CHAPTER -II
REVIEW OF LITERATURE

CONTENTS

2.1 Introduction

2.2 Social Welfare
   2.2.1 Theoretical perspectives on Social Welfare
      2.2.1.1 International Studies
      2.2.1.2 National Studies
      2.2.1.3 Regional Studies
   2.2.2 Social Welfare Manpower

2.3 Child Welfare
   2.3.1 Child Welfare System
      2.3.1.1 International Studies
      2.3.1.2 National Studies

2.4 Institutional Services
   2.4.1 International Studies
   2.4.2 National Studies

2.5 Institutionalised Children
   2.5.1 International Studies
   2.5.2 National Studies

2.6 Adoption & Foster Care
   2.6.1 International Studies

2.7 Non Governmental Organisations
   2.7.1 International Studies
   2.7.2 National Studies

2.8 Conclusion

2.9 Notes & References
CHAPTER -II
REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction

This chapter is intended to develop familiarity with the problem area and to discover what is already known and attempted in the field of study. The researcher here is examining all the available sources that deal with the erstwhile and recent practices in social welfare and child welfare system world wide; with a purpose of gaining greater understanding of the crucial aspects of the problem under study. History, functioning, trends and bottlenecks in the field of social welfare and child welfare are analysed in this chapter. This will sharpen the researcher’s perspective, ensure a more focused approach towards the topic and avoid any duplication. Moreover literature survey makes the researcher aware of the significance of the area selected for the study and gives guidance in developing an appropriate design for the study. In short, the initial review of literature provides the frame of reference for research and helps in formulating the theoretical background for the investigation.

The literature survey has exposed the researcher to various studies conducted in the broad area of social welfare and child welfare, but whatever is found relevant in the context of the present study alone is included here. Sources such as books, journals, magazines, newspapers, periodicals, official records, seminar proceedings, websites, etc had been depended upon by the researcher for this purpose. This chapter is organised in such a way that it
ensures a logical presentation and continuity of the studies mentioned here. For this purpose the chapter is classified into three broad areas — Social Welfare, Child Welfare and Non-Government Sector. Under each of these broad categories there are some sub categories. Under the classification of Social Welfare researcher is reviewing studies relating to following sub areas.

- Studies on the Theoretical Frame Work of Social Welfare
- Studies on Social Welfare Manpower

Under Child Welfare, studies are sub classified as follows:-

- Studies relating to Child Welfare System
- Studies on Institutional Services for Children
- Studies on Institutionalized Children
- Studies on Adoption and Foster care

Under the category of NGOs, studies relating to its theoretical background and field realities are analysed.

Under each of these sub-categories, studies are further classified as International, National and Regional level studies and are presented in a chronological order. Each study is reviewed by analysing its contribution or relevance in the context of the present study. This organisation and classification is done to ensure clarity, connectivity, continuity and logic in the presentation.

2.2 Social Welfare

Man is a social being. The society in which he lives is never perfect and is continuously changing giving rise to lot of sufferings for man. The
intention to mitigate human sufferings gave rise to charity in the initial stage and later to social reforms and in a much later stage to social revolution and finally resulted in the state intervention in promoting the welfare of the people. This gave rise to social welfare policies, social welfare programmes and social welfare administration. The present study is focusing on the problems of welfare administration in the context of institutional child welfare system. The later part of this chapter is dealing largely on child welfare. Here the researcher is going thorough studies that will provide thorough background knowledge essential for further investigation.

2.2.1 Theoretical Perspectives on Social Welfare

The basic theory of the Welfare State can be traced to the writings of the British Utilitarian, notable, J.S. Mill and T.H. Green. The greatest good of the maximum number through democratic means is the essence of this theory. Upto the 18th century the principle of laissez-fare dominated the theory and practice of the functions of the state. Later the widespread revolution demanded state intervention in the field of welfare. Paternalistic welfare programmes were also common in olden days. Over the years various models of welfare had been presented by distinguished social scientists as a means of perfecting the welfare system. Any of these models or a combination of different models serves as a base for framing welfare policies and implementing welfare programmes in any nation. Therefore any study initiated in this direction should first have knowledge on the theoretical aspects of welfare planning and administration. Various opinions of experts relating to social policies and programmes are discussed below.
2.2.1.1 International Studies

2.2.1.1.1 Kathleen McInnis (1994) in the book “Integrating Social Welfare Policy and Social Work Practice” examines the social welfare policy in United States through the eyes of a social work practitioner. It gives a lot of theoretical information about the welfare system, policy making and evaluation in United States. As the present study is concentrating on the problems of welfare administration and since welfare policies form an integral part of welfare administration, this book is worth analysing. This study estimates that American’s general ambivalence about the government’s role in providing help to those in need and the enduring influence of the rugged individualism have contributed to the existence of a fragmented, residual system of social welfare. In the fragmented system, social welfare policy develops through a democratic political structure. Three types of social welfare policy assessment are also explained in this book. They are Programme Evaluation which assess the effectiveness of a specific programme, Policy Research assess the relationship between empirical observations and hypothetical statements about policies. The Analysis model offers a series of questions one should ask about policies being proposed or implemented and if the policy is identified ineffective, it is social worker’s responsibility to work towards changing the policy. The approach discussed by the author is giving an insight to the researcher on evaluating the child welfare services in the present study.
2.2.1.1.2 Pat Young (1995) in his book “Mastering Social Welfare”\(^2\) looked into the theoretical perspectives on welfare and explained the Anti-Collectivist, Collectivist, Marxist and Feminist and Anti- Racist views on welfare. For the Anti-collectivists, welfare is ideally seen as having a residual role. Collectivists consider welfare as an aspect of citizenship as their right. In the Marxist perspective, welfare provision can be characterised as a concession won by working class people from those in power. Feminists have studied the role of women in welfare and provide a crucial support to the welfare state. In India the approach adopted towards welfare is more close to the collectivist ideology. Understanding various perspectives enables the researcher in evaluating the child welfare services in the background of these perspectives.

2.2.1.1.3 Satish Sharma (1999) in the article “Freedoms and Unfreedoms as Issues in Social Welfare: Planning and Practice”\(^3\) focuses on freedoms and unfreedoms as those apply to individuals, organisations, communities, nations and the global world within the contexts of social welfare planning and practice. Social welfare is perceived in general and specific terms, and classical and contemporary sociological and social welfare perspectives are applied. The findings reveal that human conditions is in peril and unfreedoms presently outweigh freedoms all over the world. This condition undermines human dignity and social welfare planning and practice need to address the unfreedom issues and guide human condition for the future. The discussions in this article have made it clear to the researcher that
general and specific social welfare circumscribing factors have important consequences for human condition and freedoms and unfreedoms of people. And also that social welfare planning and practice needs to focus on the societal foundations, structures and functioning as well as the welfare conceptions, organisations, and delivery of services to promote human rights and freedoms.

