



A Rapid Assessment of Children in the Brick Industry

National Labor Academy (NLA) &
School of Planning Monitoring
Evaluation and Research (PMER)

World Education acknowledges the contributions of the Ministry of Labor and Employment for their advisory role. World Education acknowledges Plan Nepal for their close collaboration and for co-sharing the printing costs.

Funding for the rapid assessments was provided by the United States Department of Labor.

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ISBN - 978-9937-8620-2-8

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Preface

Child labor in Nepal is a serious concern. Around 40% or 3,140,000 of the 7,700,000 children aged between 5 to 17 years are engaged in work. Of this 3,140,000, about half or 1,600,000 child laborers are in exploitive working conditions; and about 621,000 are in hazardous work. Children are found working in carpet and entertainment industries, mining, *beedi* making, portering, brick production, embroidery (*zari*), car/motorcycle repair workshops, domestic work, cross border smuggling and roadside hawking. Each sector has its own array of push/pull factors influencing entry and exit of children and which determine the nature and extent of exploitive work children are exposed to.

To get an update of the status of children working in some of these sectors, World Education's *Naya Bato Naya Paila* project funded by United States Department of Labor commissioned rapid assessments in four sectors - brick kilns, domestic service, mining and portering having high incidence of child labor. Rapid assessments in two additional sectors - urban transport and teashops and restaurants - were conducted in collaboration with, and financial contribution from, Plan Nepal. The Ministry of Labor and Employment/MoL&E (formerly Ministry of Labor and Transport Management/MoLTM) provided advisory inputs. The Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare, Central Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, UNICEF and ILO have been part of this research as members of the Working Committee, along with Plan Nepal and MoL&E.

The Rapid Assessments, conducted in 2011/2012, have used the methodology popularized by ILO in the early 2000s, have highlighted the factors contributing to children's entry along with the unique dynamics and emerging trends associated with each sector. Findings from these rapid assessments will be of use to policy makers in designing and implementing future actions to eliminate child labor. The research undertaken will I believe, also add to the literature and enhance the understanding on child labor, while encouraging deeper debate on this issue and will aid in the goal of eliminating child labor in the country.



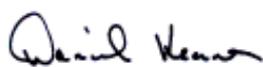
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Project Director, Naya Bato Naya Paila &
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Foreword

Child labour in general and its worst forms in particular are a global and a national problem. According to the quadrennial Global Report on Child Labor released by the International Labour Organisation in 2010, the picture is bleak: despite the fact that the number of child labourers declined slightly (from 222 million to 215 million over a period of five years), the pace of reduction has tapered off and 115 million children are still exposed to hazardous work worldwide. In Nepal the picture is similar: there has been a reduction overall, but it is uneven across sectors and an estimated 1.6 million children aged 5-17 years are still engaged in the worst forms of child labour. Approximately 20% (more than 600,000) are engaged in hazardous work that interferes with their education or is harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

In 2011 rapid assessments were conducted in six sectors of child labour—urban transport, mining, teashops and restaurants, portering, domestic service, and brick kilns—in order to explore the extent and nature of child labour in Nepal. The study looked at a number of things, including the prevalence of child labour in the sample districts; the emerging patterns of demand and supply; the socio-demographic and economic characteristics of child labourers; the push and pull factors of migration affecting children's entry into the sector; the work histories, working conditions and hours of children; the relation between work and school and education; the nature and extent of the hazardous and unhealthy working conditions, children's desire for rehabilitation and awareness about child rights; and possible programme interventions to improve existing conditions. I hope the findings, recommendations and data generated from these rapid assessments will be of use to policymakers and organizations working on child rights in their efforts to design and implement plans, policies and strategies for addressing child labor issues in Nepal.

On behalf of Plan Nepal, I would like to thank the Ministry of Labor and Employment for providing the technical guidance needed to make the assessments happen. Acknowledgement is also due to New ERA, the National Labor Academy and Child Workers In Nepal who undertook the six studies and prepared the associated reports. Our gratitude extends to all those members of the working committee, United Nations Children's Fund, International Labour Organisation, Central Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare, and Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development for providing their invaluable feedback and thereby helped finalise the report. Special thanks must go to World Education for coordinating the entire process of assessment. Plan Nepal is proud to be part of the team which undertook the assessments.



Donal Keane
Country Director
Plan Nepal

Acknowledgement

The primary objectives of this Rapid Assessment study of Child Labor in the Brick Industry in Nepal were to characterize children working in brick factories and estimate the incidence of child laborers working in the brick industry. The Rapid Assessment survey was conducted in ten districts and 424 of those identified as child laborers were interviewed. Researching child laborers is always a challenge, employers dislike children being approached. Rapport building with the employers and careful and compassionate probing with child laborers made it possible to collect information on the personal details of children and prepare this report.

The research team acknowledges constant and continuous support from Chij Kumar Shrestha, Dyuti Baral, Helen Sherpa, Gopal Tamang and Harihar Nath Regmi of World Education, Subhakar Lal Baidya and Soni Pradhan of Plan Nepal during the study design and report preparation. Cooperation in the field from stakeholders, and participating child laborers in particular were overwhelming; which contributed to success of the survey. Thus the report is dedicated to the child laborers, with a hope that the use of this report in policy, program and action formulations will be adequately geared towards ameliorating the plight of these child laborers.

Kapil Gyawali
Team Leader

Data Certification

On behalf of the research team, I would like to assure that, to the best of my knowledge, the survey data used in this report is authentic and was collected through one to one interviews with the child laborers after soliciting their consent.

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Acronyms

| | |
|--------|---|
| CBO | Community Based Organization |
| CBS | Central Bureau of Statistics |
| CL | Child Labor |
| CWIN | Child Workers in Nepal |
| CWISH | Children – Women in Social Service and Human Rights |
| DCL | Domestic Child Labor |
| DCWB | District Child Welfare Board |
| FGD | Focus Group Discussion |
| GEFONT | General Federation of Nepal Trade Union |
| GON | Government of Nepal |
| GIZ | German Technical Co-operation |
| ILO | International Labor Organization |
| INGO | International Non-Government Organization |
| IPEC | International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor |
| NGO | Non-Government Organization |
| NLFS | Nepal Labor Force Survey |
| NLSS | Nepal Living Standard Survey |
| RA | Rapid Assessment |
| TBP | Time Bound Program |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Education Fund |
| VDC | Village Development Committee |
| WE | World Education |

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Executive Summary

Objectives and Methodology

This study aims to assess the magnitude and extent of child labor in the brick industry in Nepal. It has also attempted to explore and analyze the nature and root causes of the child labor problem and incidence in this sector including various elements of the worst form of child labor. Recommendations are made to transform this worst form of child labor into acceptable form in the short run and to eliminate child labor in the longer run.

The study has collected both quantitative and qualitative information of the child laborers working in brick factories. The qualitative approach was employed for the purpose of getting the perspectives and to elicit the support of the stakeholders and the respondents. The quantitative component provides statistical data on the actual numbers of children involved in various activities in the brick industry. This information was collected from the survey of brick factories from selected districts. The qualitative information was collected based mainly through case studies and focus group discussions. Districts selected for the study were Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Chitwan, Tanahau, Sarlahi, Saptari, Sunsari, Dang, Banke and Kailali.

The brick industry is labor intensive. Making the arrangements for laborers to work at brick factories is crucial for each factory and is a challenging job. As the work season of a brick factory usually starts from the last week of October (and ends by May) the recruitment of laborers for the factory is done before October to ensure smooth factory operation. The laborers come mostly from rural areas and are contacted during the previous monsoon or the previous agriculture season. The rapid assessment took the seasonality into account, and conducted surveys during the months of March to April.

An objectively designed and pre-tested survey questionnaire was used to collect the necessary primary data required mainly for the analysis of demographic, economic, social and working environment. Checklists were used for discussions and observation.

Altogether 30 brick factories were selected for the study purpose, 3 from each district. Interviews of child laborers were organized in the selected brick factories to measure child labor participation. The sample of child laborers was drawn from families working in the factories and from child laborers working on their own.

Gender, Age, Ethnicity

Altogether 424 child laborers were interviewed of who 244 or 58% were boys and 180 or 42% were girls. 230 of 424 children were living with their families, 194 were living independently.

About 50 percent of the child laborers surveyed were 14 to 18 years of age and the remaining 50 percent were less than 14 years of age.

The majority of child laborers were from indigeneous ethnic groups or Janajati (47.2 percent) followed by Dalit (19.1 percent) and Terai/southern plains castes (14.2 percent). The proportion of Brahmin/Chhetri was 7.3 percent.

Child laborers came from 25 different districts in Nepal and 2 Indian states, that of West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. From Nepal, a large proportion of the child laborers come from Sarlahi (17.0 percent) district followed by Dang (14.6 percent), and Rolpa (10.1 percent) district. From India, Uttar Pradesh accounted for 14.6 percent of the child laborers surveyed in this rapid assessment. A great majority (84 percent) of them reported that their family had not migrated from their place of origin within the last ten years.

Birth Registration

Nearly sixty percent (58 percent) said their birth has been registered with the local government bodies while 28.5 percent said that birth has not been registered. Some respondents (13.4 percent) did not know about their birth registration status.

Land, Livelihood and Loans

Families of more than half of the child laborers (54.5 percent) have cultivated land in their origin districts. The major source of income of the families of child laborers was from daily wage earning (72 percent), while 25 percent got their major income from farming. Service and trade were the main source of income of about 3 percent of families.

Data reveals that the tendency of borrowing loan and advance during work is common among the families of child laborers of brick factories. Nearly 40 percent of families reported were being in debt. Of this, 33 percent children's parents borrowed money from brick factory owner. Similarly, more than 38 percent of the child laborers reported that their parents received cash advance from their employer before the start of current season of brick production. They received these advances at their original place of the residence.

Literacy Status

Survey results show that 31 percent child laborers were illiterate and the remaining 69 percent were literate. Among those who are literate, 5 percent had completed the secondary school level, 24 percent had completed lower-secondary level and 71 percent had completed primary level education. Among those who were literate about 34 percent of the child laborers were attending school in the place of their origin. It was reported that it is not possible for the migrant child laborers to attend school at the work place.

Tasks

Child laborers are involved in different types of work in brick factories. They are: preparing raw material (clay), making raw bricks, drying bricks, transporting raw bricks, transporting bricks for factories, transporting bricks baked from factories, and transporting raw materials. The main activities of child labor include transporting raw bricks (47 percent) and making raw bricks (33 percent); followed by preparation of raw materials and transportation of fired-bricks. Raw material preparation includes mud digging and mud preparation. Similarly, drying of bricks, transporting raw bricks and fired bricks were other activities that child laborers are involved in.

Work and Pay

Various sources are used for accessing the work in brick factories. They are Sardar/Naike (i.e. team leader responsible to control laborers or labor contractor), friends, employers, themselves and parents. Except in case of a few respondents, parents of great majority (95%) of child laborers were well informed about the work place of their children.

About 75 percent of the child laborers reported that the current work was their first ever work and that they had not worked as a child laborer before. About 15 percent of child laborers had prior work experience in a brick factory / factories. Of those reporting prior work experience in a brick factory 80 percent were boys and about 27 percent were under 14 years of age.

The aspirations of the respondent children were recorded by asking what they might have been doing if not working here at the factory. The majority (38 percent) said they would have been in school, 33 percent said they would have been found in their own household doing domestic chores, and 26 percent said they would have been working as daily wage laborer, and only 3% replied they did not know.

Of the total respondents, 78 percent reported that they lived in the make-shift huts (*Jhyauli*) provided by the employers in the factory area. 22 percent commute to the factory from the neighbouring villages, and live with parents in the village. The majority (54.2%) of them reported that they were living with their parents followed by with friends (22.4%) and relatives (20.8%). It was also found that more respondents (73.6 percent) below 14 years of age were living with their parents compared to 54.2 percent of 14 to 18 years child labors.

About 40 percent of the total respondents reported that other children from the family were also working in the brick factory as child laborers. Similarly 80 percent reported that other children from their village also work in brick factory as child laborers. More than 36 percent reported that less than 5 children from their village were working in the brick factories; 33 percent reported 5 to 10 children and 31 percent reported more than 10 children from their villages were working.

Of the total respondents, only about 10 percent work for less than 10 hours a day, of which 30 percent are girls; and 45 percent are below 14 years. About three in five work from 10 to 12 hours and 31 percent child laborers work for more than 12 hours per day. Work hours could be continuous or scattered throughout the day, often starting early mornings and with a break, resuming in the afternoon and ending late at night.

Most of the work in brick factories is seasonal. Of the total respondents about 74 percent reported that their involvement at the factory is for 6 months. Similarly, nearly 12 percent of child laborers reported that their involvement is up to 3 months; and 14 percent are involved for more than 6 months in a year.

Out of the total respondent child laborers, 37 percent reported that they were facing health problems in the work place. The major health problems reported were - fever (50 percent), headache (36 percent), cough/cold (34 percent), backache (20 percent), water-borne diseases (12 percent) and chest pains (11 percent). Further, 75 percent reported the high workload was the major reason of sickness. About 80 percent children experiencing sickness said they received treatment either from employer (20%) or from the parents (80%).

About 33 percent of the respondent child laborers said they were earning Rs.2,500 to 5,000 per month. Similarly, 28 percent earned Rs.5,000 to 10,000, 17 percent earned from Rs.1,500 to 2,500 per month. Only 8 percent said they earn less than Rs.1,500 per month. The majority of child laborers get their payment on a piece rate basis. Only a few get their remuneration on monthly basis, usually those who work as assistants to the Naike to distribute tokens (round markers to count frequency of carrying bricks) and assist Naike in monitoring.

About 38 percent child laborers feel better in brick factory work than being at home. The reasons given for this being better were easy to find friends and opportunities to make an income. It was reported by 6 percent of child laborers that it is just like staying at home with parents. Sixteen percent children said that they can have nice food here. About 37 percent respondents reported that they cannot quit the work when they want to quit. The remaining 63 percent responded that they would get permission for other better options, if available. As families are bonded by advances and loans, parents do not allow children to have such freedom to quit the job before the work season finishes.

To gauge the perception of work, the views of child laborers were asked on whether they would advise other children to work in brick factories. About 40 percent of respondents said that they would suggest other children to join brick factories for work; while 60 percent of them would not

suggest others to join this work. The better income opportunity is the main reason for child laborers to suggest others to join the work; and heavy work load in the factories is the main reason of not suggesting others join work in brick factories.

Substance Abuse

Of the total respondents, 87 percent reported that they use no addictive substances. About 11 percent were found smoking; and 8 percent were using alcohol. The proportion of respondents using other drugs was negligible (0.2%).

Push and Pull Factors

Landlessness, poverty and lack of employment prospects in the rural areas push families to seasonally migrate seeking jobs in the brick factories where family gets employed for nearly six months. Equally important pull factor to the families to join factories is the advances provided by the factories before the start of brick season. Such advances help families to maintain consumption levels in the lean months. Children also migrate, and work along with the parents. Thus, prospects for earning and contributing to the family income is a pulling factor for child work in brick factories.

Worst Forms of Child Labor

To assess whether these child laborers in brick factories are in a worst form their situation was assessed using four criteria; bonded or indebted, work without pay, excessive hours of work and age of working children were used. The findings are:

- a. **Bonded:** If an incidence of borrowing loan from the employers by the family of a child laborer is used as a proxy variable to find the situation of bondage, about 13.2 percent of child labor working in brick factory can be regarded as bonded. Similarly, if a cash advance taken from the employer is considered as element of bondage, then 38.7 percent child labor is bonded. An advance does not require payment of interest on the principle amount, though bonded for the work. Loans however require payment of interest.
- b. **Work Without Pay:** There is no chance of working without pay in brick factories as families work in a group and get paid on the basis of work they have completed. Individual child laborers also get paid on a piece basis. There are cases of discrepancies and complaints of fraud in the recording of payments made to the children who are at times paid less than what was promised. This is done more often at the Naike level rather than at the employer level.
- c. **Excessive Hours of Work:** The survey findings show that more than 30 percent child labors work for more than 12 hours a day in brick factories. The work hours can start as early as 2 am for children who are with parents, and have to get up when the parents do, to work (mainly for raw material preparation). Work continues 24/7 for about 6 months (Kathmandu Valley) and about 3 months (out of Kathmandu Valley).

- d. Work at Very Young Age:** The existing laws and regulations prohibit employment of children below the age of 14 years. However, as demonstrated by the survey results, 50 percent of child labors in brick factories are below 14 years of age. Young children support their parents to meet the required number of brick pieces which was agreed during the taking of cash advances from the employer/*naike*.

Recommendations

Poverty and the lack of employment opportunities at the place of origin are main reasons families opt to seasonally migrate for brick factory work. Children too migrate with the family and engage in work side by side with the parents. Only increased opportunities and an improvement in socioeconomic condition of poor families is likely to reduce the need for migration and also migrating along with their children.

As long as the compulsion for all family members to migrate remains, regulating child labor is the only option to stop child labor in brick factories. Parents of children need to be made aware of the importance of children's education and arrangements need to be made to enrol children at local schools close to the factories.

As children are around only for six months or so, and then go back to their villages after work season, two way arrangements are needed. If children are enrolled in schools near factories then when they go back, schools at the origin villages should enrol them. District Child Welfare Boards, Village Development Committees, factory managers and District Education Offices should coordinate and work towards making this feasible. The brick industry as a whole, and the individual brick factory employers should be made responsible to ensure that childcare and child education opportunities are available to children of working families. For children who cannot be enrolled in schools, informal education opportunities should be made available.

To seek compliance from the brick factories, it is recommended that they be issued labels stating 'child labor free' from District Child Welfare Board, Village Development Committees and other stakeholders. And this label should be linked to the public procurement of bricks.

Ministry of Labor and Employment needs to take a leading role in monitoring and overseeing child labor issues in all sectors including in the brick factories, working closely with the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare for this. The Ministry could also create a separate department with a mandate to regularly monitor and implement the Child Labor Act, and coordinate activities directed to the abolition of child labor.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Child labor remains a major economic and social phenomenon in Nepal. Based on various studies conducted under the IPEC Time-Bound Program (TBP), it is estimated that there were 127,143 children working in the worst forms of child labor in 2003-4 – as bonded laborers, rag pickers (in recycling), porters, domestic workers, in mining, in the carpet sector, and those being trafficked for exploitative work. Children involved in these forms of child labor start working between the ages of 10 and 14. In addition, more than one-third of them were illiterate, and a majority were school dropouts, who had been brought to their present workplace by their parents or relatives. It also appeared that they came from land-poor and relatively large families. More than 80 per cent of children trapped in the worst forms of child labor had migrated for work. With the exception of children bonded into agricultural labor and children working as long distance porters in the rural areas of Nepal, the vast majority of children worked in urban areas.

Child labor in Nepal is common, they work for their own family; and also work for others for payment. A major proportion of child work is in the form of unpaid family workers. The proportion of wage based child labor is small in comparison to work as unpaid family child labor which is larger. As nearly 80 percent of the Nepali population is in agriculture and lives in rural areas, all family members, including children, are engaged in some activity related to agriculture to earn a families' livelihood. The unpaid family child workers are also vulnerable as they are deprived of the opportunity of education, health care and their childhood. On the other hand, wage based child laborers are often devoid of schooling and child development opportunities. Consequently, wage child laborers are considered more vulnerable. Lately, due to various interventions, it is believed that an increasing number of urban domestic child laborers are participating in schools. There is, however, a lack of information on whether children in other sectors such as in the brick factory are having access to schooling.

