



# Child Labour in Egypt



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## Introduction

More than 160 million children worldwide, or one in ten children between the ages of 5 and 17, are involved in child labour, and the International Labour Organization launched the World Day Against Child Labour in 2002, with the aim of focusing attention on the global reach of child labour Children and the actions and efforts needed to eliminate them.

Each year on June 12, World Day brings together governments, employers, labour organizations, civil society as well as millions of people from around the world to highlight the plight of working children and what can be done to help them, as well as a reminder to countries of their commitment to SDG 8.7 to “Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.”

The term “child labour” is defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, potential and dignity, and harms their physical and mental development. According to the International Labour Organization and UNICEF, there are eight main forms of child labour: hazardous working conditions, domestic service, street children,



the informal economy, child slavery, trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, armed conflict, and illegal activities. Companies resort to child labour to reduce their expenses, and they can be considered easier to control because they do not know their rights, so they are less likely to demand higher wages or better working conditions. As a result of lower costs, the employer gets higher profits, and children are forced to work due to factors beyond their control. Poverty, customs and traditions, family situation, domestic violence, education.

The report discusses the phenomenon of child labour in Egypt, identifies the legal frameworks for child labour in Egyptian law and international conventions ratified by the Egyptian state. It also discusses the state's efforts to eliminate this phenomenon, and the challenges it faces. The report presents some cases that were monitored in 2020-2022.

## **First: Child Labour in Egypt**

According to an estimate of the International Labor Organization issued in November 2017, there are about 2.8 million children in the age group (12 to 17 years) working in various fields in Egypt. But according to the recent national survey of child labor in Egypt conducted by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in cooperation with the International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor in 2010, which was relied on in the National Plan to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Egypt and Support the Family (2018-2025), there is 1.6 million working children, or 9.3% of the children in Egypt, which represents one out of every ten children. And 82.2% of them are exposed to poor and unsafe working conditions.



A report by Terre des hommes indicated that the percentage of children working for more than the permissible number of hours (more than 6 hours per day) amounted to about 29.8% of the total working children, exceeding 43 hours per week, in addition to the high exposure of 13% of children to chemicals and pesticides. especially in agricultural labour.

In the governorates of Qalyubia and Sharqiya, there are many children who work in primitive coal cameras far from the government's eye, which criminalizes these cameras, especially as they do not meet environmental specifications and harm humans, stone and plants. As cheap and available labor, he exploits them to accomplish many jobs for low wages.

The survey indicated that the older the child, the higher his exposure to poor working conditions; As 83% of all working male children between 12-17 years are exposed to poor working conditions, and this percentage increases in the age group 15-17 years to reach 89%, while the percentage among females in the same age group reaches 93%.

## **Second: Legal Frameworks for Child Labour in Egypt**

- **International Conventions**

Egypt has signed and ratified a number of international conventions that would eliminate child labor:

- 1- **The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989): Article 32 of the Convention includes “the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be dangerous or to interfere with the child’s education, or to be harmful to**



the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development and Egypt ratified it in 1990".

- 2- ILO Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973): "The Convention aims to effectively abolish child labor by requiring states to set a minimum age for admission to employment and to develop national policies to eliminate child labour," ratified by Egypt in 1999.
- 3- ILO Convention No. 182 Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (1999): The Convention sets priority for the elimination without delay of the worst forms of child labour, ratified by Egypt in 2002.
- 4- Arab Convention No. 18 of 1996 regarding juvenile work: It prohibited the work of those under the age of thirteen, and stipulated that its provisions include all economic activities with the exception of non-hazardous and non-harmful agricultural work and in accordance with controls determined by the competent authority in the state that observe the minimum age of children.

### **National law**

In addition to the international conventions ratified by Egypt, Egyptian laws contain some conditions and controls to combat child labor and protect working children.

### **The Egyptian Constitution of 2014**

Article 80 of the Egyptian Constitution specifies that "any child under 18 years of age shall be considered a child". and affirms the child's right to a "name and paperwork, compulsory free vaccination, health care, family or alternative, basic



nutrition, safe shelter, religious education, conscientious and cognitive development" "The right to early education in a children's center up to 6 years of age" s obligation "to care for and protect children from all forms of violence, abuse, abuse and sexual and commercial exploitation". Therefore, "it is prohibited to employ a child before the age of completion of basic education and to employ a child in work that endangers him".