2.2.1.1.4 Maren Bak (2004) in the study “Can Developmental Social Welfare Change an Unfair World, The South African Experience” is analysing the developmental model of welfare system adopted by South Africa after the liberation in 1994. The study reveals that if the developmental perspective is applied to the level of social welfare and understood as integrating marginalized people into the economy,_highlighting a productivist emphasis, it is hard to see that a developmental approach has actually been implemented in South Africa. Economic development is not steered towards social development. The partnership between departments of welfare and other departments in creating jobs and productivist programmes has not been attempted in the areas of families, women and children. This study is clearly stating that right perspective alone can not create a welfare state; it has to be implemented, evaluated and corrected regularly.

2.2.1.2 National Studies

2.2.1.2.1 P.T.Thomas (1964) evaluates the outcome of the seminar on Social Welfare in a Developing Economy. Views of experts on the topic are compiled in his article. It was expressed that the tendency to
compartmentalise problems and label them as social, economic, psychological or psychiatric, is not only fallacious, but harmful, especially in reference to a developing economy. The principle of integral planning for balanced social and economic development in the successive plans was also stressed in the seminar. Nehru had made a point in the seminar that the major burden of social welfare could be borne only by the state. The discussions also appreciated the work and role of voluntary organisations in initiating and maintaining welfare services for special groups. It was also stressed that development must not be at the expense of social, cultural, moral values that reflected the nation’s heritage and genius. A firm statement was also made about the social work education in India that it must take into account the general social and economic conditions prevailing in developing countries and the welfare programmes must be formulated in the context of enormous social needs and scarcity of resources. Dr. M.S. Gore stated that social welfare research would be concerned with the study of the conditions of the needy section and of the nature, extent and effectiveness of the services organised for them. Dr. D.K. Malhotra in his paper presented in the seminar said that there is a need for co-ordination between social science research and research in social welfare. It was observed that much wastage of resources could be avoided if we had the information about the needs and their human and material aspects before policy decisions are taken on the manner and extent of services to be rendered. This seminar had presented excellent views before the planning experts, administrators, social workers and social scientists. Today’s welfare scenario needs to be analysed in the background of
the views expressed by these experts. The present research is an attempt to analyse the current welfare scenario in the light of these views.

2.2.1.2.2 Prof. V.K.R.V.Rao\(^6\) (1964) has suggested some steps for integrating welfare administration with public administration. Linking up the pattern of welfare administration with the normal pattern of government administration is very essential for organising and successfully implementing social welfare services. Evaluation of any welfare programme has to be finally traced to the planning and administration level. In that sense the suggestion of Prof Rao is highly significant in the context of the present study also. According to Rao, the training provided to the members of the different higher services immediately after recruitment should be particularly oriented towards acquiring knowledge and understanding of the problems of social policy and social development. Further a certain proportion of recruitment in the administration at intermediate and even higher levels should be outside the normal run of administrative services. Talents developed outside government institution in fields pertaining to one or other category of social development, would have a catalytic effect on the welfare administration and public administration. Prof Rao also emphasised that there is a problem of establishing appropriate connection between the state and voluntary agencies in organising welfare services. Welfare services have historically been built up by voluntary agencies. It is only later as the nature of the government changes that welfare services became an important part of governmental services and therefore a subject of public administration.
2.2.1.2.3 N. Viswanathan (1964) in his paper “Organising Research in Social Welfare Administration” is looking at welfare administration within a wider framework of relation between research, planning and social welfare policy. Though this paper does not contribute directly to the present study, it helps the researcher to know the various angles from which social welfare administration is looked at. He says that the results of the research could be usefully brought to bear on social welfare policy formation and evaluation of social welfare services. Hence, a link between the centers of research and the centers of policy formation in the field of social welfare should be established. He stressed that to make research in social welfare administration really effective and to derive the maximum social benefit from it, it will be necessary for the researcher to have freedom of access to vital sources of information and the authority to ask and to obtain relevant data for prospective research as well as for retrospective evaluation and powers to bring their findings officially to the attention of the policy makers. As the author had said the researcher expects to come up with some powerful findings in the present study that would contribute towards the administrative process in social welfare.

2.2.1.3 Regional Study

2.2.1.3.1 G. Narayana Pillai (1983) conducted “A Study on Social Welfare Services in Kerala” The purpose of the study was to bring out the net contribution of welfare services for various sections of the communities in Kerala with respect to the welfare needs manifested by various groups. The
study covered the entire state of Kerala. Fifty percent of the public and private agencies functioning in the field are included in the study. Personal interview, interview schedule and mailed questionnaire were also used. The major findings of the study, are that voluntary sector have more active contribution towards welfare than the government sector, only a very few needy approach the welfare institutions themselves, welfare programmes for children received prime attention, unmarried members were more associated with welfare institutions, poverty, problems of shelter and absence of parents were the main factors that led to institutionalisation. Seventy percent of the inmates are happy at the welfare institutions and females were more satisfied than men. Prof. Pillai suggested that rules of admission must be reviewed, programmes need to be strengthened and facilities need to be improved. This study has covered the entire field of social welfare in the state and has identified the contribution and limitation of welfare services in Kerala in its initial stage itself. Have the Government and Boards concerned been able to consider his suggestions and move further over the years? The present study is an attempt on this line with a focus on the field of child welfare.

All the above mentioned studies at international, national and regional levels have widened and deepened the researcher’s concept of welfare. These studies have helped in strengthening the researcher’s theoretical orientation as well as the practical aspects of welfare system. These studies have also made a point that adopting the right model and its meticulous implementation determines the success of welfare services. These studies will help the
researcher to analyse the empirical reality by standing on a strong theoretical platform and thereby enables to come up with concrete suggestions.

2.2.2 Social Welfare Manpower

However excellent a programme planned or policy is made, its benefit reaches the target group through the manpower employed to carry out these programmes. Therefore the efficiency and effectiveness of any welfare service depends on the personnel who work in that direction. Professional expertise is undoubtedly a necessity for social welfare manpower. Employing right person for the right task is an important function of welfare administration. Following are a series of studies conducted in the nation in different times and they reveal a real picture of social welfare manpower in India. Analysing these studies is very essential for the researcher as social welfare manpower constitutes one of the aspects analysed in the present study.

2.2.2.1 The Study Team of Social Welfare and Welfare of Backward Classes (1958-59) made the first serious attempt to study this problem from all aspects and estimate manpower requirement on the basis of sound principles and reliable though limited, empirical data. They made a three-fold classification of social welfare jobs as Administrative and Senior Supervisory Category, Intermediate Supervisory Category and Field level workers. They also suggested training programmes at three levels such as postgraduate, graduate and matriculation level for these categories of jobs respectively. The study team made an estimate of welfare personnel
requirements on the basis of the three categories of welfare jobs by taking into account the existing staff position at the centre and states as 4150 at graduate level, 3550 at undergraduate level and 8000 at matriculation level; a total of 15,700. This study is clearly indicating the need for professional social welfare manpower in the late 50s in our country. Let us find out whether the demand and supply for social welfare manpower ever matched in our country from the following studies and the facts regarding Kerala from the present study.

