

Challenges and Prospectus of Government of India: Policy Issues of Child Labour

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Abstract: *Child labour (CL) is a grave issue in India that has been prevalent for decades. Despite various efforts by the government to eradicate this problem, it still persists in many parts of the country. The Indian government has implemented several policies to address the issue of CL, including the CL (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, the National Child Labour Project, and the Integrated Child Development Services. However, these policies face several challenges in their implementation. One of the main challenges faced by the government is the lack of awareness and education among parents and employers about the harmful effects of CL. Poverty, illiteracy, and lack of job opportunities are some of the primary reasons that drive children to work. The government needs to address these root causes to eliminate CL effectively. Another challenge is the inadequate enforcement of laws and policies. Many employers continue to engage children in various industries, such as agriculture, domestic work, and manufacturing, due to the lack of proper monitoring and accountability mechanisms. Despite these challenges, there are some prospects for the future of India's policy on CL. The government has taken steps to strengthen its efforts, including the formation of a National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights and a National Child Labour Project. Additionally, the government has increased its allocation of funds towards programs aimed at rescuing and rehabilitating child labourers. The issue of CL remains a significant challenge in India, the government has taken several steps toward eradicating this problem. However, effective implementation of policies and awareness - raising campaigns remain crucial to eliminating CL and providing children with the opportunity to receive an education and a better future.*

Keywords: Policy, Education, Child Labour, Child Development, Poverty

1. Introduction

Child Labour (CL) is a persistent and pervasive issue that affects millions of children worldwide. In India, the problem of CL is particularly acute, with an estimated 10 million children engaged in various forms of labour. Despite significant efforts by the Indian government to address this issue, including the enactment of laws and policies aimed at eliminating CL, the problem persists due to various socio-economic factors (Kaur, & Byard, 2021). This research paper will examine the challenges and prospects of the Indian government's policy on CL. Specifically, the paper will explore the effectiveness of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, the National Child Labour Project, and the Integrated Child Development Services in addressing the issue of CL (Goyal, 1987). The paper will also examine the root causes of CL, including poverty, illiteracy, and lack of job opportunities, and evaluate the government's efforts to address these underlying factors. In addition, the paper will assess the enforcement of CL laws and policies and the effectiveness of monitoring and accountability mechanisms in preventing the exploitation of children. The paper will also examine the impact of CL on children's education, health, and overall well-being and the government's efforts to rehabilitate and provide support to child labourers. Finally, the paper will explore the prospects for the future of India's policy on CL, including the formation of the National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights and increased funding for programs aimed at rescuing and rehabilitating child labourers. Overall, this research paper seeks to provide a comprehensive analysis of the challenges and prospects of the Indian government's policy on CL and identify areas for future improvement (Naidu, & Ramaiah, 2006).

The problem of CL has been a subject of extensive research and academic discourse for several decades. Scholars have identified poverty, illiteracy, lack of access to education, and job opportunities as some of the primary factors that drive children into labour (Kumar, 2013; Nanda, 2019). In India, CL is most prevalent in the agriculture, domestic work, and manufacturing industries. Several laws and policies have been enacted by the Indian government to address the problem of CL. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act was enacted in 1986 and amended in 2016, with the aim of prohibiting the employment of children below 14 years of age in hazardous industries and regulating the employment of adolescents between 14 and 18 years of age (Kumari, 2019; Mukhopadhyaya, Bhattacharya, & MacMillan, 2012; Maurya, 2001; Gupta, 2015). The National Child Labour Project, launched in 1988, aims to rehabilitate and provide support to child labourers (Bolla, 2004). The Integrated Child Development Services program provides a range of services, including health care, nutrition, and education, to children under the age of six (Kumar, 2013; Srivastava, 2019; Lal, 2019; Barman, 2022).

