

GEFONT/ILO-IPEC Time Bond Programme

**CHILD LABOUR SITUATION IN NEPAL: A CASE STUDY OF
DHANUSHA AND RUPANDEHI DISTRICT**

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

1.1 Country Background

Nepal is a small least developed landlocked country. Ecologically the country is divided into three diverse zones – Terai (plain land), hill and mountain and administratively it is divided into five development regions, 14 zones and 75 districts. According to the latest national population census (2001), the total population reached 23.1 million by growing more than 2 percent per annum since 1971.

Out of the total population about 86 percent is still living in rural areas. The census record shows that a working age Nepalese have to support another one non-working age person being high dependency ratio (85) in 2001. The life expectancy is 61.8 years for male and 62.2 years for female in the year 2001 (CBS, 2003).

Labour force size in Nepal is increasing rapidly every year mainly due to high population growth caused by high fertility rate. But the employment is not increasing as of the growth of the population. Similarly, excessive use of child labours in various sectors substitutes the adult workers, which further helps to raise unemployment of the productive labour force. Thus the unemployment and under employment problem is considered a serious problem of the country. This imbalance contributes to increase surplus labour.

Generally, participation rate increases as the age advances and peaks in the age group 30-44 then starts to decline both for male and female. Labour force participation rate is always low in the females compared to the males. About 29 percent children aged 10-14 are economically active in Nepal (CBS, 2003 :348).

The Nepalese economy is characterised by a dominant agricultural sector. This sector is providing employment to the two-third of the labour force and contributes about 39 percent on the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Cereals are the major crops in Nepal where the share of cash crops is increasing slowly each year. The country is experiencing a gradual shift of employment from agriculture to other sectors.

Nepal is one of the resource rich countries in the world. Among the natural resources forest and water resources are rich in the country. Besides these major natural resources, various types of mineral resources also located in different parts of the country but most of them are yet to be exploited.

The pace of industrialisation in Nepal is very slow. The history of modern industries in the country is not long though the development of cottage industries was traced since early period of the history. In recent times the industrial units both modern and cottage and small scale are declining because of free import of cheap foreign products and non-protective policy of the government. As a result of decline in industrial units, employment in this sector also declined remarkably and no hope of improvement in this situation in near future. Females are suffered much from employment loss.

Service sector also plays an important role in providing employment on the one hand and contributes significantly in national GDP. This sector alone contributes about 10 percent to the national GDP and more or less the same proportion in employment (NPC, 2002 :48).

Predominantly an agricultural country with a slow pace of industrial development has made its economy vulnerable to increasing dependence on foreign assistance. The average per capita income was estimated US \$ 269 in 2004. There is a marginal rise in per capita income in the last few decades.

A large segment of the population in Nepal (31%) lives below the poverty line mainly because of unemployment, underemployment, disguised unemployment, low wage/salary rate and low productivity of the employed labour force. Most of the female population is still involved in household activities. These activities are considered unproductive or deprived sector of the economy. The level of poverty differs vastly by rural urban places, ecological regions and development regions.

Level of education of the Nepalese people is poor though more than half of its population aged six years and above is literate. The health service is poor despite spending large amount of money each year from the government and non-government sources.

Child Labour in Nepal

Child labour is a worldwide phenomenon. It has existed in different types of human society at different stages of history and still continues to exist in many parts of the world. However, it has emerged as a major social problem in most of the less developed countries where stark poverty, rapid growth of population and lack of awareness have compelled children to seek employment for the survival of the families to which they belong. From the demand side, use of child labour is preferred to reduce the cost of production and access to labour that is unresisting, unorganised and almost inexhaustible.

Child labour in Nepal is prevalent in traditional agricultural sector, service sector like small hotels, restaurants, transportation, tourism, manufacturing sector mainly carpet and garment factories, domestic service, etc. In these sectors children are working long hours with little pay or without paying in poor working environment. But in recent years the issue of child labour in Nepal has attracted considerable attention. This attention has been sparked off by the findings of some research studies, which showed a very high incidence of child labour in the booming carpet factories in the late 1980s and beginning of the 1990s.