It was estimated that at least one million children in Nepal were working in difficult circumstances, often as slaves in carpet factories, brick factories, domestic service, agriculture, on plantations, construction, transportation, stone quarry and mines and as migrant workers (CWIN, 2000). A study conducted by CONCERN Nepal (Sainju 2004) estimated that 59,925 child laborers were working in brick factories in Nepal in 2003.

There are 2.6 million economically active children in Nepal. This is 42 per cent of the total child population aged 5-14 years. When the child labor is discussed in line with ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor, the age range is under 18 years and applies to the worst forms of child labor. A list of studies and suggested national level incidence of child labor in various sectors is presented in Table 1.1. These are of varying size and span the past twelve years and were systematic studies with larger area coverage and proper sampling techniques.

Table 1.1: Estimates of Child Labor

| SN | Worst form* | Source** | Estimate (no.) |
|----|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Girls Trafficking for Prostitution (RA) | KC, Bal Kumar et al, 2001 * | 12,000 annually |
| 2 | Domestic Child Labor (RA) | Sharma Shiva et al., 2001 | 55,655 |
| 3 | Child Portering (RA) | KC, Bal Kumar et al., 2001 | 46,029 |
| 4 | Child Labor in Brick Factories | Sainju, 2005 | 59925 |
| 5 | Stone Quarries (Mining) | Sainju, 2002 | 32,000 |
| 6 | Coal Mines (RA) | RARA, 1999 | 115 |
| 7 | Bonded and Forced Child Labor (RA) | Sharma, Shiva et al., 2001 | 17,152 |
| 8 | Child Labor in Carpet (RA) | KC Bal Kumar et al., 2002 | 7,689 |
| 9 | Child Rag picking (RA) | KC, Bal Kumar et al., 2001 | 3,965 |

*The full references can be found in the ‘Reference’ section at the end of the report.

According to the recent Nepal Labor Force Survey (NLFS 2008), a total of 2,097,000 children aged 5 to 14 are currently employed. Among them the highest numbers of children (88.7 percent) were working in the agriculture, followed by wholesale and retail trade (1.6 percent), manufacturing (1.4 percent), hotels and restaurants (1 percent), construction (0.3 percent) and private households with employed persons (0.2 percent; about 4,000 in number) respectively. The NLFS do not provide child labor data for brick factories. In the manufacturing sector, which includes brick factories, 29,358 child laborers are reported to be working. Given there are 750 brick factories in Nepal, this would mean that the majority of child laborers in manufacturing are in the brick factory as this study has estimated that more than 28,000 child laborers are engaged in work at brick factories. In the manufacturing factories the carpet and zari (embroidered goods) factories are the other significant employers of child laborers.

Irrespective of all the efforts to prevent children from entering into the labor market, it is believed that there are significant numbers of children still working in different sectors. However, there is a lack of recent scientific studies to provide credible national level estimates to know the numbers of such laborers and extent of problems they are facing including elements of labor relationships and exploitation. This study attempts to find out the characteristics of child laborers working in the brick factory to help formulate appropriate policies to protect them from exploitative relationships.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The study aims to analyse the extent and situation of child labor in brick factories in Nepal. The study has identified push and pull factors causing children to enter into the job and their chances of getting into this worst form of child labor. It also has suggested mechanisms to combat the problem.

The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To assess the magnitude and extent of child labor in the brick factory in Nepal. The magnitude includes incidence, type of work, workload, work time (how many hours the child laborers are working by type of work) and working conditions and environment.
2. To explore and analyse the nature and root causes of the child labor problem and its prevalence and factors resulting in children getting into this worst form of child labor.
3. To explore the family and social context characteristics of child laborers. This includes cultural, social and economic characteristics and family settings.
4. To recommend the guidelines for policy, regulations and programs and projects geared towards progressive elimination and control of child labor brick factories.

1.3 Research Design and Methodology

This section presents the study approach and methodology. A cross-sectional descriptive study design was applied to measure the rate of child labor participation in brick factory activities. The study has strictly followed the principles of a participatory approach and generated both the quantitative and qualitative information. It followed multiple methods of data collection, which includes review of literature, field level consultations, stakeholder consultations and household and respondent child laborer surveys.

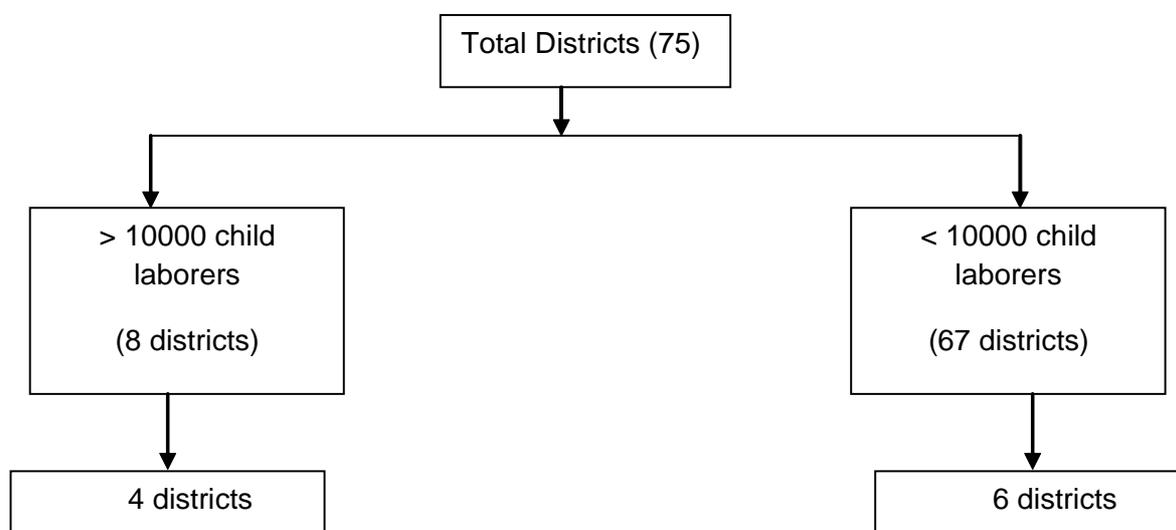
1.3.1 Study Approach

The study has collected both quantitative and qualitative information of the child laborers working in brick production sector using a rapid assessment methodology. The qualitative approach was employed for the purpose of getting the perspectives and to elicit support of the stakeholders and the respondents. The quantitative component provides statistical data on the actual numbers of children involved in various activities at brick factories. This information was collected from the child labor of brick factories from the selected districts. The qualitative information was collected based mainly through focus group discussions and case studies.

1.3.2 Study Districts

The process of selecting sites for study is central to the study. NLA (2005) has reported incidence of child labor at district level based on the work participation of children reported in 2001 Population Census. Using the information, identification of three categories; worst, intermediate, and best districts were made in terms of the child labor incidence rate. Worst districts are those where more than 10,000 child laborers were reported; the intermediate districts had 5,000 to 10,000; and the best districts had less than 5,000 child labors (Annex-1). Districts for studies were selected from each such category. Selected districts were Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Chitwan, Tanahau, Sarlahi, Saptari, Sunsari, Dang, Banke and Kailali. Among the 10 districts, 4 districts were selected from the worst followed by 6 districts from medium and low incidents respectively. The districts were selected also to ensure representation of physiographic regions (Hills and Terai) and urban, semi-urban and rural settings as well as development regions. Presence of brick factories was also major consideration.

The process of district selection is summarized in Figure 1.1.

Fig. 1.1: Sampling frame for district selection

1.3.3 Recruitment in Brick Factories

Child laborers working in brick factories are of two types: children who come and join factories on their own and those who accompany their parents who work at the factories. Instead of monthly payment, laborers receive payment according to piece rate system for work completed, for example brick count for bricks made or carried. Family members including children are involved in soil preparation, clay preparation, brick laying, drying, stacking, carrying bricks to the factories, firing and finally taking out bricks from the factories and loading trucks. In such process, small children are generally involved from initial to drying stages. Relatively older child laborers are often also involved in physically demanding tasks such as brick carrying to and from the factories. The study team has also collected information through family members as to whether their children are supporting them in their work. This information is mainly useful for the calculation of the child labor participation rate.

1.3.4 Brick Factory Selection

Altogether 31 brick factories (Annex-I) were selected for the study purpose. First, district level brick factory mapping was done at district level in consultation with the District Small and Cottage Factory Offices. This mapping exercise gave the basis for the selection of the brick factories. Then, three brick factories (4 from Sunsari) were randomly selected from each district for study. Finally, respondents interview were organized in the selected brick factories to assess child labor participation. Altogether 424 child laborers (244 Male and 180 Female) were interviewed from all 10 districts. Of this 230 children were living with their families and 194 were living independently. Child laborers were interviewed from families working in the factories and from child laborers working on their own. A smaller number of girl child laborers in the sample is due to their lesser presence. The breakdown of the numbers of selected children working in the brick factories is given in Table 1.1.

Table 1.2 : Distribution of sample child laborers by district

| District | Male | Female | Total |
|-----------|------|--------|-------|
| Tanahau | 26 | 14 | 40 |
| Sarlahi | 16 | 24 | 40 |
| Dang | 38 | 2 | 40 |
| Chitwan | 14 | 16 | 30 |
| Saptari | 10 | 25 | 35 |
| Sunsari | 23 | 20 | 43 |
| Banke | 41 | | 41 |
| Kailali | 21 | 19 | 40 |
| Bhaktapur | 29 | 43 | 72 |
| Kathmandu | 26 | 17 | 43 |
| Total | 244 | 180 | 424 |

1.3.5 Survey Instruments

An objectively designed and pre-tested survey questionnaire was used to collect necessary primary data required mainly for the analysis of the demographic, economic, social and working environment. Checklists were used for discussions and observation.

1.3.6 Organization and Management of Field Survey

The following strategies and field norms were adopted in the organization of field survey:

1. Ensured the transparency of study by clearly stating study objectives and purpose when support was sought from the local people for conducting the survey and FGDs.
2. Maintained a low profile and behaved politely with all the stakeholders, including local community people.
3. Hired local enumerators. Preference was given to those who were involved in similar type of surveys in the past.
4. Provided intensive training of one day including on field test to the enumerators.
5. Monitoring and supervision from NLA professionals or those hired for the survey was done in all the survey districts.

1.3.7 Data Processing and Analysis

The National Labor Academy (NLA) programmer developed a data entry program (MS Access) after the survey instrument was finalized. An orientation program was organised for the data entry assistants about the program and a trial run was conducted of the program using data collected during pre-testing. The data entry assistants edited the instruments before the contents were transferred to microcomputers. The professionals designed the cross tables and provided them to the data analyst who using an appropriate program (SPSS) prepared output tables. Using raw data, the professionals performed required statistical analysis (mainly descriptive analysis).

1.3.8 Limitations of the study

The following are some of the limitations of the study:

1. In the case of two factories in the Kathmandu Valley and one outside the valley employers did not allow the researchers to enter into the brick factory. In such cases an alternate brick factory was selected and the survey was continued.
2. As the child laborers get paid on a piece rate basis eliciting time for survey was not very easy. Interviews had to be conducted quickly and sometimes while children were at work.
3. It is believed that there are unregistered factories also in operation. Because of lack of information about these factories, they could not be included in the sample frame.
4. Child respondents were sampled based on age reported by the parents of child laborers, and child laborers themselves. A tendency to inflate the age of child laborers was observed during survey. Hence, some child laborers might have been excluded from the sample frame, and the extrapolation of estimate may be downwardly biased.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE CONTEXT

2.1 Child Labor in Brick Factories

There is a system of moving whole families to the brick factory premises during the brick production season that spans from October/November to March/April. They stay in a make-shift hut called '*Jhyauli*' in the brick factory premises provided by the employer. In this process children drop out from school and accompany their parents. Most of these children then work in the brick factory with their families. It was also observed that children from the neighbouring villages of brick factories join the brick factories independently specially for carrying raw bricks from production site to factory furnace. In this study 429 families working at brick factories were surveyed. Survey results show that 693 children were living with these families. Of these, 291 (42 percent) children were involved in brick manufacturing work. The remaining 58 percent children were either below six years of age (67 percent) or enrolled in schools nearby where they worked.

2.2 Brick Production in Nepal

Brick production in Nepal is quite an old phenomenon. Temples and monuments dating back even thousands of years are found to have used bricks. Bricks are seen as a part of Nepalese art and architecture from the very beginning of its civilization. They are used as a decorative facade of buildings to show social prestige. Old Nepalese temples are the testimonial of long history of brick production and its use.

Archaeologists are of the opinion that the production of bricks started in the Kathmandu valley and spread to other parts of the country as the oldest monuments and temples here were constructed using bricks. The excavation of Lumbini and Tilaurak of Kapilbastu district contain remains of artefacts, pottery and remnants of old buildings are the witness of the history of brick manufacturing dating back more than three thousand years. Usually when there was no technology to fire the bricks, raw and sun-dried bricks were used. There are still some old houses of Kathmandu valley standing made using raw bricks.

As reported by the brick factory owners, the brick factory is registered under Small and Cottage Factory Offices in the districts. It is a seasonal industry with seasonal employment opportunities. With the expansion of urban areas, the brick industry is rapidly growing. Construction work in urban areas is increasing at a fast pace due to migration of people from rural to urban areas where houses

are mainly built using concrete and bricks. Therefore, the brick factories are conveniently situated in sub-urban areas close to urban areas.

The records of the Federation of Brick factories in Nepal show that currently there are about 750 brick factories in Nepal registered under the Small and Cottage Factory offices in the districts. Brick factories employ more than 500,000 workers including thousands of children (GEFONT 2007). The work of brick production is full of health hazards. It is astounding that in this factory not only Nepalese poor people are working, but laborers (both adult and children) also come from India. Adult Indian workers are considered better than the Nepali counterpart in technical works like management of fire inside the brick factories. As reported by GEFONT 2007, technical laborers in all the factories are from India, and in the factories operating in the plain areas of Nepal, brick laying and other activities are also carried out by the Indian workers. However, the exact estimate regarding the numbers and roles of Indian workers is not available. As per the finding of the current study, 15.5 percent of child laborers are from Bihar, West Bengal and Utter Pradesh of India. The incidence of Indian child laborers is highest in Banke and Sunsari districts.

2.2.1 Types of Brick Factories in Nepal

Three different types of brick factories exist in Nepal. They are (i) single chimney, (ii) double chimney and (iii) chimneyless. In Kathmandu valley almost all brick factories are with a single permanent chimney whereas in the Terai districts both permanent and temporary chimney types of brick factories exist. Brick factories with permanent chimneys are generally large in size and chimneys are fixed in one place. In the temporary chimney type of brick factories there are two medium height chimneys whose location is changed as per the needs of the work site. In the hilly region and interior valleys there are small brick factories where bricks are baked without using chimneys. In all types of brick factories both firewood and coal are used as fuel to bake the bricks. Past research (GEFONT 2007) indicates that smaller factories employ locals and in fewer numbers. In such factories the use of child labor is also less while the bigger factories employ families of laborers, and have higher incidence of child labor.

2.2.2 Labor Recruitment Process

Brick manufacturing is a labor intensive factory. Recruiting laborers for the brick factory is one of the crucial and is a challenging job. As the work-season of a brick factory starts mostly from the last week of October, recruitment of laborers for the factory must be done earlier to ensure smooth factory operation. The laborers of the factory are mostly from rural areas and are contacted during the monsoon agricultural season. The sources of labor recruitment are as follows;

- a. **Through *Thekedaars*¹ and *Naikes*²:** The laborers are generally hired through *Thekedaars* or *Naikes* (also known as *Sardar* or *meth*) prior to the production season. Female *Naikes* are also seen in some of the brick factories, especially in the Kathmandu valley. The major

¹ *Thekedaars* are "labour contractors" who manage hiring and management of workers including payment of advances and wages for factory owner.

² *Naikes* – are "work team leaders" who may also recruit workers and provide advances on behalf of factory owners and often negotiate on behalf of their team of workers. They are often from the same community and work alongside the laborers and get a percentage for every 1000 bricks at each stage of production.

involvement of the female *Naika* is in unbaked brick carrying because the majority of female workers are involved in this activity. The main role of *Naika* is to make sure the availability of workers and lead them while working in the factory. This lead person is the main source of labor recruitment in most of the brick factories. *Naikes* visit laborers in the origin and provide advances for the work prior to the working season in the brick factory. These advances are deducted from wages earned by the workers during the season.

- b. **Through brick factory owners:** In some cases the factory owners themselves hire the laborers. Basically, laborers who work in coal crushing, woodcutting and wall construction in the factory are contracted directly by owners themselves. This type of labor work in the factory is generally on a daily wage basis.
- c. **Self:** Some laborers come to the factory site for work without any connection either with the owner or *Naikes*. The presence of laborers who solicited work directly is found in all the sample factories across the country. However these laborers mainly work carrying bricks. Child laborers are also found in this category.

Brick production involves various activities. Different types of work have to be performed in a single brick factory. In such a situation it is impossible to provide supervision inputs to each and every activity by the owner himself. It was seen that overall responsibility of all activities is given to respective *Naikes* so that owner does not have any burden of monitoring and supervision of laborers. As four types of works are prominent in the brick factory, there are four types of *Naikes* as well. These are: (a) Technician head (b) Brick Moulding *Naika* (c) Unbaked Brick Carrying *Naika* and (d) Baked Brick Carrying *Naika*. It is also seen in some brick factories that the main *Naika* has his assistant *Naikes* working under him.

- (a) **Technician head:** Often the head technician or *Naika* is from the adjoining states of India such as West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. The head technician is responsible to bring laborers (5 to 10 persons per brick factory) for factory furnace work from India. The furnace work includes; (i) stacking the unbaked bricks, (ii) spreading coal and straw over the bricks (iii) firing the furnace, (iv) control of the fire and flame.
- (b) **Brick Making* *Naika*:** Brick making is one of the crucial works of brick factory. The main activities of brick laying works are (i) clay preparation (ii) brick making (ii) sun drying and (iv) brick stacking. In the case of Kathmandu and Bhaktapur Nepali workers are involved in brick laying work who are mainly from Makwanpur, Ramechhap, Sindhuli, Kavre and Lalitpur and also from districts as far away as Rukum, Rolpa, Dolakha, Salyan, Pyuthan and Dang districts. Contrast to this the survey of brick factories of outside the valley which revealed that there are significant numbers of brick makers from India as well. The brick makers are all associated with the *Naikes* who are the lead person of the brick makers in the brick factory. Depending upon the size of the factory and locations from which labor families are recruited, there can be 10 to 15 such *Naikes* in one factory.
- (c) **Raw brick carrying *Naika*:** The raw brick transportation is very important in the factory because the raw bricks are delicate to handle. Precautions should be taken to handle the raw brick carrying for less breakage. The modes of raw brick transportation are human carriers, animal carriers, cycles and tricycle, tractors and mini trucks. A human carrier of brick is called

* brick making includes moulding and laying bricks to dry

"*Reza*" in the Kathmandu Valley. According to field survey, in Kathmandu valley raw bricks are transported by human labor as well as automobiles such as tractor and mini trucks. In Sunsari and Chitwan mainly human laborers are engaged in this work with the exception of bicycles in a few factories. In Banke mainly horses, mules and donkeys are used for raw brick transportation where children drive the animals. The *Naike* also has to bring and manage laborers at the factory. In the course of survey, it was found that one *Naike* controls about 25-30 raw brick laborers. One factory has 3-7 raw brick *Naikes*.