### **Egyptian Child Law No. 12 of 1996, as amended by Law 126 of 2008**

In the first chapter of Chapter Five of the Egyptian Child Law, which deals with the care of the working child, Articles 64-69 stipulate the restrictions and conditions of child labor:

#### **Article 64**

Without prejudice to the provision of Article 18, paragraph 2, of the Law No.139 of 1981 on Education, children shall not be employed for work before reaching the age of fifteen (15) calendar years. Nor shall they be provided with training before they reach the age of thirteen (13) years.

Children of twelve (12) to fourteen (14) years of age may, by a decree from the concerned Governor and subject to the approval of the Minister of Education, be licensed for seasonal employment which has no harmful consequence to their health or growth, nor interferes with their school attendance.

#### **Article 65**

The employment of children in any type of work that, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children shall be prohibited, in particular regarding the employment of a child in any type of work set forth in the ILO Convention No. 182 of 1999 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

Taking into account the provisions set forth in the first paragraph, the By-laws shall determine the system for child employment, the cases in which employment is



permitted, and the types of work, crafts, and trades in which children may work, according to their different ages.

#### **Article 65-bis**

A medical examination shall be performed on the child prior to his employment, to ensure that he is fit to perform the assigned work. Such examinations shall be conducted periodically, at least once a year, as set forth by the By-laws .

In all cases, the work shall not cause any physical or mental pain or harm to the child. or prevent the child's from attending school and enjoy recreational and developmental activities appropriate to his capabilities and talents. The employer shall be insure the child and protect him from work hazards while at work.

The child shall have seven (7) days of annual leave in addition to that of an adult's annual leave, and it shall not be postponed or withheld from him whatever the reason.

#### **Article 66**

A child shall not work for more than six (6) hours a day, the working hours shall include one or more period for meals and rest totalling not less than one hour.

This/these period/s shall be determined so that the child shall not work for more than four (4) continuous hours.

Children shall not work overtime, or work during the weekends or official holidays. In all cases, children shall not work between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.

#### **Article 67**

Any employer who employs a child under the age of sixteen (16) years shall issue him a work ID card stating that he is working for him., The picture of the child shall be affixed on this ID card, and the Bureau for Manpower shall approve it and stamp it with its seal.

#### **Article 68**

An employer who employs one child or more shall take into consideration the following:



1 - To post in a visible spot, at the workplace, a copy of the provisions prescribed in this chapter.

2 - To maintain an updated record of the basic data of the children working for him including, inter alia, the child's name his date of birth, the nature of his work, the number of his working hours and rest periods, and the content of the certificate proving his ability to work. Such record shall, when requested, be presented to the competent authorities.

3 - To notify the appropriate administrative body of the names of currently employed

children, and the names of persons in charge of supervising their work.

4 - To provide working children with sleeping quarters separate from that of adult workers, in cases where working conditions require their overnight stay.

5 - To keep at the employer's headquarters all official documents regarding the age of all

working children and their health status, to be presented when requested. It behoves

the employer to ensure the real age of the children working for him.

6 - To provide the workplace with all necessary health and professional safety devices,

and train the children how to use them.

### **Article 69**

The employer shall hand over to the child personally, or to one of his parents, his wage or bonus and other dues payable thereto. Handing over this payment shall clear the employer's obligations.



## 1- Labor Law (No. 12 of 2003)

In the Egyptian Labor Law, the Egyptian state has established laws regulating child labor

- **Article 98 states that,** “Anyone who has reached the age of fourteen years or exceeded the age of completion of basic education and has not reached the full seventeen years of age is considered a child. Every employer who employs a child under the age of sixteen is obligated to give him a card proving that he works for him and which is attached It bears a picture of the child and is approved by the competent manpower office.”
- **Article 101:** “It is prohibited to work a child for more than six hours a day, and the working hours must include one or more periods for eating and rest, not less than one hour in total. Additional working hours or his employment on weekly rest days and official holidays, and in all cases it is prohibited to employ a child between eight in the evening and seven in the morning.”
- **Article 102:** “The employer who employs one or more children shall: to hang in a conspicuous place in the workplace a copy containing the provisions contained in this chapter, to write a statement explaining the working hours and rest periods, to inform the competent administrative authority of the names of the children working for him. The tasks assigned to them and the names of the persons entrusted with monitoring their work.”

