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CHILD LABOUR IN MAJORITY
OF ASIAN AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES: WAYS TO RESOLVE

Child labour typically means the employment of children in any manual work with or without payment. Child labour is a significant problem in many Asian and African countries such as India, Ghana, Cameroon, Nigeria, with millions of children working in hazardous conditions, which deprive them of their childhood, interferes with their ability to attend regular school, and that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful. Children are employed in agriculture, domestic work, and the informal sector. The most frequent exploitation of child labour occurs in cacao, cotton and rice plantations, as well as in mines and light industry factories.

There are reports that many chocolate companies and even widely-known such as Nestle, Mars, Hershey ones use child labour. It is used to collect cocoa on the farms in such countries as Ghana, Cameroon and Nigeria. Despite certifying

their products as ethical, they continue to enable abuse and child labour. The industry has not taken significant steps to remedy the problem, despite having the power to do so by paying cocoa farmers a living income.

There are reports of child labour in some of the world's biggest cotton industries including China, India, Pakistan. Such brands as H&M, Nike, Zara, Adidas, Victoria's Secret use child labour on cotton plantations.

Among companies that produce technologies there are US companies that use child labour as well. They are Apple, Dell and Tesla. They use child labour in mines to get cobalt for producing parts of their gadgets.

The governments of Asian countries try to solve this problem. The Indian government has taken measures to address the issue, including the Child Labour Act and the National Child Labour Project. However, implementation remains weak due to lack of resources, corruption, and inadequate monitoring. Challenges in eradicating child labour include also difficulty in age identification due to lack of documents, weak law enforcement and poor governance, hampered enforcement during the pandemic, and incoherency between employment and education laws. The absence of national legislation and lack of harmony between global commitments and domestic priorities also contribute to the problem. Additionally, there is a lack of effective labour inspections. The COVID-19 pandemic has worsened the situation, with many families losing their livelihoods and children being forced into work to support their families.

Eradicating child labour requires education, social protection, law enforcement, and economic growth. Parents should be encouraged to send their children to school. Individuals can also help to solve this problem by supporting fair trade, being conscious of the products you buy. If it's too cheap to be true, it was probably made by underpaid, overworked children in cramped factories. People can also help by sponsoring the education of a child from the poorer countries in Africa or Asia. There are organizations on the internet helping to connect donors with needy children. The government, civil society organizations, and individuals should work together to ensure that every child has access to education, health care, and a safe environment to grow up in.