CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

The problem of child labour has moved from a matter of regional and national concern to one of international debate and in recent years, the issue of child labour has increasingly drawn the attention of policy-makers, governments, non-governmental organizations, and international agencies. Despite general acceptance that child labour is harmful and having international accords aimed at its eradication, progress on lowering the incidence of child labour has been slow. Child labour in general, and child caring in particular, has been placed firmly in the dialectical universe of human rights (Aldridge and Becker, 1995). The issue of child labour has been gaining considerable international attention particularly as it is linked to the rights of the child. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), adopted by the General Assembly in 1989, calls for the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and any work that is likely to be hazardous, interfere with the child’s education or harmful to the child’s health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. Since the beginning of the 1990s, child labour has become the focus of increasing attention, in developing as well as in developed countries. As a result, practical action against child labour in the form of policies, programmes and projects has been building up on an unprecedented scale. The struggle against child labour has thus gained momentum and a wide variety of actors have joined in, including governments, NGOs, trade unions, employers' organizations, and international organizations, to name just a few (Colombini, 2008).

The problem of child labour continues to pose a challenge before the nation. Child labour represents a fundamental abuse of child rights and a violation of various child related laws. India has the dubious distinction of being the nation with the largest number of child labourers in the world. A large number of children in India are engaged in labour that is hindering their education, development and livelihoods, even many of them are involved in the worst forms of child labour that cause serious physical or psychological damage, and even threaten their lives. Children’s
engagement in occupations negatively affects their physical, mental and emotional well being. This situation represents an intolerable violation of the rights of children, it perpetuates poverty and it compromises economic growth and equitable development. It harms not only the present generation but also the posterity.

The International year of the child was celebrated in 1979 and since then working children and their problems have been receiving the attention of researchers, voluntary organizations, activists and the media. Described as a vexed problem, child labour, in general, has gained 'currency' in recent times as result of 'bringing injustice into the open' and 'articulation' of child abuse by academicians, activists and journalists (Lieten et.al. 2004).

1.2 MEANING AND CONCEPT OF CHILD LABOUR

The term ‘child labour’ means different things in different societies. Defining child labour has always been a contestable term. Not a single definition of child labour is exhaustive and acceptable to all concerned including governments, social scientists, non-governmental organizations etc. A universally accepted definition of child labour is not available because it is a social construct, not a natural phenomenon, and social constructs are cultural ideas that differ between actors, histories, contexts and purposes (Ennew et al, 2007).

The terms: ‘child’, ‘work’, and ‘labour’ are not timeless, uniform concepts; their definitions are subject to change and variation. Wherever and whenever these terms are used inconsistently, confusion and contradiction are likely to arise. Different societies demarcate the threshold of childhood differently, according to age, legal status and custom. ‘Work’ does not necessarily equate with ‘labour’ although they are more often used interchangeably. The work children do to help the family in non-hazardous occupation and processes is different from the work done by a child in a production process on a waged (part-time/full-time) employment. In India in the home–based industries, in the informal sector, in the areas of brassware, carpet, lack-making, fire works even if children are apparently seen to be working to help family work, but they can’t be categorized as working children, rather they are child labourers.
Definitions of child labour vary across time, nations and industries. They range from normative ones based on specifications of minimum age for employment; to education-oriented definitions which define any child out of school as child labourer or as a potential child labourer; to right-oriented definition which consider any work that deprives children of their fundamental childhood rights as constituting child labour (UN, 1998). At times, the definitions change contextually and depending on the situation and environment. The terms ‘employed child’ and ‘working child’ were used in the past to denote employment of child. Now, the term ‘child labour’ is standardized and replaced the above terms.

The Encyclopedia of the Social Science (1963) describes the term child labour as “when the business of wage earning or of participation in itself or family support, conflicts directly or indirectly with business of growth and education, the result is child labour”. In simple terms, child labour can be defined as the work undertaken by a child, below a certain age, for gainful purpose within or outside the family.