Despite the government's efforts, the problem of CL persists due to several challenges. One of the primary challenges is the lack of awareness and education among parents and employers about the harmful effects of CL (James, 2022). Additionally, the lack of effective enforcement of laws and policies, particularly in the informal sector, has made it difficult to eradicate CL. Several studies have highlighted the impact of CL on children's health, education, and overall well-being (Dash, Prashad, & Dutta, 2018). Children engaged in labour are more likely to drop out of school, suffer from malnutrition, and be subjected to physical and emotional abuse (Hathi, & Srivastav, 2022). To address these challenges, scholars have recommended several

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strategies, including increasing access to education, providing vocational training for parents and adolescents, strengthening enforcement mechanisms, and increasing funding for programs aimed at rescuing and rehabilitating child labourers. The formation of the National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights is a positive step towards strengthening the government's efforts to protect children's rights (Rather, 2022). The literature suggests that while the Indian government has made significant progress in addressing the problem of CL, more needs to be done to eradicate this issue. Effective implementation of laws and policies, awareness - raising campaigns, and addressing the underlying factors that drive children into labour will be crucial to achieving this goal (Rosati, 2022).

Policies of Government of India

In order to address the problem of child labour (CL) in India, the Government has put in place various policies and programs, which include the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act that prohibits hazardous industries from employing children under the age of 14, and regulates the employment of adolescents aged 14 to 18 (Cigno, Rosati, & Tzannatos, 2001). The National Child Labour Project (NCLP), launched in 1988, provides rehabilitation and support services such as non - formal education, vocational training, and healthcare to rescued child labourers (Misra, 2003). The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) program is designed to improve the health, nutrition, and education of children under the age of six, and prevent them from entering the labour force (Vikram, & Chindarkar, 2020). The National Policy on Child Labour, introduced in 1987, seeks to safeguard children's rights and prevent their exploitation through measures such as education and awareness campaigns, the strengthening of enforcement mechanisms, and support for rescued children (Balarajan, & Reich, 2016). The National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), established in 2007, is responsible for monitoring and reporting on violations of child rights, and helping abused and exploited children. These initiatives demonstrate the Government's commitment to addressing the problem of CL in India, but their effectiveness will depend on how well they are implemented and enforced (Sahoo, 2021).

In recent years, the Government of India has implemented several policies and initiatives to address the issue of CL. These include the revamped National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme, the POSHAN Abhiyaan or National Nutrition Mission, the National Action Plan for Children (NAPC), the amendment to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, and the National Policy for Children. These policies aim to provide comprehensive support to rescued children, improve the nutritional status of children, ensure the protection and development of children, and prohibit the employment of children below 14 years of age. However, the effectiveness of these policies in eradicating CL and promoting the rights and well - being of children depends on their implementation and enforcement. Overall, these policies reflect the government's commitment to addressing the issue of CL and promoting the holistic development of children in India (Jasrotia, Singh, & Saxena, 2022).

The policies and initiatives implemented by the Government of India have had some positive results in addressing the issue of CL in the country. According to data from the International Labour Organization (ILO), the number of CLs in India declined by around 38% between 2001 and 2011. This can be attributed to several factors, including the government's efforts to promote education and discourage CL, as well as the enforcement of laws and regulations aimed at protecting children. The National CL Project (NCLP) Scheme has been particularly effective in providing support to children rescued from work. The scheme provides non - formal education, vocational training, and rehabilitation services to children, which helps them to develop skills and become self - sufficient. According to a report by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, over 90% of children enrolled in the scheme have been successfully rehabilitated and mainstreamed into formal education or vocational training (Aggarwal, & Kakkar, 2019).

Similarly, the POSHAN Abhiyaan has had a positive impact on reducing malnutrition among children. According to data from the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the prevalence of stunting among children under five years of age declined from 48% in 2005 - 06 to 34.7% in 2019 - 20, indicating an improvement in nutritional status. However, despite these positive results, CL remains a significant problem in India, particularly in the informal sector. The COVID - 19 pandemic has also had a negative impact on the situation, with many children forced to drop out of school and engage in work to support their families. Therefore, there is still a need for continued efforts and stronger enforcement mechanisms to completely eradicate CL from the country (Kapur & Suri, 2020).

