

Rajasthan bans Child Labor below 14 and Night work for Teens

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance

Why in News?

Recently Rajasthan's chief minister announced the approval of 2 key labour reforms as a step towards enhancing the work environment and promoting economic growth.

- **The recent reforms**

1. The Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishments (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025,
2. Rajasthan Factory (Amendment) Rules, 2025.

- **Objectives** - Creating a "progressive and safe working environment" in Rajasthan.

- Balance in promoting trade and ensuring the dignity, health and safety of every worker.

- **Key changes in Shops and Commercial Establishments Ordinance -**

- **Complete ban on child labour** below 14 years in shops and commercial settings.

- **Previously** Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishments Act of 1958, allowed limited 3-hour work/day for adolescents aged 12-15.

- Increase in minimum apprentice age from **12 to 14 years**.
- Adolescents (14-18 years) prohibited from night work to protect education and health.
- Maximum daily work hours raised from 9 to 10 hours.
- Quarterly overtime limit increased from 126 to 144 hours.
- Expected to enhance operational flexibility and productivity in service and retail sectors.
- **Key changes in Factory Amendment Rules** - Focuses on women's safety, dignity, and workforce participation.
- Improve employment conditions for women in factories.
- Women (except pregnant/nursing) allowed to work if safety measures are

ensured.

- Employers must provide protective equipment like respirators, masks, gloves.
- Ensure safe air quality in workplaces.
- Mandatory regular safety training for all employees.

Reference

[Times of India| Rajasthan's Labour Reforms](#)