Article 1 of the United Nations “Convention on the Rights of Child, 1989” (CRC) defines child as “every human being below the age of 18 years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier”. The convention calls for protection of the child from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child’s education or to be harmful to the child’s health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.

Flowing from the above, a distinction has to be drawn between child work and child labour. The term ‘Child Work’ and ‘Child labour’ though used synonymously, have different meanings. The term 'Child labour' is used synonymously with other terms like ‘employed child’ or ‘working child'. In this sense, it is coextensive with any work done by a child for gain. It signifies employment of children in gainful occupations with a view to add to the household maintenance activities. In the definition of 'child labour' according to 1971 and 1981 census of India, "the stress has been on the concept of main activity i.e. on the economically productive pursuits in which the worker engages himself or herself for most part of the time. As for seasonal work such as agriculture and ancillary pursuits, the main activity of a person was defined
with reference to his or her work during the year preceding the enumeration. Further, if a person participated in economically productive work, not as a main activity or for most part of the year, he/she is not treated as worker but as marginal worker. (Mishra and Mishra, 2004).

‘Child Work’ refers to occasional light work done by children, which in most of the societies is considered to be an integral part of the child’s socialization process. While helping parents at home and in family farms, children learn to take responsibility and acquire certain skills and prepare themselves for the tasks of future adulthood.

‘Child Labour’ implies something different in which young people are being exploited, or over worked or deprived of their rights to health, education and childhood. It impairs their health, their overall physical, mental and social growth.

Fyfe (1989) attempts to provide a distinction by differenting between ‘child work’ and ‘child labour’. The former being seen as permissible and latter as exploitatative.

Children attending to some form of work as part of familiarization and socialization without its effect on his/her education and recreation, which can be termed as child work, is different from that of child labour. A relatively workable and functional definition is provided by ILO (1996) according to which “child labour includes children prematurely leading adult lives, working long hours for low wages under conditions damaging to their health and to their physical and mental development, sometimes separated from their families, frequently deprived of meaningful education and training opportunities that could open up for them a better future”.

Homer Folks (1946) of the United States Child Labour Commission defined child labour as “any work by children that interfere with their physical development and their opportunities for desirable minimum level of education or the needed recreation”.

The Constitution of India calls for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14 years. It also prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in factories and certain hazardous employments. Census of India (1991) consider the full time child labour as children below 14 years, whose main
activity is economic and who have spent more than half the year (183 days or more) in economic activity.

Several Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) differ with the definition given by the census and other Government agencies and they believe that every child in the school age group and who is out of school is child labour. The Operations Research Groups (ORG, 1993), Baroda defines child labour as “a child falling within 5 to 15 age group and who is at remunerative work, may be paid or unpaid and busy in any hour of the day, within or outside the family”.

According to Encyclopedia of Social Work (1997) “a generally valid definition of child labour is presently not available either in the national or international context. Any definition turns upon the precise meaning we attach to the two components of the terms ‘child labour’ i.e., ‘child’ in terms of his chronological age, and ‘labour’ in terms of its nature, quantum and income generation capacity. It defines child labour as that segment of the child population which participates in work either paid or unpaid.

According to V.V. Giri, the term child labour is commonly interpreted in two different ways; first, as an economic practice and secondly, as a social evil. In the economic sense, it signifies employment of children in gainful occupations with a view to adding to the income of the family. In the social context, it takes into account the damages to which children are exposed, which means the denial of opportunities for development (Tripathy, 1996).

The Indian Factories Act of 1948, which is an elaborate and highly specific act relating to child labour, makes use of three different concepts to classify the workers, i.e., a 'child', a 'young person' or an 'adolescent' and an 'adult'. It has been made explicit in this act that a person below the age of 15 years is to be regarded as a child.