Impact of Education

Education has been shown to be a crucial factor in addressing the issue of CL in India. Studies have consistently found that children who receive an education are less likely to engage in work and more likely to have better life outcomes. Education also provides children with the skills and knowledge necessary to lead productive and fulfilling lives, and helps to break the cycle of poverty that can perpetuate CL. However, despite the government's efforts to promote education in India, a significant number of children are still not receiving an education, particularly in rural and urban areas. According to data from the Ministry of Education, in 2020, there were approximately 6.1 million out - of - school children between the ages of 6 and 17 in India. Of these, around 3.1 million were in rural areas, and 3 million were in urban areas (Abdu, Rabi & Usman, 2020).

The reasons for children not receiving an education are complex and multifaceted. Poverty is a major factor, as many families cannot afford to send their children to school or prioritize work over education. Other factors include inadequate infrastructure, lack of quality teachers, and social and cultural norms that prioritize domestic work or early marriage over education for girls. "The government has implemented several initiatives to address the issue of out - of - school children, including the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Right to Education Act, which provide free and

compulsory education for children between the ages of 6 and 14". However, the effectiveness of these initiatives has been limited by inadequate funding, poor implementation, and lack of awareness among parents and communities about the importance of education. Therefore, there is a need for continued efforts to ensure that all children, particularly those in rural and urban areas, have access to quality education (Balagopalan, 2019).

Child Labours and Crucial Problems

The number of child laborers in India is difficult to estimate precisely, as much of the work is carried out in the informal sector and is therefore not officially recorded. However, according to data from the International Labour Organization (ILO), in 2011, there were approximately 10.1 million child laborers between the ages of 5 and 14 in India, representing around 5% of the total child population in this age group. The majority of child laborers work in the agricultural sector, followed by domestic work, manufacturing, and construction (Ibrahim, et. al., 2019).

Children work as child laborers for a variety of reasons, including poverty, lack of access to education, cultural and social norms, and family dynamics. Many families living in poverty cannot afford to send their children to school and rely on their income to make ends meet. In other cases, children are forced to work due to family debt or as a result of trafficking and forced labour. CL is a complex issue that poses several crucial problems. Firstly, it deprives children of their childhood and their right to education, health, and overall development. Working long hours in hazardous conditions can have severe physical and psychological impacts on children, often resulting in long - term health problems and reduced life expectancy. Secondly, it reinforces the cycle of poverty, as child laborers are often trapped in low - skilled, low - paying jobs and are unable to break out of the cycle of poverty. Thirdly, it perpetuates social inequality and discrimination, as children from marginalized communities are more likely to be engaged in CL. In addition to these issues, CL also poses a significant challenge to the overall economic development of the country, as it leads to reduced productivity, lower wages, and increased inequality. Therefore, it is crucial to address the issue of CL in India through a multi - pronged approach that includes education, enforcement of laws and regulations, and awareness - raising campaigns (LeBaron, 2020).

Child Development

The Government of India (GOI) has implemented several policies and initiatives to address the issue of child labor and promote the overall development of children in the country. Some of the ways in which the GOI can further the development of child laborers are:

- 1) Education: "Education is crucial to breaking the cycle of poverty and providing children with the skills and knowledge necessary to lead productive and fulfilling lives. The GOI has implemented several initiatives to promote education, such as the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Right to Education Act". The government needs to ensure that all children have access to quality education and that education is free, compulsory, and of high quality.
- 2) Skill development and vocational training: The GOI can provide vocational training and skill development programs to child laborers and other marginalized children to equip them with the skills needed for employment in different sectors.
- 3) Social protection: The GOI can provide social protection programs for children and their families, such as cash transfer schemes and food subsidies, to reduce poverty and support children's education.
- 4) Enforcement of laws and regulations: The GOI can strengthen its enforcement of laws and regulations relating to child labor, such as the Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, and establish effective monitoring mechanisms to ensure that children are protected from exploitation and abuse.
- 5) Awareness - raising campaigns: The GOI can launch awareness - raising campaigns to educate parents, employers, and communities about the negative impacts of child labor and the importance of education and child protection.
- 6) Partnership and collaboration: The GOI can work in partnership and collaboration with civil society organizations, international organizations, and other stakeholders to develop and implement effective policies and programs to promote the overall development of children in India.

