CHAPTER-III
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Introduction

The issues of child right protection and inclusive development of children have gained the attention of policy makers and other stakeholders of child development. The United Nations Organization has provided a set of meaningful norms and guidelines for the implementation of child rights protection measures all over the world. The Constitution of India has also provided meaningful safeguards and provisions for the protection of child rights in the post-independence era. There are various stakeholders of child rights protection including the social development organizations and activists. The child rights activists have also sensitized the policy makers and others about their obligations and responsibilities with reference to child rights protection. The role of non-government organizations and social development organizations has been subjected to systematic and scientific evaluation all over the world. In this context, the role of stakeholders in the child rights protection with reference to Karnataka state was the chief focus of the study. This chapter enumerates the salient features of the study which include the methodological details.

3.2. Significance of the Study

Child rights protection is not a uni-dimensional aspect of human resources development. There are several characteristics which depict the state of child rights protection. Prominent among them include nature and pattern of development, mechanisms of developmental change, population differences, individual differences, motor development, cognitive development, emotional development, social development, language development and so on. The scholars have brought all these aspects of child development under ‘Child psychology’ which refers to development of human beings till their adolescent stage. The goal of child development cannot be actualized in the absence of child rights protection.

A substantial amount of research has been carried out in order to develop a considerable body of knowledge concerning the role of various stakeholders of child rights protection across the globe. Studies are conducted on various aspects of child
rights protection in abroad. Various professional organizations have also come into existence in order to achieve the goals of child rights protection and child development in modern society. The media have also provided space and time for the discussion and evaluation of the issues and concerns of child rights protection.

Several commissions, groups and individuals have examined the factors associated with the welfare and development of children in India and other developing countries. The parents, teachers, policy makers, implementers and others have attracted serious criticism for their in ability to ensure constant protection of child rights in India. Studies have also revealed that all is not well as far as child rights protection in Karnataka is concerned. Children have also become victims of circumstances especially in Karnataka state which is marching towards progress under challenging circumstances.

Scientific investigations are required to know more about what factors influence the personality of children, what preventive measures are effective in preventing the violation of child rights and what kind of progressive measures are required to protect the child rights in future in a model state like Karnataka through active intervention of parents, teachers, policy makers, practitioners, bureaucrats and researchers. The present generation of scholars has developed this line of thinking in series of investigations that demonstrate the factors associated with the increasing violation of child rights in particular. Thus, the present study on the Role of Stakeholders in the Protection of Child Rights in Karnataka is justified because of the model state status enjoyed by the Karnataka state in various sectors of development.

3.3. Statement of the Problem

Children are very important section of mankind who continue to be omnipresent in society across time and space. Childhood has also emerged as an important area of study in social sciences. There is a striking absence of investigation about the role of stakeholders in child rights protection in India and rest of the world. The social scientists and development psychologists are primarily concerned with understanding the issues and concerns of child rights protection. The stakeholders of child rights protection also need timely inputs and guidelines to formulate appropriate strategies and implement suitable programmes for the protection of child rights. Therefore, the primary tasks of present study were concerned with identifying a
reasonably representative sample of various stakeholders of child rights protection so as to assess their views on the inclusive child development and systematic child rights protection in Karnataka state. The present topic has been chosen because:

a. The United Nations Organization has played a crucial role in the child rights protection across the globe.
b. Leading international agencies have also given a serious thought to child rights protection and initiated progressive measures.
c. Indian Constitution contains series of safeguards and promotional opportunities for the protection of child rights and development of children.
d. Child rights protection cannot remain as a neglected sector of national development in a developing country like India.
e. Though laws are made to protect child rights, several times these rights have been violated in various forms.
f. The role of various stakeholders of child rights protection should be scientifically analyzed in order to safeguard the interest of children and facilitate their development.
g. A constant and continued research on the role of stakeholders of child rights protection is imperative in a model state like Karnataka.

Aim of the Study

This study is aimed at understanding the role of stakeholders in preserving and developing the child rights.

3.4. Objectives of the Study

With child rights protection aspect being the thrust area, the researcher proposed:

1. To identify the various stakeholders of child rights protection in Karnataka state.
2. To analyze the role of various stakeholders of child rights protection.
3. To assess the child rights protection initiatives of various stakeholders.
4. To suggest suitable measures for the effective child rights protection.
3.5. Hypotheses of the Study
The study was carried out in the Karnataka state on the basis of the following hypotheses:

\[
H1: \text{The government has facilitated child rights protection in Karnataka state.}
\]

\[
H2: \text{The civil society has facilitated child rights protection in Karnataka state.}
\]

\[
H3: \text{The social work organizations have facilitated child rights protection in Karnataka state.}
\]

\[
H4: \text{The media organizations have facilitated child rights protection in Karnataka state.}
\]

\[
H5: \text{Judicial organizations have facilitated child rights protection in Karnataka state.}
\]

3.6. Study Variables
Keeping the above hypotheses in view, the following variables were selected for the study on the basis of review of literature and discussion with the guide and subject experts.

