

1. Define Child Labour. List out the causes of Child labour in India.

- 1) The Child and Adolescent Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 defines a "child" as someone who has not reached the age of 14.
- 2) Child labour is defined by the International Labour Organization (ILO) as work that robs children of their youth, their potential, and their dignity, as well as harms their physical and mental development.

Causes of child labour in India.

- 1) **Increased demand for child labour:** particularly in metropolitan areas, is a major contributor to the prevalence and growth of child labour. Children are hired because they are inexpensive and adaptable to the needs of the employer, and they are unaware of their rights.
- 2) **Poverty and Debt:** The most common reason for child labour is poverty. For destitute families, a child's earnings are frequently important to his or her life or that of the household. Due to family debt, children are often obligated to work. Children are frequently trafficked for labor as a result of rural poverty and urban migration.
- 3) **Adult unemployment and underemployment:** Because of the high prevalence of adult unemployment and underemployment, children are frequently forced to labor in order to support their families.
- 4) **Illiteracy and ignorance of the child's parents:** The problem is made worse by the child's parents' illiteracy. Because of their illiteracy and lack of awareness of the adverse repercussions of child labour, they break the law and expose their children to inhumane exploitation.
- 5) **Cultural Factors:** The assumption that children contribute to the families and community's financial survival, as well as the presence of large families, contribute to the prevalence of child labour. From an early age, children frequently take up their families' traditional work. For example, a goldsmith's son or a carpenter's child may start learning carpentry at a young age.

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- 6) **Social Factors:** India's varied social structure and child labour have a strong relationship. In India, the majority of child labourers are from the so-called lower castes (SCs), as well as the tribal and Muslim religious minorities.
- 7) **Lack of fundamental and significant quality education and skills training:** The current educational infrastructure is unsuitable for children from low-income families. Increasing dropout rates and forced child labour have resulted from the poor quality of schooling.

The 15-18 age range is not covered by compulsory schooling. These youngsters, however, are vulnerable because they are illiterate or have dropped out of school, and they are frequently exploited as part of the informal, unskilled, and casual workforce.

