CHAPTER III
METHODOLOGY

- Introduction
- Statement of the Problem
- Conceptual Frame Work
  - Concept of Child
  - Concept of Child Labour
  - Concept of Street Children
  - Concept of Ragpickers
- Theoretical Framework
- Need for the Study
- Objective of the Study
- Hypothesis of the Study
- Method of Data Collection
- Universe/Sample
- Pilot Study
- Variables for the Study
- Analysis of Data
- Study Area
  - Profile of the Area
  - Slums in Bijapur
- Limitations of the Present Study
- Organization of the Thesis
CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

The present study is undertaken to analyse empirically the social status, educational level, working condition and risks of child rag pickers in the slum areas of Bijapur city.

Childhood, the most impressionable period of human life, is perhaps the most longed for whims every adult would fancy to relapse into sweet, carefree moments, unaware of the trauma of life. During this formative period, a child imbibes the basic traits of developing personality, responsibilities, and traits. A happy childhood is the right of every child and providing it is the concern of every nation. Children are the most important assets of the society. The welfare and development of any community depends largely on the health and well being of its children.

Man has to pass through many stages of life out of which childhood is most important because it is the formative period of life. It is also the first conscious stage of life. Human character takes its shape in childhood because at this stage the mind is soft and receptive. Every parents and the society want its children to grow into good and responsible citizens. This is possible when the children are given nutritious food, proper education, good shelter, better environment, constructive instruction, affection and direction as well as proper guidance. Lack of these facilities puts the lives of youngsters in jeopardy. Child labour is an example of this which is a form of exploitation due to lack of protection both from the family and the society. Child labour is economically unsound, psychologically disastrous, physically dangerous and ethically a matter of a great concern. (Misra 2003)

Any work, whether manual or mental which is undertaken for monetary consideration is called “Labour” in economics. Child labour refers to work undertaken by a child, who is below 15 years of age, for wage it refers to employment of children in gainful occupations. Child labour today, is a global phenomenon and a harsh reality.

In India, although government sources report the child labours to be below 18 million. Non-government organizations claim it to be not less than 40 million.
While considering children, as the future assets of a country the magnitude of the problem definitely has evoked deep concern in the Indian society. They are the victims of grinding poverty fighting for survival at an early age. They are the suppressed citizens who do not get the chance for proper physical and mental development, as they do not avail the economic, educational, social and cultural benefits provided by the modern welfare state.

➤ Statement of the Problem:

India’s booming urbanization brings the problem of waste management. As more people are migrating towards the cities, the amount of waste is increasing at a high pace and waste critical management is likely to become an issue in the coming years.

The childhood is a formative and tender age, is meant to be spent on activities, conducive for the development over all development of the children, by making readily available to them facilities of qualitative education and training as well as sufficient time to play and rest. The situation on the ground, however, is quite dissimilar and discomforting.

Children are the most important assets of the society and future of a nation depends upon how the children are educated and trained and how their mental and physical development is taken care of. It is indeed unfortunate that the energy of the growing children which should go into their mental and physical development is exploited by owners of capital asset owing to unfavorable socio-economic setting in the country. Unless something is done to help them, they will not come out of a vicious circle of drudgery and poverty, which has been going on from generation to generation. (Sen Raj kumar and Dasgupta Asis 2003)

A significant number of children in this world are found to be engaged in various economic activities like newspaper selling, shoe shining, hawking, helpers in tea shops, rag picking etc extremely different, even hostile environment, which takes away their childhood privileges and poses serious threat to future development of society.

‘Children’ the most precious assets of any nation are the future hope and glory of the country. The progress and prosperity of any nation could be evident
from its healthy, promising and dynamic children. Therefore, they deserve to be
cared protected and maintained for posterity. Moreover, they makeup an
important component of the social structure and are the potential future carriers of
culture. Therefore, the concept of social justice cannot be conceived without
proper justice to children. But, the reality is something different and horrifying.
These decorated words on a ‘child’s life’ have lost their significance in the real
life of a child (Misra 2004). According to UNICEF, rag picking is the worst forms
of child labour and falls under the street children category.

The present study is about CHILD RAGPICKERS; A
SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF DROUGHT PRONE CITY. This study
attempts to explore the factors that compelled the children to pick rags, their
problems and prospects.

➢ Conceptual Frame work:

• Concept of Child

“Every new born child proclaims to the world
That God is not desperate with man …. ” Rabindranath Tagore

The child is a soul with a being, a nature and capacities of its own, who must
be helped to find them, to grow into their maturity, into a fullness of physical and
vital energy and the utmost breadth, depth and height of its emotional, intellectual
and spiritual being, other-wise there cannot be a healthy growth of the nation.