2.2.2.2 Gore and Ramachandran (1972) in the paper ‘Problems of Estimating Social Welfare Manpower and Manpower Requirement” discussed the problem of estimating social work manpower by drawing upon the data available till then. Their focus was on the requirements of professional social work manpower and their estimates was that there was 47.5% deficit in the demand and supply of trained personnel during the first plan and 60.1% during second plan and 67% during third plan and 80% during the fourth plan. This study clearly indicates that there was not only a gap between demand and supply in the manpower but the gap kept increasing. This finding is increasing the significance of the present study.

2.2.2.3 Social Welfare and Family Planning Department of UN (1976) carried out a study called “Social Welfare and Family Planning in Maharashtra State, India”. The focus of the study was on the family planning programmes carried out in Maharashtra in 1973. The study revealed that there was a combined total of three hundred social welfare positions out
of 6,516 persons employed fulltime in family planning in Maharashtra state. Not all of these 300 positions were actually filled by trained social workers. It is also concluded in the study that “most of the positions currently allocated to social workers in the national planning programmes are in the field of health extension education at the district level.” This study is further affirming the fact that the importance of trained personnel in providing welfare services is not recognised in any fields of social welfare. This is an administrative failure. In the present study also along with other aspects of administration; the proper utilisation of social welfare manpower is also looked into. The researcher hopes to find a different picture today.

2.2.2.4 Shankar Pathak (1978) in his book ‘Social Welfare Health and Family Planning in India”\(^\text{12}\) has explained that the study of the problem of social welfare manpower requirement in India suffers from several limitations like lack of firm data, uncertainty regarding future demand in the absence of advanced knowledge of programme sanctioned in the annual or five year plans and their staffing pattern, identification of social welfare jobs, job specifications, level of training required, etc. He suggested three approaches to the manpower assessment. Normative approach is based on rational criteria. For example, the frequently quoted norms for the doctors and nurses are usually stated in terms of a ratio like the doctor-population size, nurses-number of beds etc. In the field of social welfare no such norms have been developed and accepted, which create serious difficulties for calculating manpower estimates for the plan period. Secondly, he suggested the
subjective approach which is based on opinions of significant selected groups of individuals within a particular field in regard to the number of persons needed for employment in their respective organisation. The third approach is market demand approach in which information regarding the existing stock of manpower in a particular area need to be calculated first from employing organisations by collecting information regarding the number of persons already employed in different categories of jobs, then workout the likely ratio of increase on an annual or a quinquennial basis. Though all the three approaches have its own limitations, Shankar consider the third approach as relatively more reliable. In the present study, the researcher analyses whether any of these approaches have been adopted in meeting the social welfare manpower requirements in the field of child welfare in Kerala.

2.2.2.5 T.Krishnan Nair (1983) has conducted a study on “Social Welfare Manpower-A Study in Tamil Nadu”\(^{13}\). The objectives of his study were to identify social welfare positions in existing and proposed services in social welfare and other sectors, analyse functions performed by social welfare manpower at different levels, review the social welfare manpower, recruitment policy, determine future needs, assess the supply of trained welfare manpower, evaluate the performance of professional social workers and identify the administrative and other bottlenecks in the placement of trained social welfare manpower. Both government and non-government organisations from seven districts of Tamil Nadu were included in the study. Data collection was done through structured interview schedule. The study
revealed that professionalism was low in social welfare manpower in Tamil Nadu. In spite of the provision for direct recruitment of many posts, they were filled by promotion and hence most of the personnel were untrained. The study also revealed that salary and working conditions were also poor in both sectors. He recommended that professional education must be the minimum qualification for all posts including the Director of Social Welfare. Para-Social Welfare professionals also need to be trained in some certificate course. Further rehabilitation homes must be managed by experts. This study is also re-enforcing the systemic failure in the field of welfare administration and thus increases the significance of the present study.

2.2.2.6 Shankar Pathak (1983) has conducted a study titled, “Social Welfare Manpower; A Regional Study”\(^{14}\). This study covered Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. The major findings of this study regarding the welfare manpower in Uttar Pradesh and Delhi are that the field of social welfare is dominated by the state and large numbers of social welfare personnels are employed in government organisations. Those in NGOs sooner or later gravitate to the government sector. Professionalism of welfare personnel is twice better in Delhi than in Uttar Pradesh. Vast majority had a bachelor’s degree plus some in-service training in social work. Professional social workers felt that professional training is helpful in their present jobs and non professionals felt the other way. There has not been any well defined social welfare manpower policy in the areas included in this study. This study again is clearly stating the situation in UP and Delhi are not different from others though there can be slight variations in the percentage.
2.2.2.7 P. Ramachandran (1997) has conducted a study titled, “Social Welfare Manpower in Greater Bombay” with the objectives of comparing full time social workers with different levels of training in social work and to ascertain the characteristics of some social agencies, their immediate future plans and their views on different categories of social workers. Interview schedules were used. Respondents include 323 full time social workers in the several social agencies from different settings in Greater Bombay. The study found out that professionals are mainly found in medical and psychiatric settings and industrial setting. Family and child welfare and community setting had mostly non-professionals. In correctional setting, mostly untrained workers were employed and given some in-service training. The study also reveals that in case of professional social workers, 60% had undergone special training and 32% had undergone generic training in social work. He also found out that professionals were drawing higher salary than others but majority of them were dissatisfied with their emoluments where as non-professionals were satisfied though they were the poorest paid. Employers preferred professionals for functions such as supervision, research, policy making and the like. He suggested compulsory training for welfare personnel and the need to evolve a realistic social welfare manpower policy in the country. If the situation of Bombay in 1997 is this, in spite of the fact that the pioneer School of Social Work has been producing qualified hands every year in the state; the situation could be much worse in the other parts of the country.
All these studies establish the fact that the need for professional social workers in planning, implementing and evaluating welfare services were never recognised by both government and non-government sector. The difference that professional expertise could bring in this field is ignored by the administrators of all times. Until and unless professionalism is instilled in the welfare services, the life of beneficiaries in different settings are not going to change. Hence it is high time that the welfare administration realise this systemic failure and take necessary steps. The researcher intends a thorough analysis of the welfare manpower situation in Kerala in the present study.

2.3 Child Welfare

Protection of children is primarily the responsibility of the families. When families fail in this regard state assumes the responsibility because children are a national asset and future of the nation. Efforts to substitute their family life give rise to child welfare services. These services can be community based or institutional. The main aim of these services is to compensate for the lost family support and provide all opportunities for their development to emerge as responsible citizens. But we have not seen the welfare system bringing out such talented and responsible citizens. Instead they appear to be the most disadvantaged group who face numerous barriers in their development. The present study is an evaluation of the institutional services for children in Kerala. Understanding the child welfare system in India and abroad will only be of great help to the researcher and hence available studies on these lines are analysed here.
2.3.1 Child Welfare System

Unfortunately all children are not born into safe families. Sometimes within the families they are deprived of parental affection, neglected and subjected to cruelty. This situation enforces institutionalisation on them and that is how child welfare system acquires significance. The child welfare system generally operates to protect children. Present study is an attempt to overview residential care for children and efforts made by government and non-government organisations. Before proceeding with the present study, various aspects of child welfare system world wide is analysed by the researcher.

