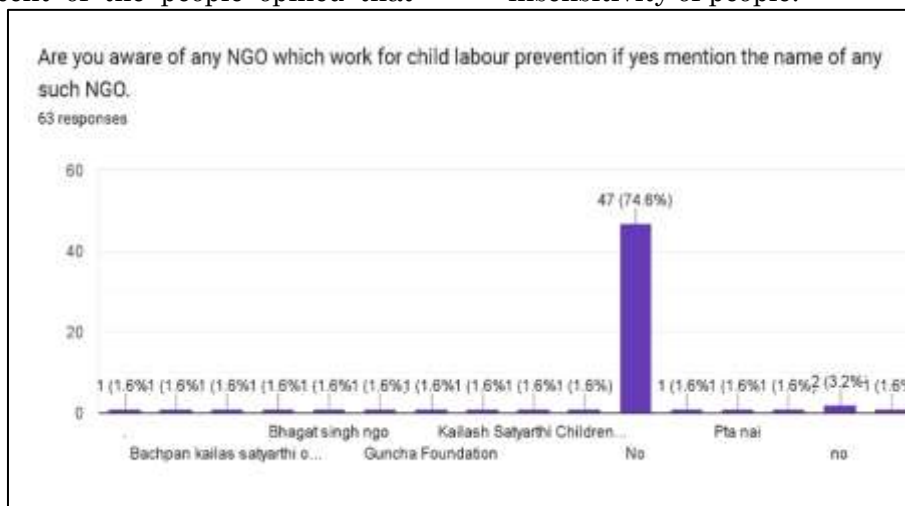
In Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 41.3 percentage people said that children below 14 years working in entertainment industry are not considered as child labour and 39.7 percent of

the people opined that children below 14 years working in entertainment industry can also considered as child labour. However 19 percentage people opined that perhaps they would also come under the category of child labour.



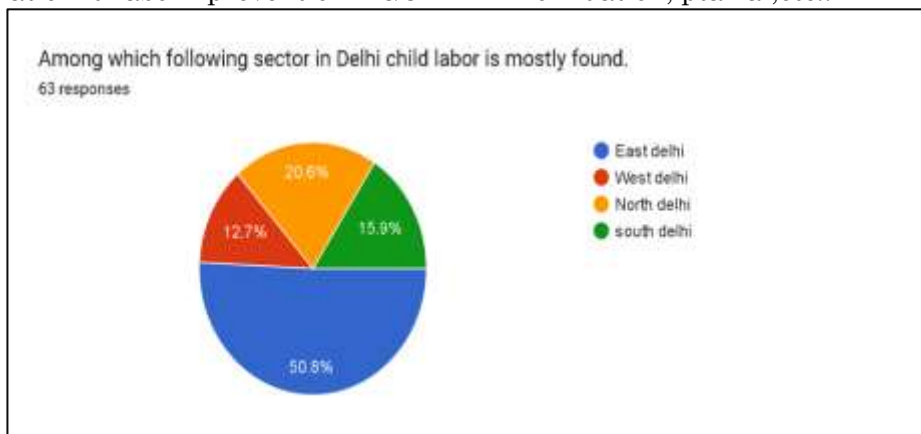
In Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 47.6 percentage people said that they are sometime comfortable with shops where a child works and 42.9 percent of the people opined that

they are not comfortable in purchasing from shops where a child works. However 4.8 percentage people opined that they are comfortable in purchasing from shops where a child works. This itself showcases the insensitivity of people.



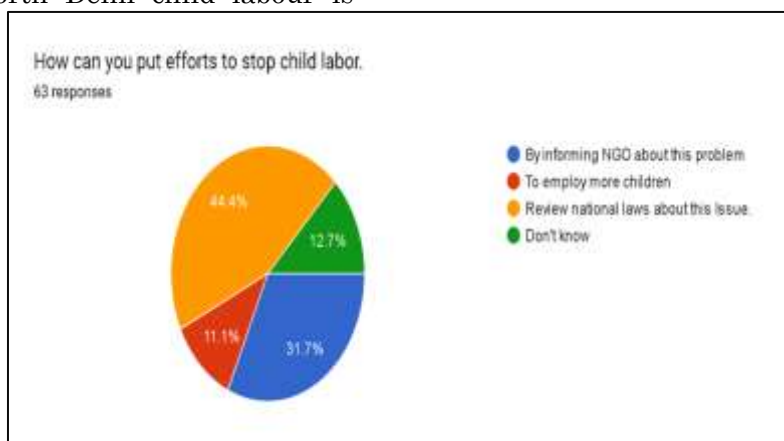
In Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 74.6 percentage people said that child labour prevention NGO

are not known to them. While 25 % are aware of certain NGO like Bachpan Kailash Sathyarthi's, Bhagat Singh NGO, Guncha Foundation, ptaNai,etc..