3.6.1 Independent Variables
a. Gender
b. Age
c. Education
d. Occupation
e. Economic Status
f. Social Status

3.6.2 Dependent Variables
1. Role of government in child rights protection.
2. Role of civil society in child rights protection
3. Role of social development organizations in child rights protection
4. Role of media organizations in child rights protection
5. Role of law and order and judicial organizations in child rights protection
3.7. Research Design

The present study approached the problem through a systematic survey method which is very popular in the field of Social Science including Social Work. The present study was carried out on the basis of both descriptive and diagnosis method to evaluate the role of stakeholders in child rights protection with reference to Karnataka state. Descriptive research used to describe characteristics of a population or phenomenon being studied. It does not answer questions about how/when/why the characteristics occurred. In the present investigation the factors responsible for child rights violation in the study area were described on the basis of both qualitative and quantitative methods. A diagnostic test is a procedure performed to confirm, or determine how different agencies adopting techniques to know the exact reason to make child rights protection a successful one. In this present study, the causes and consequences of child rights violation were analyzed contextually. The relationship between the findings, interpretations and inferences was also primarily discussed by using empirical analysis method. A structured and finalized interview schedule was administered to the various stakeholders of child rights protection in Karnataka state in order to gather primary data on the role of stakeholders in child rights protection. The descriptive procedure displays uni-variate summary statistics for several variables in a single table and calculates standardized (z-scores). Variables can be ordered by the size of their means (in ascending or descending order), alphabetically, or by the order in which the researcher specifies. The four revenue divisions of Karnataka state namely Kalburgi, Belgaum, Mysuru and Bengaluru were chosen for the purpose of primary data collection. The primary data were gathered through questionnaire tool by the researcher and trained field investigators. The questionnaire was designed to explore the understanding of the respondents have about the role of stakeholders in the protection of child rights in the state of Karnataka.

3.8. Selection of Study Areas

The study was carried out in the four revenue divisions of Karnataka state since they represent different regions of the state culturally, educationally, socially, economically and politically. Primary data were gathered from 326 respondents representing both urban and rural areas in the four revenue divisions of Karnataka state.
3.9. Selection of Sample

The population in this research consists of both urban and rural stakeholders of child rights protection in Karnataka state. The researcher chose eight districts for the purpose of primary data collection. A representative sample of 124 government officials, 94 social organizers, 52 media professionals and 56 educationists were chosen from the four revenue divisions of Karnataka state. Several qualitative factors were taken into consideration when determining the sample size. These include the importance of decision, the nature of research, the number of variables, the nature of analysis, sample sizes used in similar studies, incidence rate (the occurrence of behaviour or characteristics in population), completion rates and resource constraints. In social work research, limits on time, money and other resources can exert an overriding influence on sampling size determination.

The Cochran formula for sampling is widely used by the researchers across the globe which is as follows.

\[ n = \frac{Z^2pq}{e^2} = (1.96)^2 \times (0.5) \times (0.5) = 385 \]

This is valid where \( n \) is the sample size, \( Z^2 \) is the abscissa of the normal curve that cuts off an area \( a \) at the tails (1-\( a \) equals the desired confidence level, e.g., 95%), \( e \) is the desired level of precision, \( P \) is the estimated proportion of attribute that is present in the population and we assumed \( P = 0.5 \) (maximum variability), and \( q \) is 1-\( P \). The value for \( Z \) is found in statistical tables which contain the area under the normal curve. The researcher followed the incidental, stratified and purposive sampling techniques and selected 326 respondents who represented the stakeholders of child rights protection in Karnataka state.
Table 3.1: Distribution of Study Area and Sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Study Area</th>
<th>Name of the Districts</th>
<th>Government Officials</th>
<th>Social Organizers</th>
<th>Media Professionals</th>
<th>Educationists</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Kalburgi</td>
<td>1. Kalburgi</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Bidar</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>36</td>
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<td>2.</td>
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<td>1. Belgaum</td>
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<td>09</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Bijapur</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1. Bengaluru (Urban)</td>
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<td>07</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Bengaluru (Rural)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
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<td>08</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>46</td>
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<td>04</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>124</strong></td>
<td><strong>94</strong></td>
<td><strong>52</strong></td>
<td><strong>56</strong></td>
<td><strong>326</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N=326