2.3.1.1 International Studies

2.3.1.1.1 David Jaffe (1982) in his book “Child Welfare in Israel” describes the panorama of child welfare services in Israel. This book helps us to understand how child welfare services grew up in Israel in response to the problems similar to other western, industrial, technologically oriented countries. The significant aspect of child welfare services in Israel is keeping the family as the main unit and by offering appropriate help to the family as a whole which will consequently help the child. David Jaffé says that the use of day care in Israel has increased due to policy considerations and training of day care staff is also given importance. Income maintenance is one of the most important supportive services to families and major security programmes in Israel that support children and families during economic crisis. Adoption and foster care in Israel is also totally managed by the
government. De-institutionalisation trend at government level in child care in Israel is discussed in the book by the author. Foster care, adoption and de-institutionalisation were discussed and practiced at government level at Israel way back in 1982, whereas in the child welfare scene in India there is increasing institutionalisation and less of adoption and almost no foster care even today. The chapters in this book guide the researcher in considering the right aspects and current trends while evaluating the child care system. The author also made some suggestions which can be helpful for developing countries like India.

2.3.1.2 John Dixon and Hyung Shik Kim (1985) in the book “Social Welfare in Asia” analyses the social welfare system in major countries of Asia. In the context of the present study, this book helps the researcher to understand how child welfare system functions in various countries. It is understood that in the Chinese society dependence on family is always emphasised than on the state. Children and youth are outside the scope of social security in Hong Kong unless they are members of families dependent on public assistance or they have severe disabilities. Institutional services, foster care home, child recreation centers and day nurseries form the child welfare services in Japan. In South Korea, child welfare services are the core of social welfare system and include supportive, supplementary and substitute services. In Malaysia child welfare services are focusing on resolving problems rather than merely providing a residual basis to individuals. In Philippines, the welfare of children are the responsibilities of government and non-government agencies. In Sri Lanka it is the
responsibility of the Department of Probation and child care. In Taiwan primary responsibility for child welfare is with family. The Thailand Government has planned much to promote welfare of children through institutional care, adoption, foster care, family support services and rehabilitation facilities for handicapped, financial support for children of low income families and the like. However, this work gives the researcher an insight into the overall picture of social welfare system and child welfare services in these nations and also offers some points for comparison later on.

2.3.1.1.3 Pat Young (1995) in his book “Mastering Social Welfare” focuses on the legal framework of care and protection of children and provision for children and young people in United Kingdom. The Children Act implemented in 1989 forms the legal base of child welfare in United Kingdom which is a combination of various earlier acts. Under this act, local authorities have a duty to protect children in their area. This duty is carried out by the social workers in the social service departments. The law provides for a number of court orders which give social workers powers to intervene in families. Cases involving children are dealt within the family proceedings court which is more informal. This aspect is seen in India as well. The welfare services for children in United Kingdom include foster parents, residential care, and rehabilitation programmes. This study also reveals certain aspects of child welfare system in United Kingdom such as importance given to social workers in child welfare, provision to protect the child within families, partnership between parents and local authorities etc that can be attempted in our system as well.
2.3.1.1.4 Gavin Heron and Mono Chakrabarthisi (2003) in the study “Exploring the Perception of Staff towards Children and Young People Living in Community based Children’s Home” examines the perceptions of staff working in community based Children’s Homes. Data from interviews with staff, using the repertory grid technique was analysed and presented in the form of a case study. Particular consideration is given to the child-worker relationship and how it might affect the quality of care provided. The findings of the study suggest that despite significant changes in the residential sector, many staff feel powerless to address the real issues and problem affecting children. Rather than confront the realities of the situation and implement strategies that empower staff, it would appear that current developments in social work continue to de-prioritize the needs of children. The authors argue that a functional change in residential care is needed if social work is to meet the needs of many of the most vulnerable children in society. Staff-Children relationship in institutions is one aspect of administration scrutinised in the present study as well. The facts about it in the State of Kerala will be revealed in the later chapters of the thesis.

2.3.1.1.5 Jonathan Dickens and Victor Groza (2004) in the article “Empowerment in Difficulty: A Critical Appraisal of International Intervention in Child Welfare in Romania” discussed the case of child welfare reform in Romania in order to illustrate the potentials and the pitfalls of international intervention. They aimed to identify some of the problems caused by reactive, crisis-oriented international intervention and highlight the
need for implementing empowerment approaches. They identified that the foreign aid led to the growing of NGOs in Romania which never registered with government and hence government had no accurate idea on how to co-ordinate these multiple efforts. Some activities even led to the loss of job for those who previously did these tasks. While a lot of resources were spent on institutionalised children, poverty of local communities were ignored which resulted in stealing of resources from institutions and international intervention also did not undertake activities for the staff. Though later some government based social services grew, it suffered from lack of resources, inadequate legislative framework, economic crisis and political inertia in both central and local government. The authors identified the need for re-orientation of international activity. They also suggested international intervention based on principles of vision, discovery of need, focus on strength resources, problems and deficits, recognition of the universality of social conditions, developmental perspective and recognition of the community context of change. The points made in this article are not only relevant in the international intervention in child welfare in Romania but has relevance in the planning and administration of social welfare programmes for any target group any where not only in the context of international intervention but in the national context also.

2.3.1.1.6 Committee on Education and Work Force (2004) had conducted “A study on the Child Welfare System in United States” and found widespread problems existing in the field. The study reveals that a
majority of the states meet just half or fewer of the fourteen measures used by the federal government to determine the well-being of children in the child welfare system. The report says that over half of the states responding to the survey reported that insufficient funding served as a major barrier to improving their child welfare systems. This report gives enough evidence that the common problems in the child welfare system such as high case loads, rapid turnover of case workers, inadequate training and funding shortages for preventive services would hinder the ability to ensure that children are living in safe and loving homes. The study highlighted that majority of the states need to make improvements in several areas. This study can be considered as a warning for developing nations because if problems such as lack of funds, training, preventive services and the like are existing and hampering the child welfare system in a developed nation like United States, then it would be foolish to have hopes in the welfare system in developing nations where the social, economic and political circumstances are unstable and critical. These aspects enhance the significance of the present study.

2.3.1.1.7 Philip Mendes(2005) in the study “Graduating From the Child Welfare System: A Case Study of Leaving Care Debate in Victoria, Australia” have found that young people leaving care experience homelessness, early parenthood, loneliness, depression, poverty, involvement with the juvenile justice system etc and that there is not enough provision for transitional or after-care programmes in Victoria. One significant reason as observed by him for this situation is the policy fragmentation between
respective states and territories. Australia lacks any national leaving care legislation or intervention. Another factor is the relative poverty and narrowness of Australian political debates. The study reveals that both political parties stress on economic competence rather than promoting fairer outcomes for disadvantaged groups. The study has also identified supports and services that needed to ensure improved outcomes for care leavers which include provision of stable and supportive placement. Any welfare programme remains incomplete in the absence of effective after-care programmes. The problems of inadequate after care programmes identified by Philip Mendes have a universal relevance. Adequacy of after care programmes in our nation is a subject of present investigation and the facts revealed by Mendes may be compared with the Indian scenario as well.