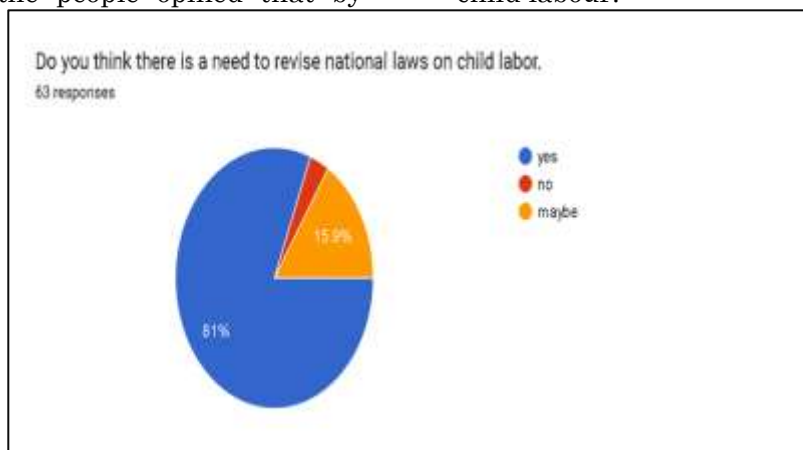
In Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 50.8 percentage people said that in east Delhi child labour is mostly found and 20.6 percent of the people opined that in north Delhi child labour is

mostly found .However15.9 percentage people opined that in south Delhi child labour is mostly found and 12.7 percentage people said that in west Delhi child labour is mostly found.This proves



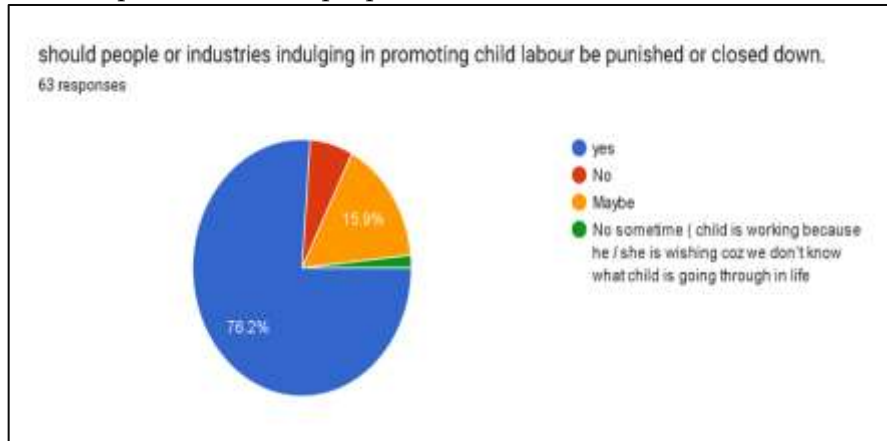
In Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 44.4 percentage people said that important to review national laws about this issue to stop child labour and 31.7 percent of the people opined that by

informing NGO about this problem to stop child labour. However 12.7 percentage people opined that they don't know why to stop child labour and 11.1 percentage people said that more employment are best option for the stop child labour.



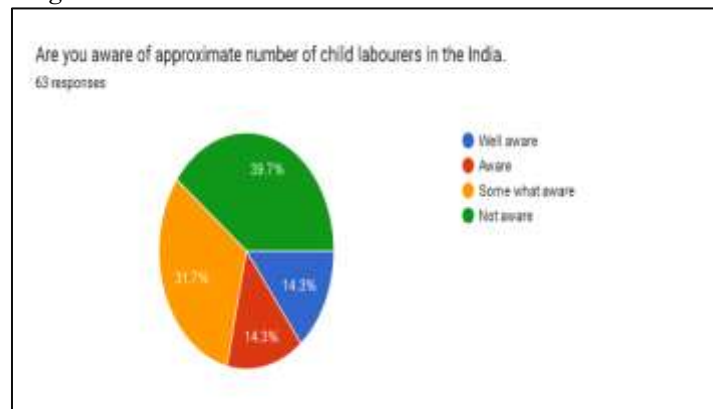
In Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 81 percentage people said that need to revise national laws on child labour and 15.9 percent of the people

opined that perhaps to revise national laws on child labour. However 3.2 percentage people opined that they think there is no need to revise national laws on child labour.



