

Child Domestic Workers In Kathmandu Valley- 2003

Annual Status Report

Presented By

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Child Domestic Workers is the bitter truth of our society. Children below the age of 14ys are living their life working as domestic worker in order to help their family financially or may have become the victims of the employers' exploitative mentality living in urban area.

Domestic Work is general as it looks and seems very well facilitated but the fact is numerous exploitation, violence, abuse and discrimination falls under the area of Domestic Work. Accepting this bitter truth about the domestic labor, ILO Convention 182 has stated the children involvement into domestic work sector as a worst form of Child labor.

Being well aware with the situation of domestic workers, CWISH (Children and Women in Social Service and Human Rights) since the last seven years has been working along with different activities to improve the situation of child domestic workers and for the end of the trend of employing children into domestic work under the age of 14 years.

Educational programs, e.g. Non formal education, formal school education support programs and vocational skill training are the most important activities of CWISH to address the problems of child domestic workers. In 2003 the educational programs have addressed 1461 child laborers, in which 1250 children are domestic workers. CWISH has been supported financially and technically by World Education, ISCL-GTZ, Save the Children Norway, Action Aid Nepal, ILO-IPEC and Interpedia.

Kuleswor, Balaju, Samakhushi, Maharajgunj, Dhumbarahi, Chabhil, Maijubahal, Kapan, Sarswotinagar, Baudha, Sinamangal, Purano Baneswor, Naya Baneswor, Babarmahal, Kupundole, Satadobato, Talchhikhel, Balkumari, Anamnagar, Teku, Dillibazar, Maitidevi and Gyaneswor are the area where CWISH has organized Non Formal Education Classes for child domestic workers and outreached the child workers.

CWISH has started to publish Annual Status Report of Child Domestic Workers In Kathmandu from this year. The report is on the basis of personal details of 1250 child

domestic workers who had attended CWISH non formal education classes and studying in 57 different schools of Kathmandu with the formal school education support of CWISH.

We have worked at our best to present clear and detail facts as far as possible without any mistakes to provide clarity but we can't deny that despite of our efforts there were the possibilities of mistakes. Therefore, your comments and suggestions will be encouragement for us and we hope that it will help to refine our report to be more effective and with more clearly detail facts and figures.

A. Personal Details

Among 1250 child domestic workers who were benefited with the program of CWISH, 35.2 per cent e.g. 440 were boys and 64.8 percent or 810 were girls. Among them, 86 boys and 148 girls who in total are 234 children fall below the age of 10 years. Likewise, 61.68 percent of the total number e.g. 771 children including 283 boys and 488 girls belong to the range of 10 to 14 years of age. The total number of children above the age of 14 years is 204 including 145 girls and 59 boys that is 16.32 is the percentage of total number of children. 3.28 per cent or 41 child laborers do not know about their age among which 12 are boys and 29 are girls.

Age Composition of Child Domestic Workers			
Age Group	Boys	Girls	Total
Less than 10 years	86 (6.88 %)	148 (11.84%)	234 (18.72%)
10 to 14 years	283 (22.64%)	488 (33.04%)	771 (61.68%)
15 and above 15 years	59 (4.72%)	145 (11.6%)	204 (3.28%)
Don't Know	12 (0.96%)	29 (2.32%)	41 (3.28%)
Total	440(35.2%)	810 (64.8%)	1250 (100%)

Likewise, the analysis of caste division of child domestic workers who participated in the program showed that children belonged to Chhetri community is found to be high. Among 1250 child laborers, 22.24 percent or 278 belonged to Kshetri community, 259 (20.72 per cent) belonged to Tamang community and 140 (11.2 per cent) are from Tharu community. Like wise, 119 are Magars, 100 are Bramhin, 90 are Newar, 69 are Rai and

Limbu, 47 are Dalit, 28 Gurung, 27 Danuwar, Rajabansi 14, Satar 12, Dhimal 9, Mushalman 9, Sherpa 9, Mandal 7, Yadav 7, Bote 2, Chepang 2 and Rajput 1.