Before the kiln is fired the continual delivery of raw bricks is necessary. For this, the *Naike* has to control and manage the raw brick carriers in such a way so that there will be no shortage of raw bricks at the kiln.

- (d) **Baked brick carrying *Naike*:** The baked brick carrying is done only by human laborers. The labor arrangement of baked brick carrier (*Reza*) differs from place to place in the surveyed areas. In Kathmandu valley mostly Indian laborers work as baked brick *Reza*, while raw brick *Reza* are from Nepal. In other districts, Nepali laborers are to be found doing this work.

2.3 Socio Economic Situation of Sample Districts

The selected districts for the study were; Kathmandu, Tanahau, Sarlahi, Saptari, Sunsari, Bhaktapur, Chitwan, Dang, Banke and Kailali. A brief socio-economic situation of each selected district is presented below.

1. **Tanahau:** It is one of the five districts of Gandaki Zone and lies in the hill part of Western Development Region of the country. The Kathmandu to Pokhara highway passes through the centre of this district. The population of the district was 314,538 with 62,895 households in 2001. The numbers of landless households was 9,143 and those involved in non-farm activities were 9,228 as reported in 2001 population census. The literacy rate of the district for male was 77 percent for male and 57 percent for female. The census report also show that Dalit population of the district was 15.08 percent of the total population of the district and children living with their employers were 5,762 in 2001.
2. **Sarlahi:** Sarlahi district lies in Terai belt of Central Development Region of the country. The population of the district was 635,667 with 111,068 households in 2001. The numbers of landless households in the district were 36,428 and those involved in non-farm activities were 24,651 in 2001. The literacy rate of the district was reported 49 percent for male and 27 percent for female. Dalit population of the district was 13.05 percent of the total population of the district in 2001. Also, the numbers of children living with their employers were 10,707.
3. **Dang:** Dang is in plain area of Mid-Western Development Region of the country. The population of the district was 460,762 with 82,488 households in 2001. The literacy rate of the district for male was 69 percent and that for female was 46 percent. The numbers of landless households in the district were 14,344 and those involved in non-farm activities were 13,845 as reported in population census of 2001. It was also reported in the census report 2001 that Dalit population in the district was 10.93 percent of total population and the numbers of children of below 16 years of age living with their employers were 5,785.
4. **Chitwan:** Chitwan district is in Central Development Region with most of it lying in the plain area. Most of the people living in this district have migrated from other districts of the country during different time periods. The population of the district was 468,699 with 92,851 households in 2001. Reports of population census of 2001 show that landless households in this district

- were 22,095 and those involved in non-farm activities were 19,471. The literacy rate for the males in Chitwan district was 78 percent and that for female was 62 percent in 2001. Dalit population in the district was 8.27 percent of the total population. The numbers of children living with their employers were 6,855 in 2001.
5. **Saptari:** Saptari district lies in Terai belt of Eastern development Region of Nepal. The population of the district was 569,812 with 101,134 households as reported in population census of 2001. The numbers of landless households in the district were 61,898 and those involved in non-farm activities were 17,853 in 2001. The literacy rate was reported to be 61 percent for male and 31 percent for female. Dalit population of the district was 20.97 percent of total population of the district and children living with their employers were 9,493 in 2001.
 6. **Sunsari:** Sunsari district lies in Terai region of Eastern Development Region of the country. The total population of this district was 623,226 in 2001 population census. The numbers of households in the district were 120,185 with 61,898 landless households and the numbers of households involved in non-farm activities were 42,015. Statistics show that 69 percent male and 48 percent female of this district were literate in 2001. The numbers of children of below 16 years of age living with employers were 10,839. Dalit population in the district was 14.25 percent of the total population.
 7. **Banke:** Banke district lies in the plain area of Mid-Western Development Region of the country. Nepalganj the fourth largest city of the country is the head quarter of the district. The population of the district was 385,009 with 67,248 households as reported in the report of 2001 population census. This districts population grew by 28% over the past decade (CBS 2011) fueling demand for bricks for construction. The numbers of landless households in the district were 21,719 and that involved in non-farm activities were 23,255. The 2001 census also indicated that the literacy rate of the district was 61 percent for male and 43 percent that for female. Dalit population in the district were 10.65 percent of the total population the numbers of children of below 16 years of age living with their employers were 6,057.
 8. **Kailali:** Kailali district lies in the Terai area of the Far Western Development Region of the country. Dhangadhi is the headquarter of the district and is the largest city of this region. The population of this district was 614,691 with 94,395 households as reported in 2001 census report. It was also reported that the numbers of landless households in the district were 17,719 and that involved in non-farm activities were 17,676. The literacy rate of the district was 66 percent for male and 43 percent for female. Dalit population of the district was 13.09 percent of the total population and numbers of children below 16 years of age living with their employers were 12,721 in 2001.
 9. **Bhaktapur:** Bhaktapur district lies in Central Development Region and is one of the three districts of Kathmandu Valley. The population of the district in 2001 was 224,503 with 41,249 households. The numbers of landless households in the district were 13,583 and those involved in non-farm activities were 14,192 in 2001. The literacy rate was 86 percent for male and 62 percent for female. Dalit population was 2.11 percent of the total population and numbers of children living with employers were 3,003 as reported in census report 2001.
 10. **Kathmandu:** Kathmandu district is in Central Development Region where the capital of the country lies. The district is in a valley surrounded with small hills. The total population of Kathmandu was 1.06 million as shown in 2001 population census. The population has grown by 61 percent by 2011 as a result of rapid urbanization. Further, the population census 2001 also shows that total numbers of households residing in the district were 234,595 with 180,615 landless and 73,717 households involved in non-farm activities. The literacy rate in this district is 90 percent for male and 73 percent for female. Total Dalit population of the district is 2.27 percent. Numbers of children, below 16 years of age, who are living with employers, are 19,461.

2.4 Economic Context of Nepal

A small, landlocked country in South Asia, Nepal is one of the least developed countries of the world. The country's per capita income is US\$ 568 in 2010 (Economic Survey 2009/10). Per capita incomes have been growing at little over 2 per cent per annum in constant prices over the last 3 decades. Out of 25 million close to six million people are currently estimated to be living in absolute poverty.

Agriculture dominates the Nepalese economy. In 2009/10, agriculture's share of GDP was around 33 per cent (Economic Survey 2010). More significantly, more than 80 per cent of the country's households cultivate some land and more than half the country's population derive their major income from agriculture.

Growing urbanization and expanding public construction activities in recent years have led to growth in demand of construction materials including bricks. Hence brick production is gradually expanding. Brick factories employ unskilled or semi skilled laborers who mostly come from rural areas. Poor rural families migrate seasonally to work at the factories, as there are limited employment opportunities in their origin communities.

2.5 Educational Services Provided to Child Laborers in the Study Area

There are few systematic efforts in the study areas to ensure access to education for child laborers in brick factories neither the District Education Office has special program for child laborers in brick factories nor have the local schools set incentives for such seasonal children. In areas where CBOs and NGOs are working for child laborers, children are assisted in gaining access to educational facilities.

2.6 Child Protection System

At the district level, there are District Child Welfare Boards (DCWB) mandated to work towards protection of children. Works and interventions on children issues including child labor are implemented in coordination with DCWB. The DCWB has meager funds allocated from the Central Child Welfare Board which is used for administrative purposes; but its role in coordinating district level players of children issues is important.

2.7 Description of Institutional Framework

2.7.1 Legislation

The Interim Constitution of Nepal 2007 has made provisions to protect the interests of children by conferring on them fundamental rights. Article 29 of the Constitution guarantees the right against exploitation. It prohibits any kind of exploitation in the name of any custom, tradition and in any manner whatsoever. The article also prohibits the traffic of human beings, slavery or servitude. The Constitution also prohibits any kind of forced labor as well. The Labor Act of 1992 and the Children's Act 2056, and Child Labor Act in the same year make the employment of children below the age of 14 in establishments with ten or more workers, illegal. However, the use child labor is rampant in brick factories despite the legal provisions and the laws have remained largely unimplemented.

The Government of Nepal ratified the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990. Besides forming a separate Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, the Children's Act was introduced in 1992 to provide 'a comprehensive national legal framework' for the rights of the child. The Child Labor (Prohibition and Regularization) Act (1999) not only defines different types for work, but also prohibits the employment of children under the age of 16 in hazardous sectors. The Government also ratified the ILO's Minimum Age Convention No. 138 in 1997 and ILO Convention No. 182 on Worst Forms of Child Labor in 2002.

2.7.2 History of Child Labor

Supply of child laborers for different activities is mainly from poor households in rural to urban areas. Concentration of child laborers in urban areas is mainly due to urban-rural disparity in opportunities. In addition, the conflict in the recent past also induced parents from the conflict ridden areas to send children to safer areas, mostly in the cities, where they ended becoming self earners. Employment of children is no more concentrated in traditional venues such as agriculture and domestics. It is expanding along with economic activities, in brick factories and other construction activities, service sectors such as tea shops and transport, and manufacturing such as carpet and zari production.

An exact history of child labor use in brick industry is difficult to trace, but there are indications based on observations and sharing from families currently working in the different factories that probably with the increase in the size of brick kilns and number of factories, and the use of family labour in production began, use of child labor also became common.

Large kilns needed a large number of laborers for the manufacture and transport of bricks, and the cheaper the better. Transporting bricks to and from the kiln is often done by child laborers. As brick laying work is invariably paid in piece basis, entire families are engaged in this work to maximize output and their earnings, as every helping hand earns. Establishment of large brick kilns and employment of migrant families in brick production are believed to have begun some 40 to 50 years ago, when urban areas began to witness a mushrooming of new settlements with a demand for new constructions.

2.7.3 Past Programs on Child Labor Elimination

The first major project on child labor elimination was the International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC). It was operational in Nepal since 1995 when the Government of Nepal signed a Memory of Understanding with the International Labor Organisation (ILO) for launching a policy against child labor. After Nepal's ratification of C182 in 2002, ILO/IPEC implemented the Time-Bound Program (TBP) in order to assist the country in implementing the Convention by identifying the worst forms of child labor and to develop specific plans for their eradication. It led to the identifying of seven sectors as a worst form of child labor that should be eliminated (ILO/IPEC 2006). Those seven sectors were domestic labor, portering, bonded labor, trafficking (for sexual or labor exploitation), rag picking (recycling), the carpet sector and mining and stone quarries.

Since then the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) has supported several major child labor programs in Nepal. The Brighter Futures Program – Combating Exploitative Child Labor Through Education in Nepal (2002-2009) through which World Education and NGO partners provided services to 43,291 child laborers and 72,000 children at risk. This initiative provided educational services to remove children from child labor in the brick industry to 1,578 children in

16 districts. It currently supports the Naya Bato Naya Paila project implemented by World Education and its NGO partners that has so far supported more than 1,600 children working in brick factories and is addressing brick factory workers source communities for prevention. USDOL also supported ILO to implement projects to combat bonded child labor especially in agriculture and domestic servitude. It also supported Winrock's Circle project and ILO's regional project to address the trafficking of children. Terre des hommes and other donors have also supported efforts to address child labor in the brick factories especially in the Kathmandu Valley.

The Government had also initiated drafting National Action Plans specifically aimed at the protection and overall development of children in Nepal. The first "National Plan of Action for Children" was developed in 2004. Child labor is one of the main issues addressed in this National Plan of Action, and again the government committed itself "to taking immediate and effective time-bound measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, rehabilitate children of the worst forms of child labor and prevent other vulnerable children from becoming child labor".

Furthermore, in order to follow up on agreements made in the context of ILO/IPEC's Time-Bound Program, the Government introduced the National Master Plan on Child Labor (2004-2014) in 2004. Nepal's National Master Plan on Child Labor defines child labor as "work or activity carried by children below the ages as defined by the constitution of the country and as explained in the Children Act and Labor Act". This means all light work done by children below 14 years, and all forms of employment not involving physical and mental hazards carried out by children below 16 years. If work involves physical or mental hazards it can not be carried out by anyone below 18 years.

The Plan divides all forms of child labor into two categories: (a) *General forms* of child labor: activities in the agriculture sector and employment in the service sector not involving physical hazards, and (b) *Worst forms* of child labor. Worst forms of child labor include:

- Activities violating fundamental human rights, slavery, and bonded labor;
- Employment (including informal) in the service sector that are hazardous to physical and mental health of children, such as rag picking, portering, domestic service, bars and restaurants, transportation, and auto repairs;
- Employment in the manufacturing sector such as carpet factory, brick and tile factories, match factories, and leather tanneries;
- Mines and quarries such as coal, magnesite, sand and red soil mines, and stone and slate quarries;
- Activities in the agriculture sector in which children are exposed to chemicals such as pesticides and fertilisers [Government of Nepal 2004a:2-3]

2.7.4 Organizations Addressing the Needs of Child Laborers

There are many organizations working for the elimination of child labor in Nepal, including community based organizations (CBOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international donor agencies, and the Government. Major international agencies supporting organizations working in child labor issues in brick factories include World Education, Terre des hommes, UNICEF, ILO, GTZ, SDC, Plan Nepal, and Save the Children. Trade Unions and Employers' Unions are yet to emerge as key players in the elimination of child labor but have made some efforts for child welfare within brick factories.

CHAPTER III

SURVEY FINDINGS

3.1 Background

In this chapter survey findings based on the rapid assessment of 424 sample child laborers working in brick factories have been presented. Starting from the characteristics of child laborers, demographic and socioeconomic conditions, working environment and their remuneration pattern including their views on existing work and wage structure is discussed. Some case studies conducted during the field survey are also presented in the annex of the report.

3.2 Origin District

The origin district of the child laborers was identified while interviewing at the brick factories. It was reported that child laborers come from 25 different districts and from 3 states of India as well. The name of origin districts as reported by the child laborers is presented in Table 3.1. It can be seen from the table that highest number of child laborers comes from Sarlahi (17.0 percent) district followed by Dang (14.6 percent), UP India (14.6 percent), Rolpa (10.1 percent) etc. By gender the maximum numbers of female child laborers came from Sarlahi (22.2 percent) while those of males came from UP India (24.6 percent). Of total child laborers, 15.5 percent came from states of India - Uttar Pradesh (UP), West Bengal and Bihar.

Table 3.1: Origin district of Child Labor

| Districts | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|-----------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Sarlahi | 16 | 14.7 | 29 | 28.2 | 16 | 11.9 | 11 | 14.3 | 32 | 13.1 | 40 | 22.2 | 72 | 17.0 |
| Dang | 13 | 11.9 | 12 | 11.7 | 21 | 15.6 | 16 | 20.8 | 34 | 13.9 | 28 | 15.6 | 62 | 14.6 |
| Rolpa | 7 | 6.4 | 2 | 1.9 | 18 | 13.3 | 16 | 20.8 | 25 | 10.2 | 18 | 10.0 | 43 | 10.1 |
| Kailali | 12 | 11.0 | 12 | 11.7 | 7 | 5.2 | 7 | 9.1 | 19 | 7.8 | 19 | 10.6 | 38 | 9.0 |
| Saptari | 6 | 5.5 | 22 | 21.4 | 4 | 3.0 | 3 | 3.9 | 10 | 4.1 | 25 | 13.9 | 35 | 8.3 |
| Ramechhap | 3 | 2.8 | 5 | 4.9 | 8 | 5.9 | 6 | 7.8 | 11 | 4.5 | 11 | 6.1 | 22 | 5.2 |
| Sunsari | 1 | 0.9 | 11 | 10.7 | 2 | 1.5 | 4 | 5.2 | 3 | 1.2 | 15 | 8.3 | 18 | 4.2 |
| Banke | 4 | 3.7 | | | 5 | 3.7 | | | 9 | 3.7 | | | 9 | 2.1 |
| Kavre | 3 | 2.8 | 2 | 1.9 | 2 | 1.5 | 2 | 2.6 | 5 | 2.0 | 4 | 2.2 | 9 | 2.1 |
| Salyan | 1 | 0.9 | 1 | 1.0 | 5 | 3.7 | 2 | 2.6 | 6 | 2.5 | 3 | 1.7 | 9 | 2.1 |
| Rautahat | | | 3 | 2.9 | 1 | 0.7 | 3 | 3.9 | 1 | 0.4 | 6 | 3.3 | 7 | 1.7 |
| Morang | | | | | 7 | 5.2 | | | 7 | 2.9 | | | 7 | 1.7 |

| Districts | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|---------------|--------------|------|--------|-----|----------|------|--------|-----|------|------|--------|-----|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Mahottari | 1 | 0.9 | | | 1 | 0.7 | | | 2 | 0.8 | | | 2 | 0.5 |
| Bara | | | | | 1 | 0.7 | | | 1 | 0.4 | | | 1 | 0.2 |
| Lamjung | 1 | 0.9 | | | | | | | 1 | 0.4 | | | 1 | 0.2 |
| Kaski | | | | | 1 | 0.7 | | | 1 | 0.4 | | | 1 | 0.2 |
| Chitwan | | | | | | | 1 | 1.3 | | | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.2 |
| Makwanpur | | | | | | | 1 | 1.3 | | | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.2 |
| Acham | | | | | | | 1 | 1.3 | | | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.2 |
| Kapilvastu | | | | | 1 | 0.7 | | | 1 | 0.4 | | | 1 | 0.2 |
| Tehrathum | | | 1 | 1.0 | | | | | | | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.2 |
| Jhapa | 1 | 0.9 | | | | | | | 1 | 0.4 | | | 1 | 0.2 |
| Dhading | | | 1 | 1.0 | | | | | | | 1 | 0.6 | 1 | 0.2 |
| Bihar India | 1 | 0.9 | | | 1 | 0.7 | | | 2 | 0.8 | | | 2 | 0.5 |
| West Bengal | 9 | 8.3 | 2 | 1.9 | 4 | 3.0 | 2 | 2.6 | 13 | 5.3 | 4 | 2.2 | 17 | 4.0 |
| Uttar Pradesh | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| India | 30 | 27.5 | | | 30 | 22.2 | 2 | 2.6 | 60 | 24.6 | 2 | 1.1 | 62 | 14.6 |

Box 1: Child Labor in the Brick Industry

The use of child laborers in different factories of the brick industry is rampant. There are several reasons for this. Firstly, the children come to a brick factory with their parents who are seasonal labourers and then the children do work to help their parents. These children working with their parents say that they again have the opportunity to join the school after the completion of the brick season. Some students living near the brick factory were found working in their school uniform to earn pocket money and to support their family as well. The local school children engaged in work at the brick factories were found working as carriers of baked and unbaked bricks to and from the brick factory. Those children in uniform were found working in the brick factory before and after their school activities and had been missing school for several weeks.

3.3 Basic Characteristics of Child Laborers

In total 424 child laborers working in brick factories were interviewed in which the proportion of males was 58 percent and that of female was 42 percent. Similarly, 50 percent of surveyed child laborers were of 14 to 18 years age; and the rest were below 14 years of age.