### **Ministerial Resolution No. (118) for the year 2003**

The decision of the Minister of Manpower specified in its first article the following jobs, professions and industries in which children under the age of seventeen may not be employed:



1	Underground work in mines, quarries and all work related to the extraction of minerals and stones.
2	Working in furnaces intended for smelting, refining or producing metallic materials.
3	Mirrors are deflated by mercury.
4	Manufacture of explosives and related works.
5	Melting and maturation of glass.
6	Welding with oxygen and acetylene and electricity.
7	Manufacture of alcohol, ice cream and all spirits.
8	Doco paint
9	Processing, preparing or storing leaded ash and extracting silver from lead.
10	Manufacture of tin and metal compounds containing more than 10% of lead.
11	Manufacture of "golden zinc" lead monoxide or yellow lead oxide, "salcon" lead dioxide, lead carbonate, orange lead oxide, and lead sulfate, carbonate and silicate.
12	Mixing and kneading operations in the manufacture or repair of electric batteries.
13	Cleaning the workshops that you practice.
14	Management or control of moving machines.
15	Repair or cleaning of motors.
16	Asphalt making.
17	Working in tanneries.
18	Working in warehouses for manure extracted from faeces or animal dung.
19	Skinning and cutting animals and silence and melting fat.
20	rubber industry
21	Transporting passengers by land, rail or inland waters.
22	Loading and unloading of goods in docks, docks, ports and warehouses.
23	Cotton seed stowage in ship holds.
24	Manufacture of charcoal from animal bones, except for the process of sorting the bones before burning them.
25	Work as hosts in amusement parks.
26	Working in stores that sell or drink alcohol (bars).



27	Acts that, by their nature or the circumstances in which they are practiced, are likely to harm the health, safety or moral behavior of juveniles.
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In the second article, it emphasized that children under the age of 16 may not be employed in any work, craft or industries that expose them to physical, psychological or sexual exploitation, or use them to engage in illegal activities.

The third article of the ministerial decision stipulates that the employer who employs children must undergo a medical examination on them before they join the work to ensure their safety and health fitness for the work assigned to them. It is necessary to sign a periodic medical examination on them at least once a year with the knowledge of the General Authority for Health Insurance, as well as upon the end of his service, in order to ensure that they are free from occupational diseases or work injuries and to maintain their health fitness on an ongoing basis. Medical examination results.

### **Law No. 64 of 2010 on Combating Human Trafficking**

Child labor falls under the forms of human trafficking. Article 2 of the Anti-Human Trafficking Law states that “Anyone who deals in any form with a natural person shall be considered a perpetrator of the crime of human trafficking... if the transaction is with the intent of exploitation in any form, including exploitation in the work of Prostitution and all other forms of sexual exploitation, child pornography, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery or servitude, beggary, or the removal of human organs or tissues, or part of them”.



### **Third: The Egyptian state's efforts to eradicate child labour**

#### **1- Entities concerned with coordinating government efforts regarding child labor**

##### **National Council for Childhood and Motherhood**

The council is responsible for coordinating the implementation of laws related to child labor, including its worst forms, providing technical support and training to Ministry of Manpower inspectors on child labor, identifying and monitoring children at risk, and operating two 24-hour hotlines to receive reports on child labor and trafficking; The NCCM also established standard operating procedures for child protection issues, including child trafficking cases.

##### **National Steering Committee for the National Action Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and Family Support**

The committee is concerned with coordinating government efforts to implement the national action plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labor and support the family (2018-2025). The membership includes the ministries of manpower, social solidarity, education, agriculture, interior, planning, finance, investment and international cooperation, trade, and justice. Health, local development, and endowments, in addition to the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, the National Council for Women, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, the National Information Agency and Al-Azhar University.