Cast Composition	
Cast Group	Number
Chhetri	278
Tamang	259
Tharu	140
Magar	119
Bramhan	100
Newar	90
Rai Limbu	69
Dalit	47
Gurung	28
Others	120
Total	1250

It has been found that the children who participated in the program are from 52 different districts of Nepal among which maximum 100 (8 %) are from Kathmandu. Besides this, 5.68 per cent (71) are from Sindhupalchowk, 5.44 % (68) are from Jhapa, 5.12 per cent (64) are from Kavre, 4.96 per cent (62) are from Sindhuli, 4.56 per cent (57) are from Dolakha, 4.56 per cent (57) are from Sarlahi, 4.4 per cent (55) are from Nuwakot, 4 per cent (50) are from Makwanpur, 3.2 per cent (40) are from Dhading, 3.2 per cent (40) are from Morang, 3.04 per cent (38) are from Sunsari, 2.96 per cent (37) are from Chitwan, 2.24 per cent (28) are from Dang, 1.92 per cent (24) are from Ramechhap, 1.38 per cent (21) are from Kailali, 1.52 per cent (19) are from Solukhumbu, 1.36 per cent (17) are from Bardia, 1.28 per cent (16) are from Parsa, 1.12 per cent (14) from Dhanusha, 1.12 (14) from Khotang, 1.12 per cent (14) from Nawalparashi, 0.96 per cent (12) are from Kaski, 0.96 per cent (12) are from Saptari, 0.88 per cent (11) are from Rautahat, 0.8 per cent (10) are from Gulmi, 0.8 per cent (10) are from Lalitpur, 0.72 per cent (9) are from Parbat, 0.72 per cent (9) are from Gorkha, 0.72 per cent (9) are from Mahottari, 0.72 per cent (9) from Palpa, 0.72 per cent (9) are from Rupandehi, 0.72 per cent (9) are from Kanchanpur, 0.56 per cent (7) are from Kapilvastu, 0.56 per cent (7) are from Tanahu, 0.4 per cent (5) are from Humla, 0.32 per cent (4) are from Banke, 0.32 per cent (4) are from Dhankuta, 0.32 per cent (4) are from Ilam,

0.32 per cent(4) are from Siraha, 0.32 per cent (4) are from Arghakhachi, 0.32 per cent (4)are from Lamjung, 0.32 per cent (4) are from Taplejung, 0.32 per cent (4) are from Terhathum, 0.32 per cent(4) are from Okhaldhunga, 0.24 per cent (3) are from Baglung, 0.16 per cent (2) are from Aachham, 0.16 per cent (2) are from Bhaktapur, 0.16 per cent (2) are from Myagdi. Among the respondent child domestic workers 0.32 per cent (2) are from India too. 11.04 per cent (138) participants don't know even where are they from.

Home District of Child Domestic Workers		
District	Number	Percent
Kathmandu Valley	112	8.96
Neighbor District of KTM	304	24.32
Others	696	55.68
Don't Know	138	11.04
Total	1250	100

B. Family Status

Regarding the status of their parents 3.44 per cent (43) are found orphan children whose both parents are dead, 4.8 per cent (60) stated their mothers are dead, 10.08 % (126) said that their fathers are dead. Besides that 81.68 % (1021) have their both parents alive.

Parents' Status		
Parents' Status	Number of CDWs	Percent
Both Died	43	3.44
Mother Died	60	4.8
Father Died	126	10.08
Both Alive	1021	81.68
Total	1250	100

When talking about their family size, 61.2 % or 765 participants have informed that their family are of 5 to 7 members, 20.56 % (257) participants have their family of less than 4 members, remaining 16.16% (202) have their family of 8 to 10 members and 2.08 % (26) have their family members more than 11 members.

Family Size of Child Domestic Workers		
Family Size	Number of CDWs	Percent
Up to 4 members	257	20.56
5 to 7 members	765	61.2
8 to 10 members	202	16.16
More than 11 members	26	2.08
Total	1250	100

Among the participant child domestic workers, 809 (64.72 %) participants of the program expressed that their family hold their own land, 407 (32.56%) participants told that their family do not hold land on their own and 34 (2.72%) told that they do not know about land.