In 1987, the National Policy on CL was introduced by "the Indian government to combat the issue of child labor in the country. The policy includes legislative measures, as well as the convergence of development programs and project - based initiatives aimed at promoting the welfare of working children in areas where child labor is prevalent. The government has also passed the CL (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, which prohibits the employment of children in certain industries and regulates the working conditions of children in other industries. While the responsibility for enforcement falls on state governments, the Union of India oversees enforcement efforts periodically. The Ministry of Labour & Employment has established a core group to prioritize the upliftment of families of child laborers. To rehabilitate child laborers and integrate them into formal schooling, the government has implemented the National CL Project Scheme (NCLP) in 266 districts across 20 states. Since its inception in 1988, approximately 8.95 lakh children have been mainstreamed into formal education systems. " The NCLP Scheme primarily focuses on rehabilitating children working in hazardous industries and processes (Kalaiselvi & Kalirajan, 2022).

Rehabilitation of Child Labours

The Ministry of Labour & Employment has been actively involved in rehabilitating child laborers (CLs) through various measures. One such initiative is the National CL Project (NCLP) Scheme, which rescues/withdraws children aged 9 - 14 years from work and enrolls them in the NCLP Special Training Centers (STCs). These STCs provide bridge education, vocational training, mid - day meals, stipends, healthcare, and other services to prepare the children for mainstream education (Sharik, 2022). As of March 31st, 2021, there were 1225 STCs operating in 59 districts, rehabilitating 33, 573 enrolled CLers. However, "due to the COVID - 19 pandemic, the Ministry of Labour &

Employment issued an advisory to all District Magistrates and Chairmen of NCLP, urging them to assess the situation in their district with regards to COVID - 19 and decide whether to operate or suspend STCs and project societies to prevent the spread of the virus” (This information is retrieved from <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1807727>).

The Ministry of Labour & Employment is responsible for providing financial assistance to “District Project Societies, who in turn release funds to implementing agencies for operating STCs under the NCLP Scheme. The details of the grant - in - aid released in each state during the last five years, from 2016 - 17 to 2020 - 21, are available. To combat CL, the government has taken a multi - pronged approach, including legislative measures, rehabilitation strategies, free education, and general socio - economic development. The CL (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016, provides stricter punishment for employers who violate the Act and has made the offence cognizable. The government has also created the CL (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Central Rules and a model State Action Plan that outlines action points for respective state governments, which have been shared with all Chief Secretaries. According to the "Crime in India, 2020" report by the National Crime Records Bureau, the number of cases

registered under the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986”, was 464, 772, and 476 in 2018, 2019, and 2020, respectively. Unfortunately, the COVID - 19 pandemic has had an impact on all sectors of society, including children (Bhuimali, & Chatterjee, 2022).

Table 1: Status of NCLP “Schemes

| Sl. No. | Name of State | No. of Operational Districts | No. of Special Training Centres (STCs) operational |
|---------|-----------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 6 | 120 |
| 2. | Assam | 2 | 133 |
| 3. | Jammu & Kashmir | 1 | 10 |
| 4. | Jharkhand | 2 | 42 |
| 5. | Karnataka | 1 | 3 |
| 6. | Madhya Pradesh | 6 | 138 |
| 7. | Maharashtra | 6 | 79 |
| 8. | Odisha | 3 | 45 |
| 9. | Rajasthan | 3 | 51 |
| 10. | Tamil Nadu | 15 | 233 |
| 11. | Telangana | 4 | 71 |
| 12. | Uttar Pradesh | 3 | 118 |
| 13. | West Bengal | 7 | 182 |
| | Total | 59 | 1225 |