The word 'child labour' also been defined variously in the multiple studies undertaken on the broad theme of child labour. In the study of working of children in Bombay, Singh (1991) and others have held a view that 'child labour' means a working child who is between 6 and 15 years of age, is not attending school during the day, is working under an employer or learning some trade as an apprentice. In the study
conducted by Indian council of child welfare (ICCW) in Delhi opines, 'every child below 14 years, who contributed to the family income or treated as a full time/part time worker is a child labourer.

According to the Sen Committee (1981), Child labour, however, can broadly be defined as that segment of child population in work either paid or unpaid. The diversity of opinion among researchers in defining child labour is due to differences in social perceptions.

Age is an important criterion for distinguishing child labour from adult labourers. In the context of child labour, a working definition of a child may be a person below the age limit of 15 years set by minimum age convention (1973). In a wider context, the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (1989) set the age limit of a child at 18 years. In India, many labour acts have fixed the minimum age of employment. But the definition of a child in terms of age differs from act to act. The Factories Act prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in factories. The limit in Mines Act is 15 years, whereas it is 12 years in Plantation Labour Act. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, defines 'child' as a person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age.

Now days, child labour is a widespread phenomenon. It is not only confined to work on family farms or in traditional family jobs and occupations, but it has also extended to other fields. They work in agriculture and allied activities, unorganized small-scale sectors and even in organized industries. The notion of child labour is intended to cover children under the age of 14 engaged in work or employment with the aim of earning a livelihood for themselves or for their family or themselves directly or indirectly at the cost of their physical, mental or social development." Thus the term child labour not only applies to the children working in industries but also to the children working in all form of non industrial occupations which are injurious to their physical, mental, moral and social development.

In the Indian Context, there has been a tendency to formulate the definition of child labour rather loosely. Even in the latest Labour Commission Report (2001), all working children are taken as one hardly differentiated category. It also includes all
the children who are out-of-school. Burra (1999) advocates that; a child labourer is "basically a child who is deprived of the right to education and childhood. What makes her definition important is that it makes it unambiguously clear that all out of school children is working in one form or another. The ‘nowhere’ children are stated to be potential child labourers and are assumed to be staying at home, away from school so that they can take over some of the household duties of the parents and allow the latter to go out of and work.

1.3 FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR

Children are working in all the three sectors of the Indian economy, i.e. the agrarian, industrial and service sector. There are several forms of child labour - migrant, invisible, bonded and wage-based, self employed and so on. UNICEF has classified child labourers into three categories:

1) Within the family - Children helping in the domestic chores or family occupations like agricultural - pastoral work, handicrafts, khadi and cottage industries etc.

2) Within the family but outside the home - children do local agricultural work, assist in shops, and help in construction, harvesting crops, laundry/recycling of waste, and so on.

3) Outside the family - Children are employed in bounded work doing errands for the rich landlord and various works in the cottage industries.

A. Within the family (unpaid)

1) Domestic / Household tasks: e.g. cooking, cleaning, child-care, water cleaning utensils, washing clothes, poultry etc.

2) Agriculture/pastoral tasks: e.g. ploughing, weeding, harvesting, herding, livestocks etc.

3) Handicrafts/cottage Industries: e.g. weaving, basketry, leather work, wood work, house hold industries in the urban informal sector.
B. With the family but outside the home

1) Agricultural/Pastoral work
   a) Migrant agricultural labour
   b) Local agricultural labour (full time/seasonal)

2) Domestic Service

3) Construction work, e.g., building, roads etc.

