**Introduction**

Population is the parameter which shows the speed of financial & social growth & features of the Nation. According to Prof. Harrison, “Human Resource constitute the ultimate base for the wealth of the nation”.

Human resource is the last supporting system of the national wealth. Human beings are the active mediators which are helping for producing goods & services from the available resources. So, they are important factor of financial growth. If human resources are used by proper way then production increases otherwise, if the proportion is change then national growth will be reduces. & it is the huge barrier of financial development.

In present scenario, various problems are held on Indian economy. Some of these are- increase in population, poverty, unemployment, monopoly, corruption, black market, etc. & by the reason of increase in unemployment & poverty new problem is created i.e. child labour.

Child labours are those who are working any kind of work only for living their life. Generally these children are below the age of 14 years. & child labour is the “Bad Fact” of the national economy. & it is not only the national problem but it is the problem of the whole world. As per the International Labour Organization (ILO) report, at present 215 million children of the world are child labour. Only in India the rate of child labour is more than 1.5 crores. It means, as per the ILO report more than 50% child labour are only from India. From some businesses there is no need of specific skills & knowledge & working conditions are very lower level at that places child labour are doing their work & maximum number of child labour were seen in the city area. Therefore, I select the area of my research at Nasik City in Maharashtra, for getting information of child labour & their problems.

Cross country studies of child labour universally define child labour as the economically active population. Ages 10-14 are studied, because economic activity rates for the 10-14 population were available from the ILO and UN statistical databases. Examples of papers defining child labour as economically active population include: Becchetti and Trovato (2005), Dehejia and Gatti (2005), Edmonds and Pavcnik (2005), Neumayer and De Soysa (2005), Cigno et al (2002), Shelburne (2001), Hussain and Maskus (2003).

Microeconomic studies of child time allocation using household survey data are substantially more heterogeneous in how they define child labour. Appendix Tables 1, 2, and 3 list the definition of
child labour employed in 90 different empirical studies using household survey data. The physical layout of the appendix tables are described first. The conclusions that can be drawn from them follow later.

The first appendix table is compiled from an August 2007 Econlit keyword search of the phrase "child lab*r". Listed are all papers on child labour in modern low or middle income countries written in English and published in peer reviewed, widely available academic journals. A few studies have been omitted, because it was impossible to discern how child labour was defined from the study.

Many of the listed studies in Appendix Table 1 contain both a theoretical and empirical component. The column "theory framework" for Appendix Table 1 indicates how child labour is defined in the theoretical work in the paper. The coding "n/a" indicates that there is no mathematical model of child labour explicit in the paper. A coding of 1 implies that child labour is modelled without explicit reference to a trade-off between child time in child labour and other activities (similar to the Basu and Van framework). Code 2 indicates that the paper models the trade-off between working and not. "Not" may be leisure or schooling. Code 3 indicates that leisure and schooling are treated distinctly in the model.

**Causes of child labour**

**Primary causes**

International Labour Organisation (ILO) suggests poverty is the greatest single cause behind child labour. For impoverished households, income from a child’s work is usually crucial for his or her own survival or for that of the household. Income from working children, even if small, may be between 25 to 40% of these household income. Other scholars such as Harsch on African child labour, and Edmonds and Pavcnik on global child labour have reached the same conclusion.

Lack of meaningful alternatives, such as affordable schools and quality education, according to ILO, is another major factor driving children to harmful labour. Children work because they have nothing better to do. Many communities, particularly rural areas where between 60-70% of child labour is prevalent, do not possess adequate school facilities. Even when schools are sometimes
available, they are too far away, difficult to reach, unaffordable or the quality of education is so poor that parents wonder if going to school is really worth it. Young girl working on a loom in Aït Benhaddou, Morocco in May 2008.

**Family migration**

Globally, most child migrants move with their families. While migration serves as a common economic coping or survival strategy for households in many parts of the world, and can provide families and their children with new opportunities, it can also make them more vulnerable. However, migration in and of itself does not necessarily mean that children will end up in child labour.