Land Holding Status of Family of Child Domestic Workers		
Land Holding Status of Family	Number of CDWs	Percent
Family with own land	809	64.72
Family without own land	407	32.57
Don't Know	34	2.71
Total	1250	100

In the context of disclosing the main income source of their parents, 36.4% (455) are found involved in agriculture, 14.08% (176) are involved in Agro labor, 12.16 % (152) are involved in Industrial labor, 11.04 % (138) are involved in service sector, 5.44 % (68) are involved in domestic chores, 4.16% (52) are involved in business and remaining 16.72% (209) do not know about main income source of their family.

Main Income Source of The Family of Child Domestic Workers		
Income Source	Number of Family	Percent
Peasants	455	36.4
Agro labor	176	14.08
Industrial Labor	152	12.16
Service	138	11.04
Household Chores	68	5.44
Small Scale Business	52	4.16
Don't Know	209	16.72
Total	1250	100

C. About the Migration and Their Work

The personal details of the child domestic workers under this program have also collected information about the migration and the work they perform. Among the child domestic workers participated on the program, 291 CDWs (23.28%) informed that its been more than 6 years that they have left their own house, 367 (29.36%) of total told that it has

been five years that they had left home. Likewise, 302 (24.16%) left home one year before and 290 (23.2%) informed that it had been just 6 months that they had left their home.

Out of Home Period of CDWs		
Period Group	Number of CDWs	Percent
More than 6 Years	291	23.28
2 to 5 years	367	29.36
1 years	302	24.16
6 months	290	23.2
Total	1250	100

Among the participant child domestic workers, 631 (50.48%) left their home because of the economic problems of their home. In search of good education 169 (13.52%) Children were migrated. The reason for 147(11.76%) participants to leave home is because of domestic violence, 86 (6.88%) left home because of fascination towards urban life, 15 (1.2%) participants were forced to leave their home because of present armed conflict and 202 (16.16%) participants left their home due to various other reasons.

Reasons for Migration		
Reasons	Number of CDWs	Percent
Economic Problem	631	50.48
Education	169	13.52
Domestic Violence	147	11.76
Urban Attraction	86	6.88
Armed Conflict	15	1.2
Others	202	16.16
Total	1250	100

Likewise, the following are the information regarding the person who accompanied children while leaving their own home. 279 (22.32%) participants were accompanied by other people and 390 (31.2%) had left home with their own parents. Likewise 340 (27.2%) children were accompanied by relatives, 155 (12.4%) other family members accompanied them to leave home and 86 (6.88%) child domestic workers told that their friends while running away from home accompanied them.

Company on Migration		
Company	Number of CDWs	Percent
Parents	390	31.2
Family members	155	12.4
Relatives	340	27.2
Friends	86	6.88
Other People	279	22.32
Total	1250	100

Among the children who had participated in the program 57 (4.56%) participants engaged in work for more than 6 years. Among the participants, the highest number of participants e.g. 371 (29.68%) were found working since last 6 months, 312 (24.96) are working since last 1 year, 174 (13.92%) are working since last 2 years and 200 (16%) are working since last 3 to 5 years. 136 (10.88%) are not sure about the period of time that they being involved in work.

Working Period of Child Domestic Workers		
Working Period	Number of CDWs	Percent
6 and more Than 6 Years	57	4.56
3 to 5 Years	200	16
2 years	174	13.92
1 year	312	24.96
6 Months	371	29.68
Don't Know	136	10.88
Total	1250	100

Among children 528 child domestic workers told that they had worked in other places also before this and it was the first place for 722 child domestic workers. Among these 528 child workers who had worked in other places also before this, 471 were domestic workers before also, 7 child domestic workers used to work at carpet factory, 5 child domestic workers used to work as child porter before, 2 child domestic workers used to work as bonded labor and 43 child domestic workers were involved in different types of other works before. But these children were not found to be in street or involved in mines.