Child labour has been considered a serious issue in the country since the ratification of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990 and enactment of Children's Act 1992. Despite legal provisions against child labour in Nepal, a vast majority of children are engaged in various kinds of job (paid or unpaid). The volume of child labour has further increased from recent past especially in urban centres with the abolition of bonded Kamaiya system on the one hand and growing Maoist insurgency on the other.

Child labour has been recognised as a major social problem in Nepal. To address this problem some studies have been carried out to understand particular forms of child labour at the local as well as national level by various organisations. Child labour in Nepal is prevalent in different sectors like agriculture, cottage industry, manufacturing industries, tea plantation, domestic, catering, selling/vending, construction, manual labour, tourist and travel industry and child trafficking (Sattaur, 1993). The common causes of child labour are enumerated mass poverty, illiteracy, Kamaiya system, feudal rule, influence of village scarcity, urban attraction and violence in the family among many others (K.C. et al., 1998) in the past but in recent years the volume of child labour have increased significantly due to the eradication of Kamaiya system on the one hand and Maoist insurgency on the other at present.

A study by ILO on domestic child labour highlighted that on an average a domestic child labor is compelled to work 13-15 hours per day and seven days in a week. Dishwashing, cleaning the house, washing clothes, cooking and taking care of children is the major responsibilities of domestic child workers. The study further underline that about half child domestic workers are not paid and those who are paid the average monthly income is Rs. 417 for boys and Rs. 352 for girls. Their parents or relatives took almost all their income.

Child Labor Acts and Policy

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal 1990 protects the interests of the children by prohibiting employment of children in any occupation. It prohibits traffic in human beings, slavery, serfdom or forced labour in any form and any contravention of the provision is punishable under law. The Labor Act 1992 was enacted in pursuance of constitutional mandate; make the employment of children below the age of 14 illegal. Similarly, Nepal ratified the ILO Conventions (Minimum Age Convention No. 138 in 1997 and Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention No. 182 in 2002. It is also

a signatory to the UN Convention, Colombo Resolution, Rawalpindi Resolution, Male Declaration, etc., which are related with child rights and elimination of child labour. To formulate national policies towards elimination of child labour in a progressive manner and safeguard the rights of children the government has set up a high level taskforce on elimination of child labour. The Task Force consisted of representatives from different ministries, industries, NGOs and UN agencies in leadership of National Planning Commission. In 1992 Children's Act was enacted to control the practice of employing children in any work especially hazardous to life and promote the status of children. The Act strictly prohibits the children below the age of 14 years to engage in any work as a labour. The employment of such children is a cognizable offence under the Act and liable to punishment by fine and even imprisonment. The Act had permitted the employment of children aged 14-16 known by minors in certain conditions. In addition, several provisions on children can be found in Common Law Code (1963), The Begging Prohibition Act (1962), the Prison Act 1963, The foreign Employment Act 1985, The Trafficking Control Act 1986 and so on. Despite these legal efforts the volume of child labour is increasing instead of decline. The major reason behind the problem of child labour is the poor and depriving economic condition of the country and also lack of dedication of the concerned authorities of the government. This study also concentrates on children below 15 years of age.

With the restoration of multiparty democracy in the country there has been a substantial increase in the government's level of commitment towards combating child labor and bonded labor. Indeed, eradication of the worst forms of child labour has become an essential element of the national development strategy.

The child Labor Prohibition and Regulation Act was endorsed by the House of Representatives of Parliament in 2000 but it is not fully enforced. The Children's Act 1992 has been amended to make it more abuse specific, especially with regard to sexual abuse against children.

Status of Child Labor

The socio-economic condition of the people has pushed families to migrate and engage their children in economic activities resulting in an increase of unacceptable forms of child labour such as debt bondage and child forced prostitution.