Table 2: Grant Released under NCLP Scheme (Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | 2016 - 17 | 2017 - 18 | 2018 - 19 | 2019 - 20 | 2020 - 21 |
|---------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 213.01 | 298.12 | 309.46 | 202.68 | 306.29 |
| 2. | Assam | 257.30 | 460.30 | 1109.45 | 198.28 | 49.64 |
| 3. | Bihar | 168.92 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 0 | 4.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 33.78 | 112.26 | 99.41 | 154.31 | 61.36 |
| 6. | Haryana | 412.18 | 123.13 | 234.66 | 191.77 | 116.83 |
| 7. | Jammu & Kashmir | 61.04 | 0 | 56.14 | 0 | 32.48 |
| 8. | Jharkhand | 543.72 | 280.14 | 0 | 274.54 | 177.42 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 132.26 | 100.53 | 184.23 | 127.38 | 82.74 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 878.68 | 687.37 | 514.34 | 491.67 | 363.41 |
| 11. | Maharashtra | 1192.54 | 1338.84 | 106.19 | 998.70 | 931.49 |
| 12. | Nagaland | 192.69 | 74.07 | 0 | 4.00 | 0 |
| 13. | Odisha | 8.00 | 106.40 | 138.62 | 188.57 | 115.16 |
| 14. | Punjab | 325.14 | 322.33 | 256.88 | 282.35 | 206.41 |
| 15. | Rajasthan | 138.89 | 179.06 | 319.46 | 281.40 | 124.19 |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu | 1015.07 | 749.67 | 878.53 | 811.44 | 482.00 |
| 17. | Telangana | 475.76 | 323.29 | 204.56 | 132.11 | 152.86 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 1333.25 | 1176.15 | 1420.72 | 759.66 | 433.83 |
| 19. | Uttarakhand | 12.34 | 36.62 | 0 | 32.64 | 0 |
| 20. | West Bengal | 1916.85 | 2227.20 | 1896.90 | 2503.72 | 463.37 |

Table 3: Number of cases registered under the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, State/Union Territories

| Sl. No. | State/UT | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---------|-------------------|------|------|------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 0 | 2 | 37 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 3 | Assam | 39 | 68 | 40 |
| 4 | Bihar | 14 | 15 | 3 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 6 | Gujarat | 35 | 64 | 39 |
| 7 | Haryana | 6 | 11 | 1 |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 9 | Jharkhand | 17 | 18 | 27 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 63 | 83 | 54 |
| 11 | Kerala | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 3 | 4 | 1 |

| | | | | |
|----|---------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 13 | Maharashtra | 90 | 53 | 29 |
| 14 | Meghalaya | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 15 | Punjab | 8 | 8 | 11 |
| 16 | Rajasthan | 32 | 48 | 30 |
| 17 | Tamil Nadu | 6 | 3 | 2 |
| 18 | Telangana | 125 | 314 | 147 |
| 19 | Tripura | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 20 | Uttar Pradesh | 2 | 9 | 1 |
| 21 | Uttarakhand | 0 | 27 | 41 |
| 22 | West Bengal | 5 | 7 | 3 |
| 23 | Chandigarh | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 24 | Daman & Diu | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| 25 | Delhi | 15 | 30 | 6 |
| | TOTAL | 464 | 772 | 476 |

Source: National Crime Records Bureau”

Poverty of Child Labours

Poverty is a “condition in which an individual or a group of people lack the resources and capabilities necessary to meet their basic needs, such as food, shelter, clothing, healthcare, education, and other essentials of life.” The lack of access to basic human rights, such as food, shelter, education, and healthcare, is often a defining feature of poverty. Poverty can arise from various factors, including economic, social, and political factors, such as inequality, discrimination, corruption, conflict, lack of opportunities, and inadequate social safety nets. Poverty is a multifaceted issue that affects individuals, families, and communities, and requires a comprehensive and sustained response from governments, civil society, and the international community. Poverty is also a major cause of CL, as families living in poverty are often forced to send their children to work to make ends meet. These children may end up working in hazardous or exploitative conditions, such as factories, mines, or as domestic servants. Moreover, poverty can also lead to a lack of access to education and healthcare, perpetuating the cycle of poverty and CL. Thus, it is crucial to address poverty and its underlying causes to eliminate CL (Chauhan, & Pandey, (2022).