2.3.1.1.8 Carmel.R.Mathias (2005) in the article “Promoting Proactive Services and an Intersectoral Approach on Behalf of Children: An Important New South African Initiative” explains and evaluates a creative new service-delivery mechanism proposed in South Africa. In particular, this article investigates the potential of this framework for successfully integrating services for children and for promoting proactive programmes in ways that may be relevant for child welfare reformers in other systems. A major failing of child protection in South Africa as observed by C.R.Mathias is a fragmentation of services and poor collaboration between government and non-government sector. 2002 Draft Children Bill aim to expand the role of municipalities in the provision of prevention and early
intervention services for children. The local governments tend to be well placed to determine the types of problems being experienced by children in their areas. The bill entitles the municipalities for optimal use of scarce resources and to function cost-effectively according to the prioratised needs of the children and provide recreational facilities for children. Carmel.R.Mathias observes this bill as an innovative plan to improve service delivery and to direct government policy by means of legislative provisions that could help to make the UN Convention of Child Rights a reality and create new legal rights for children.

2.3.1.1.9 Population Council (2006) is currently involved in a study titled “Evaluation of Services for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Tanzania, Uganda and Mozambique”24. Population council is providing technical assistance to ‘Africare’ to design and conduct an assessment of the Community-based Orphan care, Protection and Empowerment (COPE) project, which provides support to orphans and vulnerable children and their families in Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda. A baseline survey was conducted in 2006, intended as the first stage in a series of quantitative and qualitative research activities to conduct an impact assessment of the COPE services. COPE aims to strengthen the capacities of the families and children to meet their needs by providing a range of interventions designed to enhance community capacity, provide life skill training, peer education and psycho-social care and support and increased access to education, health care, nutritional and income generating activities. COPE is worth experimenting in India.
2.3.1.2 National Studies

2.3.1.2.1 Swaran Latha Hooja (1963) had conducted a study on ‘Social Welfare Legislation and Administration Affecting Children in Delhi’\(^{25}\). This study attempts to study the problems of legislations and the functioning of administrative agencies for child welfare within Delhi. This study is historical and descriptive and is based on observations in various child welfare institutions visited. Legal enactments were analysed and persons connected with child welfare were interviewed. The study revealed that the legislations relating to the welfare of children in Delhi is more like a patchwork than a planned code. The legislations directly or indirectly deal different aspects of children’s welfare but neither deal with all aspects nor constitute a children’s code which could give an overall idea of existing legislations. This study also reveals that government organisations are inadequate in providing facilities of education, vocational training and the like. The researcher has suggested a need for clear cut policy regarding child welfare and quick filling up of the gap in child welfare legislation and increase the competence of administrative agency. This study is emphasising the limitations of legislations and administrative agencies for child welfare. It is not unreasonable to suppose that things would have changed or atleast bettered over the years.

2.3.1.2.2. Goyal.C.P (1975-1976) conducted a study on” Child Welfare in U.P: A Study of Policies, Programmes and Institutional Arrangements”\(^{26}\). The main objectives of this study were to study the
structure of child welfare agencies, their ongoing programmes and resources, positions and limitations and to identify the priorities of child welfare institutions with particular reference to emerging needs of the inmates. Four government and non-government organisations are covered in the study. Investigation included children, staff and management selected on the basis of stratified proportionate random sampling. Observation guide, interview schedule, reviews of agency records were used for data collection. The major findings of the study are that government organisations had more number of inmates, pre-institutional life of majority were satisfactory, voluntary agencies were more liberal in functioning, recreation facilities were satisfactory in both sectors etc. The study suggested grants-in-aid for NGOs, comprehensive system of family welfare agencies, non-residential institutions, etc for improving the then system. The findings of this study give a balanced picture of child welfare agencies in Uttar Pradesh. Both the good and bad aspects are revealed. This study has included various categories of institutions for children therefore its findings are general. In the present study the focus is on institutional care for children in need of care and protection alone and hence is more focused and the findings and suggestions will be more specific.

2.4 Institutional Services

The sole purpose of institutional care is to compensate for the lost family atmosphere in a child’s life. It is to be viewed as a temporary arrangement. Institutionalisation is in fact an intermediary phase in a child’s
life that equips him in every way and helps him in social and familial rehabilitation. The present study is in the direction of analysing the effectiveness of institutional services for children in attaining this goal in Kerala. Several studies had been conducted on similar lines in India and abroad. Those studies are reviewed here to gain a better insight for the present study.

2.4.1 International Studies

2.4.1.1 Ruth Emond (2003) in the article “Putting the Care into Residential Care; The Role of Young People” draws on the findings of an ethnographic study of two Children’s Homes in Scotland. Eight children between twelve to eighteen years are included in the study. A participant observation approach is adopted to collect data. Though various aspects of institutional care are widely discussed, the peer group influence or group behaviour is usually underlooked. In this study, Ruth focusses on young people’s use of support in residential care. It was found that support was provided in a number of ways, from material provision to advice. The author says that while arguing for the individualisation of care, it is also necessary to encourage positive group behaviours. Group behaviour and group influence are very important aspects from the point of view of beneficiaries of institutional care as it can mould or re-shape their attitude and character. Group work is one of the methods of social work that can develop positive group behaviour. In the present study as well, the prevalence and outcome of group work in the residential care of children in Kerala is looked into.
2.4.1.2 Mark Smith’s (2003) article “Towards a Professional Identity and Knowledge Base: Is Residential Child Care Still Social Work”\textsuperscript{28} is contributing towards the theoretical framework of residential care. This article raises the question of whether residential child care can achieve a professional identity within social work. It outlines the development of services for children and young people in Scotland and highlights some of the tensions apparent in efforts to conceptualise residential child care within social work knowledge and identity paradigms. He suggests that if residential child care has to attain professional status, there need to be shifts in the ways in which it is conceptualized. The scope of such changes can happen to social work need to be subjected for an open debate. This article has much relevance in the context of the present study because it is very important for the residential care to be conceptualised as a method of social work if it has to bring about the desired results anywhere. The significant point that this study emphasise is that any defects in the residential care could be traced back to the way it is conceptualised and improvement in the system will require a re-conceptualisation of residential child care within social work knowledge and identity paradigms. This is a valuable piece of information for the researcher before analysing institutional services for children in Kerala.