The volume of children below 15 years reached 89,48,587 in Nepal by growing more than one million during the intercensal period 1991 to 2001 though the proportion of children to the total population has declined by about three percentage points during this period. Of the total children 61,93,374 or more than 27 percent of the total population belongs to the age group 5-14.

The population censuses of Nepal have reported economic activities of population only for aged 10 years and above. But in Nepalese society a significant number of children below 10 years are also compelled to involve at work willingly or unwillingly depriving their rights. The census report of 2001 shows that 29 percent children aged 10-14 is economically active. The economically active children aged 10-14 constitutes 8.1 percent of the total economically active population in 2001. While considering sex differences it is 7.1 for boys and 9.4 percent for girls and shows their share has declined considerably in comparison with the figure of 1981. Contrary to other age groups from 15 years and above the proportion of economically active population for the children aged 10-14 is high for girls compared to boys.

Besides decennial population census there is not a single study on child labour covering country as a whole. Most of the studies are concentrated only on specific issues and areas. The study conducted by Central Department of Population Studies in 1997 is broad among the studies related to child labour covering 73 districts of the country out of 75. This study has estimated 6.23 million children all over the country aged 5-14 years in 1996. Out of these children 42 percent (2.6 million) are found to be engage in regular work within and outside household and about 70 percent belongs to age group 10-14. Among them 1.7 million are employed as paid worker but most of them (93%) are not paid for their work. The majority of children involved in unpaid activities lived in rural areas. Some children are working under forced or bonded conditions in labour intensive factories, while others are in the service sector, especially in domestic services (**Proceedings of the "Workshop on Developing Common Policies and Strategies Against Child Labour among Trade Unions" organised by ILO/IPEC, 2000**).

Nepalese children are contributing a lot in national economy since long ago being compelled to work at low age. The nature of work at rural and urban areas differs very much. The most common work of children at rural areas are: fetching water, collecting fire wood, animal husbandry, take care of siblings, support to their parents in agricultural fields, etc. On the other migration of children from rural areas to urban areas is increasing drastically since last several years and magnitude of child labour in urban areas is raising. In the urban places children are involved at work as child labourer or helper or attached labour in the carpet, garment, confectionary, brick kilns, stone quarrying, construction, transportation, wood products, bakeries, small hotels and restaurants and domestic sector. Among the various field large numbers of children are involved as domestic workers in different terms and conditions along with bonded.

Presenting a paper entitled Child Labor Problems and Solutions, Gauri Pradhan highlighted that almost 15% of the total child labour in Nepal are compelled to perform hazardous and exploitative work like mine, construction, sex trade, transportation, welding, factories such as brewery, tobacco, carpet, etc.

Many studies have shown that small-scale industries in unorganised sectors are employing a substantial number of children (CDPS, 2003). Agriculture is the largest sector that absorbs working children.

The common reason for the prevalence of child labour in Nepal is the wide spread poverty on the one hand and the desire of parents to provide better exposure and a good education for their children on the other. Several peoples argues that the life style of children is better off in their work place compared to their home. But the rapid assessment made by ILO in 2001 showed that though some of the working children may have relatively good lifestyles, others are living and working in the most intolerable conditions (NLA (2003) Child Domestic Workers in Nepal.: A Report on the 2003 baseline survey, for ILO).

Nepalese Trade Unions in Child Labour Issues

The issue of child labour could be handled more effectively through the promotion of joint effort and developing a common understanding and policy to fight against it as the formulation of labour regulations and their effective implementation to protect the rights of the workers depends on the policies and programmes of the trade unions.

The amendment of Trade Union Act 1999, has given the right to organise the workers involved in informal sector including agriculture and self-employed. This provision has widened the scope of trade unions to address the issue of child labour. Trade unions should be concerned with the issue of child labour as it displaces adult workers from their work and increases the vulnerabilities of children to exploitation. Trade unions could use national and international instruments to fight against child labour. At the same time it can play a vital role to prepare favorable environment to bear socio-economic responsibilities as a social partner of industrial relations (**Proceedings of the “Workshop on Developing Common Policies and Strategies Against Child Labour among Trade Unions” organised by ILO/IPEC, 2000**).