4) Informal economy e.g. laundry, recycling rubbish
   a) Employed by others
   b) Self-employed

C) Outside the family

1) Employed by others
   a) Tied/bonded/slave
   b) Apprentices
   c) Skilled trades e.g. carpets, embroidery, brass and copper work.
   d) Industries/unskilled occupations/mines
   e) Domestics e.g. maids- of- all- work.
   f) Commercial e.g. shops, restaurants
   g) Begging
   h) Prostitution and pornography

1.4 LOCATION SPECIFIC OCCUPATIONS

Informal sector of the rural and urban economies of the developing countries is an important source of employment for a major chunk of labour forces particularly the children and women. Though the sectoral distribution of child labourers differs from country to country, yet child labour is predominantly confined to agricultural sector followed by services and industry.
One of the unique features of the child labour system in India is the location specific nature of the employment. Even though child labourers are spread all through the length and breadth of the country, some specific kind of occupations are observed in some areas only. For example, carpet industry is more common in Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. Working in the construction sites is found in every patch of the country. Glass industry is predominately found in Uttar Pradesh. Like that concentration of large power loom industry can be seen in both Tamilnadu and Maharashtra state because of availability of enough raw materials and cheap labour. Children working in fishing industry are common all along the coastal areas of the country. Garage work and street children are found in many parts of the country.

### Table 1.1: Location Specific Occupations of Child Labour in India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glass and Bangles</td>
<td>Firozabad (U.P.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handloom</td>
<td>Tamilnadu and Maharashtra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Loom</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpet Weaving</td>
<td>J&amp;K, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gem Cutting and Polishing</td>
<td>Jaipur (Rajasthan)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diamond Cutting and Polishing</td>
<td>Surat (Gujarat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Match and Fireworks</td>
<td>Sivakasi (Tamilnadu)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garages and Petrol Pumps</td>
<td>throughout India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cashew Processing and Manufacture of coir products</td>
<td>Kerala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helpers in Hotels, Restaurants, Canteen, Tea-Stalls, Shops</td>
<td>Throughout India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rag Picking</td>
<td>Predominantly in Mega cities of the country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Throughout India.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing</td>
<td>Kerala, Tamilnadu, Gujarat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pottery units</td>
<td>Khurja, (U.P.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkers, vendors and newspaper sellers</td>
<td>Through out India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coolies</td>
<td>Through out India.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lock Industry</td>
<td>Aligarh (U.P.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Industry</td>
<td>M.P.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source-Dak, 2003)
1.5 CHILD LABOUR-HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE

The existence of child labour is a concrete manifestation of denial of rights of children. The child labourers are denied of their rights to survival and development, education, leisure and play, opportunity for developing their physical and mental talents, and protection from abuse and neglect which eventually impairs the personality and creativity of children and growth of full well being.

The prevalence of child labour has given rise to a number of socio economic problems. It is beyond doubt that children are forced by circumstances to do labour in a tender age when they should have been studying in schools. The mere fact that it is not the work but labour that children are coerced to do which has manifold repercussions for them, the family and for the society as a whole.

The rationale for combating child labour derives from two distinct perspectives. Historically, the dominant perspective has been the development perspective, which lays emphasis on the adverse consequences of child labour for economic development and the labour market, as well as for the development of children as “human capital” contributing to future economic development. One of the most significant and dominant perspective for abolition of child labour comes from human rights perspective (Tabatabai, 2003). The child-centred, rights-based approach received international recognition with the adoption in 1989 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), which has been ratified virtually by all countries. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), presents a compendium of diverse rights described in nearly forty articles. Article 32 of the CRC recognizes the right of the child (under 18) “to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child’s education, or to be harmful to the child’s health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development” The Convention is intended to promote a holistic view of children, and therefore its other articles have to be taken into consideration as well. One of the CRC’s most fundamental provisions (Article 3) requires that "in all actions concerning children . . . the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration". This principle is at the very heart of the child-centered perspective. At least another dozen or so rights articulated by the CRC are relevant to child labour.
concerns. They include, for example, the right to not be discriminated against (Article 2), the right of children to have their voice and opinion heard in all official actions concerning them (Article 12), the right to freedom of association (Article 15), the right to freedom from violence and abuse (Article 19), the right to an adequate standard of living (Article 27), the right to free and relevant schooling that effectively develops a child’s potential (Articles 28 and 29), and the right to rest and play (Article 31), among others.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child is the outcome of the efforts of the international community to arrive at a standard to be followed by all countries in matters relating to children. The Convention lays emphasis on the fundamental freedom and liberties of the individual, protection against discrimination, violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation as well as on the positive measures such as upbringing within the family and under parental care, access of health care, social security, education, and to rest and leisure.