## **The National Coordination Committee for Combating and Preventing Illegal Migration and Human Trafficking**

A committee concerned with coordinating efforts to combat human trafficking. It is led by an ambassador appointed by the Prime Minister and includes 29 government agencies, including the Ministries of Interior and Manpower. In January 2020, the National Anti-Trafficking Committee cooperated with an international organization to provide anti-trafficking training to 20-25 judges in courts specialized in human trafficking cases. The National Coordination Committee to Prevent and Combat Illegal Migration and Human Trafficking organized 24 capacity building workshops related to human trafficking during 2020, and the National Committee to Prevent and Combat Trafficking in Human Beings launched the second phase of its awareness campaign "Together against Human Trafficking" in partnership with the International Organization for Migration. The campaign included a public service advertisement featuring prominent Egyptian celebrities that was broadcast on television and displayed on billboards and buses, and the third wave of the second part came in the form of an advertisement to introduce the different images of human trafficking crimes and to urge citizens to report the crime, and among the images of human trafficking that were shown. The campaign highlights the exploitation of children in beggary and forced labour, and other awareness-raising efforts have been undertaken, including a social media campaign with the participation of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Social Solidarity, the Chairman of the National Committee to Prevent and Combat Illegal Immigration, and the President of the National Council for Human Rights, directors of the National Council for Human Rights, leaders of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, the president of



the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, the president of the Federation of NGOs, and heads of United Nations agencies in Egypt including the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

### **Child Protection Committees**

It coordinates child protection efforts at the local level in partnership with community organizations, led by the Ministry of Social Solidarity, chaired by local governors in each governorate, and subcommittees in each police station. In 2020, there were 320 child protection committees.

#### **A- Plans and programs to combat child labor**

##### **1- The National Plan to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Egypt and Support the Family(2025-2018)**

The Minister of Manpower, Mohamed Saafan, in cooperation with the International Labor Organization, launched this plan with the aim of eliminating the worst forms of child labor by 2025 and defining the roles of government agencies responsible for assisting working children. Developed in 2017 and officially approved in 2018, the strategic objectives of the NAP include expanding the knowledge base on child labor; building the capacity of agencies providing support; social protection; promoting education, including vocational education for children; Advocacy and awareness of the dangers of child labor. The ILO and the Ministries of Manpower, Social Solidarity and Agriculture, together with the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, are working to implement the NAP by continuing to mobilize resources, develop institutions, review legislation and collaborate at the inter-institutional level.



## **2- The National Strategy to Combat and Prevent Trafficking in Persons-2016) (2021**

It aims to maintain referral mechanisms, train law enforcement officials, and combat trafficking in street children, and preparations are already underway to launch the new strategy for the years 2022-2026.

## **3- The National Strategy for Childhood and Motherhood(2030-2018)**

It includes a chapter on child labor, which aims to promote dialogue on child labor legislation, including updating the list of hazardous work; Building the capacities of relevant government agencies such as the Ministry of Manpower and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood; developing programs to address child labor; Expanding educational and vocational training opportunities.

## **4- Expanding access to education and protection for children at risk in Egypt (2021-2016)**

A project funded by the European Union, implemented by UNICEF in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, aims to establish and equip 1,200 community schools to enroll 30,000 new students; Upgrading 200 public primary schools to meet the needs of an additional 6,000 children with disabilities; Supported nearly 20,000 children through effective child protection mechanisms in 15 governorates.

## **5- Takaful and Karama Program**



The conditional cash transfer program launched by the Ministry of Social Solidarity since 2015 under the umbrella of developing social safety nets. This program enhances school enrollment and health monitoring for children by providing income supplements for poor families. This partnership between the government, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, UNICEF and the World Bank provides income supplements to poor families under conditions in which the children of the family maintain at least 80% of school attendance that mothers and children under 6 years of age They provide verifiable evidence that they were seen in health clinics four times a year

In March 2020, the Egyptian government announced an additional \$50 million in funding to support the Solidarity and Dignity Program. In April 2022, 450,000 new families as project participants were added to this programme. The program helped 2.3 families by providing 2.4 billion pounds in benefits.

## **6- Homeless Children**

The Ministry of Social Solidarity operates shelters for victims of human trafficking, child victims of trafficking, forced labor, and other individuals at risk. One of these shelters is Dar es Salaam, which is run by the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood and FACE for Children in Need, which provides social services, including psychological counseling and health services. Mobile units in 10 governorates are also working to reintegrate children with their families or place them in care homes.

## **7- ACCEL Africa Project(2022-2018)**



It aims to eliminate child labor in the cotton, textile and garment sectors; It was implemented by the International Labor Organization with funding from the Dutch government. ACCEL Africa-Egypt partners with the Ministries of Manpower, Education, Social Solidarity and Agriculture, as well as the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood to improve policies and legal and institutional frameworks. The Ministry of Manpower has committed to a new action plan to implement the programme. In 2020, the ILO launched a pilot program for an online referral mechanism under the ACCEL Africa project.