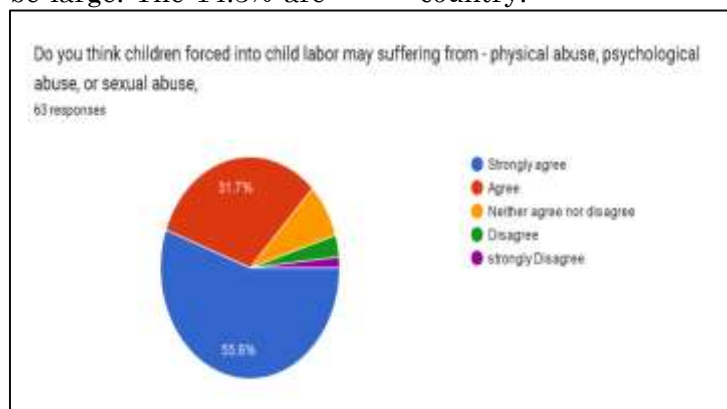
In Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 76.2 percentage people said that people or industries indulging in promoting child labour be punished or closed down and 15.9 percent of the people opined that perhaps industries indulging in promoting child labour be

punished or closed down. However 6.3 percentage people opined that industries indulging in promoting child labour are not be punished or close down and 1.6 percent people opined that child working because he/she is wishing coz we don't know what child is doing through in the life.



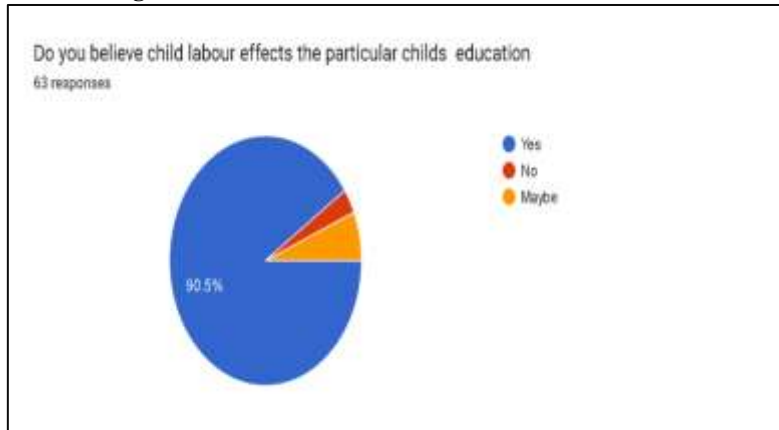
For the question on awareness of child labourers in India 39.6% were not aware which forms more than one third of the total sample. 14.3% Are well aware of the number of child labourers to be large. The 14.3% are

aware and 31.7% are somewhat aware. So from the data on the current subject it is found that almost two third people are aware of the spread of child labourers in the country.



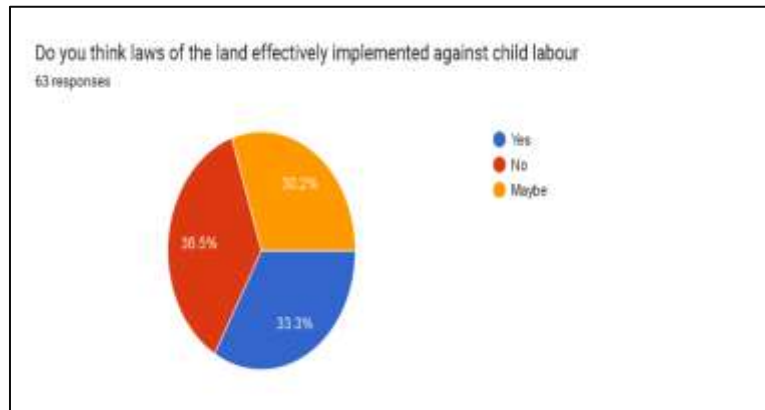
On the question of perception on children forced into child labor may suffering from - physical abuse, psychological abuse, or sexual abuse 55.6% respondents agreed that such

atrocities are widely prevalent. Almost 87% of people were mostly aware of the abuses in the child labour sector.