Childhood is required to be a period of 'evolving capacities - of the development of child's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential", primarily through education. During this period, a child has a right "to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development".

The Convention establishes the right of the child to be an actor in his or her own development, to express opinions and to have then taken into account in the making of decisions relating to his or her life. Basic to the development of the child are: the right to express views in all matters affecting her or him and of their being given due weight, freedom of expression including right to information and ideas, freedom of thought, conscience and religion, as well as freedoms of association and peaceful assembly. The child has a right to privacy, and to special protection and assistance provided by the state, where the child is deprived of family environment.

As regards employment, the child, in view of his physical and mental immaturity, has a special right to be protected from "economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be
harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

These concerns also underlie the ILO’s 1973 Minimum Age Convention (No. 138, henceforth C138) that defines a range of minimum ages – depending on the country’s level of development and the type of employment and work – below which no child should work. In 1999, these international instruments were complemented with the adoption by the ILO of the Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour (C182). The C182 obligates member States to “take immediate and effective measures” to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. C138 and C182 are the principal international labour standards defining the ILO’s mandate on child labour. Such a perspective and approach are also reflected clearly in ILO’s Convention no.182 against the worst forms of child labour adopted in June, 1999. It defines the worst forms as including all forms of or practices similar to slavery, the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage, use or procurement of children for prostitution or pornographic purposes, forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict, using child in illicit activities, such as the production and trafficking of drugs, and the work that is likely to harm the health, safety and morals of children (UNICEF, 2001). The ‘child-centered perspectives are especially influenced by modern ideas of human rights and human development. It understands children to be resilient as well as vulnerable, to be capable as well as inexperienced, to be characterized by knowledge as well as ignorance, to have a variety of intelligences as well as learning needs, and to be active rather than passive agents in their development. It also appreciates that children learn best through personal engagement in life activities, and that crucial self-esteem comes in part from a sense of efficacy in the world. The major contribution of the ‘child-centred perspective’ has been to refocus primary attention on children and their welfare. It has in effect made national policy and other child labour action more accountable to children. Assertive introjection of the ‘child-centred perspective’ in to international debate already has turned the ‘best interests’ provision of the CRC into a central criterion that all parties in the discussion must address in order to maintain their credibility(Myers,2001). A positive development for abolition of child labour has been shaped and accelerated by the principles and ideals of human rights more particularly with the adoption and ratification of Convention on the Rights of
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the Child, 1989. According to the Convention, the child labour can be seen in its broadest and most damaging sense as a human rights violation on many different levels. As such, it can be addressed only through a complementary range of measurers from laws and mechanisms to create and enforce minimum working age regulations to the multiple protections enumerated in article 32 of the Convention of the Rights of the Child. And in concert with article 32, virtually every other article of the convention focuses on issues that are in one way or other related to the effects of work on children, including education, protection, exploitation, health, nutrition, rest and relaxation, play, social security, economic well being and the responsibilities of the parents. A human rights approach to child labour therefore permits and indeed requires responses that are as multifaceted as the affronts children endure and the conditions that give rise to them. It also permits and requires wide partnerships and alliances to make the responses a reality.