Figure 3.1: Distribution of Study Area and Sample

The women and children welfare department, social welfare department and child rights commission in Karnataka state were approached and information was gathered regarding the selection of eight districts of Karnataka state for the purpose of primary data collection regarding the role of stakeholders in child rights protection. These districts were considered for the purpose of study since they represent different cultural, educational, social, economic and political features of the state of Karnataka. Three hundred twenty six respondents representing government officials, social organizers, media professionals and educationists were selected ultimately for primary data collection.
3.10. Tools of Data Collection

The researcher designed an interview schedules for the stakeholders of child rights protection in Karnataka state in order to collect primary data. Usually the written questionnaire has some advantages. For one thing, it is likely to be less expensive, particularly in terms of the time spent collecting the data. Questionnaires can be given to large numbers of people simultaneously; they can also be sent by mail. Therefore, it is possible to cover wide geographic areas and to question large number of people inexpensively. Another advantage of questionnaires is that subjects are more likely to feel that they can remain anonymous and thus may be more likely to express controversial opinions. Also, the written questionnaire is standard from one subject to the next and is not susceptible to changes in emphasis as can be case in oral questioning. There is always the possibility, however, that the written questionnaire will be interpreted differently by different readers, which is one reason for carefully pre-testing questionnaires. Survey questions are generally of two types: open-ended and closed-ended. In open-ended questions, respondents create their own answers. Closed-ended questions limit the responses respondents can provide. They may include yes or no answer, categories of responses, rank-ordered response, or scales. With closed-ended questions, it is relatively easy to record and analyze responses.

3.11. Primary Source of Data Collection

Primary data was gathered by administering the interview schedules to the government officials, social organizers, media professionals and educationists in Karnataka state. Further, the study was conducted in two phases. In the first phase, general information regarding the demographic features of the subjects of the study was gathered. In the second phase of the study, the standardized interview schedules’ scales on the role of stakeholders in child rights protection were administered to the subjects. The responses from about 326 subjects were noted down by the researcher.


The present study was also systematically carried out on the basis of relevant secondary data such as - UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989, Children’s Rights Protection Law, National Commission for Child Rights Protection, Census
Report, annual reports of National Commission for Human Rights, National Commission for Child Rights Protection, Ministry of Human Resources Development, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, annual report of education departments, health and family welfare reports, reviews of professional journals, proceedings of national and inter-national seminars and conferences, media reports and other publications related to the research topic. These sources also contained authoritative comments and criticisms on various aspects of child rights protection at various levels. The writings which were found from all these sources were also systematically analyzed for the purpose of gathering additional authentic information on the salient features of the study and review of literature.

**Computation of Data**

The primary data gathered from the survey on the role of stakeholders of child rights protection in the state of Karnataka were consolidated and computed by using descriptive analysis which consisted of frequency counts and percentage distribution. These methods revealed the relationship between the independent and dependent variables considered in the study.

**3.13. Statistical Analysis**

The primary data were analyzed on the basis of certain standardized statistical tests which include – percentage analysis, graphical representation, Chi-square test and cross tabulation. All the statistical methods were carried out through the SPSS for Windows (version 16.0). A brief discussion of these statistical tests is as follows.

**Descriptive Procedure**

The descriptive procedure displays uni-variate summary statistics for several variables in a single table and calculates standardized (z-scores). Variables can be ordered by the size of their means (in ascending or descending order), alphabetically, or by the order in which the researcher specifies.
Frequencies and Percentages

The frequencies procedure provides statistics and graphical displays that are useful for describing many types of variables. For a first look at the data, frequencies procedure is a good place to start. Further, percentages provide the values out of hundred for each group or sector selected with frequencies.

Cross-Tabs

The cross-tabs procedure forms two-way and multi-way tables and provides a variety of tests and measures of association for two-way tables. The structure of the table and whether categories are ordered determine what test or measure to use. Contingency coefficient analysis was employed in the present study.

3.14. Definitions of the Terms Used in the Study

3.14.1 Child Rights

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) defines child rights as “those rights which are basic and essential for the healthy well-being of the child and which are inalienable for the existence and development of the child”. The Connotation ‘children’ is attributed to those representing 0-18 years under normal circumstances. In the present times, children are encouraged to have the benefit of access to education which is the primary indicator of human development.