Child labour issue has been placed on the priority agenda of trade unions at present. Three legally recognised trade union confederations are launching various programmes to combat child labour. Among the various programmes mostly are directly related to the child labour and few programmes indirectly helps to elimination of child labour since early 1990s but in a lesser extent in comparison to present. The concern of trade unions on child labour issue has increased after the national workshop of trade unions in 1995 to aware trade unionists on the problem of child labour. The programmes undertaken by the unions are primarily divided into three categories – preventive, action-oriented and rehabilitative. Formal and informal education, income generating programmes, awareness raising campaigns against the use of child labour through training/workshops, mass meetings, advocacy, research, etc. are the preventive measures undertaken by the unions. The action oriented measures undertaken by the unions are child welfare programmes including rescue of children working in hazardous occupations. Likewise, rehabilitative measures are the rehabilitation of the children working in bondage state and others involved in hazardous occupations. Besides these programmes trade unions are playing active role in pressurising the government for amendment in child related legislation and also lobbying for the formulation of new laws related to child welfare.

As identified by the GEFONT, children involving in carpet, manufacturing, mines, quarries, brick kilns, transportation, circus, construction, small hotels and restaurants, porter and domestic sectors

whether they are bondage or not are considered as worst forms of labour. Other confederations have also accepted it.

According to trade unionists, effective enforcement of legislation, advocacy, poverty alleviation, education for all and effective coordination in child welfare issues between all the stakeholders involved aiming to elimination of child labour will be the effective ways to resolve the child labour problem. Formulation and effective enforcement of individual 'codes of conduct' for the VDC, DDC and municipalities are must as emphasised by DECONT in their position paper.

Nepalese trade unions' approach is more proactive rather than provocative and reactive. Therefore, the very strong denouncement and movement against child labour should come from trade unions as their priority agenda (**Proceedings of the "Workshop on Developing Common Policies and Strategies Against Child Labour among Trade Unions" organised by ILO/IPEC, 2000**).
Dhulikhel Declaration

The three recognised trade union confederations came into common understanding and strongly oppose child labour particularly, in its worst forms, which prevails in the country. In order to combat this social menace, all three trade union organisations have agreed to take a joint position and build synergy in their actions after two day long discussion at Dhulikhel (ILO/IPEC, 2000). They also came into common understanding to concentrate on common policies and strategies in combating child labour and express full commitment to take concrete action against it in conformity with ILO Convention no. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973) and ILO Convention no. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour (1999). The common policies and strategies adopted by the trade unions are:

Policies

- The trade union organisations will consider a '**child**' as defined by the Children's Act 1992 who is a person younger than 16 years of age. However, for light work a child is defined as a person between 14-16 years of age and referred to as '**minors**' as defined by Labor Act 1992 of Nepal. However, in case of its worst forms, it endorses the Article 3 of ILO Convention No. 182.
- The trade union organisations of Nepal believe that 'child labour' consists of the employment of children that is economically exploitative or likely to be hazardous or obstruct the child's education or is harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development.
- To fight against child labour, trade unions will take joint initiatives on the following:
 - Children engaged in identified worst forms of child labour as guided by ILO Convention No. 182,
 - Children under 14 years of age working in the formal as well as informal sectors,
 - Children working under forced or bonded labour conditions,
 - Children working in inherently hazardous environments such as mines, stone quarries, brick kilns and construction sites,
 - Children exposed to chemical and other industrial hazardous such as carpet industries, foundries, welding shops, garages, bangle making, tanneries, circuses, and toy making,
 - Children vulnerable and exposed to sexual and economic exploitation and physical abuse,
 - Child domestics and children engaged in home based service, i.e. invisible child labour and
 - Children working in agriculture, hotels, restaurants and transport.