The caste and ethnicity information showed the majority of the respondents were *Janajatis* (47.2 percent) followed by Dalit (19.1 percent) and Terai castes (14.2 percent). The proportion of Brahmin/Chhetri was 7.3 percent. Except for a few respondents, almost all have their own houses (96.2 percent). A great majority (84 percent) of them reported that their family did not migrate in the place of origin within last ten years while few of them (16 percent) did so. Nearly sixty percent (58 percent) said their birth is registered in the local bodies; while 28.5 percent said that birth is not registered. Some respondents (13.4 percent) do not know about their birth registration status. Almost 6 percent of interviewed child laborers were married, and of those married seven out of ten were living with spouses (Table 3.2). One girl child laborer under 14 was married, while 13 boys and 12 girls of age 14 to 18 were married.

Table 3.2 : Background Characteristics of Child Labor Respondent

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|------|--------|-------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Male | 87 | 50.9 | | | 157 | 62.1 | | | 244 | 57.5 | | | 244 | 57.5 |
| Female | | | 84 | 49.1 | | | 96 | 37.9 | | | 180 | 42.5 | 180 | 42.5 |
| Caste | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Janajati | 24 | 14.0 | 43 | 25.1 | 71 | 28.1 | 62 | 24.5 | 95 | 22.4 | 105 | 24.8 | 200 | 47.2 |
| Brahmin/Chhetri | 3 | 1.8 | 3 | 1.8 | 15 | 5.9 | 10 | 4.0 | 18 | 4.2 | 13 | 3.1 | 31 | 7.3 |
| Dalit | 20 | 11.7 | 22 | 12.9 | 21 | 8.3 | 18 | 7.1 | 41 | 9.7 | 40 | 9.4 | 81 | 19.1 |
| Terai Caste | 20 | 11.7 | 13 | 7.6 | 26 | 10.3 | 1 | 0.4 | 46 | 10.8 | 14 | 3.3 | 60 | 14.2 |
| Muslim | 18 | 10.5 | 2 | 1.2 | 19 | 7.5 | 5 | 2.0 | 37 | 8.7 | 7 | 1.7 | 44 | 10.4 |
| Others | 2 | 1.2 | 1 | 0.6 | 5 | 2.0 | | | 7 | 1.7 | 1 | 0.2 | 8 | 1.9 |
| Own house | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 83 | 48.5 | 78 | 45.6 | 156 | 61.7 | 91 | 36.0 | 239 | 56.4 | 169 | 39.9 | 408 | 96.2 |
| No | 4 | 2.3 | 6 | 3.5 | 1 | 0.4 | 5 | 2.0 | 5 | 1.2 | 11 | 2.6 | 16 | 3.8 |
| Migration (within past 10 yrs) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 10 | 5.8 | 15 | 8.8 | 22 | 8.7 | 21 | 8.3 | 32 | 7.5 | 36 | 8.5 | 68 | 16.0 |
| No | 77 | 45.0 | 69 | 40.4 | 135 | 53.4 | 75 | 29.6 | 212 | 50.0 | 144 | 34.0 | 356 | 84.0 |
| Birth registration | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 46 | 26.9 | 56 | 32.7 | 88 | 34.8 | 56 | 22.1 | 134 | 31.6 | 112 | 26.4 | 246 | 58.0 |
| No | 27 | 15.8 | 19 | 11.1 | 47 | 18.6 | 28 | 11.1 | 74 | 17.5 | 47 | 11.1 | 121 | 28.5 |
| Don't Know | 14 | 8.2 | 9 | 5.3 | 22 | 8.7 | 12 | 4.7 | 36 | 8.5 | 21 | 5.0 | 57 | 13.4 |
| Marital status | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | | | 1 | 0.6 | 13 | 5.1 | 12 | 4.7 | 13 | 3.1 | 13 | 3.1 | 26 | 6.1 |
| No | 87 | 50.9 | 83 | 48.5 | 144 | 56.9 | 84 | 33.2 | 231 | 54.5 | 167 | 39.4 | 398 | 93.9 |
| If yes, living with | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | | | | | 7 | 28.0 | 12 | 48.0 | 7 | 26.9 | 12 | 46.2 | 19 | 73.1 |
| No | | | 1 | 100.0 | 6 | 24.0 | | | 6 | 23.1 | 1 | 3.8 | 7 | 26.9 |

3.4 Family Background

Analysis of the household size of the sample child laborers shows that the majority (68.2 percent) of the families had more than six family members. This is higher than the average national household size of 4.9 (NLSS, 2011). Loss of parents also may lead children to go for work. Survey results show that around 10 percent respondents had either lost their father or were deserted. Similarly, about 7 percent of child laborers reported that they have either lost their mother or were deserted. But, as seen in the table, more than 90 percent of children reported that their mother or father are alive. The majority (34.2 percent) of the respondents were of first birth order followed by being second in the birth order (28 percent). Table 3.3 explains the family background of respondents.

Table 3.3: Family Background

| Description | Number | Percent |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Number of family member | | |
| Less than 6 | 135 | 31.8 |
| 6 and above | 289 | 68.2 |

| Description | Number | Percent |
|--------------------------|--------|---------|
| Father Status | | |
| Father dead | 41 | 9.7 |
| Father alive | 380 | 89.6 |
| Father deserted | 3 | 0.7 |
| Mother Status | | |
| Mother dead | 22 | 5.2 |
| Mother alive | 396 | 93.4 |
| Mother deserted | 6 | 1.4 |
| Birthing position | | |
| First | 145 | 34.2 |
| Second | 119 | 28.1 |
| Third | 77 | 18.2 |
| Fourth and above | 83 | 19.6 |
| Total | 424 | 100 |

3.5 Economic Background

Families of more than half of the respondents (54.5 percent) have cultivated land. The major source of income of the respondents (72 percent) was from daily wage earning while 25 percent get their major income from farming. Service and trade were main source of income of about 3 percent of the families. Wage and farming income together constitute the major income source for 80 percent of family of respondents. Of those reporting second important source of income (only 44 percent reported) for almost 98 percent it was daily wages and then farming income. It can be seen from the figures in Table 3.3 that fewer families of under 14 years child labor have cultivated land.

Data reveals that the tendency of borrowing loans and advances during work is common among the families of child laborers of brick factories. Nearly 40 percent respondents were maintaining their livelihood by taking borrowed money. Of this, 33 percent of the children's parents borrowed money from brick factory owners. Similarly, more than 38 percent of the respondents reported that their parents received advances from their employer before the start of current season of brick production. They received these advances at their place of origin. This system of providing advance amounts was done to guarantee the supply of labor. More than a quarter of child respondents (28.1 percent) were unaware about advances taken from the employer by the parents which means the numbers in this situation may be much higher.

The amount of advance received by the families of child laborers varies. Of the total advance recipients, 50 percent received less than Rs. 10,000, 19 percent received Rs.10,000 to 25,000, 16 percent received Rs.25,000 to 50,000 and 9 percent received more than Rs.50,000. The advance amount is deducted from the respective laborer's remuneration during the final payment at the end of the season. This system of settling advance at the end of season was found in all sample brick factories (Table 3.4). Interest is not charged in such advances. The advances work as a way of binding laborers to work for the advance provider. Only after settlement of the advances are laborers free to change factories for work.

Families reportedly are able to repay advances taken. In addition, they earn enough to defray costs of living and transportation to their villages. If the families are unable to repay advances, these may be counted as loans and have to be repaid in the next season.

Table 3.4: Economic Background

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|-------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Cultivated land | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 46 | 26.9 | 29 | 17.0 | 102 | 40.3 | 54 | 21.3 | 148 | 34.9 | 83 | 19.6 | 231 | 54.5 |
| No | 41 | 24.0 | 55 | 32.2 | 55 | 21.7 | 42 | 16.6 | 96 | 22.6 | 97 | 22.9 | 193 | 45.5 |
| Main income source | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Farming | 15 | 8.8 | 9 | 5.3 | 49 | 19.4 | 35 | 13.8 | 64 | 15.1 | 44 | 10.4 | 108 | 25.5 |
| Service | 2 | 1.2 | 2 | 1.2 | | | 2 | 0.8 | 2 | 0.5 | 4 | 0.9 | 6 | 1.4 |
| Trade | 3 | 1.8 | | | 1 | 0.4 | 3 | 1.2 | 4 | 0.9 | 3 | 0.7 | 7 | 1.7 |
| Daily Wage | 67 | 39.2 | 73 | 42.7 | 107 | 42.3 | 56 | 22.1 | 174 | 41.0 | 129 | 30.4 | 303 | 71.5 |
| Secondary income source | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Farming | 20 | 35.1 | 14 | 24.6 | 37 | 28.9 | 15 | 11.7 | 57 | 30.8 | 29 | 15.7 | 86 | 46.5 |
| Service | | | | | | | 1 | 0.8 | | | 1 | 0.5 | 1 | 0.5 |
| Trade | | | | | 3 | 2.3 | | | 3 | 1.6 | | | 3 | 1.6 |
| Daily Wage | 15 | 26.3 | 8 | 14.0 | 43 | 33.6 | 29 | 22.7 | 58 | 31.4 | 37 | 20.0 | 95 | 51.4 |
| Borrow | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 33 | 19.3 | 37 | 21.6 | 62 | 24.5 | 36 | 14.2 | 95 | 22.4 | 73 | 17.2 | 168 | 39.6 |
| No | 30 | 17.5 | 34 | 19.9 | 60 | 23.7 | 43 | 17.0 | 90 | 21.2 | 77 | 18.2 | 167 | 39.4 |
| Don't Know | 24 | 14.0 | 13 | 7.6 | 35 | 13.8 | 17 | 6.7 | 59 | 13.9 | 30 | 7.1 | 89 | 21.0 |
| If yes, from employer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 11 | 15.7 | 10 | 14.3 | 19 | 19.4 | 16 | 16.3 | 30 | 17.9 | 26 | 15.5 | 56 | 33.3 |
| No | 19 | 27.1 | 24 | 34.3 | 40 | 40.8 | 17 | 17.3 | 59 | 35.1 | 41 | 24.4 | 100 | 59.5 |
| Don't Know | 3 | 4.3 | 3 | 4.3 | 3 | 3.1 | 3 | 3.1 | 6 | 3.6 | 6 | 3.6 | 12 | 7.1 |
| Advance taken | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 29 | 17.0 | 37 | 21.6 | 55 | 21.7 | 43 | 17.0 | 84 | 19.8 | 80 | 18.9 | 164 | 38.7 |
| No | 28 | 16.4 | 26 | 15.2 | 65 | 25.7 | 22 | 8.7 | 93 | 21.9 | 48 | 11.3 | 141 | 33.3 |
| Don't Know | 30 | 17.5 | 21 | 12.3 | 37 | 14.6 | 31 | 12.3 | 67 | 15.8 | 52 | 12.3 | 119 | 28.1 |
| Advance taken, NRS | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Up to 10,000 | 19 | 30.2 | 16 | 25.4 | 25 | 25.5 | 21 | 21.4 | 44 | 27.3 | 37 | 22.98 | 81 | 50.3 |
| 10,001 to 25,000 | 3 | 4.8 | 5 | 7.9 | 14 | 14.3 | 9 | 9.2 | 17 | 10.6 | 14 | 8.696 | 31 | 19.3 |
| 25,001 to 50,000 | 3 | 4.8 | 5 | 7.9 | 11 | 11.2 | 6 | 6.1 | 14 | 8.7 | 11 | 6.832 | 25 | 15.5 |
| 50,001 and above | 2 | 3.2 | 5 | 7.9 | 3 | 3.1 | 5 | 5.1 | 5 | 3.11 | 10 | 6.211 | 15 | 9.3 |
| Don't know | 1 | 1.6 | 4 | 6.3 | 2 | 2.0 | 2 | 2.0 | 3 | 1.86 | 6 | 3.727 | 9 | 5.6 |

Box 2: Mana Bahadur Budha: A Brick Factory Child Laborer

Mana Bahadur Budha, 12 years, is a child laborer, working at a brick factory in Chitwan. He has been at this brick factory for two years. He is from Rolpa district. Mana Bahadur came here when ten years old, with his parents who have been working in the industry for seven years. Mana Bahadur gets a time bound job for six months on a salary basis @ Rs. 2,000 per month. His main job in the industry is to distribute tokens (round discs or *Kauri* given out to laborers to track / count bricks made or carried) to other laborers. His other duties include cleaning the office daily, making tea for office staff, visitors and the owners. For this extra work he gets two cups of tea daily. In addition to this he clears the broken bricks as well as brick dust of the factory. To complete all this work he wakes up early in the morning and works in the factory till late evening. He gives his all earnings to his parents.

3.6 Triggering Factors to Join as Child Labor

Poverty is the main cause of forcing children to work in Nepal. In the case of brick factory child laborers, it is not an exception. Poor families, due to lack of employment opportunities migrate to brick factories for work. Aside from this general social phenomenon, information on influence of other triggering factors is presented. There are various other factors to compel the children to join in labor force. About 20 percent of respondents reported that they were forced to join brick factories due to some specific events that happened within their families. The most common driving force for their involvement was long term sickness of family members (20.5 percent) followed by debt and death of family members (16.7 percent each) and marriage of family members and parents' quarrels (15.4 percent each). No specific difference is seen in the triggering factors to join work in different age groups. Table 3.5 explores the reasons given for working in brick factories.

Table 3.5: Triggering Factors to Join Work

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Any reason to come here | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 17 | 9.9 | 8 | 4.7 | 30 | 11.9 | 23 | 9.1 | 47 | 11.1 | 31 | 7.3 | 78 | 18.4 |
| No | 70 | 40.9 | 76 | 44.4 | 127 | 50.2 | 73 | 28.9 | 197 | 46.5 | 149 | 35.1 | 346 | 81.6 |
| If yes, reason | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marriage | | | | | 5 | 9.4 | 7 | 13.2 | 5 | 6.4 | 7 | 9.0 | 12 | 15.4 |
| Death | 4 | 16.0 | | | 4 | 7.5 | 5 | 9.4 | 8 | 10.3 | 5 | 6.4 | 13 | 16.7 |
| Long term sickness | 4 | 16.0 | 3 | 12.0 | 6 | 11.3 | 3 | 5.7 | 10 | 12.8 | 6 | 7.7 | 16 | 20.5 |
| Parents Separation | 1 | 4.0 | | | | | 1 | 1.9 | 1 | 1.3 | 1 | 1.3 | 2 | 2.6 |
| Parents remarrying | 1 | 4.0 | | | | | | | 1 | 1.3 | | | 1 | 1.3 |
| Parental conflict | 2 | 8.0 | 2 | 8.0 | 7 | 13.2 | 1 | 1.9 | 9 | 11.5 | 3 | 3.8 | 12 | 15.4 |
| Civil war affected | | | | | 2 | 3.8 | 1 | 1.9 | 2 | 2.6 | 1 | 1.3 | 3 | 3.8 |
| Debt | 4 | 16.0 | 2 | 8.0 | 5 | 9.4 | 2 | 3.8 | 9 | 11.5 | 4 | 5.1 | 13 | 16.7 |
| Parents compelled to join work | 1 | 4.0 | 1 | 4.0 | 1 | 1.9 | 3 | 5.7 | 2 | 2.6 | 4 | 5.1 | 6 | 7.7 |

Box 3: Maya - a Brick Factory Born Child Laborer

Maya is 17 years old and is working in a brick factory of Chitwan district. Her parents have been working in brick factories for 20 years. She is the first child of her parents and was born in a brick factory when her parents were working there. Since her birth she has accompanied her parents to the brick factory every year. She started working in the brick factory at a very early age - she even does not remember her age when she started working. She has other two sisters and one brother, all of whom are currently working in the same brick factory.

3.7 Activities in a Brick Factory

Child laborers are involved in different types of work in brick factories. Altogether 6 types of activities were identified: 1. preparing raw material 2. making bricks 3. drying bricks 4. transporting raw bricks 5. transporting baked bricks and 6. transporting raw materials. The main activities of child laborers includes transporting raw bricks (47 percent) and making raw bricks (33 percent); followed by preparation of raw materials and transportation of fired-bricks. Raw material preparation includes mud digging and clay preparation. Similarly, drying of bricks, transporting raw and fired bricks were the other work done by child laborers. Children were asked about how long they have been working in brick factories. The majority (23 percent) of respondents have worked for less than six months followed by 6 to 12 months (20 percent) and up to three years (13 percent) (Table 3.6).

When asked about whether they work in another place during the same period, the nominal number of them (6 percent) reported that they were also engaged in work other than brick factory sector. Child laborers commuting to factories from home are generally engaged in animal care and farm activities.

When asked what they were doing before joining current brick factory as child laborers, 48 and 33 percent children responded that they were involved in schooling and their own household chores respectively. It was also observed that a few respondents said that they were engaged in daily wage labor; whereas some of them worked in other factories (Table 3.6).

Table 3.6: Activities and Work Duration

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|---------------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|-------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Main activities | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Preparing Raw Material | 17 | 9.9 | 2 | 1.2 | 14 | 5.5 | 3 | 1.2 | 31 | 7.3 | 5 | 1.18 | 36 | 8.5 |
| Making Raw Bricks | 31 | 18.1 | 25 | 14.6 | 52 | 20.6 | 32 | 12.6 | 83 | 19.6 | 57 | 13.44 | 140 | 33.0 |
| Drying of Bricks | 3 | 1.8 | | | 3 | 1.2 | 2 | 0.8 | 6 | 1.4 | 2 | 0.47 | 8 | 1.9 |
| Transporting Raw Bricks | 28 | 16.4 | 52 | 30.4 | 64 | 25.3 | 55 | 21.7 | 92 | 21.7 | 107 | 25.24 | 199 | 46.9 |
| Transporting Fired Bricks | 8 | 4.7 | 4 | 2.3 | 17 | 6.7 | 3 | 1.2 | 25 | 5.9 | 7 | 1.65 | 32 | 7.5 |
| Transporting Raw Material | | | 1 | 0.6 | 7 | 2.8 | 1 | 0.4 | 7 | 1.7 | 2 | 0.47 | 9 | 2.1 |
| Working months | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than 6 months | 36 | 21.1 | 21 | 12.3 | 59 | 23.3 | 36 | 14.2 | 95 | 22.4 | 57 | 13.44 | 152 | 35.8 |
| 6 to 12 months | 25 | 14.6 | 21 | 12.3 | 40 | 15.8 | 13 | 5.1 | 65 | 15.3 | 34 | 8.02 | 99 | 23.3 |
| Up to 2 years | 15 | 8.8 | 22 | 12.9 | 30 | 11.9 | 16 | 6.3 | 45 | 10.6 | 38 | 8.96 | 83 | 19.6 |
| Up to 3 years | 7 | 4.1 | 16 | 9.4 | 16 | 6.3 | 15 | 5.9 | 23 | 5.4 | 31 | 7.31 | 54 | 12.7 |
| More than 3 years | 4 | 2.3 | 4 | 2.3 | 12 | 4.7 | 16 | 6.3 | 16 | 3.8 | 20 | 4.72 | 36 | 8.5 |

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|-------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Working also another place | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 6 | 3.5 | 1 | 0.6 | 17 | 6.7 | 3 | 1.2 | 23 | 5.4 | 4 | 0.94 | 27 | 6.4 |
| No | 81 | 47.4 | 83 | 48.5 | 140 | 55.3 | 93 | 36.8 | 221 | 52.1 | 176 | 41.51 | 397 | 93.6 |
| Work before brick factory | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| School | 40 | 23.4 | 47 | 27.5 | 76 | 30.0 | 41 | 16.2 | 116 | 27.4 | 88 | 20.75 | 204 | 48.1 |
| Own Household chores | 32 | 18.7 | 32 | 18.7 | 36 | 14.2 | 39 | 15.4 | 68 | 16.0 | 71 | 16.75 | 139 | 32.8 |
| Tea shop | | | | | 5 | 2.0 | | | 5 | 1.2 | | | 5 | 1.2 |
| Brick factory | 4 | 2.3 | 4 | 2.3 | 8 | 3.2 | 4 | 1.6 | 12 | 2.8 | 8 | 1.89 | 20 | 4.7 |
| Transport labor | | | | | 1 | 0.4 | | | 1 | 0.2 | | | 1 | 0.2 |
| Wage labor | 8 | 4.7 | 1 | 0.6 | 27 | 10.7 | 10 | 4.0 | 35 | 8.3 | 11 | 2.59 | 46 | 10.8 |
| Domestic labor | 3 | 1.8 | | | 4 | 1.6 | 2 | 0.8 | 7 | 1.7 | 2 | 0.47 | 9 | 2.1 |

3.8 Source of Accessing Work

Except in the case of a few respondents, parents of the great majority (95%) of child laborers were well informed about the work place of their children. Various sources are used for accessing the work in brick factories. They are from Sardar/Naike (i.e. work team leader responsible to manage laborers), friends, employers, employees themselves and parents. The majority (65.6 percent) of respondents said that they were engaged for work at brick factory at the suggestion of their parents, followed by friends (21.9 percent), relatives (14.6 percent), brokers (8.0 percent) and on their own initiative (4.5 percent). Many of them came with parents (43.4 percent) followed by with friends (21.9 percent) and relatives (14.6 percent). The majority of children (55.4 percent) reported that they began work in the factories when they were 10 to 14 years. 18 percent said that they began factory work even before they were 10 years of age (Table 3.7).