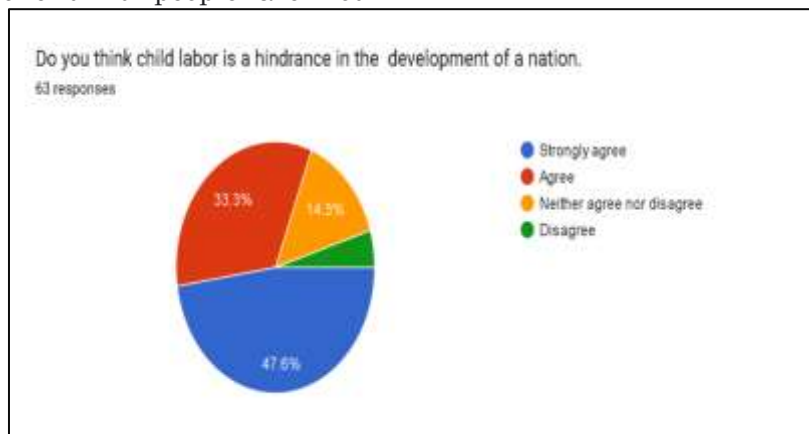
On believe child labour effects the particular child’s education more than 90% people were in concordance that the child labour effects the education of the children.

While others are not sure on the effect and some do not want to answer the particular question on the issue.



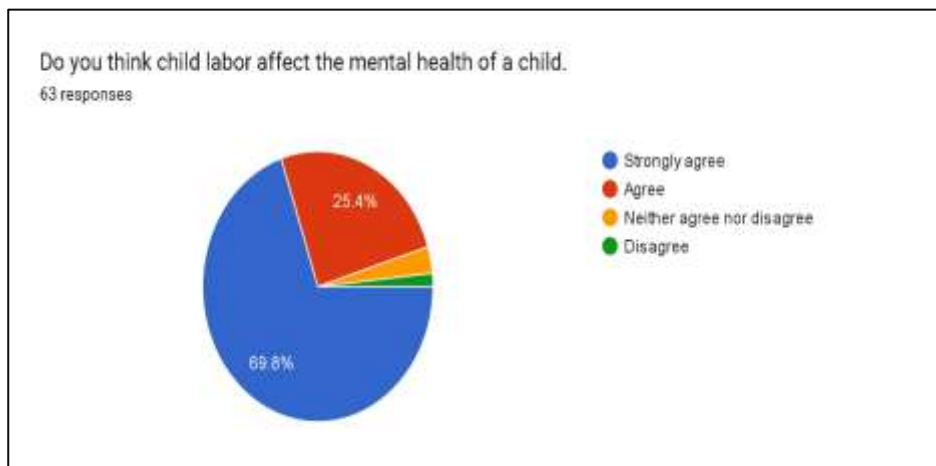
On laws of the land effectively implemented against child labour about one third of the respondents are accepting the fact that the laws are not implemented in full force. However about one third people are not

accepting the facts on the laws implementation in proper way while one third did not want to give response to the same question.



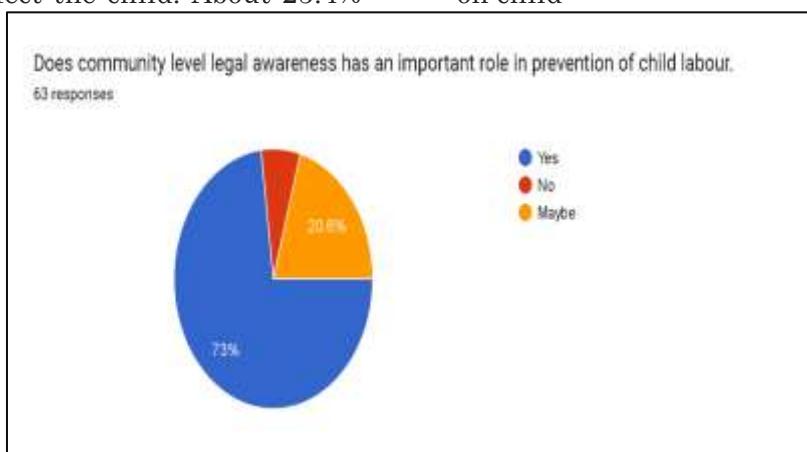
Child labor is a hindrance in the development of a nation about half 47.6% are in favour of the same one third

agree to hindrance in national development while 14.3% remained neutral over the issue.