2.4.2 National Studies

2.4.2.1 Vishaka Dixit (1964) in the article ‘Child Welfare in Madhya Pradesh”\textsuperscript{29} is evaluating the performance of child welfare institutions in the state. She reveals the sad state of affairs of the child welfare
institutions and offers some suggestions. She says that majority of the institutions are not run on scientific lines with a definite objective and lack opportunities for a balanced and all-round development of a child. Institutions are facing problems such as over crowding, less physical facilities, lack of trained personnel, lacks of funds and so on. Some institutions resort to undesirable methods and practices for raising funds such as sending the inmates of the homes for begging. They fail to provide regular schooling as well. This article reveals that most of the institutions in Madhya Pradesh are lacking the essential elements for giving ample opportunities for the balanced and all-round development of the child. The present study also focuses on analysing the awareness and initiative of the administration in this regard.

2.4.2.2 G.R.Mada and A.B.Singh(1976) in the article ‘Problems of Social Welfare Agencies in U.P’ based on the Conference on Welfare Agencies held at Varanasi in 1975, found the shortcomings of child welfare agencies as well. Some orphanages lacked clientele with lot of resources while others lacked resources and were over crowded. This difficulty could be solved if they agreed to co-ordinate their activities by periodical meetings and share their views and experience. They also suggested the appointment of a study team to prepare a special code for the smooth functioning of the institutions and also a case study of the institutions concerned is recommended to promote the rehabilitation services. They also suggested an innovative method of allocating funds from the state lotteries for social welfare activities. This article reveals the fact that social welfare institutions
lack efficiency and face some common problems. Hence a study on similar lines has great relevance even today and sometimes twenty years later as well.

2.4.2.3 K.D. Sikka’s (1982) study “After Care Programmes for Juveniles, Where Does it Stand Today”\(^{31}\) is reviewed here because institutional care and after care cannot be viewed separately. They are so much dependent on each other that without one’s effectivity, the other’s achievements are adversely affected. After care is an extension of institutional care and hence a study on institutional care need to give due importance to after care services as well. In the present study also the provisions and effectiveness of after care services are looked into. Sikka’s study states that after care services are very limited and those who reach there are not adequately equipped in vocational training and have poor scholastic achievements and there is also a lack of case work services. Therefore those in after-care could not be placed occupationally and this leads to disappointment among inmates. This study reveals that very many improvements are to be brought about in institutional care and after care services must also be developed side by side.

2.4.2.4 Dr.D.K. Lal Das (1988) had conducted a study - “Evaluation study of the scheme of welfare for children in need of care and protection in Andhra Pradesh”\(^{32}\). This study was confined to those organisations that received grants under the scheme in the state of Andhra Pradesh in the year 1986-1988. 28 institutions out of 52 were selected for the study. The objectives were to assess the functioning of the scheme in Andhra
Pradesh, misuse of funds by voluntary agencies, the standards of services and the support of the state government in implementation of the scheme. The study revealed that majority of the institutions provided educational and rehabilitation services regularly but recreational and cultural programmes were occasional. Vocational training, case work and grants received were inadequate. Majority of the institutions were concentrated in the Guntur district. The study suggested that all house mothers need to be trained in counselling skills. The minimum qualification for the heads of the institution should be graduation and the government should extent financial and administrative support. The findings of the study have only increased the significance of the present study. Here, the researcher’s aim is also to evaluate the programmes and identify the flaws of administration and hope to offer suggestions that would improve the system.

The above mentioned studies are depicting the true picture of institutional services at international and national levels. These studies have analysed the institutional care from different angles such as from an administrative angle, beneficiaries’ angle, evaluatory view point and from the point of view of approach towards institutional care. All these studies have increased the researcher’s understanding of various aspects of institutional care. These studies provide the researcher a strong knowledge base to progress with the present study.

2.5 Institutionalised Children

The focus of the current study is to identify the problems of welfare
administration in the context of institutional services for children. The ultimate aim of this study is to improve the system in the benefit of the institutionalised children. In that sense the subject of study are institutionalised children. Following are a series of studies on various aspects of institutionalised children. Reviewing them will enable the researcher in understanding the crucial aspects of institutionalisation to be considered in the present study as well.

2.5.1 International Studies

2.5.1.1 Diane. De Panfilis (1999) in the paper “Intervening with Families when Children are Neglected” proposes that intervention strategies must be based on the field’s best collective knowledge and experience. According to him, the goal of intervention is to help families within communities to meet the basic needs. Interventions are geared to increase the stability of families to successfully nurture their children by enabling families to use resources and opportunities in the community that will help them alleviate stress, overcome knowledge and skill deficits and build and maintain care giving competencies. This article is contributing more towards theoretical framework of supporting neglected children and is talking about family based rehabilitation of neglected children which should be the ultimate aim of all services for children.

2.5.1.2 Elaine Farmer (2006) is currently involved in a research titled “The Case Management and Outcomes of Neglected Children: A six year follow-up study of neglected children who have been looked after
This study includes 180 cases and will examine case management and links between interventions and outcomes for the children since the cases were first referred up to the six year follow-up point. Multivariate analysis is expected to provide information about the key factors which distinguish between poorer outcomes for the children and parents at the six year follow-up point and the characteristics of neglected children and their families for whom return is very unlikely to work. This study draws the attention of the researcher towards the importance of case management to keep children safe and contribute to improved outcomes in cases of neglect. Efficiency of case management in institutional care in Kerala is certainly one area of focus of the present study.

2.5.2 National Studies

2.5.2.1 The ultimate aim of institutional service is rehabilitation, i.e., to resettle the inmates in a wider society. There is a close link between the skills and competence that a child acquires from the institution and his or her rehabilitation. S.P. Punalekar (1985) in his paper “The Rehabilitation of Institutionalised Children: A Case Study” is trying to explore these links. It is a case study of 49 ex-inmates from eleven child welfare institutions from Gujarat. The objectives of this study were to analyse the socio-economic conditions of ex-inmates, their past institutional life and its use in the life outside. The study revealed that majority of the ex-inmates learned skills like personal hygiene, punctuality, behaviour etiquette, cleanliness, reading, writing and so on within institutions. They lacked some vital skills such as
marketing, accounting and the like. Institutional life helped them in certain aspects but a critical gap is also identified. This study done in 1980s has revealed the existence of drawbacks in the rehabilitation facilities of institutional care. The present study conducted twenty years later on the administration of institutional services is looking into the effectiveness of rehabilitation services also. Researcher expects to come up with some remarkable changes in the present system in the state of Kerala.