❖ A “Child” is a person who has not completed his/her fourteenth year of age.
(V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, 2001)
❖ The Factory Act of 1948 defines “A person below the age of 15 years is to be
regarded as a child”.
❖ The Beedi and Cigar workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 defines
“A person who has not completed 14 years of age”.
❖ The Children (Pledging of Labour) Act 1983 defines “A person who has not
completed 15 year of age”.
❖ The Shops and Establishments Act 1961 defines “Different age is specified by
different states”. (Which ranges between 12-15 years)
❖ Labour Laws ; Apprentices Act 1951.
According to this law “A person shall not be qualified to engage as an apprentice unless he is not less than fourteen years of age”.

- The Mines (Amendment) Act, 1983
  “No person below eighteen years of age shall be allowed to work in any mine or part thereof”.

- The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986
  “Child” means a person who has not completed his fourteenth years of age”.

- According to Section-83 of the Indian Penal Code 1860 : “Nothing is an offence which is done by a child above 7 years and under 12 who has not attained sufficient maturity of understanding to judge the nature and consequence of his conduct on the occasion”.

- According to Section 105 of Indian Evidence Act 1972 : “When a person is accused of any offence, the burden of providing the existence of circumstances bringing the case within any of the general or special exception including that of childhood of the Indian Penal Code or any concerning law is upon him”.

- According to Employment of children Act, 1938, “No child who has not completed his fifteen years shall be employed or permitted to work in any occupation …”

- Under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 : Child has been defined as “a person under the age of 18 years”

- According to the U.P Children Act, 1951: “Child means a person under the age of 16 years”.

- According to the Plantation of Labour Act, 1951; “Child means a person who has not completed his fifteen year”.

- According to section 2 (a) of the Motor Transport Workers Act 1961: “Child means a person who has completed his fifteen year but has not completed his eighteen years”

  On the basis of above various definitions regarding child, the present study considers a person below age of 16 years as a child.
**Concept of Child Labour**

A generally valid definition of child labour is presently not available either in the national or international context. Any definition turns upon the precise meaning we attach to two components of the term “child labour” i.e., “child” in terms of his chronological age and “labour” in terms of its nature, quantum and income generation capacity. Child labour however, can broadly be defined as that segment of the child population which participates in work either paid or unpaid.

The definition of child labour varied from one act to another depending upon the seriousness of the problems of children working in a particular employment. The precise age of what constitute child labour has not been laid down anywhere because of variations in the age of child as given under different legislative enactments.

- **According to the Committee on Child Labour**: “Child labour, however can broadly be defined as that segment of child population in work either paid or unpaid”.

- **The Indian Council of Child Welfare**: “Every Child below 14 years, who contributed to the family income or was gainfully employed including those marginally working, was treated as a worker.”

- **Giri has expressed the view**: The term Child labour is commonly interrupted in two different ways: first, as an economic practice and second, as a social evil. In the first content it signifies employment of children in gainful occupations with a view to adding to the total income of the family.

- **Hommerfolks, Chairman of the United Nations Child Labour Committee** has defined child labour as or any work by children that interferes with their full physical development their opportunities for a desirable level of education of their needed recreation.

- **Kulshreshtha view that**: “Child labour in a restricted sense means the employment of the child in gainful occupations which are dangerous to their health and deny them the opportunities of development”.


According to Alakh Narayan Sharma: “Child labour means the employment of children in gainful occupations (in industrial as well as industrial occupations) which are injurious to their physical, mental, moral and social development.

According to Article 24 which is the Fundamental Rights; “No Child below the age of fourteen years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment”.

According to the Baroda Based Organization, Operations Research Group (ORG); “A working child is that who was enumerated during the survey as a child falling within the 5 to 15 age bracket and who is at remunerative work may be paid or unpaid, and busy any hour of the day within or outside the family”.

Defining child labour is not as simple and straightforward as it may appear because it encompasses very difficult to define concepts: “Child” “work” and “labour”. Child can be defined in terms of age, but then different societies may have different thresholds for demarcating childhood and adulthood. In some societies, age may not be a sufficient basis for defining “childhood” the fulfillment of certain social rites and traditional obligations may well be important requirements in defining “adult” and “child” status. In still others the integration of children into socio-economic life may begin so early, and the transition from childhood to adulthood may be so smooth and gradual, that it may be virtually impossible to identify clearly the different life phases. We must therefore recognize that we are dealing with a concept which could mean different things depending on the context. Besides in the absence of an affective age record system, even applying an agreed legal definition becomes highly problematic. (Shukla, Ali; 2006)

Concept of Street Children

The term ‘Street Children’ is hotly debated some say it is negative that it labels and stigmatizes children. Others say it gives them an identity and a sense of belonging. It can include a very wide range of children who are homeless; work on the streets but sleep at home; either do or do not have family contact;
work in open markets; live on the streets with their families; live in day or night shelters; spend a lot of time in institutions.