Table 3.7: How Child Laborers Entered in the Current Job

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|--|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Parents informed about work place | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 82 | 48.0 | 80 | 46.8 | 149 | 58.9 | 90 | 35.6 | 231 | 54.5 | 170 | 40.1 | 401 | 94.6 |
| No | 5 | 2.9 | 4 | 2.3 | 8 | 3.2 | 6 | 2.4 | 13 | 3.1 | 10 | 2.4 | 23 | 5.4 |
| Source of suggestion/initiation or motivation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Friends suggestion | 10 | 5.8 | 8 | 4.7 | 41 | 16.2 | 20 | 7.9 | 51 | 12.0 | 28 | 6.6 | 79 | 18.6 |
| Own self | 5 | 2.9 | 2 | 1.2 | 26 | 10.3 | 5 | 2.0 | 31 | 7.3 | 7 | 1.7 | 38 | 9.0 |
| Parents suggestion | 69 | 40.4 | 71 | 41.5 | 77 | 30.4 | 61 | 24.1 | 146 | 34.4 | 132 | 31.1 | 278 | 65.6 |
| Household quarrel | | | | | 3 | 1.2 | 1 | 0.4 | 3 | 0.7 | 1 | 0.2 | 4 | 0.9 |
| Step father/mother | 1 | 0.6 | | | 1 | 0.4 | | | 2 | 0.5 | | | 2 | 0.5 |
| Conflict | | | | | | | 1 | 0.4 | | | 1 | 0.2 | 1 | 0.2 |
| Local Leader's suggestion | | | | | 8 | 3.2 | 5 | 2.0 | 8 | 1.9 | 5 | 1.2 | 13 | 3.1 |
| Relatives | 2 | 1.2 | 3 | 1.8 | 1 | 0.4 | 3 | 1.2 | 3 | 0.7 | 6 | 1.4 | 9 | 2.1 |

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Came to factory with | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parents | 46 | 26.9 | 58 | 33.9 | 46 | 18.2 | 34 | 13.4 | 92 | 21.7 | 92 | 21.7 | 184 | 43.4 |
| Other family member | 9 | 5.3 | 5 | 2.9 | 9 | 3.6 | 9 | 3.6 | 18 | 4.2 | 14 | 3.3 | 32 | 7.5 |
| Relatives | 11 | 6.4 | 8 | 4.7 | 21 | 8.3 | 22 | 8.7 | 32 | 7.5 | 30 | 7.1 | 62 | 14.6 |
| Friends | 15 | 8.8 | 10 | 5.8 | 49 | 19.4 | 19 | 7.5 | 64 | 15.1 | 29 | 6.8 | 93 | 21.9 |
| Own self | 2 | 1.2 | 3 | 1.8 | 10 | 4.0 | 4 | 1.6 | 12 | 2.8 | 7 | 1.7 | 19 | 4.5 |
| Broker | 4 | 2.3 | | | 22 | 8.7 | 8 | 3.2 | 26 | 6.1 | 8 | 1.9 | 34 | 8.0 |
| Age of entry in factory work | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than 10 yrs | 31 | 18.1 | 31 | 18.1 | 9 | 3.6 | 4 | 1.6 | 40 | 9.4 | 35 | 8.3 | 75 | 17.7 |
| 10 to 14 yrs | 55 | 32.2 | 53 | 31.0 | 78 | 30.8 | 49 | 19.4 | 133 | 31.4 | 102 | 24.1 | 235 | 55.4 |
| 15 yrs above | 1 | 0.6 | | | 70 | 27.7 | 43 | 17.0 | 71 | 16.7 | 43 | 10.1 | 114 | 26.9 |

Box 4: Factory Operators: Have Connections, Will Ignore Local Government Regulations

VDCs leaders and residents where brick industries are located are often unaware of the plight of factory workers and children. They say there is no mechanism through which they can oversee what is going on in the factories. Factory operators are big business men, have connections, and do not even come in contact with the local community. Regulations that would have required them to work in cooperation with the VDCs are lacking. VDC leaders stated that through regulations and cooperation from factories, all child labor related issues of the brick industry can be resolved.

3.9 Working Status and Work Place

Of the total respondents, 75 percent reported that the current work is their first ever work; they had not worked as child laborers before. For 25 percent of the children it was not their first work. For those whom it was not their first work, 60 percent said it was second, and for 40 percent it was third or fourth work situation. For 23 percent they were working in the brick factories for the first time (i.e. it was their first season). 15 percent of child laborers had prior work experience in the brick factories. Of those reporting experience in prior factory work, 80 percent were boys and 27 percent were under 14 years of age.

Those child laborers with prior factory experience were further asked for the reason for changing the factory. Multiple answers were allowed; and low pay was reported as the major reason for changing the factory for work. Aspirations of the respondent children were recorded by asking what they might have been doing if not working here at the brick factory. The majority (38 percent) said they would have been in school. 33 percent said they would have been found in own households doing domestic chores, and 26 percent said they would have been working as wage laborers. Thus for more than two third of child laborers, there seems to have been few alternates other than working in the factories (Table 3.8).

Table 3.8: Working Status If Not in Brick Factory

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|---|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Is this first work? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 68 | 39.8 | 72 | 42.1 | 99 | 39.1 | 78 | 30.8 | 167 | 39.4 | 150 | 35.4 | 317 | 74.8 |
| No | 19 | 11.1 | 12 | 7.0 | 58 | 22.9 | 18 | 7.1 | 77 | 18.2 | 30 | 7.1 | 107 | 25.2 |
| If not, which one? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Second | 13 | 41.9 | 9 | 29.0 | 33 | 43.4 | 10 | 13.2 | 46 | 43.0 | 19 | 17.8 | 65 | 60.7 |
| Third | 4 | 12.9 | 2 | 6.5 | 14 | 18.4 | 5 | 6.6 | 18 | 16.8 | 7 | 6.5 | 25 | 23.4 |
| Four and more | 2 | 6.5 | 1 | 3.2 | 11 | 14.5 | 3 | 3.9 | 13 | 12.1 | 4 | 3.7 | 17 | 15.9 |
| Did you work in other brick factory | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 9 | 8.6 | 2 | 1.9 | 24 | 14.2 | 6 | 3.6 | 33 | 12.0 | 8 | 2.9 | 41 | 15.0 |
| No | 39 | 37.1 | 55 | 52.4 | 79 | 46.7 | 60 | 35.5 | 118 | 43.1 | 115 | 42.0 | 233 | 85.0 |
| Reason of leaving first work | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Low paid | 8 | 36.4 | | | 16 | 31.4 | 2 | 3.9 | 24 | 32.9 | 2 | 2.7 | 26 | 35.6 |
| Punishment | | | 1 | 4.5 | 5 | 9.8 | 1 | 2.0 | 5 | 6.8 | 2 | 2.7 | 7 | 9.6 |
| No schooling | 2 | 9.1 | | | 3 | 5.9 | | | 5 | 6.8 | | | 5 | 6.8 |
| Food control | 1 | 4.5 | | | 1 | 2.0 | | | 2 | 2.7 | | | 2 | 2.7 |
| Fired | 2 | 9.1 | 1 | 4.5 | 6 | 11.8 | 1 | 2.0 | 8 | 11.0 | 2 | 2.7 | 10 | 13.7 |
| Own will | 1 | 4.5 | | | 4 | 7.8 | 1 | 2.0 | 5 | 6.8 | 1 | 1.4 | 6 | 8.2 |
| Factory stopped | 2 | 9.1 | | | 3 | 5.9 | 3 | 5.9 | 5 | 6.8 | 3 | 4.1 | 8 | 11.0 |
| No salary | 4 | 18.2 | | | 2 | 3.9 | | | 6 | 8.2 | | | 6 | 8.2 |
| Parents also left | | | | | 2 | 3.9 | | | 2 | 2.7 | | | 2 | 2.7 |
| Leader changed | | | | | 1 | 2.0 | | | 1 | 1.4 | | | 1 | 1.4 |
| What did you do, if you were not here? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Schooling | 33 | 19.3 | 43 | 25.1 | 52 | 20.6 | 35 | 13.8 | 85 | 20.0 | 78 | 18.4 | 163 | 38.4 |
| Household chores | 32 | 18.7 | 29 | 17.0 | 38 | 15.0 | 40 | 15.8 | 70 | 16.5 | 69 | 16.3 | 139 | 32.8 |
| Daily wage labor | 19 | 11.1 | 10 | 5.8 | 61 | 24.1 | 20 | 7.9 | 80 | 18.9 | 30 | 7.1 | 110 | 25.9 |
| Don't know | 3 | 1.8 | 2 | 1.2 | 6 | 2.4 | 1 | 0.4 | 9 | 2.1 | 3 | 0.7 | 12 | 2.8 |

3.10 Living Status

Of the total respondents, 78 percent reported that they lived at the shelters (*Jhyauli*) provided by the employers in the factory area. The child laborers living at their own village house were 22 percent (they commute to factory from the neighboring villages). When asked whom they are living with, the majority (54.2%) of them reported that they were living with their parents followed by with friends (22.4%) and relatives (20.8%). It can be seen from Table 3.9 that more respondents (73.6 percent) up to 14 years of age were living with their parents compared to 54.2 percent of 15 to 18 years child laborers.

Table 3.9: Living Status at Brick Factory

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|---------------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Where do you live? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Camp | 67 | 39.2 | 49 | 28.7 | 135 | 53.4 | 79 | 31.2 | 202 | 47.6 | 128 | 30.2 | 330 | 77.8 |
| Own home | 20 | 11.7 | 35 | 20.5 | 22 | 8.7 | 17 | 6.7 | 42 | 9.9 | 52 | 12.3 | 94 | 22.2 |
| Living with | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parents | 60 | 35.1 | 73 | 42.7 | 59 | 23.3 | 38 | 15.0 | 119 | 28.1 | 111 | 26.2 | 230 | 54.2 |
| Relatives | 16 | 9.4 | 7 | 4.1 | 32 | 12.6 | 33 | 13.0 | 48 | 11.3 | 40 | 9.4 | 88 | 20.8 |
| Friends | 9 | 5.3 | 4 | 2.3 | 58 | 22.9 | 24 | 9.5 | 67 | 15.8 | 28 | 6.6 | 95 | 22.4 |
| Alone | 1 | 0.6 | | | 2 | 0.8 | | | 3 | 0.7 | | | 3 | 0.7 |
| Leader | 1 | 0.6 | | | 3 | 1.2 | 1 | 0.4 | 4 | 0.9 | 1 | 0.2 | 5 | 1.2 |
| Neighbors | | | | | 3 | 1.2 | | | 3 | 0.7 | | | 3 | 0.7 |

Box 4: Employers' Viewpoint

Employers argue that they do not employ child labor. As payments are made on a piece rate, families get their children working to maximize output and income. They argue it is the parents who are employing children. When it was suggested that the children are contributing to the promised output and the profit, so the employers should be helping children to go to school and get education, they refuted. The employers opined that that is not their work, there are so many agencies working in the issue – these agencies, if not the government or the parents, should take care of this.

3.11 Relatives and Siblings Working in Brick Factory

Children were asked whether more children from the same family that are working in the factories. They were also asked about the number of children from the village who are working in the brick factories. Of the total, 40 percent children reported that other children from their family were also working in the brick factory as child laborers. Of those reporting an additional child from family at work, 58 percent said one more child is involved; 42 percent said two or more children are working. Similarly 80 percent children reported that other children from their village also work in brick factory as child laborers. More than 36 percent children reported that less than 5 children were working from their village; 33 percent reported 5 to 10 children and 31 percent reported more than 10 children were working at brick factories from their villages (Table 3.10).

Table 3.10: Knowledge of Other Children Working in Brick Factory

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|--|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Other family children working at brick factory | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 41 | 24.0 | 54 | 31.6 | 44 | 17.4 | 29 | 11.5 | 85 | 20.0 | 83 | 19.6 | 168 | 39.6 |
| No | 46 | 26.9 | 30 | 17.5 | 113 | 44.7 | 67 | 26.5 | 159 | 37.5 | 97 | 22.9 | 256 | 60.4 |
| Number of family children working at brick factory | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| One | 24 | 25.3 | 33 | 34.7 | 23 | 31.5 | 18 | 24.7 | 47 | 28.0 | 51 | 30.4 | 98 | 58.3 |
| Two | 9 | 9.5 | 12 | 12.6 | 13 | 17.8 | 7 | 9.6 | 22 | 13.1 | 19 | 11.3 | 41 | 24.4 |
| Three and more | 8 | 8.4 | 9 | 9.5 | 8 | 11.0 | 4 | 5.5 | 16 | 9.5 | 13 | 7.7 | 29 | 17.3 |
| Other village children working at brick factory | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 66 | 38.6 | 72 | 42.1 | 117 | 46.2 | 83 | 32.8 | 183 | 43.2 | 155 | 36.6 | 338 | 79.7 |
| No | 21 | 12.3 | 12 | 7.0 | 40 | 15.8 | 13 | 5.1 | 61 | 14.4 | 25 | 5.9 | 86 | 20.3 |
| Number of village children working at brick factory | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than 5 | 29 | 21.0 | 13 | 9.4 | 53 | 26.5 | 28 | 14.0 | 82 | 24.3 | 41 | 12.1 | 123 | 36.4 |
| 5 to 10 | 15 | 10.9 | 25 | 18.1 | 39 | 19.5 | 32 | 16.0 | 54 | 16.0 | 57 | 16.9 | 111 | 32.8 |
| More than 10 | 22 | 15.9 | 34 | 24.6 | 25 | 12.5 | 23 | 11.5 | 47 | 13.9 | 57 | 16.9 | 104 | 30.8 |

Box 5: Sarita Reaches the Brick Factory

Sarita was a Grade 7 student in Dang District. Using her mobile phone she contacted a person from her village who was working in a brick factory in Kathmandu. After knowing that she could get a job at the brick factory, she, along with two friends travelled to Kathmandu. There they went to the brick factory and got work carrying bricks. She said she is happy with the earnings as she makes Rs.200 to Rs.300 per day. Sarita says that unlike boys who spend their money on drinks and gambling, she has saved her money. After the brick season, she plans to go back home, and help mother to open a grocery shop. She not sure what she will do, as she is not keen to return to school.

3.12 Working Time

Of the total respondents, only about 10 percent work for less than 10 hours a day, of which 30 percent are girls; and 45 percent are below 14 years. About three in five work from 10 to 12 hours and 31 percent of child laborers work for more than 12 hours per day (Table 3.11). Children reported that they started their work from early in the morning, sometimes even at 2 am and work till late in the evening up to 11pm. If working more than 12 hours per day is considered excessive hour of working the overwhelming proportion of children at brick factories fall in this category.

Most of the work in the brick factories is seasonal. Of the total respondents about 74 percent reported that their involvement in factory work is for 6 months. Similarly, nearly 12 percent child laborers reported that their involvement is up to 3 months; and 14.4 percent are involved for more than 6 months in a season (Table 3.11). There is no significant difference between the working time of up to 14 years children and 15 to 18 years children

Table 3.11: Working Hours and Injury

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|--|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Working hours | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than 10 hrs | 13 | 7.6 | 8 | 4.7 | 20 | 7.9 | 6 | 2.4 | 33 | 7.8 | 14 | 3.3 | 47 | 11.1 |
| 10 to 12 hrs | 49 | 28.7 | 58 | 33.9 | 69 | 27.3 | 69 | 27.3 | 118 | 27.8 | 127 | 30.0 | 245 | 57.8 |
| More than 12 hrs | 25 | 14.6 | 18 | 10.5 | 68 | 26.9 | 21 | 8.3 | 93 | 21.9 | 39 | 9.2 | 132 | 31.1 |
| Working months | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Up to 3 months | 16 | 9.4 | 9 | 5.3 | 20 | 7.9 | 5 | 2.0 | 36 | 8.5 | 14 | 3.3 | 50 | 11.8 |
| Up to 6 months | 64 | 37.4 | 61 | 35.7 | 106 | 41.9 | 82 | 32.4 | 170 | 40.1 | 143 | 33.7 | 313 | 73.8 |
| More than 6 months | 7 | 4.1 | 14 | 8.2 | 31 | 12.3 | 9 | 3.6 | 38 | 9.0 | 23 | 5.4 | 61 | 14.4 |
| Injury during work within past 6 months | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 25 | 14.6 | 32 | 18.7 | 45 | 17.8 | 43 | 17.0 | 70 | 16.5 | 75 | 17.7 | 145 | 34.2 |
| No | 62 | 36.3 | 52 | 30.4 | 112 | 44.3 | 53 | 20.9 | 174 | 41.0 | 105 | 24.8 | 279 | 65.8 |
| If yes, Injuries | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cut | 6 | 10.5 | 6 | 10.5 | 20 | 22.7 | 18 | 20.5 | 26 | 17.9 | 24 | 16.6 | 50 | 34.5 |
| Fracture | 3 | 5.3 | 1 | 1.8 | 1 | 1.1 | | | 4 | 2.8 | 1 | 0.7 | 5 | 3.4 |
| Injury | 16 | 28.1 | 25 | 43.9 | 24 | 27.3 | 25 | 28.4 | 40 | 27.6 | 50 | 34.5 | 90 | 62.1 |

3.13 Health Injuries and Sickness

Health especially injuries and sickness are major concerns for children working in brick factories. This can be considered severe among the child laborers in the brick factories based on the high incidence reported. Of the total child laborers, 34 percent reported that they were injured in the work place while working (Table 3.11). The children reported that 62 percent had an injury of unspecified nature, cuts (34.5 percent) and fractures (3.4 percent).