2.5.2.2 Suman Somen.k.(1986) had conducted a research on “Mental Health Status of Children in Orphanages in Bangalore”36. This study was a venture to assess the need of mental health services for children in institutions. The emphasis throughout has been on identifying the facts that are associated with the poor mental health status of children and on ascertaining the nature and scope for implementing Mental Health Programmes in institutions. This is an exploratory study. 300 children from sixteen institutions in Bangalore are included in the study. The study suggested the need to extent Mental Health services to these orphanages and improve the morale of caretakers and also changes in the structural and functional aspects of institutional system. This study finally points towards the inefficiency of welfare administration. It is trying to make the administration aware of the existence of the above mentioned problems in the institutional services. In the present study also due importance is given to analyse how far the institutions are providing services that will cater to the mental health and developmental needs of its beneficiaries.
2.5.2.3 Divya Nagar (1986) had conducted “A Study of the Socio-Psychological Problems and Personality Variables of the Deprived Children Living in the Destitute Homes of Rajasthan”\textsuperscript{37}: She used survey and case study methods and found that the unwholesome environment of destitute homes made them more problematic. They become maladjusted and lack opportunity to develop stable, emotional ties with adults. They had unrealistic aspirations and irritability. She suggested that the facilities in homes be improved and the caretaker appointed need to be trained and qualified at the same time affectionate, communicable and responsible. This study has proved that the atmosphere of destitute homes and attitude and competence of the staff do have a hand on the development of children. How far the welfare administration of our state is aware of this fact and how good or bad is the atmosphere and attitude of the Children’s Homes and services provided in Kerala will be revealed in the later chapters of this thesis.

The aim of institutionalisation is not only to provide material comforts to the children. Their character formation, moulding their outlook, personality development, development of positive self image, their mental health, etc are also areas of equal concern for the institutions. All the above mentioned studies establish that institutions fail miserably in this task. This has placed a big responsibility on the researcher to find out through the present study how and why our administration fails and what can be done to improve the present state.

2.6 Adoption and Foster Care

The sole purpose of institutional care is to compensate for the lost
family support in every child’s life. Though various services are offered for them within the institution such as food, shelter, clothing, education, recreation, vocational training, and so on, adoption and foster care services are the only ways to re-establish them in a family atmosphere. Later chapters of this thesis would reveal the facts regarding the provision and practice of adoption and foster care services in the field of institutional care in Kerala. Here, let us consider some latest studies on adoption and foster care and understand its significance and contribution towards child welfare. Studies presented here are done at international level.

2.6.1 International Studies

2.6.1.1 Michael Horsburgh(1977) in the paper ‘Child Care in New South Wales in 1890’ seeks to assess the foster care system in its first ten years of operation and concludes that the new system did work and it altered the face of child care in New South Wales in a permanent way. Foster care is still the official and preferred method of alternative care for dependent children there. He revealed problems of the new system as well. The inspection arrangements were carried out by untrained persons with ample opportunity for the exercise of personal whim and group prejudice. The question of exploitation of labour of children also remained unresolved. Some children returned to the institutions or relatives as well. But the lady visitors also reported that children were treated as members of the family. The author here re-inforces the importance of foster care by reframing the question before policy makers from what is the best form of alternative care for children to what is the best available form of alternative care. This article encourages the
researcher to look into the role of foster care services in the child care system of Kerala.

2.6.1.2 University of Illinois (2005) had conducted a study on “Accepting the Challenge of Substance Use in Family Reunification” under Joseph Ryas. This study is based on the fact that seventy percent of the Illinois children are in foster care due to drug abuse or alcoholism of their parents. Though this study is focusing on the impact of drug and alcohol abuse of parents on children and how they can be reunified, it reveals a very significant point in the context of the present study, i.e. not only institutionalised children are given in foster care but also those who belong to an unfit family. This in turn underlines the importance of foster care in making a difference to the lives of many children. Therefore role of adoption and foster care in institutional care can never be looked down upon.

2.6.1.3 Julia K. Sells (2006) in her study “Child Welfare Privatisation Reform Efforts in the States” points to the horrors of the current system in United States. Foster care payments as uncapped entitlements create a perverse financial incentives to states that keep children in foster care. Despite twelve billion dollars poured annually into the system, the number of children in foster care has nearly doubled since the mid-80s with half a million children living in out of home care nation wide. Performance incentives that put family reunification before child safety further consign children to foster-care and discourage adoption. Sells documents heart-breaking case studies of children sent back to these families only to be further abused or killed. To reverse this alarming trend Sells
recommends time limits be placed on family reunification and adoption. She offers examples of successful reform efforts in number of states including the privatisation of child welfare programmes in Kansas. This study helps us to know that the perspective in United States towards foster care is in terms of reforming the system, where as even today in our nation we find it difficult to see foster care being practiced. Therefore a study on foster care system is a distant reality in India.

2.6.1.4 Doug Bandow (2006) in a study “Adopting Reform: The Need for Change in America’s Family Court and Foster Care system and a Survey of Reform Efforts” reveals that any reforms to the current foster care system must also address the family courts, which are permeated by a culture of delay. Bandow finds the family court system understaffed and besieged by bureaucracy needlessly prolonging the processing of child welfare cases. According to Bandow, upto one-quarters of the children come from the system without ever being placed with a family. Many of these children end up homeless or in prison. Bandow catalogs reforms across all fifty states that make the court system more efficient and includes success stories of reform in states like Kansas and Michigan. This study also confirms the need for a serious reform in the child welfare system in United States. Simultaneously it also confirms the importance of a well organised foster care system for the speedy movement of children into safe, permanent homes. The researcher having understood this fact is giving serious attention in analysing the foster care system in our state in the present study.
2.6.1.5 Elaine Farmer (2006, ongoing project) is currently involved in a research titled “An Investigation of Linking and Matching in Adoption” which aims to investigate the factors that will contribute to making a good match between prospective adopters and children. i.e., which kind of children will best fit with which kind of adoptive parents and which process of linking children to adopters appear most beneficial in United Kingdom. This will be done by conducting a survey that will provide a clear picture of linking and matching practices nationally and help to identify innovative and promising practices. A range of innovative approaches as well as more routine practices will then be examined through a catch up prospective study of 150 children from five to ten CSSRS (Council with Social Responsibilities) and voluntary adoption agencies with sixty of them followed in real time during the process of matching for new adoptions, until six months into placement. This group of sixty children newly placed for adoption will be followed up through in-depth interviews to develop an understanding of the experiences of the prospective adopters, children and social workers. This study by Elaine Farmer is expected to have some significant findings and innovative suggestions that would drive fears and doubts about this practice and promote best practice and provide these children with stable and predictable family experiences. The practice of adoption and foster care services in institutional setting in Kerala will be analysed in the later chapters of this thesis keeping these aspects in the researcher’s mind.
2.6.1.6 Elaine Farmer (2006) is currently involved in another project as well titled “Supports and Outcomes of Placements in One Independent Fostering Agency in UK”\(^{43}\). The aim of this study is firstly to examine the progress and outcomes over one year period of sample of new placements, drawn from those made by Foster Care Associates. Secondly, to investigate the supports and services provided to the placed child and care during the placement and thirdly to consider the relationship between supports, factors within the child and other factors and the outcomes of placements. This will include an examination of the impact of the implementation of the new therapeutic service on the outcomes of children in placements with Foster Care Associates. This study adopts a holistic approach to foster care and gives the researcher insight on various, aspects to be considered (such as how the foster care is progressing, how are the children benefited by it, are the services provided according to the needs of children, etc) while analysing the foster care services.

