Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

Is there some reason why you are using the CR file for this purpose? The construction of that file is very restrictive. Both the woman and the man have to identify each other as partners. Another issue is that in Mali polygamy is common. The men may only be matched with the first wife listed. These are possible reasons why so many children in the KR file do not merge with the CR file.

MLKR53 already contains v717, which is the stated occupation of the mother. All of the v variables in the KR and BR files refer to the child's mother. If you want to attach the father's data, you can do that if the father is in the MR file. You use the PR file to get hv113, the line number of the father if in the PR file, and then the man with that line number (changed to mv003) and the same cluster and household number as the child. It's a trickier merge than most but I provided the Stata code in another post.

If the father is not in the same household as the child, you could consider using the occupation of the household head (if male). It depends on whether you are thinking of the child in relation to the biological parents or to the adults in the household.