## **Fourth: The challenges facing the Egyptian state**

### **A- Legal loopholes:**

The Child Law is a back door that opens the door to employing children at the age of 12 in seasonal employment, as it gives the governor the right to license children from the age of twelve to fourteen in seasonal work. Also, allowing children to be trained from the age of 13 is a loophole through which business owners can infiltrate them to employ them at this age under the pretext of training them to learn a profession. The most common types of hazardous work in which children work in Egypt is agriculture, with a percentage of 63%. Children in agricultural labor are exposed to chemicals and pesticides that are harmful to their health. Also, these laws only apply to business owners who declare that they employ children, but the majority of child labor is in the informal economy and family businesses, which means that they are outside the scope of the law.

### **A- Weak institutions and programs**

#### **8- National Council for Childhood and Motherhood**



The Council has lost its effectiveness in recent years, as it only monitors violations and conducts its work through a set of data, while its main work is to draw up policies and strategic plans aimed at protecting children, and to monitor various ministries. This decline is manifested in the loss of the National Council for Motherhood and Childhood after it had It became under the supervision of the Ministry of Health and Population, which weakened its coordinating role in all areas of Egyptian child protection, as it no longer has an independent budget, or broad powers, and lost its role as a coordinator between ministries and agencies for everything that is in the interest of the child.

Some criticism was also observed against the child helpline service, which serves as a hotline for reporting any violation of the child's right, as it waits months for a response or response to citizens' complaints and reports. And the slowness in the procedures by the Council reaches the extent of the reports required of it regarding children's cases in the courts. Sometimes the Public Prosecution office has to address the council itself to expedite the matter.

## **9- National Action Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and Family Support**

The plan relied on the 2010 model survey to clarify the current situation of child labor in Egypt, and there is certainly a need to update the data to find differences and differences and measure the problem correctly, as there are many social changes that have occurred in Egyptian society from 2010 until now. With the passage of four years since the launch of this plan, no official data is available yet on the number of children who have been protected and returned to education,



and the National Steering Committee for the National Action Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and Family Support has met only three times since its formation.

#### **10- The National Coordination Committee for Combating and Preventing Illegal Migration and Human Trafficking**

Reports indicate that the NCC's mandate deals with two crimes - illegal immigration and human trafficking, which hinders its ability to raise awareness about trafficking as a distinct crime, and means that its attention is distracted from domestic forms of human trafficking.

#### **11- Takaful and Karama Program**

Despite the increase in the number of families benefiting from this program, reports indicate that there is still a need to add additional families, as poverty data in Egypt says that there are 4.5 million people living in extreme poverty and unable to meet their basic needs, as their monthly income is less than EGP 550 for an individual and EGP 2,200 for a family of 4 per month. Therefore, the Takaful program covers only 22% of the needs of a poor family that is unable to meet its basic needs, and a dignity pension that covers only less than 15% of the needs of the poor family, and therefore the program does not contribute to the exit of the family. These families are off the poverty line. The increase in public education fees is another reason for the forced exit of these children and forced to work.

### **Fifth: Cases of Child Labour in Egypt**



## A- Child labour cases 2020

1. (January 2020), the 12-year-old child “A” from Assiut Governorate. The child grew up in a poor family and has 6 siblings. He faced harsh living conditions that forced him to leave his studies and his family and came to Cairo to work in one of the “marble quarries.” Despite the difficulty and danger of this profession, the child is trying to face these difficulties for a "living", saying that he is afraid of dying and leaving his family, as they will not find anyone to support them.

2. (February 2020), the 12-year-old child F, who resides in the village of Al-Diri in Beni Suef Governorate, lost his mother after a two-year struggle with illness, in addition to his father’s disability due to an accident while working in the shellfish and his inability to work, The child decided to go down to work alongside his studies to support his family, so he worked as a day laborer in the fields or as an assistant for a conch bleacher carrying sand and "mora" for 20 pounds.

3. (April 2020), “Qena” governorate witnessed the injury of 41 children in an accident that overturned a truck carrying these children, victims of daily labor, as they were on their way to an agricultural area to start farming and agricultural work, because of the speed of the car, these children were exposed to multiple injuries near From a security ambush in the district of Abucht Markaz, north of Qena Governorate.