The Government of India has implemented policies and measures to address the issue of CL, but there are still several challenges that need to be tackled. The lack of effective implementation, poverty, limited access to education, inadequate rehabilitation measures, and child trafficking are some of the major challenges that need attention. However, there are prospects for eliminating CL, including legislative measures, rehabilitation schemes, awareness campaigns, economic growth, and international cooperation. The government's initiatives such as the CL (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016, National CL Project (NCLP) Scheme, and awareness campaigns can help in creating public support for the cause and sensitizing people about the issue of CL. Additionally, economic growth policies and international cooperation can also play a crucial role in eliminating CL in the country (Begum, 2022).

However, based on research and expert opinions, there are several policy measures that the Indian government can consider to effectively eliminate CL in the country. Here are some potential policy options:

- 1) Strengthening the implementation of laws: The Indian government can work towards improving the

enforcement of laws related to CL. This can involve increasing the number of labour inspectors, improving their training, and creating a better reporting mechanism for violations.

- 2) Addressing the root causes: The government can address the root causes of CL, which are poverty, lack of access to education, and inadequate social protection. This can involve implementing policies to reduce poverty, such as increasing the minimum wage and providing financial assistance to poor families. The government can also work towards providing universal access to quality education and improving social protection measures for vulnerable families.
- 3) Improving rehabilitation measures: The government can work towards improving rehabilitation measures for rescued CLs. This can involve providing long - term solutions for children, such as access to education, vocational training, and healthcare.
- 4) Targeted interventions: The government can implement targeted interventions in areas with a high prevalence of CL. This can involve providing incentives for employers who hire adults instead of children, and creating child - friendly spaces in schools to attract children who have dropped out due to CL.
- 5) International cooperation: The government can work closely with international organizations and other countries to share best practices and experiences in eliminating CL. This can involve creating a network of countries to address the issue of CL and implementing joint initiatives to eliminate CL in the supply chains.

Overall, a multi - faceted approach that addresses the root causes of CL strengthens the implementation of laws, improves rehabilitation measures, and targets interventions in high - prevalence areas is likely to be most effective in eliminating CL in India (Salzburger, 2023).

2. Conclusion and Policy Recommendations

To combat CL in India, experts and organizations have proposed broad recommendations. These include increasing access to quality education, strengthening the implementation of laws, providing better rehabilitation services, increasing public awareness, and promoting alternative livelihoods. By investing more in education infrastructure and providing financial support to families, the government can ensure that children from marginalized communities can attend school regularly. Additionally,

better monitoring and enforcement mechanisms, along with adequate training and resources for law enforcement agencies, can help effectively implement the existing laws. The government can also provide counseling, education, vocational training, and access to healthcare for rescued child laborers to help them break out of the cycle of poverty and exploitation. Public awareness campaigns can sensitize people about the issue of child labor and its impact on children's lives while promoting alternative livelihoods for families that rely on child labor can be achieved through various measures such as skill development programs, microfinance, and entrepreneurship schemes.

However, it is important to tailor these recommendations to the specific needs and context of each region in India. CL is a complex issue in India that requires a multi-faceted approach to address. While the government has taken several policy measures to eliminate CL, there are still significant challenges that need to be addressed, such as poverty, limited access to education, and inadequate rehabilitation measures. However, recommendations such as increasing access to quality education, strengthening the implementation of laws, providing better rehabilitation services, increasing public awareness, and promoting alternative livelihoods can help in effectively combatting CL. It is important for the government to tailor these recommendations to the specific needs and context of each region in India. By working towards these recommendations and taking an active role in eliminating CL, India can create a better future for its children and improve the overall welfare of the country.

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