Strategies

- Awareness raising and social mobilisation,
- Application and surveillance of national laws and international labour standards,
- Inclusion of the issue of child labour in collective bargaining agreement,
- Inclusion of the issue of child labour in workers' education programmes,

- Prevention, rescue and rehabilitation measures,
- Development of a code of conduct for workers and their respective unions and
- Monitoring of the incidence of child labour in the workplace to protect child workers from exploitation.

Conclusion (Chapter I)

26 years have past since the International Year of the Child (1979) and 46 years since the UN Declaration on the Rights of the Child - yet children's rights continue to be violated, particularly in the area of child labour and servitude. In the present socio-economic condition of the country the elimination of child labour is a great challenge and not possible to achieve in a short time.

To combat many of the problems associated with child labour, ILO/IPEC has attempted to draw the attention of the public, the government, NGOs and media since more than one and half decade. The government and non-government institutions and trade unions are conducting various activities to eliminate child labour. The government is a signatory to the UN, ILO and SAARC conventions related to the rights of child and elimination of child labour from each sector. Despite these efforts the situation of child labour in the country being further worse from bad.

- Child labour situation in Nepal – **from Census and Survey**
- Objectives
- Methodology
- Organisation of the study

CHAPTER II Child Labour in Study Area

Brief Introduction of Study Area – socio-economic and demographic situation

Both the study districts, Dhanusha and Rupandehi are located at terai of Nepal representing central and western development regions respectively. The geographical area of Dhanusha is 1,180 sq. km. and 1,360 sq. km for Rupandehi. The population size in Dhanusha districts has recorded 6,71,364 and it is 7,08,419 for Rupandehi, which is 2.9 percent and 3.1 percent respectively of the total population of Nepal. The proportion of male is high in the study districts. The annual average growth rate of population is less than national average in Dhanusha (2.1%) and more than it in Rupandehi (3.1). Among the total population of the study districts 11 percent and 18 percent respectively in Dhanusha and Rupandehi are residing in urban areas. The number of local administrative unit called VDC and municipalities in Dhanusha is 102 and 71 in Rupandehi including one and two municipalities respectively. Among the total households of the respective district 34.3 percent and 27.5 percent households in Dhanusha and Rupandehi are landless. Only 30 percent of households of Dhanusha have access on pipe water and 44 percent on electricity but it is better position in Rupandehi where more than 60 percent households have access on both of these facilities. The literacy rate for Dhanusha is far below (48%) compared to Rupandehi (66%). The structure of house in Rupandehi is far better than Dhanusha comprising more than half *Pakki* houses and less than one third *Kachhi* in comparison to only 14 percent *Pakki* and more than 60 percent *Kachhi* in Dhanusha. Overwhelming majority family has ownership on house in both the district though Dhanusha is in better position whatever may be the quality of houses.

The population of the study districts belongs of different caste/ethnicity. Among them Yadav, scheduled caste known by *dalit* Muslim, Kewat, Dhanuk, Teli, Koiri are the major casts of Dhanusha where Brahmin, dalit, Tharu, Muslim, Magar, Yadav, Chhetri have dominate share in total population in Rupandehi. The *Dalits* are highly suppressed and exploited caste in both the districts though their share in total population of the respective district population is significant (16 and 12 percent respectively). Access of the population on basic facilities like pure drinking (tap) water and electricity is better in Rupandehi.

General Informations of Dhanusha and Rupandehi Districts

Information	Dhanusha	Rupandehi
Population (2001)	670826 (2.9%)	705240 (3.0%)
Average annual growth rate	2.1	3.1
Number of Households (2001)	117357	117821
Average Family size	5.7	6.0
Area in sq. km.	1180	1360
Population density	569	521
Number of VDCs	101	69
Municipalities	1	2
Percent of urban population	11	18
Type of house (%)		
Pakki	14.0	52.2
Semi-pakki	24.2	16.4
Kachhi	60.7	30.5
Others	1.1	0.9
Ownership on house (% of Family)	93.5	86.7
Landless households (% of family)	34.3	27.5
Sex ratio	109	104
Households with access of pipe water (%of total population)	30	63
Households with access of electricity (%of total population)	44	61
Literacy %	48	66
School level education	84.4	88.8

Higher education	15.6	11.2
Percent of child marriage (less than 15 years)	16	15

In Nepal nearly 30 percent children aged 10-14 years are economically active and majority of them are found involved in agriculture and related occupations followed by commerce. Contrary to the national figure of economically active population the labourforce of Dhanusha and Rupandehi districts is recorded below 50 percent only. They have involved in agriculture, commerce, manufacturing and personal and community services. Child labour in Nepal are not only involved in informal sector but more than 6 percent are working in manufacturing sector where 70 percent are involved in agricultural occupations followed by commerce (15%).