The term ‘street children’ is used because it is short and widely understood. However, we must acknowledge the problems and wherever possible we should ask the children what they think themselves. In reality street children defy such convenient generalizations because each child is unique (www.streetchildrenandslumchildrescue Goa-NGO)

Street children are a symptom of a deep and disturbing trend in society. They encompass a side section of children in distress such as those who have been abandoned, abused, neglected and missing children. Literally, they are children who live on the streets and have been categorized by the UNICEF into three groups based as children who have contact with the family. They are

i) within the family.
ii) within the family, but outside the home.
iii) Outside the family.

➤ **Concept of Child Ragpickers**

The concept of child rag pickers appears to have undergone modification over time. Initially rag pickers were considered those children who literally work and live in the street known as children on the street. Today, the denotation as rag pickers has been extended to include those working in the street but living with their families in homes, slums, squats etc.

The term rag picker currently refers to people who collect rags or recyclable materials that can be sold for money. Rag picking entails sorting, collecting and selling, as these various waste materials that can be found at dumpsites, river banks, street corners, or in residential areas. The waste materials that rag pickers take consists primarily of plastics, bottles, cardboard, tin, aluminum, iron, brass, and copper. Plastic, tin and aluminum products are highly sought after while paper goods rank low on the list. This is because rag pickers get paid according to the quality of the materials they sell to junkyards and garbage collection centers. As the market for recyclable materials has increased, many street children have turned to rag picking as a means of survival.
According to UNICEF, ragpicking is the worst form of child labour and falls under the street children category.

- Tripathy and Pradhan-(2003) defines that Ragpickers are the abused exploited and self-employed child labourers who are deprived of all parental care.
- Ragpickers are the people who are actually going through the garbage bins to pick out the ‘rags’. These rag pickers, women, children, and men from the lowest rung in the society are a common sight in most cities and towns arrowed the country. Ragpickers picking is considered the most menial of all activities and it is people who have no other alternative that are generally driven to it (www.edugreen.teri.in/explort/solwaste/segre.htm).

➢ Theoretical Frame work:

For the present study, theory of culture of poverty put forth by American anthropologist Oscar Lewis is taken as a model. Oscar Lewis argued that some poor people share a distinct culture of poverty. The culture of poverty constitutes a “design for living” that is passed on from generation to the next. Individuals feel marginalized, helpless and inferior and adopt an attitude of living for the present. They are fatalistic. Families are characterized by high divorce rates, with mothers and children abandoned; they become matrifocal families headed by women. People adopting this cultural of poverty do not participate in community life or join political parties; they make little use of banks, hospitals and the like. According to Lewis the culture of poverty perpetuates poverty; it tends to perpetuate itself from generation to generation because of its effect on children. By the time slum children are aged six or seven, they have usually absorbed the basic values and attitudes of their subculture and are not psychologically geared to take full advantage of changing conditions or increased opportunities which may occur in their lifetime. (www.blacksacademy.net)

➢ Need For the Study

Many studies and researches have shown the existence of the universal phenomenon of the child labour in the world. But there are no researches and studies which have examined the problems confronted by child rag pickers.
engaged in urban areas. It is a socio-economic problem in the society. It is a social responsibility to provide full opportunity for the physical, psychological, emotional, intellectual, social, educational, economical, moral and spiritual development of these rag picking children. The rag pickers are as much a part of our society as we are just that they do not have the most respected or a dignified job. It is a rag pickers pride that he is not a beggar or a thief. No, it is not a food that they are after, but they are on a constant look out for plastic, clothes, metal pieces, boxes and a host of other things that we throw away everyday.

Child rag pickers work in various places and are subjected to unscrupulous exploitation, make to work for unduly long hours for poor remunerations, forced to forego education, make to shoulder responsibilities far beyond their age. These children never knew what childhood is. Most of these children come from extremely poor urban households and they are either school dropouts or have not seen school at all.

In spite of a great deal of debate and discussion condemning the involvement of children in rag picking, the problem is so acute in a developing country like India that the number of children working and their suffering increases day by day. In Bangalore alone nearly 42 percent of child rag pickers are engaged in this job. In recent survey it is estimated that there are about 35000 child rag pickers and 65000 street children in Bangalore city. In this context the present study assumes greater importance to identify causes attributed for emergences of such problem, so that some positive measures can be planned out in order to help these child rag pickers in the larger interest of human resource development in future society. So far, there are very few studies carried out on child rag pickers and they are not based on scientific methods. So the present study is a sincere attempt to understand the nature, magnitude, socio-economic status, working conditions and perceptions of child rag pickers from a sociological perspective.
Objectives of the Study:

In contrast to previous researches on child ragpickers, this study is intended to bring out detailed information on the nature, process, and problems of child ragpickers in Bijapur city. It attempts to highlight the perceptions and behaviour of these children towards education, work and society. Special focus is given to the family background from which ragpickers originate, as well as the consequences of ragpicking in order to identify groups more likely to be involved in these activities.