**Cultural causes**

In European history when child labour was common, as well as in contemporary child labour of modern world, certain cultural beliefs have rationalised child labour and thereby encouraged it. Some view that work is good for the character-building and skill development of children. In many cultures, particular where informal economy and small household businesses thrive, the cultural tradition is that children follow in their parents’ footsteps; child labour then is a means to learn and practice that trade from a very early age. Similarly, in many cultures the education of girls is less valued or girls are simply not expected to need formal schooling, and these girls pushed into child labour such as providing domestic services.

Child labour in Brazil, leaving after collecting recyclables from a landfill.

**Macroeconomic causes**

Biggeri and Mehrotra have studied the macroeconomic factors that encourage child labour. They focus their study on five Asian nations including India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Thailand and Philippines. They suggest that child labour is a serious problem in all five, but it is not a new problem. Macroeconomic causes encouraged widespread child labour across the world, over most of human history. They suggest that the causes for child labour include both the demand and the supply side. While poverty and unavailability of good schools explain the child labour
supply side, they suggest that the growth of low paying informal economy rather than higher paying formal economy is amongst the causes of the demand side. Other scholars too suggest that inflexible labour market, size of informal economy, inability of industries to scale up and lack of modern manufacturing technologies are major macroeconomic factors affecting demand and acceptability of child labour. Child Labour in a quarry, Ecuador.

**Child labour laws and initiatives**

Almost every country in the world has laws relating to and aimed at preventing child labour. International Labour Organisation has helped set international law, which most countries have signed on and ratified.

According to ILO minimum age convention (C138) of 1973, child labour refers to any work performed by children under the age of 12, non-light work done by children aged 12–14, and hazardous work done by children aged 15–17. Light work was defined, under this Convention, as any work that does not harm a child's health and development, and that does not interfere with his or her attendance at school. This convention has been ratified by 135 countries.

The United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990, which was subsequently ratified by 193 countries. Article 32 of the convention addressed child labour, as follows:

...Parties recognise the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

Under Article 1 of the 1990 Convention, a child is defined as "... every human being below the age of eighteen years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier." Article 28 of this Convention requires States to, "make primary education compulsory and available free to all."

Three countries yet to domestically ratify the 1990 Convention include Somalia, South Sudan and the United States.
In 1999, ILO helped lead the Worst Forms Convention 182 (C182), which has so far been signed upon and domestically ratified by 151 countries including the United States. This international law prohibits worst forms of child labour, defined as all forms of slavery and slavery-like practices, such as child trafficking, debt bondage, and forced labour, including forced recruitment of children into armed conflict. The law also prohibits use of a child for prostitution or the production of pornography, child labour in illicit activities such as drug production and trafficking; and in hazardous work.

The United States has passed a law that allows Amish children older than 14 to work in traditional wood enterprises with proper supervision.

In addition to setting the international law, the United Nations initiated International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) in 1992. This initiative aims to progressively eliminate child labour through strengthening national capacities to address some of the causes of child labour. Amongst the key initiative is the so-called time bounded program countries, where child labour is most prevalent and schooling opportunities lacking. The initiative seeks to achieve amongst other things, universal primary school availability. The IPEC has expanded to at least the following target countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, El Salvador, Nepal, Tanzania, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Philippines, Senegal, South Africa and Turkey.

**Exceptions granted**

In 2004, the United States passed an amendment to the Fair Labour Standards Act of 1938. The amendment allows certain children aged 14–18 to work in or outside a business where machinery is used to process wood. The law aims to respect the religious and cultural needs of the Amish community of the United States. The Amish believe that one effective way to educate children is on the job. The new law allows Amish children the ability to work with their families, once they are past eighth grade in school.

Similarly, in 1996, member countries of the European Union, per Directive 94/33/EC, agreed to a number of exceptions for young people in its child labour laws. Under these rules, children of various ages may work in cultural, artistic, sporting or advertising activities if authorised by competent authority. Children
above the age of 13 may perform light work for a limited number of hours per week in other economic activities as defined at the discretion of each country. Additionally, the European law exception allows children aged 14 years or over to work as part of a work/training scheme. The EU Directive clarified that these exceptions do not allow child labour where the children may experience harmful exposure to dangerous substances