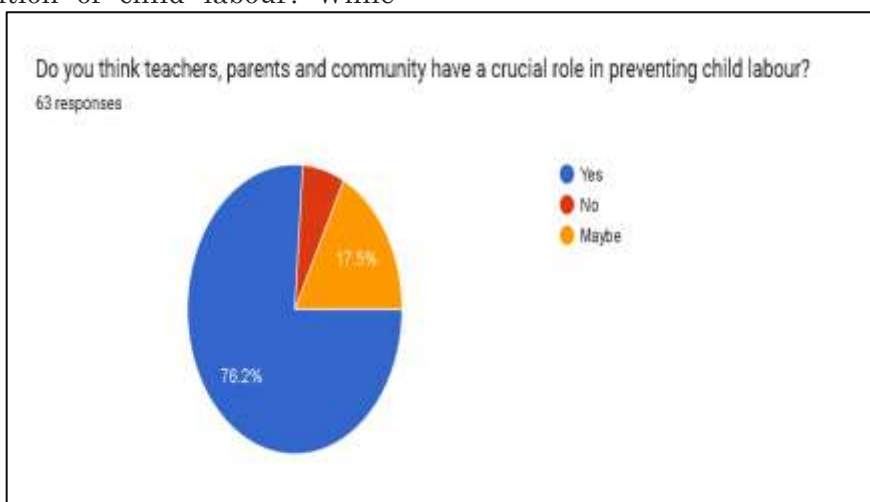
child labor affect the mental health of a child about 69.8% strongly agree that mental health effect the child. About 25.4%

agree with the same together forming 95.2% Agree that mental health has serious effect on child



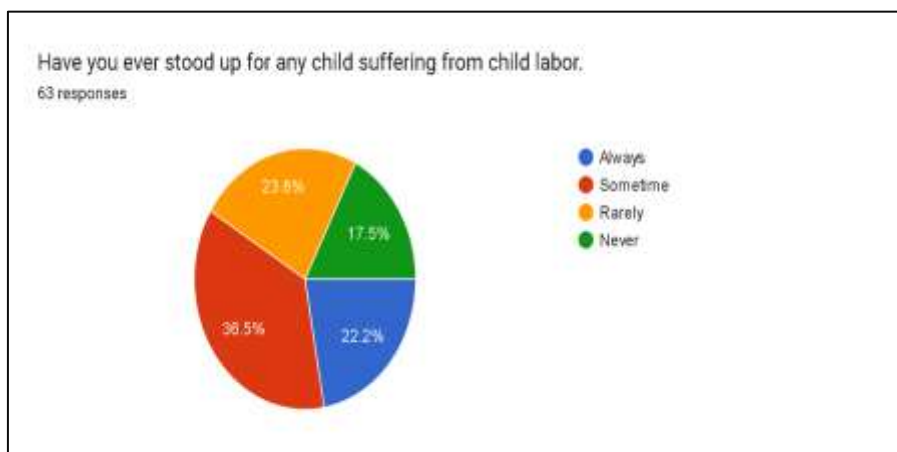
community level legal awareness has an important role in prevention of child labour more than 73% people were an important role in prevention of child labour. While

20.6% are not sure whether legal awareness has an important and 6.4% do not want to answer the particular question on the issue.



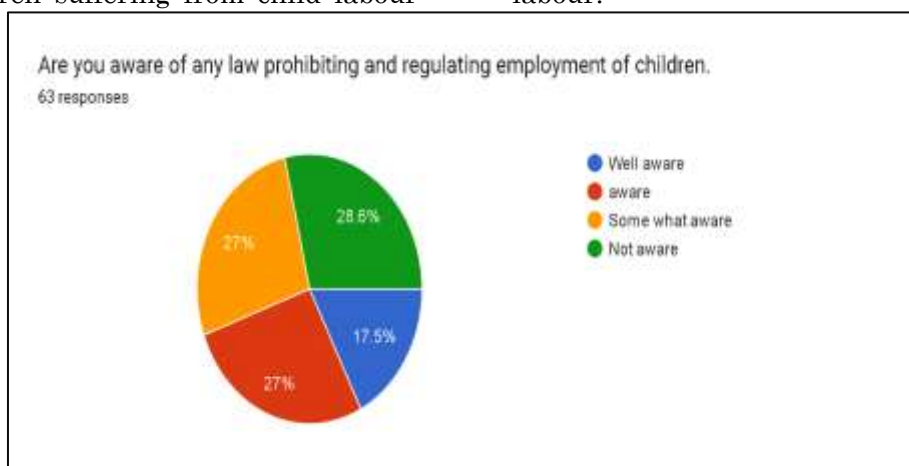
Teachers, parents, and community have a crucial role in preventing child labour more than 76.2% people were say yes on this statement. While 17.5% are not want on

teachers, parents and community have a crucial role in preventing child labour and some were not sure to answer the particular question on the issue.