1) To assess the nature and magnitude of the problem of child ragpickers.
2) To know the socio-economic status of child ragpickers.
3) To examine the working conditions and exploitation of child ragpickers.
4) To trace the impact of socio and economic conditions on child ragpickers work.
5) To assess the perceptions of child ragpickers towards work, education and child rights.
6) To assess the perceived needs of child ragpickers in the area of nutrition, protection, vocational training and placement.

➢ Hypothesis of the Study:

1) Child enters into ragpicking at an early age.
2) Majority of child ragpickers come from large family.
3) Majority of child ragpickers belongs to Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribes.
4) Higher the broken family, higher the number of child ragpickers.
5) There is inverse relationship between parents’ education and child ragpickers.
6) Majority of child ragpickers belongs to poor family.
7) There is significant relationship between occupation of parents and child ragpickers.
8) There is significant association between caste and age at entry into ragpicking.
9) Education of child ragpickers is associated with type of job.
10) There is significant relationship between structure of family and hunger (getting meals twice a day).
11) Child ragpickers have a high risk of diseases.
12) Child ragpickers are exploited by junkyards.
13) Child ragpickers have no knowledge of child rights.
14) Child ragpickers have negative attitude towards education.
15) Majority of child ragpickers are school drop outs.
16) Child ragpickers need vocational training and placement.

➢ Method of Data Collection :-

The present study is basically an empirical in nature. The secondary sources like books, journals, government manuals, websites and published and unpublished works related to the subject were also used. The primary data is collected with the help of structured questionnaire along with interview method. The interview schedule consists of seven parts. They are

1. Personal identification of child ragpickers:

   In this part demographic variable such as age, sex, religion, caste, mother tongue, level of respondent education, reasons for dropping out of school, etc, are included.

2. Family background:

   This part is devoted to the family background of child ragpickers. The aspects covered under this dimension are type of house, size of family, structure of family, type of family, father and mother educational background, father and mother occupation, total family income, facilities of house have etc, comes under this section.

3. Working conditions:

   This part is deals with working conditions of child ragpickers comprises of duration of work, nature of work, using separate clothes and equipments during ragpicking, kind of job, monthly earnings, utilization of pocket money, exploitation of child ragpickers, etc.,
4. **Group identification:**

This part consists of group identification of child ragpickers. It throws light on working in group, number of persons in group, sex wise distribution of group members, location of frequent of ragpicking. The study also traces to find out number of visits to particular location, timing to visit etc.,

5. **Personal behaviour:**

The part gives the details of the personal behaviour of child ragpickers in the study area. The study focuses on intensity of hunger among child ragpickers. It analyses the bad habits developed by child ragpickers and their involvement in the anti-social activities etc.

6. **Health of child rag pickers:**

This part consists of sickness during the work, sickness of the last time, type of illness, injury during the work, type of injury, consultation for the illness or injury etc.,

7. **Perception of child rag pickers:**

This part focuses on role of NGOs in development of child ragpickers, awareness of the child rights among child ragpickers, reasons for not taking benefits of government schools, requirements of child ragpickers, aspiration to have good education and foresee about future life etc.,

➢ **Universe / Sample:**

For the present study, Bijapur a drought prone city in Karnataka was selected. According to statistics available at the Labour Department, Bijapur District, there are 1252 child labours in Bijapur District. Among them approximately 626 are child rag pickers. All child ragpickers are found in Bijapur city. Among them 40 percent of (i.e., 250) child rag pickers are selected as sample on the basis of random sampling method for the present study. There are totally 40 slums in Bijapur city, of them 12 slums were considered for data collection. The field research was conducted in different slums of Bijapur city.
Pilot Study:

Pre-testing is necessary in data collection. No tool is put to use unless it has been tested before hand as to whether it will serve the purpose. With this idea the schedules prepared for child ragpickers were pre-tested for collection of reliable data, to cover the gaps in the information and to test the suitability and utility of the questions as well as their sequence and structure. Accordingly, schedules were tested by conducting a pilot study in Pete Bowdi and Gisadi Colony on ten child ragpickers. Pete Bowdi and Gisadi Colony were purposively chosen as these slums were not included in the sampling frame, but similar to the areas selected for the studies to avoid ambiguity. The pilot study helped to revise the schedules by inclusion of certain important items which were noticed. It has helped in anticipating problems that are going to be encountered during the study and also relevant factors associated with the questions. The pilot study has thrown light on the methods to be adopted for interviewing child ragpickers.

- **Variables for the Study:**

  For the present study variables are divided in to dependent and independent variables.