Previous Working Sector of Child Domestic Workers	
Working Sector	Number of CDWs
Domestic Workers	471
Carpet Factory Workers	7
Child Porters	5
Bonded Child labor	2
Other	43
Total	528

From 528 child domestic workers involved in labor before also, 254 told that they worked in Kathmandu before also, 21 worked in Morang, 17 worked in Chitwan and 12 worked in Jhapa. Among those, 155 children did not know about the place where they worked before. Beside these, the other places where these children worked before are highlighted here. 7 worked in Kaski, 7 worked in Makwanpur, 7 worked in Nuwakot, 7 worked in Sarlahi, 5 worked in Rupandehi, 5 worked in Palpa, 5 worked in Sindhuli, 3 worked in Dang, 3 worked in Banke, 3 worked in Sindhulipalchowk, 3 worked in Kavre, 2 worked in Gorkha, 2 worked in Nawalparasi, 2 worked in Sunsari, 2 worked in Udayapur and 2 worked in Bara before this.

Previous Worked District of Child Domestic Workers	
District	Number of CDWs
Kathmandu	254
Morang	21
Chitawan	17
Jhapa	12
Others	69
Don't Know	155
Total	528

It has been observed that among these Child Domestic Workers, 303 child domestic workers have to work for more than 8 hours every day and 476 (38.08%) have to work at least for 8 hours every day. Likewise, 305(24.4%) have to work for 4 hours in a day and 66 (5.28 %) have to work for 2 hours in a day and 100 (8%) do not know about their working period.

Daily Working Hours of Child Domestic Workers		
Working Hours	Number of CDWs	Percent
More than 8 hours	303	24.24
Up to 8 hours	476	38.08
Up to 4 hours	305	24.4
Up to 2 hours	66	5.28
Don't Know	100	8
Total	1250	100

Concerning the salary and wages of these child domestic workers 569 (45.52%) child domestic workers do not know about their salary and they complained that they have not received any salary or wages for their work except two squares of meals and a living corner. Among those who received salary, 426 (34.08%) receives less than Rs. 500 per month, 155 (12.4%) receives monthly between Rs.500 to Rs.700, 55 (4.4%) receive between Rs.701 to Rs.1000 per month, 45 (3.6%) receives monthly more than Rs.1000 as salary or wages for their work.

Average Monthly Salary Details of CDWs		
Salary Range	Number of CDWs	Percent
Below than Rs.500	426	34.08
Between 500 to 700	155	12.4
Between 700 to 1000	55	4.4
More than 1000	45	3.6
Never Received/Don't Know	569	45.52
Total	1250	100

Likewise, among 681 child domestic workers who receive salary, only 132 (19.32%) receives their own salary. Besides them 414 (60.79%) child domestic workers' salary is received by their parents, the salary of 24(3.52%) is received by other family members, salary of 17 (2.49%) is received by their relatives and the salary of 94 (13.80%) is received by other people.

Who Receives Salary of CDWs		
Receiver	Number of CDWs	Percent
Self	132	19.38
Parents	414	60.79
Family Members	24	3.52
Relatives	17	2.51
Other People	94	13.8
Total	681	100

D. Educational and Health Status

On the course of analysis of the educational status of these children it is found that 736 (58.88%) are literate and 514 (41.12%) are illiterate. Among these children, 809 are school dropped out.

Literacy Status of The Child Domestic Workers		
Status	No. of CDWs	Percent
Literate	736	58.88
Illiterate	514	41.12
Total	1250	100

Status	Number of CDWs
School Drop out	809
Not in school	441
Total	1250

When dealing about the reasons for these children to be dropped out from school, they mentioned some of the major reasons like 257 (31.76%) of them left school because of financial problem and the reason for 233 (28.80 %) children to leave school is because they have to go for work. Besides this, 105(12.97 %) left school because of family problem, 55 (6.79%) left school Because they have to look after their siblings, 24 (2.96%) left school because of long distance of school, 17(2.10%) left school because of Maltreatment or physical violence from teachers, 16(1.97%) left schools because of discriminatory behaviors in school, 5 (0.61%) left school because of over age, 2 (0.24%) left school because they did not like the school curriculum and 95 (11.74%) had to leave school due to various other reasons.