The contribution of above mentioned studies towards the present study is that they confirm the fact that major contemporary concern in the child welfare is how best to use adoption and foster care to provide stability and permanence for children whose own parents are not able to care for them consistently or predictably. It also reveals that developed countries are thinking in terms of reforming the existing adoption and foster care services. All these point towards one single aspect that foster care and adoption can never be ignored or underlooked while analysing child welfare services. It
also reveals and re-in forces that the ultimate aim of institutional care should be de-institutionalisation, i.e., institutional care should be a temporary means that will help the child either to re-unite with his or her own family or to find a substitute family. In this study the researcher will analyse how close or how far is the child welfare institutions in Kerala are towards this reality.

2.7 Non Governmental Organisations

Non-Governmental organisations undoubtedly have made their presence known in the field of social welfare. Though earlier they attempted at ‘symptom relief, today they represent major forces for social change, providing direct and indirect services to millions of people throughout the world. Hence social welfare cannot be discussed leaving the non-government sector behind. Both the government and non-government sector together gives the complete picture of social welfare in our nation and in the present study also the researcher is giving equal importance to both sectors. Some of the studies mentioned earlier under the heading of institutional care were conducted in NGOs, but the articles and studies that widens our perspective on NGOs in theoretical terms are discussed below.

2.7.1 International Studies

2.7.1.1 Julie Birkemaier, Doris, Mc.Gartland and Maria Berg-Werger (2002) have conducted a study on “Human Services Non-Profit Agencies-Studying the Impact of Policy Changes”44. This study examines the effect of current policies on non-profit agencies in the areas of service delivery, social work practice and field education in USA. The study found that recent
developments and social policy changes have impacted upon non profit agencies and transformed services thereby changing the service delivery system. Services for clients have changed and agencies are challenged to meet client’s needs with new constraints. Social workers in this environment have been faced with the challenge of developing new skills to respond to the political climate while continuing to meet client’s needs. In the present study as well, the researcher is analysing how competent and skilled is our non-government sector in meeting the client’s needs. The fact highlighted by this study is that there is a need for the agency’s administrators and social workers to assess and respond continuously to their environment as they seek to provide the most effective and efficient services to clients. This is applicable everywhere.

2.7.1.2 Sherri Roff (2004) in the article “Non-Government Organisations-The Strength Perspective at Work” is talking about a new model of NGOs, i.e., the strength perspective. This model encompasses an approach to social work practice that emphasises the strengths and resources of the people and their environments, rather than their problems and pathologies. This model is organised around four generations. First generation offers immediate relief, second one develops the capacity of the people and enables communities to meet their needs through self reliant local action, third generation links the change initiative to the national system and the fourth one aims at energising a critical mass in support of a social vision. In this model the core values of social work are involved.
2.7.2 National Studies

2.7.2.1 Dr. Mirza R. Ahmed (1975) conducted a study on “Administration and Development of Social Welfare Agencies in Kaval Towns of U.P”\(^46\)

The main objectives of this study were to analyse the growth of voluntary welfare agencies, its organisation, welfare policy, services, finances and personnel and to analyse the socio-economic characteristics of the clients, their problems and extent of utilisation of services. All the voluntary organisations were included in the study and ten percent of total number of clients was selected from each home on a random basis. Interview schedule and record performa were used for the study. The study revealed that only 18% showed growth in terms of staff and services. Most of the agencies rendered services irrespective of caste and religion. Problems that led to institutionalisation were found as poverty, lack of education, physical disability and orphandom. Most of the clients had a favourable attitude towards the organisations. The study suggested strict control and supervision of the agency, appointment of qualified personnel, establishment of community chests, etc. This study reveals that in spite of the spirit of service which is the motivational factor for NGOs, they are not free from limitations. They do have scope for improvement. In the later chapters non government sector in Kerala will be analysed on similar lines.

2.7.2.2 Dr. K.D. Gangrade and Dr. R. Sooryamoorthy (1997) in the article “NGOs Today”\(^47\) are analysing the face of non-government sector; in modern world. They say that this sector is changing day by day and their
work has influenced the government policies and programmes and have been successful enough to change the attitude of government towards the neglected sections. Despite all these, the recent trends in their activities in the country are disheartening. Close examination reveals that some NGOs harness funds and resources and do not meet the needs of the people. A new species of NGOs have emerged, they grow institutionally and functions formally. Buildings, staff and funds become pre-requisite for these new species. Employing professionals, paying handsome salaries, implementing projects designed by donor agencies, etc are the features of modern NGOs. Authors also say that professionalism destroys the spirit of service. This article is critical about the changing face of NGOs. The researcher understands from this study the need for NGOs to maintain a balance between modernity and traditional way of functioning. On these lines, the role of NGOs will be analysed in this thesis.

There is no doubt that NGOs will continue to play a crucial role in the welfare and developmental activities of the nation in the coming days as well. The above mentioned studies emphasise the fact that NGOs ‘will have to re-mould their way of functioning and assume a wider role in the era of liberalisation and globalisation. Let us find out what the present study has to contribute towards this statement.

2.8 Conclusion

Review of literature has benefited the researcher in strengthening the knowledge base and offered a strong theoretical platform for the researcher to
carry out the investigation. This survey has updated the researcher on the
trends in child welfare. Studies conducted abroad shows that the trend in child
welfare is towards de-institutionalisation. Foster care and adoption are
practiced abroad and institutionalisation is the last resort. Unlike we do not
find many studies on adoption and foster care in India. The researcher also got
familiarised with the research methodology through this survey. International,
national and regional studies in various periods have increased the
researcher’s understanding of the shortcomings in the field of child welfare
services as well. Further this has offered the researcher some points for
comparison. This review inspires the researcher to think in terms of
innovative suggestions as well.

Review of literature also revealed some facts about the earlier studies
which in turn increases the significance of the present study. The researcher
understands that most of the studies in India on child welfare focus on various
issues and problems of children which in turn create a need for welfare. But
not much study is conducted on child welfare system from an administrative
angle. Further, studies on institutional services and institutionalised children
in Kerala are mostly done by students of social work and sociology as part of
their curriculum. There is an absence of a serious attempt. The studies by
students are based on one or two institutions, hence it cannot be generalised.
Most of the studies in India are descriptive. Studies on evaluatory nature are
less. In India studies on child welfare institutions and programmes are
fragmented. They concentrate on any single aspect of institutional care or its
administration. A holistic approach involving the evaluation of the entire system is absent.

The significance of the present study lies in the fact that it analyses the institutional services from an administrative point of view. This study has a holistic approach, in the sense that, all the components of institutional administration are a subject of investigation in this study. Further it covers the entire government sector and a fair representation of non-government sector from all districts of the state. This study plan to make use of various tools such as interview schedules, focused interview, observations and, case studies in drawing the true picture of the institutional care system in the state. The researcher also expects to come up with some innovative suggestions and plan to present the recommendations to the policy makers and administrators because the primary and utmost concern of the researcher in this study is the benefit of the institutionalised children.

2.9 Notes and References


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