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Q9

Case study. Rampura, a remote district inhabited by a tribal population, is marked by extreme backwardness and abject poverty. Agriculture is the mainstay of the local population, though it is primarily subsistence due to the very small land holdings. There is insignificant industrial or mining activity. Even the targeted welfare programs have inadequately benefited the tribal population. In this restrictive scenario, the youth has begun to migrate to other states to supplement the family income. Plight of minor girls is that their parents are persuaded by labour contractors to send them to work in the Bt Cotton farms of a nearby state. The soft fingers of the minor girls are well suited for plucking the cotton. The inadequate living and working conditions in these farms have caused serious health issues for the minor girls. NGOs in the districts of domicile and the cotton farms appear to be compromised and have not effectively espoused the twin issues of child labour and development of the area. You are appointed as the District Collector of Rampura. Identify the ethical issues involved. Which specific steps will you initiate to ameliorate the conditions of minor girls of your district and to improve the over-all economic scenario in the district?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2020 · GS IV · 20 marks · Ethics Case Studies

Case Studies on above issues.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-4/2020/case-study-rampura-a-remote-district-inhabited-by-a-tribal-population-is-marked-by-extreme-backwardness-and-abject-poverty-agriculture-is-the-mainstay-of-the-local-population-though-it-is-primarily-subsistence-due-to-the/>

Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

As amended in 2016, prohibits employment of children below 14 in all occupations and of adolescents in hazardous work; cotton-farm plucking of minors is not a grey area.

Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

Child Welfare Committees, restoration and rehabilitation of children in need of care and protection.

Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, 2005

A statutory employment floor in a subsistence tribal district; delayed wages recreate the contractor's market.

Forest Rights Act, 2006

Community and individual forest rights as a livelihood alternative to selling a child's labour.

National Child Labour Project / PENCIL

Union architecture for rescue and special training centres; use it, do not wait for an NGO to bless the list.

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