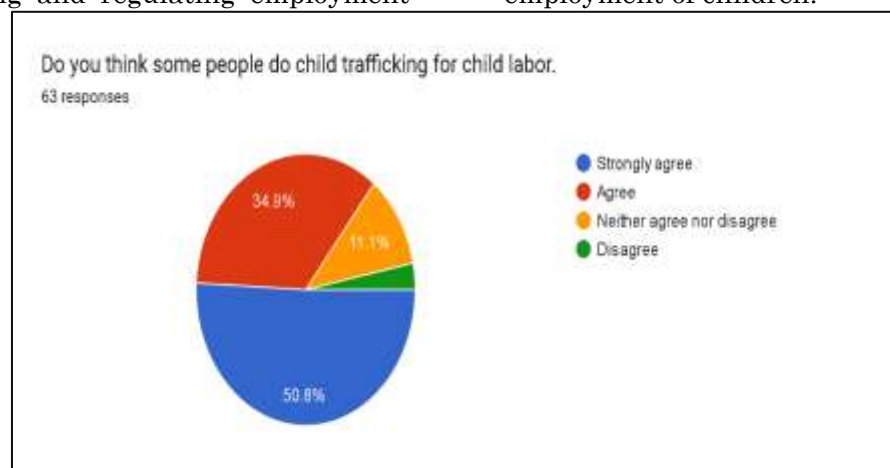
Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researchers found that from the sample about 36.5 percentage people said that they are sometime stood up for any children suffering from child labour

and 23.8% are rarely stood up 23.8 % people said that they are always stood up for any child suffering from child labour however 17.5% people are not stood up from the child labour.



Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 28.6 percentage people said that they are not aware from any law prohibiting and regulating employment

of children 27% people said they are aware for laws 27% people said they are somewhat aware and 17.5% people are well aware for the law prohibiting and regulating employment of children.



Delhi especially east Delhi were the study was undertaken the researcher found that from the sample about 85.7 percentage people said that some people do child trafficking for child labour 11.1% people are Neither agree nor Disagree and 3.2 % people

are disagree for people do child trafficking for child labour.

### Discussion

Most people are aware of what child labour is and how it is very bad for our country and as well as the children are working because of



their family's financial conditions and some needs food for their siblings and these children lose their childhood by working in factories, restaurants and toy factories also get sexually and physically abused also which can also affect their mental health. More awareness is needed to stop child labour in India because it is affecting the childhood of the children and haven't stopped yet This research helps us to aware more people about child labour and we hope government will take strict actions against the child labour. (Nagar & Roy, Bindu, 2022). Child labor is a universal problem. However, it is highly concentrated in developing countries such as India, to eradicate or reduce the numbers there should be strict laws and actions.

Effective steps must be taken by the government so that these children can be removed out of the forced child labour, one of the major causes of child labour is lack of education and for this even government has made certain rules and regulations for sending children to schools one such law was introduced during the 86th amendment act 2002 which inserted article 21A and made right to education a fundamental right for the children aged 6 to 14 years. States must provide free and compulsory education to the children of age group 6-14 which has not been implemented successfully to cent percent.

#### **Conclusion:**

As a responsible citizen it is our duty too that we should check in our nearby area and inform the legal authorities about the place where child labour is being done. "According to the Census 2001 there are 12.6 million children in the age group of 5-14 years are working as child labour as compared to the total child population of 25.2 crore. As per Census 2011, the number of working children in the age group of 5-14 years has further reduced to 43.53 lakh." From 90.75 lakhs as in 2004 census. It shows that the efforts of the Government have borne the desired fruits, but reduction level is very slow and this can only be increased at a pacer rate if strict labour laws are implemented in the country on the ground level rather than merely on papers.

To overcome the menace of child labour many steps like Awareness program can be organized to create awareness along with the help of mass, media, street shows or nukkad-nataks. Child labour can be prevented by

providing Free and compulsory education for all, Implementation of Right to equality, reduction of poverty, providing fair opportunity to all, decreased corruption at all levels of government etc.

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