Economically Active Population in Study Districts

Sector of Employment	Usually Economically Active Population		
	10 years and above		10-14years
	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Nepal
Total Economically active Population (N)	228899	239595	609414
Total Economically active Population (%)	47.7	45.9	28.8
Agriculture, forestry & fishery	49.8	42.1	69.9
Mining and quarrying	0.0	0.6	0.1
Manufacturing	12.9	12.5	6.5
Electricity, gas and water	1.7	1.7	3.2
Construction	4.9	5.2	1.4
Commerce	15.1	19.4	15.4
Transportation and communication	2.4	4.6	0.2
Finance and Business services	1.4	1.7	0.0
Personal and community services	9.5	10.3	0.8
Others	2.2	1.7	2.1
Not stated	0.1	0.2	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Number of Child Labour

Of the total population about 40 percent are children below 15 years. Nearly 30 percent children are involved as child labour working within and outside their home. The 2001 population census illustrate that about four and three percent children below 16 years respectively in Dhanusha and Rupandehi are living outside home with relatives and employers. It is assumed that almost all these children are working for others in different terms and conditions.

Number of Children in Nepal and Study Districts by age group

Age Group	Nepal	Dhanusha	Rupandehi
0-4	2755213	87943	85945
5-9	3211442	103835	100638
10-14	2981932	79843	93002
Total	8948587	271621	279585
Children aged 0-14 as % of total population	39.4	40.5	39.6
15-59	54.1	57.3	54.1
60 and over	6.5	2.2	6.4
Sex ratio	100	109	104

General information of child labour –migration status, fooding and clothing

Age and Sex Structure

In the Dhanusha districts children starts to work from the age of six, where it is nine in the Rupandehi. Generally it is observed that in both the districts, girls start to work at low age than the boys. This reflects the gender differences in the districts. It also proves from the differences in the proportion of child labour (64% girls and 36% boys) in the sample study by sex. The percentage of child worker is not distributed uniformly in different ages but the proportion is high from the age of ten.

Table: Child Labor by Age and Sex

(in percent)

Age of Children	Dhanusha			Rupandehi		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
6	-	6.45	3.51	-	-	-
7	3.85	9.68	7.02	-	-	-
8	3.85	-	1.75	-	-	-
9	7.69	3.23	5.26	-	5.41	4.00
10	38.46	29.03	33.33	23.08	2.70	8.00
11	7.69	16.13	12.28	46.15	10.81	20.00
12	23.08	9.68	15.79	15.38	-	4.00
13	15.38	12.90	14.04	7.69	51.35	40.00
14	-	12.90	7.02	7.69	29.73	24.00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total (N)	78	93	171	39	111	150

Source: Field Survey, 2005.

Caste/ethnicity

Children from upper caste Brahmin to low caste *dalit* are involved as child labour in both the districts. Broadly the caste/ethnic groups are divided into two castes namely Hill caste and Terai caste. In Dhanusha two thirds child labour are from Terai caste where in Rupandehi it is less than one fourth. Of the total child labour about one fourth are from *dalit* community which group belongs to the trap of poverty. On the basis of the caste/ethnic groups involved as a child labour it can be assumed that poverty is the main cause of child labour in the study area too as of national situation.

