



## Commerce

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### Study on child rights in Patna- A voice to those silent shrieks (A study on child rights with reference to underprivileged children of Bihar)

• Swasti Rastogi • Jasmine Kaur • Pallavi Jha  
• Soofia Fatima

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Corresponding Author : Soofia Fatima

**Abstract :** *In the last five years, Bihar has seen tremendous development due to a number of projects undertaken by the Government. Bihar stands at 13<sup>th</sup> position in contributing to the total GDP (Gross Domestic Product), i.e., total of 2.71%. The World Bank, in its 2009 report, has ranked Patna as the second best city after New Delhi to invest in India. In 2010-11 fiscal year, Bihar attained a GDP Growth rate of 14.15% at 2004-05 prices. But these developments could not overcome many social issues; child exploitation is one of*

*them. As per the Convention of Rights of Child, 1989, a child is defined as any human being below the age of 18 years. Children's rights are the human rights of children with particular attention to the rights of special protection and care afforded to the young. Through the project we got to know that the Laws have been enacted, but their implementation is not satisfactory. There are certainly loopholes in the implementation of these laws by the Government. The national figure of child labourers is 17 millions, out of which 1.5 million are present in Bihar. Bihar tops with 67% of the total child marriages in the country, another evil in the society. The literacy rate is also as low as 63.8% only (male literacy rate 73.5%, female literacy rate 53.3%). The discrimination in the city is evident from an unfavourable sex ratio of 892 (females per 1000 males). The NGOs are playing a vital role in providing the basic Rights to the marginalized children, yet due to the insignificant contribution by our Government, just 17.56% of the budget goes towards child welfare. The contribution by the NGOs also seems microscopic.*

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#### Swasti Rastogi

B.Com. III year, Session: 2009-2012,  
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,  
Bihar, India

#### Jasmine Kaur

B.Com. III year, Session: 2009-2012,  
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,  
Bihar, India

#### Pallavi Jha

B.Com. III year, Session: 2009-2012,  
Patna Women's College, Patna University, Patna,  
Bihar, India

#### Soofia Fatima

Head, Department of Commerce,  
Patna Women's College, Bailey Road,  
Patna – 800 001, Bihar, India  
E-mail : soofia.fatima@gmail.com

**Key words:** *Child Rights, discrimination, Child labour.*