  **Independent Variables:**

  Sex, religion, caste, level of education, type of family, structure of family, family’s total income are considered as independent variables.

  **Dependent Variables:**

  Age at entry into ragpicking, type of job, and getting meals twice a day are regarded as dependent variables.

  ➢ **Analysis of Data:**

  In the present study, the qualitative information obtained during the interviews, using a pre-coded questionnaire. Quantities information obtained from the structured interview schedule was edited carefully. The data were processed by SPSS package. Analysis of quantitative information consisted of producing simple frequency. In order test the hypothesis statistical technique of Chi-square is calculated. The data related to profile is presented in the form of percentage.
Study Area:

The foundation of historical city Bijapur was laid during the reign of the Chalukya Dynasty of Kalyan between the Tenth and Eleventh centuries. They called it Vijayapur, the “City of Victory,” from which comes its present name Bijapur. Bijapur came under Muslim influence, first under Allaudin Khilji, the Sultan of Delhi, towards the end of the thirteenth century, and then under the Bahamani Kings of Bidar in 1347. In 1481, Mohammed III, one of the Bahamani Sultans, appointed Yusuf Adil Khan as the Governor of Bijapur, one of the sons of Sultan Mahmud II of Turkey. Yusuf Adil Khan fled from his country on the death of his as a slave. With the decline of the Bahamani power at Bidar, Yusuf declared his independence in 1489 and thus became the founder of Adil Shahi dynasty, which survived as a kingdom till its annexation by Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb in 1686. Bijapur experienced a great burst of architectural activity under the Adil Shahi dynasty. The Adil Shashi encouraged building activity to such an extent that Bijapur itself has over 50 mosques, more than 20 tombs and a number of palaces. The “Gol Gumbaz” one of the Seven Wonders of the World is magnificent architectural masterpiece, which attracts thousands of tourists from all over the world every year.

Profile of the Area:

Bijapur is one of the largest districts in Karnataka and has an area of 10541 sq Km. consisting 5.49 percent of the area of the state. It is nearly 580 kms from the state capital Bangalore. It lies between 15x50 and 17x28 North Latitude and 74x54 and 76x28 East Longitude. The district is bounded by Solapur district on the north and Sangli in the north-west (both of Maharashtra state), by the district of Belgaum on the west, Bagalkot on the south, Gulburga on the east and by Raichur on the south-east. Thus it is a land-locked district on the northern boundary of Karnataka. Bijapur district is accessible by both highways and rail. The National Highway 13 passes through the district in the eastern central parts via Basavan Bagewadi and Bijapur talukas. Another National Highway 218 passes through the district via Sindgi, Bijapur and Basavan Bagewadi talukas. The taluka towns are well connected by state highways and district roads. The railway
line connecting Solapur in Maharastra and Hubli passes through the centre of the district, via Indi, Bijapur and Basavan Bagewadi Talukas. Bijapur district consists of 5 Talukas viz Bijapur, Basavan Bagewadi, Indi, Muddebihal and Sindgi.

Map-1
Map of Karnataka
Map-2
Map of Bijapur District in Karnataka

Map-3
Map of Bijapur City
Table – 09
Population of Bijapur

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Sources: 2001 census

Table – 9 shows the total population of Bijapur district according to 2001 census is 18.081 lakhs, comprising of 9.281lakhs males and 8.801lakhs females. Rural population of the district is 1413290 and urban population is 395573. The Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes population of the district as 2001 census is 928660 and 30051 respectively.

- **Languages:**

  Main languages spoken in the district are Kannada, Hindi, Marathi, Telugu and Urdu.

- **Geographical and Physical features:**

  Geographically, Bijapur district lies in the dry and arid tract of the Deccan Plateau. The land of the district can be broadly divided into three zones; the northern belt consisting of the northern part of Bijapur taluk besides Indi and Sindgi, the central belt consisting of the Don Valley region which begins to the south of Bijapur city and the southern belt consisting of the rich alluvial plains of the Krishna river separated from the central belt by a stretch of the barren trap. The northern belt is a succession of low billowy uplands bare of trees, gently rounded and falling into intermediate narrow valleys. The upland soil being shallow, the villages are confined to the banks of the streams and are far away from one another. The Don Valley has plains and consists of rich tracts of deep
black soil stretching from west to east. Across the Krishna is a rich plain, crossed from west to east by two lines of sandstones and hills.

- **Rivers:**

  The District is criss-crossed by several streams and rivers. The Krishna, the Bhima and the Don are the three rivers which flow in the district.

- **Rainfall:**

  There are 34 rain gauge stations in Bijapur District. The average annual rainfall for the district is 552.8 mm with 37.2 rainy days. The monsoon generally breaks in the district during June and lasts till October. The highest mean monthly rainfall is 149.2 mm in the month of September and lowest is 3.4 mm in February. The annual rainfall variation in the district is marginal from place to place.