4. (July 2020), "N, A", a 12-year-old from the Sharkia governorate, was studying in the middle school, left school and went to work in a plumber's shop because his father was not working, and the child was the one who supported his family as the eldest brother is responsible for providing for the needs of the family.

5. (August 2020), the 15-year-old child M. M., a middle school student from Aswan Governorate, was working in a bakery in the village of Salwa. On that day, a 35-year-old bakery worker threw the child In the "kneader", which is an electric machine for kneading bread flour, then he pressed the start button and left the place, which led to a quadriplegic paralysis of the child.

6. (August 2020), the 9-year-old girl A, M, born in Gharbia Governorate, was monitored as a housemaid, in the Haram area in Giza Governorate, and the girl was subjected to torture by the wife, who is "Moroccan." The girl was tortured with third-degree burns, 90 %, in addition to bruises and a cut wound in the right ear.

7. (September 2020), the father "R, A" prevented his three children from education, saying, "What do we do with education," and forced them to go to work collecting garbage to improve the family's financial situation.

8. (October 2020), a 13-year-old girl from Upper Egypt, M., has three sisters, and her father's income is not sufficient for the family's needs. She was deprived of an education because of the harsh living conditions that forced her to work cleaning apartments and selling tissues in Traffic lights .

9. (November 2020), the child "H, M" was suffering from poor financial condition after his father was imprisoned due to debts, "H", the 11-year-old, residing in



Alexandria Governorate, became the only breadwinner for a family of 6 people, so he left school And turned to the daily work, and worked in many professions.

10. (November 2020), Child R faced many difficulties due to the separation of his parents, and his father forced him to live with him and his wife, after his mother's marriage, and the 10-year-old met harsh treatment from his stepmother, left school and started working in a carpentry shop In the Talbeya area in Giza governorate, he was frequently beaten and tortured by the shop owner.

11. (November 2020), the child "S, A" (13 years old), found himself responsible for a family of 7 members, and in the absence of the father, "S" decided to be like a father to his brothers, so he left education and went to work in "Marble", but he was suffering from pain in his small body because of the difficulty of this profession.

12. (November 2020), the child "M" 15 years old, and his brother "H" 13 years old, had to leave school and resort to work in search of a solution to their mother's financial crisis after the death of their father, they moved to work in quarries to be able to pay off the debts they had accumulated, but they suffered a lot, Not only from the difficulty of the work, but also from the sensitivity that they afflicted due to dust, and this is the case of many workers in the quarries, who contracted diseases of the chest, lung and eye.

13. (November 2020), Damietta was famous for its furniture industries, and the spread of furniture workshops, which made a large number of children pour into the profession of this profession. Child "A, F" left his school to professionalize this craft because of the financial return he gets and his ambition to have hid one workshop.



## **B- Child labour cases 2021 :**

1.(February 2021), the 8-year-old child “AM”, from the sons of “Al-Shanawiya” in Beni Suef Governorate, says that he works in the field of handicrafts “carpets”, accompanied by his older brother, who is 11 years old, and many children The village works in this profession, as the majority of the owners of these workshops depend in this profession on children of both sexes, because the child’s day is few compared to the older craftsmen, working hours may reach 12 hours.

2. (February 2021), 10-year-old child A, H, was forced to drop out of school and work with his father on a “cart” to sell fruit, in order to learn an honorable profession from which he can earn halal (this is what the child’s father said).

3. (February 2021), the 7-year-old child “K” was collecting bullets from mountains and quarries, and was paid 10 pounds for a medium-sized box to help his father and siblings provide an income. The child assumed responsibility after his father’s circumstances forced him to work to come with him, leaving His place of residence is in Minya, to move to live between the orchards area and live in the quarries. They are exposed to many injuries under the cutters because they are primitive and unusable equipment or because of the collapse of stones from the mountain on them, and the employer refused to treat them.



4. (February 2021), the father of the 14-year-old child “Y” was working in one of the “marble quarries” in the “Shaq Al-Taban” area in Cairo, but he died as a result of an accident while working in the quarry. The mother of the child “Y” worked in the same quarry, despite his father’s death while working and the quarry owner evading responsibility, as the child said that he suffers from shortness of breath from the dirt and dirt in the mountain, adding that the workers are threatened with death every hour under the block stone, or saw

5. (April 2021), the family of “Y, A” fell into a sea of heavy debts because of the loans, and the wages that his father receives are not enough to pay the debts, so the father of the “14-year-old” child was forced to send him to work in a “brick” factory in the Talkha area of Dakahlia In order to be able to pay the debts, despite the low wages that the child received, his father was committed to his son’s work.