Reasons of Being Dropped Out from School		
Reasons	Number of CDWs	Percent
Economic Problem	257	31.76
Involvement into labor	233	28.8
Family problem	105	12.97
Sibling Care	55	6.79
School Distance	24	2.96
Teachers' Violence	17	2.1
Discrimination in School	16	1.97
Over Aged	5	0.61
Not interested in Curriculum	2	0.24
Others	95	11.74
Total	809	99.94

Similarly in case of health facilities that these children received, among the total participants 58.08 % (726) informed that they have received some or one of health facilities and 41.92% (524) haven't received any health facilities yet.

Among 726 who received one or some of health facilities, 431(59.36%) informed that they have received general medicine when they had fever or headache like health problems and 109 (15.01 %) had taken medicine for tapeworm. Likewise in the case of those getting vaccination only 64(8.81%) got the vaccination, 38 (5.23%) had done general health checkup and 84 (11.57%) informed that they have nutritious food to eat.

Health Service Status for CDWs	
Health Service Status for CDWs	Number of Receiver
General Medicine	431
Medicine for Juka	109
Immunization	64
General Health Check Up	38
Nutrition food	84
Not Received Yet	524
Total	1250

In this study, parents and the employers were found the main health service provider for child domestic workers. Among the total 271(37.32%) child domestic workers informed their parents supported them to receive those health services and 331 (45.59%) informed it is employers. Besides them 81(11.15%) were provided health facilities by government institutions, 15(2.06%) received health facilities from NGOs and community-based organizations provided health facilities to 28 (3.85%) child domestic workers.

Health Service Provider		
Provider	Number of CDWs	Percent
Parents	271	37.32
Employers	331	45.59
Government Organizations	81	11.15
Non Government Organization	15	2.06
Community Based Organizations	28	3.85
Total	726	99.97

E. About Repatriation

When asked to the participated children of the program about whom do they turn to when they are in pain or sorrow, among the participants 26.88%(336) told that they talk to their parents when they come to meet them, and 237 (21.36%) share with their friends. Likewise, 114(9.12%) reduce their pain by sharing it with other family members, 105(8.4%) child domestic workers share their pain or sorrow with those members of employer’s family with whom they have good relation, 21(1.68%) tells their pain to neighbors and 12 (0.96%) shares their sorrow or pain to their teachers and NFE facilitators. Among these children, 395 (31.60%) shared that they don’t have anyone to turn to when they are in pain or sorrow.

Child Domestic Workers' Friends in Hard Times		
Friends Group	Number of CDWs	Percent
Parents	336	26.88
Friends	267	21.36
Family Members	114	9.12
Member of Employers Family	105	8.4
Neighbor	21	1.68
Teachers	12	0.96
No one	395	31.6
Total	1250	100

Talking about their interest on return back to home, 937(77.36%) expressed their desire to go back home if they get need support and 283 (22.64%) are found not interested on returning back to home at all.

Among those 937 children who are interested to return to home, 269 (27.82%) children mentioned the need of support to strengthen economic status of their family, 488 (50.46%) asked for the opportunities of school education in village and 210 (21.72%) requested for the counseling to their family to remove misunderstanding between family and themselves.

Support needed for Repatriation	
Support	Number of CDWs
Educational Support	488
Family Economy Strengthening	269
Counseling to their Family	210
Not interest in Repatriation	283
<i>Total</i>	<i>1250</i>

Likewise, among those 283 who are not interested to go back home, the reason for 167 (59.01%) children is domestic violence especially of step parents, 77 (27.20%) do not want to go back home because of Armed Conflict, 7 (2.47%) do not desire to go back home because they are used to urban life and remaining 32 (11.30%) showed other various reasons for not wanting to go back home.

Reasons behind Not interested in Repatriation	
Reasons	Number of CDWs
Domestic Violence	167
Armed Conflict	77
Habitual to Urban life	7
Other	32
<i>Total</i>	<i>283</i>

Thank You !