- **Towns, Villages and Amenities:**

  The district, at present comprises of 5 talukas and equal number of Community Development Blocks. It has 7 towns and 643 villages (649 inhabited villages and 4 uninhabited villages).

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<td>210</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table-10 depicts that there are 33 police stations including railway police stations in the district, out of them 12 are in Bijapur taluka. There are 5 jails in the district, each taluka having one jail. Totally 26 film theatres are found in the
district. As regard to library facilities there are 210 libraries in the district, 46 libraries in Bijapur taluka followed by 45 in Indi taluka, 43 in Basavan Bagewadi, 42 in Sindagi taluka and 34 in Muddebihal taluka. In the district there are 3 fire stations.

- **Agricultural and Irrigation Sector:**

  Of the total geographical area of 10.53 lakh hectares, 7.76 lakh hectares is available for cultivation which is 74 percent of the total area, while area under forest account for only 0.19 percent of the total area. Only 17.3 percent of the net cultivable area is irrigated and balance 82.7 percent of the area has to depend on monsoon. The cropping pattern in the district reveals that food crops like jowar, maize, bajra and wheat among cereals, red gram, Bengal gram and green gram among pulses are major crops cultivated in the district. The major oilseed crops are sunflower, groundnut and safflower. Horticulture crops like grapes, pomegranate, berries, guava, sapota, lemon are also grown. Recent trend shows that there is a low shift towards fruit crops like pomegranate and grapes of the total area of 8.61 lakhs hectares covered during 2002-03 cereals occupy about 55.2 percent, by oilseeds 24.5 percent, pulse 15.6 percent and other commercial crops like cotton and sugarcane about 4.8 percent. There is slight shift towards commercial crops like cotton and sugarcane over last 2 years. The land holding pattern in the district indicates that small and marginal farmers account for 4 percent of total land holdings and 0.6 percent of the total land, semi-medium for 27.5 percent with 10.1 percent of total land while 68 percent of the holdings are above 2 hectares accounting 89.3 percent of land.

- **Industries:**

  In the matter of mineral wealth it ranks among the few districts that are poor in mineral deposits. However, limestone and asbestos which are of considerable economic importance are found to occur in large quantities in several parts of the district. These at several places, especially south of the Krishna river, it is not being mined as it is found to be uneconomical. There are traces of copper and manganese also.
In the household sector, handloom weaving has the pride of place. The district is noted for its production of Khadi yarn as well as Khadi cloth. These find a ready market at several places including a few located beyond the borders of the state. In recent years there has been an increase in the number of power looms and the industries as such has been facing some problems. The Government has taken up several welfare measures under the DRDS and such other programmes for the upliftment of the conditions of the weavers. The State Khadi and Village Industries Board too has been quite active in promoting the industrial activities at household level.

The District is predominantly an agricultural belt. Besides this, dairy, poultry, sheep/goat rearing, sericulture, horticulture activities are being pursued by the population. The district has tremendous market potential for mass consumer goods, semi durables, durables industrial raw materials, intermediate products, capital goods, agricultural implements etc. The undivided Bijapur District finds 12th place in terms of number of registered SSI units in the state as of March 1995. The District Rural Industries Project (DRIP) which is under implementation from 1999 – 2000 has shown good progress during first years.

- **Export Oriented Units:**
  
  Export of grapes, pomegranate, banana,(Pre-cooling packaging and processing unit) juice, jam, jelly, pickles making units.

- **Horticulture:** Tissue culture for grape, pomegranate seedlings.

- **Banking Network:**

  The District is served by 81 branches of Commercial Banks (including one Hi-Tech. Agri Finance Branch of Canara Bank), 41 Branches of Bijapur Grameen Bank, 23 Branches of Bijapur DCCB and 5 PCARDBs. Besides, the KSFC is also functioning in the district with its branch at Bijapur.

- **Education:**

  Majority of the villages in all the talukas have been provided with schools, at least those dealing with the minimum level of education. The towns provide better facilities. Educational institutions of high school level are available in all
the towns of the district. Bijapur city has the additional distinction of having a Sainik school.