Table: Child Labour by Caste/Ethnicity

(in Percent)

Caste/Ethnicity	Dhanusha			Rupandehi		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
Hill Caste*	42.31	25.81	33.33	76.92	78.38	78.00
Terai Caste**	57.69	74.19	66.67	23.08	21.62	22.00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Dalit	30.77	29.03	29.82	15.38	24.32	22.00

Note: * Brahmin, Chhetri, Bishwakarma, Magar, Damain, Rai, Tamang, Kumal, Majhi, Newar, Danuar, Lama and Sanyasi

** Tatma, Tharu, Muslim, Bin, Dhanuk, Mandal, Thatheri, Das, Chamar, Yadav, Mushar, Sada, Teli and Halkhor

Overwhelming majority of child labour have both father and mother as their guardian where 11 percent have only one, either father or mother. There is a slight difference in the districts regarding to the living arrangement of the children working within and outside their home. Few children are working under the guardianship of the relatives.

Table: Child Labour by Living Arrangements at their Home by District

Living Arrangements	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Both Father and Mother	87.72	84.00	85.98
Father only	5.85	5.33	5.61
Mother only	4.68	6.67	5.61
Relatives	1.75	4.00	2.80
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

The study reveals that generally the origin of child labour is the large family size. Nearly half child labourers are from above the average family size of the respective district - Dhanusha (5.7) and Rupandehi (6).

Table: Child Labour by Family Size and District

Family Size	District		
	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Less than 5	19.30	2.00	11.21
5 to 6	38.60	50.00	43.93
7 to 8	26.32	40.00	32.71
Above 8	15.79	8.00	12.15
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Social Condition – **education, health**

Literacy rate of child labour in the study district is satisfactory.

Table: Educational Status of Child Labor by District

Education	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Illiterate	42.11	18.00	30.84
Literate	57.89	82.00	69.16
Class one	54.55	36.59	44.59
Class Two	21.21	12.20	16.22
Class Three	6.06	17.07	12.16
Class Four and above	18.18	34.15	27.03
Enrolled at school	18.18	14.63	16.22
Not enrolled	81.82	85.37	83.78

- **Future Plan of the child labour**

CHAPTER III Employment Status of Children

- Economically active children from census by sector
- Employment Status of Sampled Children –place of work (rural-urban, within district, outside district, other countries), working hours, distance of work place from residence, wage, leave facilities, leisure, terms of work, behaviour of employer

Table: Child Labour by Previous Job, Sex and District

Previous work	Dhanusha		Rupandehi	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Idle	65.38	45.16	92.31	83.78
Agriculture	26.92	16.13	0.00	5.41
Domestic servant	7.69	19.35	7.69	10.81
Hotel & Restaurant worker	0.00	16.13	0.00	0.00
Garbage Cleaner	0.00	3.23	0.00	0.00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Child Labour by Current Job, Sex and District

Present work	Dhanusha		Rupandehi	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Agriculture	38.46	19.35	7.69	35.14
Construction	7.69	19.35	38.46	32.43
Domestic Servant	46.15	54.84	53.85	27.03
Hotel & Restaurant worker	7.69	6.45		5.41
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Child Labour by Duration of Work by Sex and District (Present)

Duration in Years	Dhanusha		Rupandehi	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Less than one Year	0	0	69.23	70.27
One Year	34.62	45.16	7.69	5.41
Two Year	57.69	38.71	23.08	21.62
More than Two Year	7.69	16.13	0.00	2.70
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Child Labour by Working Hours per Day and District

Working Hour	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Less than 6	35.09	2.00	19.63
6-8 hours	38.60	10.00	25.23
8+	26.31	88.00	55.14
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Child Labour by Place of Work

Place of Work	District		Total
	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	
Same District	85.96	64.00	75.70
Other District	14.04	34.00	23.36
Other Countries	0.00	2.00	0.93
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Distance between Residence and Workplace

Distance	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Can up and down from the residence	68.42	44.00	57.01
Can't up and down from the residence	31.58	56.00	42.99
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Wage of the Child Labour by District

Process of wage payment	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Daily	43.75	47.62	45.95
Monthly	56.25	47.62	51.35
Annual		4.76	2.70
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total (N)	96	126	222