Out of the total number of respondents, 37 percent reported that they were facing health problems in the work place. The major health problems reported were - fever (50 percent), headache (36 percent), cough/cold (34 percent), backache (20 percent), water-borne diseases (12 percent) and chest pains (11 percent). Further, 75 percent reported high workload was the major reason of sickness. 80 percent children experiencing sickness said they received treatment either from employer (20%) or from the parents (80%). Of those who were sick, 19 percent reported that they worked during the period of sickness also (Table 3.12).

Table 3.12: Health Hazards and Treatment

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|--|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Ever became sick after joining work | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 28 | 16.4 | 35 | 20.5 | 50 | 19.8 | 46 | 18.2 | 78 | 18.4 | 81 | 19.1 | 159 | 37.5 |
| No | 59 | 34.5 | 49 | 28.7 | 107 | 42.3 | 50 | 19.8 | 166 | 39.2 | 99 | 23.3 | 265 | 62.5 |
| If yes, type of sickness | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Caught and cold | 10 | 16.4 | 12 | 19.7 | 16 | 16.7 | 15 | 15.6 | 26 | 16.6 | 27 | 17.2 | 53 | 33.8 |
| Fever/Measles | 14 | 23.0 | 20 | 32.8 | 19 | 19.8 | 26 | 27.1 | 33 | 21.0 | 46 | 29.3 | 79 | 50.3 |
| Chest pain/ respiratory problem | 2 | 3.3 | 3 | 4.9 | 8 | 8.3 | 4 | 4.2 | 10 | 6.4 | 7 | 4.5 | 17 | 10.8 |
| Headache | 9 | 14.8 | 13 | 21.3 | 16 | 16.7 | 19 | 19.8 | 25 | 15.9 | 32 | 20.4 | 57 | 36.3 |
| Water borne disease | 6 | 9.8 | 3 | 4.9 | 6 | 6.3 | 4 | 4.2 | 12 | 7.6 | 7 | 4.5 | 19 | 12.1 |
| Back pain | 2 | 3.3 | 6 | 9.8 | 10 | 10.4 | 13 | 13.5 | 12 | 7.6 | 19 | 12.1 | 31 | 19.7 |
| Reason of sickness | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Work load | 16 | 25.4 | 28 | 44.4 | 35 | 36.5 | 41 | 42.7 | 51 | 32.1 | 69 | 43.4 | 120 | 75.5 |
| Unhygienic food | 2 | 3.2 | 1 | 1.6 | 10 | 10.4 | 4 | 4.2 | 12 | 7.5 | 5 | 3.1 | 17 | 10.7 |
| Punishment | 10 | 15.9 | 6 | 9.5 | 5 | 5.2 | 1 | 1.0 | 15 | 9.4 | 7 | 4.4 | 22 | 13.8 |
| Were treated? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 20 | 35.1 | 27 | 47.4 | 42 | 47.2 | 28 | 31.5 | 62 | 42.5 | 55 | 37.7 | 117 | 80.1 |
| No | 5 | 8.8 | 5 | 8.8 | 6 | 6.7 | 13 | 14.6 | 11 | 7.5 | 18 | 12.3 | 29 | 19.9 |
| Cost borne by | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parents | 15 | 35.7 | 24 | 57.1 | 27 | 44.3 | 20 | 32.8 | 42 | 40.8 | 44 | 42.7 | 86 | 83.5 |
| Owner | 2 | 4.8 | 1 | 2.4 | 8 | 13.1 | 6 | 9.8 | 10 | 9.7 | 7 | 6.8 | 17 | 16.5 |
| Had to work during sickness? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 6 | 9.5 | 6 | 9.5 | 9 | 9.4 | 9 | 9.4 | 15 | 9.4 | 15 | 9.4 | 30 | 18.9 |
| No | 22 | 34.9 | 29 | 46.0 | 41 | 42.7 | 37 | 38.5 | 63 | 39.6 | 66 | 41.5 | 129 | 81.1 |

Few parents or children are aware of the risks posed by the dust, air pollution from the burning factories, stagnant and contaminated water, risk of injury from vehicles or mules or other hazards. Every year media reports mention the deaths of children in these factories most commonly from drowning. As children only work seasonally in the factories parents are unable to determine causes for problems such as asthma, TB or pneumonia and link such health problems to conditions at the factory. Doctors attending NGOs run health camps though express concern that these are either caused by or aggravated by the conditions under which these families live.

3.14 Remuneration

Information on the remuneration system for child laborers working in the brick factories was obtained from the respondents themselves. It was reported that 33 percent of the respondents were earning Rs.2,500 to 5,000 per month. Similarly, 28 percent earned Rs.5,000 to 10,000, 17 percent earned from Rs.1,500 to 2,500 per month. Only 8 percent said they earn less than Rs.1,500 per month. Caution should be taken here because this information on remuneration might include the payment for the work of other family members also. As family involvement is common in factory works, the remuneration is attributable to a family joint earning. In the survey, effort however was made to

isolate the earnings of the children from other family members. Half of the respondents reported that their parents received their wage (Table 3.13).

During the survey, the mode of payment was also discussed. As the majority (98 percent) of child laborers were involved in brick making and transporting activities they get their payment on a piece count basis. A few reported that they get their remuneration on monthly basis, specifically those who worked as assistants to the Naik to distribute tokens and assist the Naik in monitoring. No significant difference was found in the remuneration pattern of the male and female child laborers (Table 3.13).

Table 3.13: Monthly Remuneration and Wage Received by Child Laborers

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|-------------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Monthly income | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less than 1500 | 12 | 7.0 | 10 | 5.8 | 8 | 3.2 | 3 | 1.2 | 20 | 4.7 | 13 | 3.1 | 33 | 7.8 |
| 1,500 to 2,500 | 24 | 14.0 | 18 | 10.5 | 19 | 7.5 | 10 | 4.0 | 43 | 10.1 | 28 | 6.6 | 71 | 16.7 |
| 2,500 to 5,000 | 28 | 16.4 | 28 | 16.4 | 48 | 19.0 | 36 | 14.2 | 76 | 17.9 | 64 | 15.1 | 140 | 33.0 |
| 5,000 to 10,000 | 11 | 6.4 | 15 | 8.8 | 59 | 23.3 | 33 | 13.0 | 70 | 16.5 | 48 | 11.3 | 118 | 27.8 |
| 10,000+ | 2 | 1.2 | | | 18 | 7.1 | 3 | 1.2 | 20 | 4.7 | 3 | 0.7 | 23 | 5.4 |
| Don't know | 10 | 5.8 | 13 | 7.6 | 5 | 2.0 | 11 | 4.3 | 15 | 3.5 | 24 | 5.7 | 39 | 9.2 |
| Received wage by | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Self | 21 | 12.3 | 13 | 7.6 | 92 | 36.4 | 42 | 16.6 | 113 | 26.7 | 55 | 13.0 | 168 | 39.6 |
| Parents | 57 | 33.3 | 68 | 39.8 | 58 | 22.9 | 40 | 15.8 | 115 | 27.1 | 108 | 25.5 | 223 | 52.6 |
| Relatives | 9 | 5.3 | 3 | 1.8 | 7 | 2.8 | 14 | 5.5 | 16 | 3.8 | 17 | 4.0 | 33 | 7.8 |

3.15 Work and Wage Satisfaction

Of the total, about one fourth children were unhappy with their current job; and 27 percent were not satisfied with their wage. When further queries were made to the children about unhappiness with work and wage; more than half of the children did not like to continue the work. The expected income of the respondents from the brick factory works was also asked, from those who were unhappy with their wage. Of the total respondents, 58 and 32 percent respondents wanted 50 percent and 100 percent wage increment (Table 3.14).

Table 3.14: Work and Wage Satisfaction

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|---|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Work satisfaction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 61 | 35.7 | 63 | 36.8 | 117 | 46.2 | 64 | 25.3 | 178 | 42.0 | 127 | 30.0 | 305 | 71.9 |
| No | 25 | 14.6 | 18 | 10.5 | 40 | 15.8 | 31 | 12.3 | 65 | 15.3 | 49 | 11.6 | 114 | 26.9 |
| Don't Know | 1 | 0.6 | 3 | 1.8 | | | 1 | 0.4 | 1 | 0.2 | 4 | 0.9 | 5 | 1.2 |
| If not why not? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No, but because no alternative, so it is ok | 1 | 2.0 | 4 | 7.8 | 8 | 10.8 | 4 | 5.4 | 9 | 7.2 | 8 | 6.4 | 17 | 13.6 |

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|---|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Need to reduce present work load by 25% | 1 | 2.0 | | | 1 | 1.4 | 3 | 4.1 | 2 | 1.6 | 3 | 2.4 | 5 | 4.0 |
| Need to reduce present work load by 50% | 5 | 9.8 | 6 | 11.8 | 15 | 20.3 | 7 | 9.5 | 20 | 16.0 | 13 | 10.4 | 33 | 26.4 |
| Do not want to continue work | 20 | 39.2 | 14 | 27.5 | 17 | 23.0 | 19 | 25.7 | 37 | 29.6 | 33 | 26.4 | 70 | 56.0 |
| Wage satisfaction | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 61 | 35.7 | 59 | 34.5 | 109 | 43.1 | 63 | 24.9 | 170 | 40.1 | 122 | 28.8 | 292 | 68.9 |
| No | 22 | 12.9 | 17 | 9.9 | 47 | 18.6 | 29 | 11.5 | 69 | 16.3 | 46 | 10.8 | 115 | 27.1 |
| Don't Know | 4 | 2.3 | 8 | 4.7 | 1 | 0.4 | 4 | 1.6 | 5 | 1.2 | 12 | 2.8 | 17 | 4.0 |
| If not, what should be done? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Not satisfied but no alternative so ok | 3 | 6.8 | 2 | 4.5 | 6 | 7.6 | 2 | 2.5 | 9 | 7.3 | 4 | 3.3 | 13 | 10.6 |
| Increment in pay by 50% | 12 | 27.3 | 8 | 18.2 | 29 | 36.7 | 22 | 27.8 | 41 | 33.3 | 30 | 24.4 | 71 | 57.7 |
| Increment in pay buy 100% | 9 | 20.5 | 10 | 22.7 | 13 | 16.5 | 7 | 8.9 | 22 | 17.9 | 17 | 13.8 | 39 | 31.7 |

3.16 Educational Status

Of the total child laborers, 31 percent were illiterate and the remaining 69 percent were literate. Among those who are literate (291 child laborers), 5 percent had completed secondary school level, 24 percent had completed lower-secondary level and 71 percent had completed primary level education. Among those who were literate about 34 percent of the child laborers were attending school in the place of their origin but the rest had dropped out. It was reported that it is not possible for the migrant's child laborers from the rural areas to attend school at the work place.

About 22 percent children reported that they discontinue school for work. Once child laborers enter into wage earning activities seldom re-enrolled in schools, though 83 percent of such laborers said they re-attended school in their villages after the completion of brick factory works. During the survey, reasons for being illiterate were also probed. 39 percent reported that they were illiterate as their parents did not send them to school. Other causes of being illiterate were due to poverty (30.8%), not interested to go to school (26.7%) and not having school around the villages. A significant difference in the literacy rate between male and female worker was not observed (Table 3.15).

Table 3.15: Educational Status

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Literate | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 55 | 32.2 | 57 | 33.3 | 114 | 45.1 | 65 | 25.7 | 169 | 39.9 | 122 | 28.8 | 291 | 68.6 |
| No | 32 | 18.7 | 27 | 15.8 | 43 | 17.0 | 31 | 12.3 | 75 | 17.7 | 58 | 13.7 | 133 | 31.4 |
| Education level | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Primary level | 49 | 42.6 | 52 | 45.2 | 63 | 35.2 | 45 | 25.1 | 112 | 38.1 | 97 | 33.0 | 209 | 71.1 |
| Lower-secondary level | 8 | 7.0 | 6 | 5.2 | 39 | 21.8 | 17 | 9.5 | 47 | 16.0 | 23 | 7.8 | 70 | 23.8 |
| Secondary level | | | | | 12 | 6.7 | 3 | 1.7 | 12 | 4.1 | 3 | 1.0 | 15 | 5.1 |
| Regular schooling | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 24 | 21.4 | 35 | 31.3 | 26 | 14.5 | 13 | 7.3 | 50 | 17.2 | 48 | 16.5 | 98 | 33.7 |
| No | 31 | 27.7 | 22 | 19.6 | 88 | 49.2 | 52 | 29.1 | 119 | 40.9 | 74 | 25.4 | 193 | 66.3 |
| Current educational level | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Primary level | 19 | 32.2 | 32 | 54.2 | 8 | 20.5 | 4 | 10.3 | 27 | 27.6 | 36 | 36.7 | 63 | 64.3 |
| Lower-secondary level | 4 | 6.8 | 3 | 5.1 | 14 | 35.9 | 8 | 20.5 | 18 | 18.4 | 11 | 11.2 | 29 | 29.6 |
| Secondary level | 1 | 1.7 | | | 4 | 10.3 | 1 | 2.6 | 5 | 5.1 | 1 | 1.0 | 6 | 6.1 |
| Leave school for work | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 7 | 10.3 | 8 | 11.8 | 6 | 15.4 | 2 | 5.1 | 13 | 12.1 | 10 | 9.3 | 23 | 21.5 |
| No | 20 | 29.4 | 33 | 48.5 | 20 | 51.3 | 11 | 28.2 | 40 | 37.4 | 44 | 41.1 | 84 | 78.5 |
| Re-join school | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 8 | 28.6 | 13 | 46.4 | 8 | 61.5 | 5 | 38.5 | 16 | 39.0 | 18 | 43.9 | 34 | 82.9 |
| No | 1 | 3.6 | 6 | 21.4 | | | | | 1 | 2.4 | 6 | 14.6 | 7 | 17.1 |
| Reason illiterate | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parents did not send to school | 16 | 31.4 | 1 | 2.0 | 19 | 27.5 | 11 | 15.9 | 35 | 29.2 | 12 | 10.0 | 47 | 39.2 |
| Poverty | 9 | 17.6 | 11 | 21.6 | 10 | 14.5 | 7 | 10.1 | 19 | 15.8 | 18 | 15.0 | 37 | 30.8 |
| No interest to study | 3 | 5.9 | 10 | 19.6 | 9 | 13.0 | 10 | 14.5 | 12 | 10.0 | 20 | 16.7 | 32 | 26.7 |
| No school at village | 2 | 3.9 | | | 4 | 5.8 | | | 6 | 5.0 | | | 6 | 5.0 |

Box 6: Parents Face Problems if Children Left to Attend School

Discussions with parents revealed the problems they face as to where to leave the younger children when they migrate for work. As many have no one to leave the children with in their home village they bring the children to the factory. They said if educational opportunities were available close to the factories, they can send the children to school, and then both parents can work and make income for a family living.

3.17 Perceptions about the Brick Factory

When asked about whether they would feel better working at the brick factory or would prefer to be at home 38 percent reported that they prefer to be at the factory. The reasons given were it is easy to find friends (30 percent) and the opportunity to make an income (26 percent). It was reported by 6 percent of children that it is just like staying at home with parents. Sixteen percent children said that they can have better food here (Table 3.16).

Table 3.16: Feeling Better at Brick Factory than Home

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Is here better than home? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 40 | 23.4 | 33 | 19.3 | 63 | 24.9 | 26 | 10.3 | 103 | 24.3 | 59 | 13.9 | 162 | 38.2 |
| No | 47 | 27.5 | 51 | 29.8 | 94 | 37.2 | 70 | 27.7 | 141 | 33.3 | 121 | 28.5 | 262 | 61.8 |
| If yes, why? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Study | 4 | 5.5 | 4 | 5.5 | 3 | 3.4 | | | 7 | 4.3 | 4 | 2.5 | 11 | 6.8 |
| Nice food | 7 | 9.6 | 5 | 6.8 | 7 | 7.9 | 7 | 7.9 | 14 | 8.6 | 12 | 7.4 | 26 | 16.0 |
| Nice clothes | | | 1 | 1.4 | | | 2 | 2.2 | | | 3 | 1.9 | 3 | 1.9 |
| Residence at urban | 7 | 9.6 | 1 | 1.4 | 9 | 10.1 | 8 | 9.0 | 16 | 9.9 | 9 | 5.6 | 25 | 15.4 |
| Friends | 13 | 17.8 | 9 | 12.3 | 20 | 22.5 | 7 | 7.9 | 33 | 20.4 | 16 | 9.9 | 49 | 30.2 |
| Income | 8 | 11.0 | 10 | 13.7 | 23 | 25.8 | 1 | 1.1 | 31 | 19.1 | 11 | 6.8 | 42 | 25.9 |
| Having parents | 1 | 1.4 | 3 | 4.1 | 1 | 1.1 | 1 | 1.1 | 2 | 1.2 | 4 | 2.5 | 6 | 3.7 |

3.18 Penalty at Work

The respondents were asked whether they were penalized during work at the brick factory by the employers. About 16 percent children reported that they were penalized. Of those experiencing a penalty, 88 percent had experienced scolding and 13 percent reported that they were beaten by the employers.

Similarly, the respondents were asked whether they get permission from the employers to quit the job if they get better opportunities. About 37 percent respondents reported that they cannot quit the work. The remaining 63 percent responded that they would get permission for other better options (Table 3.16) were these available. As families of children are bonded by advances and loans, parents do not allow children to have such freedom to quit the job before the work season finishes.

When children face problems at work place, about 51 percent of the children reported that they shared these with parents (62 percent) followed by *Naike* (11.6%), relatives (9.7%), and friends (6.9%) (Table 3.17).

Table 3.17: Penalized, Freedom to Leave and Free Time Utilization

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|---|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Penalized | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 12 | 7.0 | 12 | 7.0 | 26 | 10.3 | 18 | 7.1 | 38 | 9.0 | 30 | 7.1 | 68 | 16.0 |
| No | 75 | 43.9 | 72 | 42.1 | 131 | 51.8 | 78 | 30.8 | 206 | 48.6 | 150 | 35.4 | 356 | 84.0 |
| If yes, how penalized | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scold | 11 | 45.8 | 9 | 37.5 | 23 | 52.3 | 17 | 38.6 | 34 | 50.0 | 26 | 38.2 | 60 | 88.2 |
| Beaten | 1 | 4.2 | 3 | 12.5 | 3 | 6.8 | 2 | 4.5 | 4 | 5.9 | 5 | 7.4 | 9 | 13.2 |
| Payment Withheld | | | 1 | 4.2 | | | 1 | 2.3 | | | 2 | 2.9 | 2 | 2.9 |
| Can you quit job? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 64 | 37.4 | 59 | 34.5 | 97 | 38.3 | 48 | 19.0 | 161 | 38.0 | 107 | 25.2 | 268 | 63.2 |
| No | 23 | 13.5 | 25 | 14.6 | 60 | 23.7 | 48 | 19.0 | 83 | 19.6 | 73 | 17.2 | 156 | 36.8 |
| If not, why? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Complete the duration | 17 | 35.4 | 7 | 14.6 | 41 | 38.0 | 28 | 25.9 | 58 | 37.2 | 35 | 22.4 | 93 | 59.6 |
| Parents/Relative have taken loan/advance | 1 | 2.1 | 6 | 12.5 | 9 | 8.3 | 16 | 14.8 | 10 | 6.4 | 22 | 14.1 | 32 | 20.5 |
| Parents don't allow | 5 | 10.4 | 12 | 25.0 | 10 | 9.3 | 4 | 3.7 | 15 | 9.6 | 16 | 10.3 | 31 | 19.9 |
| Message any where, if any problem raised | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 47 | 27.5 | 49 | 28.7 | 72 | 28.5 | 48 | 19.0 | 119 | 28.1 | 97 | 22.9 | 216 | 50.9 |
| No | 40 | 23.4 | 35 | 20.5 | 85 | 33.6 | 48 | 19.0 | 125 | 29.5 | 83 | 19.6 | 208 | 49.1 |
| If, yes, to whom? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parents | 34 | 35.4 | 41 | 42.7 | 29 | 24.2 | 31 | 25.8 | 63 | 29.2 | 72 | 33.3 | 135 | 62.5 |
| Owner | 4 | 4.2 | 5 | 5.2 | 9 | 7.5 | | | 13 | 6.0 | 5 | 2.3 | 18 | 8.3 |
| School teacher | 1 | 1.0 | | | 1 | 0.8 | | | 2 | 0.9 | | | 2 | 0.9 |
| Relatives | 4 | 4.2 | 2 | 2.1 | 8 | 6.7 | 7 | 5.8 | 12 | 5.6 | 9 | 4.2 | 21 | 9.7 |
| Friends | 1 | 1.0 | | | 12 | 10.0 | 2 | 1.7 | 13 | 6.0 | 2 | 0.9 | 15 | 6.9 |
| Broker | 3 | 3.1 | 1 | 1.0 | 13 | 10.8 | 8 | 6.7 | 16 | 7.4 | 9 | 4.2 | 25 | 11.6 |

3.19 Perception about Work

To gauge the perception of work, views of child laborers were asked whether they would advise other children to work in a brick factory. About 40 percent of respondents said that they would suggest other children to join brick factories for work; while 60 percent of them would not suggest it to others. Children were asked to give two reasons for their affirmative and negative suggestions about joining the work. Nearly 54 percent said it is due to the better income earning opportunity that they would advise other children to join the work. When asked why they would not suggest others to join brick factories, 76 percent of them said that it is due to the heavy work load in the factories. Low payment (32.6%) was the second reason for not suggesting for brick factory work. There is no significant difference between male and female child labors on the perception of work in the brick factories (Table 3.18).