Table – 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Talukas</th>
<th>Literacy Rate Census-2001</th>
<th>Primary Schools 2006-07</th>
<th>High schools 2006-07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total %</td>
<td>Male %</td>
<td>Female %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bagewadi</td>
<td>54.8</td>
<td>68.71</td>
<td>40.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bijapur</td>
<td>63.7</td>
<td>74.18</td>
<td>52.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indi</td>
<td>53.3</td>
<td>55.03</td>
<td>51.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muddebihal</td>
<td>58.6</td>
<td>74.53</td>
<td>42.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindagi</td>
<td>52.4</td>
<td>66.70</td>
<td>37.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>57.46</td>
<td>68.10</td>
<td>46.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table – 11 shows the literacy rate of Bijapur district in 2001, the number of primary and high schools in 2006 – 07. According to 2001 census, total literacy rate (excluding the population in the age group of 0-6 years) is 57.46 percent of these 68.10 percent are males and 46.19 percent are females. In Bijapur district there are 2433 primary schools with 196572 boys and174781 girls. Out of 2433 primary schools 702 schools in Bijapur taluka with 62464 boys and 57080 girls followed by 578 schools in Muddebihal taluka with 29367 boys and 25724 girls, 479 in Indi taluka with 36858 boys and 31845 girls, 355 in Sindagi taluka with 38046 boys and 33548 girls and 319 schools in B.Bagewadi taluka with 29837 boys and 26584 girls.

In Bijapur district there are 375 high schools with 46644 boys and 32519 girls. Majority of high schools (144) are in Bijapur taluka with 16268 boys and 12414 girls, followed by 65 high schools with 8294 boys and 5245 girls in Indi taluka, 61 schools in Sindagi taluka with 8443 boys and 5428 girls, 59 schools in B.Bagawadi taluka with 7080 boys and 5133 girls and 46 high schools in Muddebihal taluka with 6559 boys and 4299 girls.
Table -12
Higher Education in Bijapur District-2006-07

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No students</td>
<td>No students</td>
<td>No students</td>
<td>No students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.Bagewadi</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3002</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>1061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bijapur</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>15514</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indi</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>5963</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>2195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muddebihal</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3708</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>2119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindagi</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6796</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>3806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>34983</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>15827</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table - 12 gives an account of extent of higher education in the Bijapur district during 2006-07. Totally there are 100 PU colleges in the district with 34983 students. There are 29 degree colleges with 15827 students and 05 polytechnic colleges with 958 students. These entire polytechnics are situated in Bijapur taluka. There are 03 engineering colleges in the city Bijapur with 894 students.

Table -13
Health Facilities in Bijapur District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Beds</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.Bagewadi</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bijapur</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indi</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muddebihal</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindagi</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table –13 shows the details of health amenities in Bijapur district. There are 61 Primary Health Centers and 05 Community Health Centers in the district. 14 hospitals of Indian system medicine are working in the district with 70 beds. Family Welfare Centers and Sub-Centers are found in each taluka of the district. In total there are 66 Family Welfare Centers with 298 Sub-Centers are working.

- **Tourism:**

  The place had old names like Vijayapura (even now it is called Vijapura), Vidyapura and Mohammedpura. Early travelers like Duarte Barbosa, Varthema etc. have described it as “The Queen of Deccan”

  Bijapur was the capital of Adil Shahi Sultans for nearly two centuries from 1389 to 1686. As a result, this city abounds in monuments of its Muslim rulers in the form of mosques, tombs, gardens and towers. The fort of Bijapur is a large construction running to 10km in length, surrounded by a moat 12 to 15 meters in thickness. It is strengthened by 106 bastions and guarded by 5 gates. The gates are having doors of wood, 15cm. thick strengthened by massive bars and bristling with 30cm. iron pikes. Within this massive outer fort, the citadel called ARK Killa is situated. It once contained palaces and gardens but now is in ruins. Three famous bastions of the outer fort deserve a mention. Sherza Burj (Lion Gate) built in 1658 is the platform for the great bronze gun, called Malik – E – Maidan, weighing 55 tons. The Landa Kasab, holds a gun of same name which is the biggest piece of artillery in Bijapur it is 6.6 meters in length, with a bore of 1.3 meters diameter. The third one called Farangi Buruj is a semi circular tower having a number of gun platforms.

  Bijapur has many first rate structures among which Jamia Masjid, Ibrahim Roza, Gol Gumbaz and Mehter Mahal, Barakaman are considered as most important. Jamia Masjid was built by Ali Adhil Shah I (1558-80). It is a large rectangular structure about 137 meters by 68 meters. Ibrahim Roza is the mausoleum of Ibrahim Adil Shah II and has a mosque attached to it. It is built on a high terrace. This most ornate and elegant structure in Bijapur is considered to be the culminating point of the Deccan style in conception, design and decoration. Gol Gumbaz is remarkable for its dome, which is famous for its whispering
gallery. It is 33 meters above the floor level and for sheer size only; few other buildings can stand comparison. It is massive, plain and dignified. Mehter Mahal is not a place but an ornamental gateway. The style of ornamentation and carvings are similar to those of Ibrahim Roza. Barakaman is a mausoleum of Ali Roza built in 1672.

Besides the above, there are the tombs of Afzal Khan, Afzal Khan’s 64 wives, Ali Adil Shah I and II, Hazara Khwajah and many other historical monuments.