3.14.2 Scientific Study of Children

Childhood is also a stage when children extend relationships beyond their parents and family. It is a time of intense influence of parents, siblings and the outside world in the society. Scholars have provided an overview of the history of the research on childhood. In reality, the history of the scientific study of childhood has three phases. The first phase began early in the 20th Century and lasted for about 50 years. It was characterized by grand theoretical models and embraced all aspects of childhood. The Second phase began in the 1950’s and continued till the end of the 20th Century. It was characterized by more focused hypotheses testing and application of scientific inputs to real life problems and situations. In the beginning of the 21st Century, the third phase began with a fond hope of promoting positive personality of
the children. The new millennium has witnessed the emergence of an advanced branch of scientific study of childhood.

3.14.3 Stakeholders of Child Rights Protection

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) identified the various stakeholders of child rights protection across the globe and called upon them to put forth integrated efforts for the protection of child rights. The state, civil society, educational institutions, media organizations and social development organizations/ non-government organizations are recognized as the stakeholders of child rights protection.

3.14.4 Survey Research

Survey research method is very popular in the field of Social Science including corporate communication. It is very widely used research technique for the purpose of conducting an empirical study. It is nothing but surveying the minds of the stakeholders who are responsible for achieving community development, organizational development and national development in modern times. It is a systematic and scientific research method which facilitates generation of comprehensive authentic data on various aspects of child rights protection in modern society. Primary data from about 326 stakeholders of child rights protection was gathered on the basis of survey research methodology.

3.14.5 Social Status

Society is the biggest angel guardian of the people regardless of their age, gender, education, profession, income, status and so on. All individuals are required to understand the social environment and learn to live well with the other members of the society. People are also required to develop communication skills and cultivate healthy, constructive and positive social relations. Mutually beneficial relations between an individual and other members of society should be established and maintained in order to grow as healthy and useful citizens of the society. The child’s social status has a definite bearing on their exposure to various constitutional provisions, government welfare measures and other services rendered by the social service organizations in modern society.

The economic status of the people matters most from the point of view of their social mobility, educational progress, media association, political contact and other aspects of development. The people enjoy the benefit of access to media, education, power and other privileges on the basis of their economic status. The children who enjoy better economic status are bound to gain absolute access to the services rendered by the stakeholders of child rights protection.

3.15. Presentation of the Study

The first chapter deals with the introduction wherein the salient features of the study such as fundamentals of child rights protection, international standards on child right protection, child rights protection in India and stakeholders of child rights protection are furnished.

The second chapter namely-review of literature presents various studies conducted in India and abroad under different headings such as child rights protection and international organizations, child rights protection and government, child rights protection and civil society, child rights protection and family, child rights protection and educational institutions, child rights protection and media organizations, child rights protection and law and order and judicial organizations, child rights protection and NGOs / social development organizations and inferences of review of literature.

The third chapter namely – research methodology deals with the significance of the study, statement of the problem and objectives of the study, Hypotheses of the study, study variables, research design, selection of study areas, selection of sample, tools of data collection, primary data collection, secondary data collection, statistical analysis and definitions of the terms used in the study.

The fourth chapter namely- data analysis and interpretation presents the results of the study on the demographic features of the respondents, role of government in child rights protection, role of civil society in child rights protection, role of social development organizations in child rights protection, role of media organizations in child rights protection and role of law and order and judicial organizations in child rights protection with reference to Karnataka state.

The fifth chapter namely- major findings, suggestions and conclusion contains the findings of the study, limitations of the study, implications of the study and
suggestions for future research. The last part of the thesis contains the bibliography, (interview schedule) and appendices.

3.16. Summary

The present investigation primarily dealt with the scientific evaluation of the role of stakeholders in the protection of child rights with special reference to Karnataka state. There are several stakeholders namely – state, civil society, educational institutions, media organizations, law and order organizations and judicial organizations who are responsible for the protection of child rights in modern society. The primary data were gathered from 326 respondents representing the government officials, social organizers, educationists, media professionals and other stakeholders of child rights protection in Karnataka state. The respondents were selected on the basis of incidental, stratified and purposive sampling methods. The present study approached the problem through a systematic survey method. Several tools and techniques like non-participant observation, informal discussion and secondary literature review were also used for the purpose of data collection. Prominent statistical analysis techniques such as percentage analysis, graphical representation, Chi-square test and cross-tabulation were also employed for the purpose of statistical analysis.