Table:

Who took the wage	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Father	43.86	54.00	48.60
Mother	19.30	20.00	19.63
Self	35.09	8.00	22.43
Relatives	1.75	18.00	9.35
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Status of Debt and Advance taken earlier by the Family by District

	Dhanusha		Rupandehi	
Status of Debt	No. of Children	Average Rs	No. of Children	Average Rs
Debt	9	2166.67		
Advance	12	1450		

Table: Status of Child Labour

Status	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Attached Labour	26.32	18.00	22.43
Independent Labour	73.68	82.00	77.57
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Leave Facilities to the Child Labor

Leave facilities	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Yes	50.88	24.00	38.32
No	49.12	76.00	61.68
	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Sleeping hours per day for child labour

Sleeping Hours	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Less than five	14.04	2.00	8.41
5 to 7 hours	5.26	12.00	8.41
8	59.65	46.00	53.27
More than eight	21.05	40.00	29.91
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Leisure during Work

Leisure	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Yes	73.68	28.00	52.34
No	26.32	72.00	47.66
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table: Use of Leisure Time during Work

Use of Leisure	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Play	78.57	92.86	82.14
Rest	7.14	7.14	7.14
Entertainment	14.29		10.71
Total (N)	126	42	168

Table: Behaviour of the Employer with the child Labour

Type of Behaviour	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Total
Kindness	56.14	8.00	33.64
Normal	35.09	88.00	59.81
Beating/abuse	8.77	4.00	6.54
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

CHAPTER IV Summary and Recommendations

CONCLUSION

Hence trade unions, employers' organisations and government all are involved in the process of child labour elimination and child welfare. But due to lack of coordination between these three partners on the one hand and among one institution to another within the same partners.

- Summary
- Recommendations

Everywhere child labourers are replacing adult workers to some extent and this trend has to be corrected where trade unions can vital role.

Regulation and elimination of child labour is both the responsibility of the government as well as the civil society an follow up on the declaration is needed if want results.

Reference

- International Labor Organisation Bureau of Workers Activities (2000) *Proceedings of the "Workshop on Developing Common Policies and Strategies Against Child Labour among Trade Unions"* organised by ILO/IPEC, Kathmandu.
- General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (2000) *Garbage Cleaning Community and Child Labor in Nepal*, GEFONT, Kathmandu.
- KC, Bal Kumar (ed.) (1999) "The Nature and Magnitude of Working Children in Nepal" in *Nepal Population Journal*, Population Association of Nepal.
- Center for Policy Studies (1999) *Situation Analysis of Child Labor in Carpet Industry of Nepal*, unpublished Research report for RUGMARK Foundation, Kathmandu.
- General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (1997) *Life Inside Dhuras*, GEFONT, Kathmandu.
- KC., Bal Kumar et al. (1998) *Child Labor in Nepal: A Rapid Situation Analysis*, The World Bank, Kathmandu.
- Central Department of Population Studies (2003) *Labor Market Dynamics and Child Porters: The Nepalese context*, CDPS, TU, Kathmandu.

Economically active population by sector, 2001

Sector	Dhanusha	Rupandehi	Nepal (10-14)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing			
Mining and quarrying			
Manufacturing			
Electricity, gas and water			
Construction			
Commerce			
Transport and communication			
Finance and business services			
Personal and community services			
Others			
Not stated			
Total	228900	239597	609414

Tables

1. Management of Food Tiffin and Clothing by District

	Dhanusha	Rupandehi
Food Provided by the Management		
Food Managed by the children themselves		
Deduction the cost of food from wage		
Clothing Provided by the Management		
Clothing Managed by the children themselves		
Deduction the cost of clothing from wage		
Medical Expenses Provided by the Management		

Medical Expenses Managed by the children themselves		
Deduction the Medical Expenses from Wage		
Deduction the wage of the day absent due to sick		

2. Future Plan of the Child Labor by District

Future Plan	Dhanusha	Rupandehi
Study		