- **Slums in Bijapur:**

  Table-14 depicts the clear picture of slums in Bijapur. According to Karnataka Slum Development Board there are 40 slums in Bijapur, in these 24 slums are situated in government ownership land, 9 slums are in private ownership land, 1 slum is in municipal ownership land, 1 slum is in government and municipal ownership land and 5 slums are situated in government and private ownership land. In these slums totally there are 7590 huts and small houses. The total population of all these slums is 43478, among them 24316 are males and 20349 are females.

  In spite of Schedule Caste (S.C.) and Schedule Tribes (S.T.) inhabitants in the slums, it is surprising to note that more than half of slum inhabitants belongs to Other Cates who counts for 29720.
Table-14  
Details of Declared Slums in Bijapur City

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Slums’ name</th>
<th>Declared date</th>
<th>Area (Acres Gunta)</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>No of huts</th>
<th>Declared stage</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>S.C</th>
<th>S.T</th>
<th>Others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Khudanapur Galli</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>17.25</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>4339</td>
<td>2617</td>
<td>1722</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>3839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jorapur Pet</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>20.36</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>836</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>5431</td>
<td>3258</td>
<td>2173</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>5170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Venkataraman Galli</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>12.31</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>2983</td>
<td>1450</td>
<td>1533</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kavali Galli</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>7.22</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>2617</td>
<td>1347</td>
<td>1270</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rangi Masidi</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Near Veterinary hospital</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>5.10</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Pete Bowadi</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>4.21</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>2056</td>
<td>1102</td>
<td>954</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gachchin Mahal</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>11 p</td>
<td>1047</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Pailwan Galli -1</td>
<td>29-11-1990</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>694</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Pailwan Galli-2</td>
<td>29-11-1990</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>11 p</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Rajputh Galli</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>11 p</td>
<td>1739</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gollar Oni Indi Road</td>
<td>27-09-2006</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>1216</td>
<td>616</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Alavi Masidi</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>5.10</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>3 f</td>
<td>1193</td>
<td>710</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Joda Gummat (Western part)</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>11 f</td>
<td>1173</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>1152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Registered From</td>
<td>Registered To</td>
<td>Area (in acres)</td>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Slum Rate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
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<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Near Badikaman</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>63</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Pashchapur Road</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Jadar Galli</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>122</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>587</td>
<td>347</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Taj Bowadi (Western Part)</td>
<td>15-01-1975</td>
<td></td>
<td>3-09</td>
<td>Private Govt.</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>1314</td>
<td>709</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1-00</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>89</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Mini Madar Oni Waddar Galli</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4-30</td>
<td>Private Govt.</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>2915</td>
<td>1603</td>
<td>1312</td>
<td>206</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Near Marathi Vidaylay</td>
<td>24-05-2005</td>
<td></td>
<td>0-16</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>80</td>
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<td>f</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Harana Shikar Slum</td>
<td>31-07-2006</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-05</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>77</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Tipu Sulthan Nagar</td>
<td>24-05-2005</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-04</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>71</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>150</td>
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<td>Kumbar Oni</td>
<td>17-02-2004</td>
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<td>Private</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>1305</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Leprosy Colony</td>
<td>27-06-2005</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>77</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>185</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Gaddal Tippi</td>
<td>31-07-2006</td>
<td></td>
<td>1-03</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>117</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>585</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>220</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Gisadi Colony near Indi Road</td>
<td>24-05-2005</td>
<td></td>
<td>2-06</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>161</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>f</td>
<td>805</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Sunagar Galli (Shahapeti)</td>
<td>13-10-2006</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td></td>
<td>255</td>
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Source: Karnataka Slum Development Board, Bijapur.
• **Limitations of the Present Study:**

1) Present research is delimited to study of Karnataka.
2) It is delimited to study of drought prone city Bijapur.
3) It is restricted to the study of 250 child rag pickers in Bijapur city only

**Organization of the Thesis**

The present Research “CHILD RAGPICKERS” – A Sociological Study of Drought Prone City” is spread over 8 chapters:

CHAPTER – I: This is about introduction, which presents the details of historical background, types of child rag pickers, characteristics of child rag pickers and constitutional provisions for child labour.

CHAPTER – II: This chapter gives an account of review of literature related to child rag pickers.

CHAPTER – III: This chapter deals with research methodology of the problem, need for the study, which discusses objectives, hypothesis, sample, data collection and analysis methods.

CHAPTER – IV: This chapter is devoted to the family background of child rag pickers.

CHAPTER – V: This chapter reflects upon working conditions of child rag pickers.

CHAPTER – VI: This chapter presents group identification of child rag pickers.

CHAPTER – VII: This chapter deals personal behavior and perceptions of child rag pickers.

CHAPTER – VIII: This chapter devoted to the summary, findings, conclusion and suggestions for further studies.