Table 3.18: Suggest Others to Join Brick Factory

| Description | Less than 14 | | 14 to 18 | | Total | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------|----------|------|-------|------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % |
| Yes | 79 | 37.3 | 88 | 41.5 | 167 | 39.4 |
| No | 133 | 62.7 | 124 | 58.5 | 257 | 60.6 |
| If yes, two reasons | | | | | | |
| Better environment than in village | 23 | 29.1 | 31 | 35.2 | 54 | 32.3 |
| Nice / Better food | 30 | 38.0 | 27 | 30.7 | 57 | 34.1 |
| Nice dress | 12 | 15.2 | 34 | 38.6 | 46 | 27.5 |
| School access | 5 | 6.3 | | | 5 | 3.0 |
| Better income option | 46 | 58.2 | 44 | 50.0 | 90 | 53.9 |
| If no, two reasons | | | | | | |
| Feel isolated | 17 | 12.8 | 23 | 18.4 | 40 | 15.5 |
| Bad treatment | 10 | 7.5 | 19 | 15.2 | 29 | 11.2 |
| Bad food | 4 | 3.0 | 6 | 4.8 | 10 | 3.9 |
| Work load high | 108 | 81.2 | 88 | 70.4 | 196 | 76.0 |
| Low payment | 46 | 34.6 | 38 | 30.4 | 84 | 32.6 |
| Risk of sexual abuse | 1 | 0.8 | | | 1 | 0.4 |
| Cannot continue education | 23 | 17.3 | 20 | 16.0 | 43 | 16.7 |

3.20 Use of Addictive Substances

During interviews, child laborers were asked whether they have used any addictive substance. Of the total respondents, 87 percent reported that they have not used any addictive substances. About 11 percent were found smoking; and 8 percent were consuming alcohol. The proportion of respondents using other drugs was negligible (0.2%). Out of total smokers, 33 percent said they have been smoking for the last 2 years. Similarly, of the total alcohol users, 47 percent started one year ago (Table 3.19). The children using addictive substances were almost all male.

Table 3.19: Use of Addictive Substances by Child Laborers

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|--------------------|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Smoking | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 4 | 2.3 | 1 | 0.6 | 40 | 15.8 | | | 44 | 10.4 | 1 | 0.2 | 45 | 10.6 |
| No | 83 | 48.5 | 83 | 48.5 | 117 | 46.2 | 96 | 37.9 | 200 | 47.2 | 179 | 42.2 | 379 | 89.4 |
| Alcohol use | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 5 | 2.9 | 1 | 0.6 | 30 | 11.9 | | | 35 | 8.3 | 1 | 0.2 | 36 | 8.5 |
| No | 82 | 48.0 | 83 | 48.5 | 127 | 50.2 | 96 | 37.9 | 209 | 49.3 | 179 | 42.2 | 388 | 91.5 |
| Drug abuse | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 1 | 0.6 | | | | | | | 1 | 0.2 | | | 1 | 0.2 |
| No | 86 | 50.3 | 84 | 49.1 | 157 | 62.1 | 96 | 37.9 | 243 | 57.3 | 180 | 42.5 | 423 | 99.8 |

3.21 Participation

The proportion of children who have participated in similar surveys or interviews before or who have participated in child related programs was minimal. Just one percent of them had been consulted by NGO's researchers for interviews. Similarly only one percent children reported taking part in child related programs organized by NGOs. During the assessment, discussions were held with the child laborers, parents of children and brick factory owners to know the magnitude of the research in brick factory. Child related programs were not being implemented in any surveyed brick factories. But adolescent sexual health program was organized in a brick factory by a local club in Kathmandu (Table 3.20).

Table 3.20: Child Participation in Research and Other Programs

| Description | Less than 14 | | | | 14 to 17 | | | | All | | | | Total | |
|---|--------------|------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|------|------|--------|------|-------|------|
| | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | Male | | Female | | N | % |
| | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | N | % | | |
| Participated in research | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | | | 1 | 0.6 | 2 | 0.8 | 2 | 0.8 | 2 | 0.5 | 3 | 0.7 | 5 | 1.2 |
| No | 87 | 50.9 | 83 | 48.5 | 155 | 61.3 | 94 | 37.2 | 242 | 57.1 | 177 | 41.7 | 419 | 98.8 |
| Participated in the child programs | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yes | | | 2 | 1.2 | 3 | 1.2 | | | 3 | 0.7 | 2 | 0.5 | 5 | 1.2 |
| No | 87 | 50.9 | 82 | 48.0 | 154 | 60.9 | 96 | 37.9 | 241 | 56.8 | 178 | 42.0 | 419 | 98.8 |

Box 7: Eve Teasing of Girl Children

Since the majority of child laborers in the brick industry are adolescents they enjoy interacting with others of a similar age. However in some brick industries it was reported that some local boys enter the factory area in the evenings and tease the girls. They would like the girls to engage in fun and merry making activities. The girls view this as a form of sexual harassment and say it is unwelcome. During discussions the girls say when they are harassed too much, they complain to the Naike. Usually once this type of problem is shared with the Naike they take the initiative to chase the boys responsible away. Girls also said that from among the other workers in the factory that they do not feel such a risk of harassment.

3.22 Estimation of Total Number of Child Laborers in Brick Factories

On the basis of incidence of child labor in the surveyed brick factories, an estimation of total number of child laborers has been made. Information on the numbers of brick factories was collected from the Federation of Brick Factories. According to the Federation there are 750 brick factories registered in Nepal. Among them 211 are in Kathmandu valley and 539 are outside the valley. These factories employ 181,524 laborers (adult and children). The prevalence of child labor was calculated on the basis of information obtained from the 30 factories surveyed for this study. In the valley factories, 18.2 percent workers are children of age 18 or below. In factories outside the valley 13.7 percent of workers are children of age 18 or below. It is therefore estimated that there are 28,333 child labors in the brick factories, of which almost half are in the valley and the rest are working in the factories located outside the valley (Table 3.20).

Table 3.21: Estimation of Child Laborers in Brick Factories in Nepal

| Place | Total Registered Brick Factories | Total Laborers in the Brick Factories | Incidence Parameter (% children) | Estimated Numbers of Child Laborers |
|----------------|---|--|---|--|
| In valley | 211 | 75,169 | 18.2 | 13,715 |
| Outside valley | 539 | 106,355 | 13.7 | 14,618 |
| Total | 750 | 181524 | 15.6 | 28,333 |

CHAPTER IV

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Background

Child laborers in Nepal have attracted policy and program attention for more than a decade. To assess the current situation of child laborers working in brick factories this rapid assessment was undertaken. Ten districts from different parts of the country were selected, and families working in brick factories were enumerated to find the incidence of child labor working in brick factories. Also, the work done by child laborers was identified. A sample of child laborers identified were interviewed, using a structured questionnaire. In total 424 child laborers were surveyed.

4.2 Summary of Findings

The main findings of the study are summarized in the following points:

1. Based on the incidence of child labor in brick factories among the surveyed families in 10 districts, the number of child laborers in this sector in Nepal is estimated at 28,333. In the Kathmandu valley there are an estimated 13,715 child laborers at work, and outside the valley there are an estimated 14,688 child laborers employed.
2. About 50 percent of child laborers at brick factory are children below 14 years of age with the remaining 50 percent 14 to 18 years of age.
3. Boys outnumber girls among the child laborers in brick factories. Male children labor account for 57.5 percent of total child laborers.
4. Child laborers in brick factories mainly come from rural areas and are Janjati (47.2%), Dalit (19.1), Terai castes (14.2%), Muslims (10.4%) and Brahmin/Chhetri (7.3%).
5. Almost 31 percent of brick factory child laborers are illiterate. Of those who are literate, 33.7 percent were going to school at the place of origin. Migrating children dropout from school, whereas child laborers commuting from nearby villages are found continuing schooling along with work at the factories.
6. Salaries are not given in the brick factories. Here, remuneration is based on the piece rate basis. It was found that 33 percent of child laborers working in brick factories get Rs.2,500 to 5000 per month. This was calculated by determining piece work contribution of child laborer in the family's total income.
7. About 38 percent child laborers feel better in brick factory work than at home. The reasons given for this being better were easy to find friends and opportunities to make an income.

8. About 37 percent respondents reported that they cannot quit the work when they want to quit. The remaining 63 percent responded that they would get permission for other better options, if available. As families are bonded by advances and loans, parents do not allow children to have such freedom to quit the job before the work season finishes.
9. About 40 percent of respondents said that they would suggest other children to join brick factories for work; while 60 percent of them would not suggest others to join this work. The better income opportunity is the main reason for child laborers to suggest others to join the work.
10. Using the survey findings an attempt is made here to confirm or refute whether child laborers currently working in brick factories are working in a worst form of child labor. Four criteria are used, bonded or indebted, work without pay, excessive hours of work and age of working children. The summary of findings is presented below.
 - a. **Bonded:** If an incidence of borrowing loan from the employers by the family of child laborer is used as a proxy variable to find the situation of bondage about 13.2 percent (56 out of 424) of child laborers working in brick factories can be regarded as bonded. Similarly, if an advance taken from the employer is considered as element of bondage, 38.7 percent child laborers are bonded. Indeed cash advance takers included all indebted families.
 - b. **Works without Pay:** There is no chance of working without pay in brick factories as every member of a family works in a group and gets paid on the basis of work they have completed, and parents receive the payment. Individual based children also get paid on a piece basis.
 - c. **Excessive Hours of Work:** The survey findings show that more than 30 percent child laborers work for more than 12 hours a day in brick factories.
 - d. **Work at Very Young Age:** The existing laws and regulations prohibit employment of children below the age of 14 years. However, as demonstrated by the survey results, 50 percent of child laborers in brick factories are below 14 years of age.

4.3 Recommendations

Use of child labor in brick factories is both linked with the family based and in other cases unaccompanied children. Poor and vulnerable families migrate seasonally to the brick factory premises. Along with adult members of the family, children also participate in various brick making activities. Individual based child labor usually involved children who commute from nearby villages and work mostly as brick carriers. On the basis of the Rapid Assessment findings the following recommendations are made towards solving the child labor problems in the factories.

At the Macro Level

1. Poverty and lack of employment opportunities at the place of origin compels families to seasonally migrate to brick factories where all family members are employed for almost six months continuously. Children also accompany the family and are engaged in factory work

with adult family members. Improvement in the economic condition and social protection of these families at the place of origin will lessen the need for such migration. Children then can be left at home if only some family members migrate so schooling of children can be continued instead of working in the factories.

2. Brick factories operate seasonally and depend upon migrant families for their labor supply. The government should take initiatives to require the factories to arrange child care and child education facilities. The District Child Welfare Boards (DCWB) in collaboration with local VDCs should be entrusted to oversee the compliance of the factories. Factories can be encouraged to comply with this initially giving them some rebate in taxes that they have to pay to the government.
3. Also to ensure the compliance of the above regulation, the DCWB in collaboration with the district administration and local VDCs may issue 'child labor' friendly labelling to the brick factories. And, at least in public constructions, procurement of bricks should be strictly limited to those sourced from the complying factories which have been regulated and monitored. This can impart 'trade' pressure to the factories to become child friendly.
4. The DCWB in collaboration with tax authorities should be entrusted to raise funds for child development and education activities by levying 'child development' tax in the factories. For example, say Rs 10 per 1000 bricks sold. The fund then can be allocated to the local NGOs, VDCs, schools and to DCWB to carry out brick factory child related developments.
5. Awareness at local and national level regarding the plight of child laborers and their problems in the brick factories needs to be raised. Media, both print and visual, should be encouraged to give coverage to the issue. Trainings to the journalists and provisions of incentives (for example provide media awards for best reporting on the brick factory or on child labor) can promote mass awareness.
6. Ministry of Labor and Employment/MoL&E needs to take a leading role in monitoring and overseeing child labor issues in all sectors including in the brick factories. For this, the ministry should create a separate Department with a mandate to regularly monitor and implement child labor act, and coordinate activities directed to abolition of child labor. Particularly in the case of brick factories, the ministry should coordinate with the Ministry of Education, employers' organization such as FNCCI, trade unions and District Development Committees to ensure that children accompanying families in brick factories are availed schooling opportunities and are relieved from compulsion to work. Reduction of child labor use in the factories will increase the employment of adult laborers.
6. Ministry of Women, Child and Social Welfare (MoWCSW) should be active in devising and monitoring the interventions to ease the plight of child laborers and solve child labor problems. MoWCSW should assist DCWB in the districts by enhancing resources and capacity so that child labor problem is tackled at decentralized level. Coordination among civil society organizations and local bodies such as VDCs and municipality can best be worked out by the DCWB at the local level.

At Micro Level

1. VDCs where factories are located should be required and entrusted to keep records of families and children engaged in the factories. DCWB should work towards capacity building of the VDCs to carry out this function. VDCs then in collaboration with DCWB, NGOs, local

- schools, and factories should ensure that children are provided opportunities for child care and education.
2. Capacity of VDCs, NGOs, DCWB and local schools should be built to identify and solve child labor problems in brick factories.
 3. Awareness at local and national level regarding the plight of child laborers in the brick factories needs to be raised. Media, both print and visual, should be encouraged to give coverage to the issue. Trainings to the journalists and provisions of incentive can promote mass awareness.
 4. Trade Unions can play key role in raising awareness of working families and to encourage them to send children to schools rather than keeping them at work. Discouraging child labor would have positive impact on employment of adult workers.
 5. Children when migrating with family drop out from schools at the place of origin. They do not enrol in schools at destinations. This leads to them becoming permanent dropouts, and children are out of schools at early age. DCWB and local schools should work in collaboration with the District Education Office to ensure that children enrolled at the place of origin and migrating with families can be enrolled at the schools in the destinations; and when they return back after the work season, are re-enrolled in the schools at the origin.
 6. To make sure that those who dropout from schools for work need not do that; to this affect local VDCs and schools should subsidize the cost of education to such children. In addition, informal education sessions should be conducted to children who are not likely to go back to school.
 7. To the extent, the individual based child labor at the factories is intermittent, and does not hamper the education of child laborers, ensuring better work conditions, and decent pay are what are required. But if such laborers are forgoing education for paid work, this should be taken seriously.

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ANNEXES

Annex 1: Name of Selected Brick Factories (Surveyed period)

| District | Name of Brick Factory | Number of Families | Number of Total Laborers |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sunsari | L. B. B. | 80 | 170 |
| | Aananda | 150 | 300 |
| | Jai Nepal | 41 | 112 |
| | Sree Pabitra | 108 | 170 |
| Saptari | Maa Kali | 1 | 130 |
| | Everest | 5 | 165 |
| | Bhim Raj | | 182 |
| Sarlahi | jai mata di | 120 | 360 |
| | Pappu | | 200 |
| | Agar ji | | 180 |
| Chitwan | Jaya Bageswori | 45 | 255 |
| | Dharel | 9 | 126 |
| | Khanal | 35 | 398 |
| Tanahu | Pokhareli | 25 | 131 |
| | Asmita | 40 | 143 |
| | Tanahu | 56 | 120 |
| Banke | Kisan | 30 | 225 |
| | Janta | 25 | 65 |
| | Jai Nepal | 12 | 60 |
| Dang | Subha Kamana | 45 | 275 |
| | Goraksha | 15 | 85 |
| | Subham | 25 | 280 |
| Kailali | Raj | 25 | 162 |
| | Aananda | 13 | 85 |
| | Surat | 30 | 90 |
| Kathmandu | Aadi Narayan | 50 | 345 |
| | Mahalakshmi | 50 | 119 |
| | Shiva Jyoti | 49 | 281 |
| Bhaktapur | Shree Ganesh | 26 | 435 |
| | Hanuman Shakti | 95 | 554 |
| | Maheswari Maha Shakti | 70 | 340 |

Annex II: Districts Classified by Child Labor population [2001]

More than 10,000

District

| | | |
|---|-----------|-------|
| 1 | KATHMANDU | 19461 |
| 2 | MORANG | 15136 |
| 3 | KAILALI | 12711 |
| 4 | DHANUSHA | 12286 |
| 5 | SIRAHA | 11922 |
| 6 | JHAPA | 11533 |
| 7 | SUNSARI | 10839 |
| 8 | SARLAHI | 10707 |

5000 to 10,000

District

| | | |
|----|-------------|------|
| 1 | SAPTARI | 9493 |
| 2 | MAHOTTARI | 9493 |
| 3 | RAUTAHAT | 9435 |
| 4 | RUPENDEHI | 7916 |
| 5 | NAWALPARASI | 7407 |
| 6 | KASKI | 6971 |
| 7 | CHITWAN | 6855 |
| 8 | UDAYAPUR | 6813 |
| 9 | BARA | 6431 |
| 10 | KANCHANPUR | 6106 |
| 11 | BANKE | 6057 |
| 12 | DANG | 5785 |
| 13 | TANAHU | 5762 |
| 14 | BARDIYA | 5633 |
| 15 | SYANGJA | 5402 |
| 16 | MAKWANPUR | 5048 |

2000 to 5000**District**

| | | |
|----|----------------|------|
| 1 | KAVREPALANCHOK | 4716 |
| 2 | PARSA | 4690 |
| 3 | LALITPUR | 4621 |
| 4 | GULMI | 4557 |
| 5 | ILLAM | 4486 |
| 6 | BAGLUNG | 4369 |
| 7 | KHOTANG | 4325 |
| 8 | KAPILVASTU | 4269 |
| 9 | GORKHA | 4063 |
| 10 | SINDHUPALCHOK | 3944 |
| 11 | SINDHULI | 3903 |
| 12 | NUWAKOT | 3850 |
| 13 | ACHHAM | 3830 |
| 14 | PALPA | 3767 |
| 15 | SURKHET | 3725 |
| 16 | RAMECHAP | 3521 |
| 17 | PYUTHAN | 3366 |
| 18 | DHADING | 3350 |
| 19 | DOTI | 3327 |
| 20 | LAMJUNG | 3292 |
| 21 | BHAKTAPUR | 3003 |
| 22 | DAILEKH | 2985 |
| 23 | ROLPA | 2967 |
| 24 | DOLAKHA | 2867 |
| 25 | PARBAT | 2863 |
| 26 | ARGHAKHANCHI | 2776 |
| 27 | BAJHANG | 2766 |
| 28 | DHANKUTA | 2694 |
| 29 | BHOJPUR | 2679 |
| 30 | PANCHTHAR | 2647 |
| 31 | BAITADI | 2647 |
| 32 | OKALDHUNGA | 2554 |
| 33 | MYAGDI | 2130 |
| 34 | RUKUM | 2116 |
| 35 | SOLUKHUMBU | 1861 |
| 36 | TAPLEJUNG | 1764 |
| 37 | JAJARKOT | 1701 |
| 38 | DADEL DHURA | 1644 |
| 39 | SANKHUWASABHA | 1541 |
| 40 | TERHATHUM | 1498 |
| 41 | BAJURA | 1178 |
| 42 | SALYAN | 1027 |

Less than 2000**District**

| | | |
|----|---------------|------|
| 1 | SOLUKHUMBU | 1861 |
| 2 | TAPLEJUNG | 1764 |
| 3 | JAJARKOT | 1701 |
| 4 | DADEL DHURA | 1644 |
| 5 | SANKHUWASABHA | 1541 |
| 6 | TERHATHUM | 1498 |
| 7 | BAJURA | 1178 |
| 8 | SALYAN | 1027 |
| 9 | JUMLA | 999 |
| 10 | DARCHULA | 896 |
| 11 | RASUWA | 539 |
| 12 | MUSTANG | 471 |
| 13 | HUMLA | 456 |
| 14 | DOLPA | 421 |
| 15 | KALIKOT | 309 |
| 16 | MUGU | 299 |
| 17 | MANANG | 139 |

Annex III: Case Studies

Nur Ali from Assam, India

Nur Hussain Ali is from Assam India. He and his wife, and four children came to Jaya Nepal Brick Factory in Jhumka 8 months back through a Sardar who works for the factory. Like him, 14 families from his village and neighbouring village are working in this factory. If families in neighbouring factories are included, it will go up to hundred families from his community, Ali said. That way, it is like an Assamese village, children play together and adults socialize within their own community.