6.(May 2021), the 11-year-old girl, "Z, H" from Menoufia Governorate, said that she works on a farm, and with her many children, including males and females, and there are younger children. Dozens of children are transported at dawn in cars Open semi-transportation, to farms in desert areas, hundreds of kilometers away from Menoufia.

7.(May 2021), the 16-year-old child “A, Y.” The child suffered a lot from harsh living conditions due to the separation of the parents, and he left 3 sons for the old grandmother, who does not work, so the child was forced to work in



one of the “al-Mu’assel” smoke factories, which resulted in It led to chronic chest disease.

8. (October 2021), there is a 12-year-old child named “K.L.” He was working in the “Bread of Baladi” bakery after dropping out of school. His father wanted to teach him a profession that he would benefit from instead of learning and then sit without work.

9. (October 2021), the 10-year-old child C, H, is a student at Abu Nomros School in Giza Governorate. This child loves education and study, but the financial possibilities did not qualify him to continue his studies, so the child decided to work to pay the costs of his school, so it was morning At school and after returning home he does his homework and then goes to Ataba Square to complete his work.

10. (October 2021), the 13-year-old child “A” from Giza Governorate, his father forced him to leave school, telling him (education wastes time and is useless, learning a better craft), the child responded to his father’s desire and left school in the middle stage. To work in a mechanical workshop

11. (October 2021), the 15-year-old child “S.A.”, from Aswan Governorate, studies in the middle school, after completing the school day, he works on a “tuktuk” to help his mother in living, and contribute to the education of his brothers.



12.(December 2021), the 12-year-old child “M.N”, from Fayoum Governorate, spoke about the harsh conditions he was exposed to, which forced him to work to help his mother and grandmother to live and contribute to the education of his little sister, as he was carrying on his shoulders The responsibility of this family, so he would go to school in the morning and then return to finish his duties, and prepare to go out again to sell tissues in one of the car parks, and traffic lights, and he was frequently bullied by his friends, and despite the harsh conditions that “Muntaser” was going through, he did not He leaves his education and has not given up on his dream of becoming a police officer.

13. (December 2021), the 12-year-old child “M” from Minya Governorate suffers from a nerve disease that makes him unable to see at night, as he works in the morning on rock-cutting machines in quarries, and it poses a danger to children’s fingertips He threatens her with amputation in case of injury, and sometimes he has to use tools that are difficult to carry because of his young age, and although he is unable to bear the tasks and rigors of work, but he is forced to take some stimulant drugs, on the schedule, so that he can bear the hardship of work, and that the workers are bargaining with him to sell them to him in exchange for illegal work.

### **C- Child labour cases 2022:**

1. (January 28, 2022), in a tragic accident, the body of the 15-year-old child, M.R., was found. He was residing in the village of “Sila” in Fayoum. He was working in a “barber shop” and went out on Thursday to buy



supplies for the shop, but he did not He returned and his phone was turned off, and after many attempts by his family to search for him, they found him lying dead in one of the agricultural lands next to a reinforcement network in the village.

2. (April 2022), children's victims are increasing due to the daily work. 13 children drowned due to the speed of the motorcycle that was carrying children after returning from work at the Batata station. The trolley wheel, which led to its capsizing inside a canal in front of the Al-Sawalem Bridge in the Itai Al-Baroud Center in Buhaira Governorate, children, "m, a", "p, k", "h, h", "s, m", "m, sh", "A, A", "A, A", their ages range from (13 to 15 years).

### **Conclusion:**

Egypt is one of the countries facing the increasing problem of child labour. The Egyptian state has a legal and legislative framework aimed at combating child labour, and has signed and ratified many international conventions. It also launched social strategies and programs to combat this phenomenon and address its causes. However, all of its efforts have been undermined by weak institutions, exceptions, and legal loopholes. As is evident in the cases of child labour that the report monitored in 2020-2022. The Egyptian government needs to pay more attention to this phenomenon, especially in light of the economic crises that put more children at risk.