CHAPTER - II

RESEARCH METHODS AND TECHNIQUES
CHAPTER - II

RESEARCH METHODS AND TECHNIQUE

Selection of the Village and the sample:

Since this study intends to probe in some detail the impact of urbanisation and industrialisation on a rural community, it was necessary that a village community which came within the urban-industrial or had to be selected. Since again the time at my disposal was limited and it was easy for me to operate from Aurangabad City as my headquarter to which I could return after a day-long work. I liked to select a village that was within the vicinity of Aurangabad City and that seemingly came under its influence. Aurangabad was till 1960 the year in which it merged in Maharashtra an urban centre services to the region in commercial, educational, administrative, communicational, transport health and judicial areas.

Thereafter it slowly took upon industrial enterprises, establishment of which came to be located along Aurangabad-Jalna road to the east of the City, on which the village 'Chikalthana' is situated at a distance of nine kilometers. Aurangabad City is served
by an Airport which is near the village and is named after the latter. Two big five-star hotels catering to the needs of international tourists also have come up along this road. The road connects Aurangabad and Jalna (a commercial town, now the administrative centre of a district) at a distance of 64 kms. The road further leads to Nanded and other district towns of the region to the south. A branch bifurcates immediately to the east of the village, towards the south and Beed another district centre.

The village is connected by railway as well, it being the next station to the city on Aurangabad - Secunderabad meter gauge route.

These considerations weighed heavily with me and I selected Chilhalthana for my study.

The impact here is proposed to be studied mostly at the family level. Even where individuals are tackled as respondents they are treated as members/representatives of individual families. The impact to the studied refers to the family structure and function, changes in the economy of the village, and observance of caste, obligations and religious injunction, all at the family level or through the information collected from family as a unit of the community. The information collected
through the family schedules is analysed against the backdrop of changes taking place in the village as a whole. This latter aspect refers to the changes in land utilization, land-ownership, encroachment on agricultural land by non-agricultural enterprises, incidence of immigrant population, increase in the number of houses, shops and other establishment, information of which is taken from secondary sources mostly comprising records kept in the custody of different Government officials.

It was not possible to collect data pertaining to families by contacting all the families in the village. This would have entailed too much to me and expenditure, I had to restrict the number of families. But at the same time I thought it necessary to see that families of all categories and strata in the community towards this end I first made a list of all the families residing in the village, as far as possible adhering to one lane and shifting to another only after listing all the families in it. The total number of families in the village turned out to be 1250. While listing these families particulars about the families regarding the caste, main occupation, age of the head, etc., were also collected. On the basis of the information with regard to the main occupation, all the families were classified into eight of the nine occupational categories made in the Census enumeration of 1971, leaving out the category of mining, quarrying and fishing as there were no families of this category found in the village. The listing of families took two
months. Since some categories have few families, a ten per cent sample could not represent all the categories. The representative sample was raised to 16 per cent so that all categories could be fairly represented. A list of all families was made according to the main occupation followed by the head, and then in order to approximate the required percentage of sample, three families in every 19 were selected, one in every six for the first two, and one in the third lot of seven families. Thus we got in all 200 families in our sample for detail study. The sample families are shown in Table-1 according to their occupational categories. It is seen that only the occupational category of transport and communication is over-represented. In order to get the total sample of 200 families one family had to be added and this was added to this category.

Collection of data:

Sources: The data has been collected through both the primary and secondary sources.

The primary source comprises mainly the interview schedule canvassed among the family heads of the sample. This was supplemented with group discussions with
### TABLE 1

**DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLE FAMILIES ACCORDING TO OCCUPATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Occupational Category</th>
<th>No. of Total Families</th>
<th>%age of Sample of Families</th>
<th>Sample of Families</th>
<th>%age of Samples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cultivators</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>27.20</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>15.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Agricultural Labour</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>8.16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Manufacturing other than household industry.</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>4.64</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Household industry</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Trade and Commerce</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>8.96</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>16.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>9.04</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Transport and Communication</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2.32</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>37.12</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>15.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>1250</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>200</strong></td>
<td><strong>16%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
knowledgeable circles in the village which usually comprised old residents of the village and village officials. The interview schedule tries to elicit information about the family structure, occupation, migration, housing, education, health and hygiene, recreation, and mobility-occupational and social

The group discussions centred round the information about general community life in the village, about families that have possibly left the village and changes in the lay-out of the village including the residential pattern. Other information collected through these group discussions pertained to the nature of immigrants, and the educational, medical, transport and other such facilities that have newly entered the village.

The secondary sources mostly pertained to the government records and such other published material. These included the Census Reports pertaining to the district, Aurangabad City and the village Chikalthana, the records lying with the Tahsil and village government officials. Much of the data regarding the land-utilization and changes therein, and the number of land-holders has been taken from these sources. Statistical information was also taken from the office of the District Statistical Officer.
an hour and a half. But such occasions were very rare. Sometimes the respondents failed to keep appointment. Some other times guests unexpectedly used to visit the respondents and the interview had to be cut short. Some times the respondents had to be contacted at the place of their work, especially at the fields or their shops. Filling of the schedule in such places used to be inconvenient. All these reasons led to delay in completing the interview work.

Mostly, educated people could give the appropriate and necessary information about their own education, occupation, income and their parents. Some of people had no definite idea about their age, family members, income. And so author had to calculate their age and income from the data given by them.

In addition accordance with the interview schedule method of study a few persons were selected from as to obtain relevant information regarding some common phenomena of the village. The informants were chosen to represent the different sections of the village community with regard to its economic and social strata.
The Village Records:

However, so an attempt was made to verify the reported land holding, Banks loans, and so on by cross checking with the official data maintained in the village records and correct it. The Government records of the Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, Taluka Council, provided the list of plans implements; the revenue record showed the particulars of land utilization, the distribution of land under different purposes, the nature of private ownership of land.

Some data was collected by the Census reports 'Government of India', 1951, 1961, 1971, also for comparing the statistical information. As well as some data was collected through district Statistical Officer, Directorate, Economics and Statistics (Government of Maharashtra), Aurangabad, both the published and unpublished documents and Gazettees of Aurangabad District.

The collection of data had been used qualitative techniques, field observation, discussional methods and interview schedules were largely utilized for the field investigation.
The suspicion of the villagers as well had to be allayed in the initial stages of the work. I had to carry with me a letter from my guide certifying that my investigation was purely academic in nature. The villagers' reluctance to co-operate could soon be got over. But as it was not possible to convince all the families in one lot, and I had to spend some time for each family to prove my credentials, filling in of the schedules had to be shown. I could not hasten the work as it would have harmed the reliability of the study.