It is almost the end of Chaitra, and now is the time to go back home. Along with their two children aged 14 and 11 years, and the couple made 130,000 bricks; and will be paid Indian rupees 330 per 1000 bricks made. Before coming, Ali has received IC 32,000 as *Dhadhun* (advance) from the Sardar. Expenses involved in coming from and going back to village are paid by the employer. Ali said it costs IC 1,500 for one way trip. The family plans to come back to the factory next season after 4 months.

The daughter (14) and son (11) help in making, drying and stacking the bricks, Ali said. They do light work, Ali insists; more than that they take care of errands at the Jhuggi (temporary hut made close to the factory), cooking, taking care of younger siblings, freeing the adults for intensive work. After discussion at length, Ali agreed, had there been no help from children, they would have made only 100,000 bricks. Children's contribution thus stood at 30,000 bricks, that is almost IC 10,000! After returning home, Ali said, children will be re-enrolled in their school. In the case of the two adolescents, IC 2000 each will have to pay so that they can move to higher grades.

Ali gave many reasons for coming back for work in Nepal:

- Advantage of advance,
- Piece rate here is higher, they can make more money
- If work is disturbed due to rain; employer provides food here
- Food expenses here is less, so more can be saved
- No hassles from Ulfa, PLT (these are underground armed groups)
- Even if National Employment Guarantee Scheme back home ensures 100 days work at IC 80 per day, finding work in rest of period is not easy. Continuous work in factories provides employment for more than 500 days to the family.

Sriram: Graduated to Adult Labor

Khaniyabaani is 30 km from Manthali of Ramechhap district. For last 30 years or more, workers from this village have been travelling up to Kathmandu for brick factory work. Sriram Lama is one of them. He first came with his father and mother when he was 14 years old and worked near Chovar, south of Kathmandu. He learnt brick making from his parents and till now is working as brick maker. His father has stopped coming to work in factories since three years; he is too old now for the physically demanding work. He recalls, those days they got Rs 30 per thousand bricks made. Sriram is 40 years old now; this year he is working at a brick factory in Jagate of Bhaktapur. More than a dozen families from his village are working in this factory, many more are in other factories in Bhaktapur. This year he has come alone, leaving wife home to extend mother-care to their newborn daughter. In earlier years, his wife and two sons used to accompany him in a bid to build a better life.

So far, Sriram has worked in more than a dozen factories in Bhaktapur and Kathmandu. The current factory in which he is working is new one for him. Last year he received Rs.30,000 advance from Tilak Manadhar, an agent of the factory, with a condition that he will make 100,000 bricks this season. Interestingly, this agent also works in the same factory and does the same kind of work that Sriram does. He expects that this year the rate will be fixed at Rs 600 per thousand bricks made; hence his earning will be Rs 60,000 from which the advance taken will be deducted. The rest of money will be used as living expenses; at the most he will be able to take home few thousand rupees after meeting his expenses and settling the advance taken. His guess is Tilak, the agent, gets Rs 20 per 1000 bricks made by all who came through his connection. Sriram said Tilak also bears the risk, if those taking advance default; he has to pay back the factory the sum defaulted. But people do not default due to social pressure; one or two who default do so due to unavoidable circumstances, and Tilak collects the advances to pay back to the factory owner. Tilak is agent of the current factory, and the reason Tilak is assigned the responsibility is the 'link', Sriram said. For those who come to the factory and work against advance, interest is not levied. The advance thus is a bond; work and save; and pay back the sum taken. This is also a source to ensure that there are enough workers available for whole season of brick making. Workers receive weekly or fortnightly advances to meet living expenses, total earning is calculated after the season is called off, then only workers really know their balance after deduction of advances taken in the village and in the work site.

What Sriram dislikes most? He said, local 'Gundas' often create hassles. Women and girls are teased and feel unsafe. What he would like to see as help? He said two things categorically. One, children accompanying the working families should be given better opportunities in terms of daycare or primary education. Second, trade unions should come forward to help workers for final fixing of piece rates (or wages). His grievances; the price of bricks have tripled in last three years, but wage have just been increased one and half times only !!!

With a long association with brick work now, Sriram thinks he shall stop coming in 2 to 3 years, the reason he gave, 'it is physically demanding, and now he is getting old'. But this long association has helped him and the family in having a better life. He has bought 6 Ropani of land, buffalo and goats, a solar panel, TV, and his children go to a private school. When asked what if all factories are closed down, Sriram said '*chhor paschan*' meaning there will be no alternate but to become thieves!!!

Annex IV: Survey Questionnaire

Survey of Child Laborers in Brick Factories in Nepal

| SN | Questions | Code |
|----|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | District | |
| 2 | Municipality/VDC | |
| 3 | Ward No | |
| 4 | Name of the child labor | |
| 5 | Caste | |
| 6 | Age | |
| 7 | Gender | 1. Male 2. Female |

I. Family Description of Child Labor

| QN | Questions | Response Category & Code |
|-----|--|--|
| 101 | Place of origin (Home Address) | District |
| 102 | Does your family have own house? | Yes 1 No 2 |
| 103 | Does your family migrate here during last 10 years? | Yes 1 No 2 |
| 104 | Birth Registration done in place of origin | Yes 1 No 2 |
| 105 | How many members in your family? | No. |
| 106 | Are your parents alive? | Father dead 1 Father alive 2 Mother dead 3 Mother alive 4 Father deserted 5 Mother deserted 6 |
| 107 | Which child are you (inorder) ? | First 1 Second 2 Third 3 Fourth 4 Fifth 5 Others (specify) 6 |
| 108 | Family has farm land? | Yes 1 No 2 |
| 109 | If has land, how much? | Bigha/Ropani Kattha/Aana |
| 110 | Tell us first main sources of income of your family. | Farming 1 Service 2 Trade 3 Wage 4 Other (specify) 5 |

| | | | |
|-----|--|----------------------------|---|
| 111 | Tell us second main sources of income of your family. | Farming | 1 |
| | | Service | 2 |
| | | Trade | 3 |
| | | Wage | 4 |
| | | Other (specify) | 5 |
| 112 | Are your parents indebted? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| | | Do not know | 3 |
| 113 | If yes, did they borrow loan from your masters house ? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| | | Do not know | 3 |
| 114 | Has your parents taken advance from your master? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| | | Do not know | 3 |
| 115 | If yes, how much? | Amount.....Dont know () | |
| 116 | Are you married | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 117 | If married, are you living together with your spouse? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 118 | Did you start work due to any special event in the family? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 119 | If yes, what is that? | Marriage | 1 |
| | | Death | 2 |
| | | Long term sickness | 3 |
| | | Parents Sepration | 4 |
| | | Parents remarrying | 5 |
| | | Parents fued | 6 |
| | | Being affected by conflict | 7 |
| | | Other (specify) | 8 |

II. Type of Work and Work Environment

| | | | |
|-----|--|-------------------------|---|
| 201 | Type of main work you do here? | Prepare Raw Material | 1 |
| | | Making Raw Bricks | 2 |
| | | Drying of bricks | 3 |
| | | Transporting Raw Bricks | 4 |
| | | Raw Material Transport | 5 |
| | | Other (specify) | 6 |
| 202 | What other work you do here except main work? | Prepare Raw Material | 1 |
| | | Making Raw Bricks | 2 |
| | | Drying of bricks | 3 |
| | | Transporting Raw Bricks | 4 |
| | | Raw Material Transport | 5 |
| | | Other (specify) | 6 |
| 203 | Since how many years you are working in this place? | Years.....Months..... | |
| 204 | Do you work in other places as well accept this place? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 205 | Do your parents know your where about? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |

| | | |
|-----|---|--|
| 206 | What you used to do prior to joining brick factory? | Attending school 1 Own farm/household work 2 Tea shop 3 Brick factory 4 Transport 5 Wage work 6 domestic worker 7 Other (state) |
| 207 | How/Why did you come here for work? | Friend's advice 1 Own opinion 2 Parents advice 3 Domestic conflict 4 Step mother/father 5 Conflict affected 6 Others (state) 7 |
| 208 | With whom did you come to join this work? | Parents 1 Relatives 2 Friends 3 Own 4 Broker 5 Others (state) 6 |
| 209 | In what age did you start working in brick factory (Yrs.) | Years |
| 210 | Is it your first place of work in brick factory? | Yes 1 No 2 |
| 211 | If not, which place? | Second 1 Third 2 Forth 3 Fifth or above 4 |
| 212 | Did you work in other occupation before becoming brick factory labor? | Yes 1 No 2 |
| 213 | Why did you change your work place? | Low remuneration 1 Punishment/harassment 2 Not allow to go to school 3 Insufficient food 4 Sacked by 5 Other (specify) |
| 214 | What would you have done now if not working in brick factory? | Study 1 Work at home 2 wage work in other place 3 Other |
| 215 | Where do you live now? | Master's house 1 Own house 2 Rented room 3 With friends 4 Others |
| 216 | With whom do you live now? | Parents 1 Relatives 2 Friends 3 Alone 4 Other |
| 217 | Are there any members of your family below 18 years, working as brick factory laborers? | Yes 1 No 2 |
| 218 | If yes, how many? | Number |

| | | | |
|-----|--|-------|---|
| 219 | Do you know child (<18yrs.) from your village (other than family members) who work in brick factory? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 220 | If yes, how many | | |

III. Type of work

| QN | Questions | Response Category & Code | |
|-----|--|------------------------------|----|
| 301 | Time you start in morning | Time | |
| 302 | Time you finish in the evening | Time | |
| 303 | How many months in a year you work in brick factory? | Months | |
| 304 | What do you do in other months? | Go to school | 1 |
| | | Wage labor | 2 |
| | | Own farm work | 3 |
| | | Domestic work | 4 |
| | | Others | |
| 305 | Did you get any injury while working in last 6 months? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 306 | If Yes, | Cut | 1 |
| | | Burn | 2 |
| | | Fracture | 3 |
| | | Others (specify) | 4 |
| 307 | How much you earn herte? | Per month Rs. | |
| | | Annual Rs. | |
| | | Dont know | 99 |
| 308 | Who collect your wage? | Yourself | 1 |
| | | Parents | 2 |
| | | Others | |
| 309 | Did you bought any of these during last three months? | Cloth | 1 |
| | | Slipper/shoes | 2 |
| | | Soap | 3 |
| | | Tooth Brush/paste | 4 |
| | | Food items | 5 |
| | | Others (specify) | 6 |
| 310 | Are you satisfied with your work here? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| | | Do not know | 3 |
| 311 | If no, What type of work will make you happy? | Ok | 1 |
| | | ¾ of present load | 2 |
| | | ½ of present load | 3 |
| | | do not want to continue work | 4 |
| 312 | Are you satisfied with your pay? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| | | Do not know | 3 |

IV. Education, Health and other personal matters

| QN | Questions | Response Category & Code | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 401 | Are you literate? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 402 | Up to which grade have you studied? | Grade | |

| | | | |
|-----|---|--|---------------------------------|
| 403 | Do you go to school, currently? | Yes No | 1 2 |
| 404 | If Yes, which grade you studying? | Class | |
| 405 | Did you come here to work leaving your study in school? | Yes No | 1 2 |
| 406 | Do you join the school going back from here? | Yes No | 1 2 |
| 407 | Why are you illiterate? | | |
| 408 | Are you better-off here than home? | Yes No | 1 2 |
| 409 | If yes, what are the reasons? | Education Food Clothing Urban Companion Others (specify) | 1 2 3 4 5 6 |
| 410 | Have you fallen sick here? | Yes No | 1 2 |
| 411 | If Yes, type of sickness? | Caught and cold Fever/Measles Chest pain/respiratory problem Headache Water borne disease Back pain Others (specify) | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 |
| 412 | What are the reasons of sickness? | Work load Stale food Punishment Fell down Others | 1 2 3 4 |
| 413 | Did you do the treatment? | Yes No | 1 2 |
| 414 | If No, Why? | No money Common sickness Did not know the place Others | 1 2 3 |
| 415 | Who pays for medical expenses? | Self Master Others (specify) | 1 2 3 |
| 416 | Do you have to work when you are sick? | | |

V. Others

| QN | Questions | Response Category & Code | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 501 | Have you been penalized? | Yes No | 1 2 |
| 502 | If yes, what type of punishment? | 1 | 2 |
| 503 | Can you quit job when you want? | Yes No | 1 2 |
| 504 | If not, why? | Complete the year Parents/Relative have taken debt Don't get better than this job Parents don't allow Others (specify) | 1 2 3 4 5 |

| | | | |
|-----|--|------------------------|---|
| 505 | Do you inform somewhere in case of any problem? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 506 | If yes, whom and where you have informed? | Parents | 1 |
| | | Employer | 2 |
| | | NGO | 3 |
| | | School Teacher | 4 |
| | | Relatives | 5 |
| | | Friends | 6 |
| | | Agent/ <i>Naike</i> | 7 |
| | | Help line | 8 |
| 507 | Would you suggest somebody like you to work in brick factory? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 508 | If Yes, give reasons (mark two reasons “) | Better than in village | 1 |
| | | Good food | 2 |
| | | Good clothing | 3 |
| | | Schooling | 4 |
| | | Others (specify) | 5 |
| 509 | If not, why not? (mark two reasons “) | Feel Isolated | 1 |
| | | Bad treatment | 2 |
| | | Bad food | 3 |
| | | work load high | 4 |
| | | Risk of sexual abuse | 5 |
| | | Other (specify) | 6 |
| 510 | Do you smoke or chew tobacco? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 511 | If yes, when did you start it? | Months | |
| 512 | Do you drink alcohol? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 513 | If yes, when did you start it? | Months | |
| 514 | Do you take any intoxicated drug? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 515 | If yes, when did you start it? | Months | |
| 516 | Are you consulted by any organization for research work like this in the past? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |
| 517 | Have you participated in any programs of organizations? | Yes | 1 |
| | | No | 2 |

Please describe your all activities from early in the morning when you wake up to late in the night when you go to bed.

At the end, you are working in a new place; do you feel any kind of risk while working here?

Enumerator's name:

Date of interview

Survey of Brick Factory Laborers

- (a) Name of Brick Factory
- (b) District(c) VDC/Municipality
- (d) Respondent's name (e) Caste:

1. Family Description of Laborer

(Include all the family members irrespective of whether they are staying together)

| S.N. | Name of the family members (include all member staying together but include only family member in case of living) | Gender Male - 1 Female - 2 | Age in completed year | Staying here or in origin district Here- 1 In village- 2 | Employment situation of members living here Working in brick factory -1 go to school - 2 working in other in origin district-3 Not working -4 |
|------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| 1 | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | |

| S.N. | Question | Answer |
|------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Where is your home? | 1. District76. India |
| 2 | How long you have been working in the brick factory? | Years |
| 3 | Have you taken advance from employers back in village itself? | 1. Yes 2. No |
| 4 | If taken advance, how much? | Amount Rs. |
| 5 | Are you a member of any Trade Union? | 1. Yes 2. No |
| 6 | How much did you save last year? | Rs. |
| 7 | How much saving you will be expecting this year? | Rs. |

Annex V: Source Districts of Child Labor in Brick Factory in Nepal

| Districts | Tanahau | Sarlahi | Dang | Chitwan | Saptari | Sunsari | Banke | Kailali | Bhaktapur | Kathmandu | Total |
|---------------------|---------|---------|------|---------|---------|---------|-------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Rolpa | 8 | | | 1 | | | | | 30 | 4 | 43 |
| Sarlahi | 18 | 36 | | 15 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 72 |
| Bara | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Dang | 11 | | 14 | 7 | | | | | 17 | 13 | 62 |
| Lamjung | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Kaski | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Chitwan | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Makwanpur | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Mahottari | | | | 2 | | | | | | | 2 |
| Rautahat | | 4 | | 3 | | | | | | | 7 |
| Saptari | | | | | 35 | | | | | | 35 |
| Sunsari | | | | | | 18 | | | | | 18 |
| Morang | | | | | | 7 | | | | | 7 |
| Achham | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Banke | | | 2 | | | | 6 | | | 1 | 9 |
| Kailali | | | | | | | | 38 | | | 38 |
| Ramechhap | | | | | | | | | 16 | 6 | 22 |
| Kavre | | | | | | | | | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| Salyan | | | | | | | | | 1 | 8 | 9 |
| Kapilvastu | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Tehrathum | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Jhapa | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Dhading | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Bihar India | | | | | | | | | 2 | | 2 |
| Uttar Pradesh India | | | 24 | | | | 35 | 2 | 1 | | 62 |
| West Bengal India | | | | | | 17 | | | | | 17 |
| Total | 40 | 40 | 40 | 30 | 35 | 43 | 41 | 40 | 72 | 43 | 424 |



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