1.6 PROBLEMS OF CHILD LABOUR

Child labourers are not only deprived of proper food, shelter and other necessities, but also deprived of basic rights. They endure miserable and difficult lives. They earn little and struggle to make enough to feed themselves and their families. According to Tiwari (1997), child’s developments can be endangered by work as under:

(a) **Physical development**: Including overall health coordination, strength, vision and hearing;

(b) **Cognitive development**: Including literacy, numeracy and the acquisition of knowledge necessary for normal life;

(c) **Emotional development**: Including adequate self esteem, family attachment, and feeling of love and acceptance;

(d) **Social and moral development**: including a sense of group identity, the ability to cooperate with others and the capacity to distinguish right from wrong;

The specific deprivations accruing to the child labour include:

- Deprivation in health care
- Deprivation from psychological support
1.6.1 Deprivation in Health Care

The health of the child labour is always endangered. Their health status becomes more vulnerable due to high incidence of malnutrition and undernourishment. The child labourers suffer from various infectitious diseases including tuberculosis, anemia, asthma, skin diseases, ear and eye problem etc. There are ample incidences of sexually transmitted diseases among child labourers. Most of the working children are also addicted to drugs. Working children are deprived of basic necessities like immunization protection from job hazards, proper ventilation, toilet facilities protection from sun and rain and proper lightning. The study done by Mitra (1993) on health conditions of child labourers in a small scale leather industry in Calcutta revealed that three specific health problems prevalent among employed children namely backache, ankle pain, and tingling pain in hands. In bidi industry child labourers are exposed to tobacco fumes through out the day which leads to asthma, tuberculosis, continuous cold, backaches, body ache, gas trouble, piles and rheumatic complaints (Naidu & Kapadia, 1985). In the bangle industry and glass industry children work close to the pumices where the temperature ranges from 40 to 45 degree centigrade. Owing to extreme heat and chemical fumes the incidence of tuberculosis is widespread which reduces their life span. They became unable to do work after the age of 35 years (Burra, 1986). In brassware industry due to inhaling of metal dust child labourers suffer from several respiratory diseases. In diamond cutting industries of Surat, diamond polishing industries of Jaipur and in zari embroidery work of Lucknow, children work in ill-ventilated, badly lit rooms where their eyesight get affected (Rao, 1980). In the lock industries of Aligarh and metal industries of Moradabad; Varanasi and Delhi, children work on hand presses, buffing machine, electroplating and spray painting units. Here the chemical fumes affect their respiratory systems and white-hot flames damage their eyesight. The children
reported giddiness and tiredness, which influence their working capacity (Pati, 1985). Shah (1985) observed that child labourers come into close contact with several kinds of infections. They also suffer from anemia, fatigue and inadequate sleep makes them more susceptible to infectious diseases. The child labourers are also victims of constant threat of traffic accidents. (Joshi, 2006, Nongia, 1987). Contact dermatitis is a health hazard seen in children working in processes where chemicals are used. Ankylosis, Spondalitis and permanent spinal deformities have been attributed to abnormal posture, which the working children have to adopt while working. Most of the child labourers are highly vulnerable to all kinds of child abuses especially physical abuse, sexual abuse & police abuse etc. (Sekar, 2007).

1.6.2 Deprivation from Psychological Support

A large number of child labourers face the unhappy reality of increasing separation from their natural families. Many of them have the feeling of insecurity, inferiority and low self esteem and fatigue. A large number of child labourers also suffer from various kinds of neurotic disorders particularly anxiety, depression etc. Children who are in risky job fields have no opportunity to build their natural psychosocial health. Long working hours breed their feeling of frustration and inadequacy. Their involvement in risky work resists eventually in building their emotional cognitive skills and they become withdrawn, introvert and uncommunicative. A significant portion of the child labourers are suffering from psychological immaturity and are affected by abnormal psychological growth. They are also deprived of the special care that would be required for their psychological effects (Nasiruddin et.al. 2009). Reddy and Ramesh (2002) in their study reported that the child labourers are deprived of love, affection and sympathy which results in development of the feeling of inferiority and insecurity further leading to the development of fear and anxiety. The development of children and adolescents growing up in adverse circumstances lag behind peers from more advantaged homes (Misra and Mohanty, 2000) and experience a unique set of psychological barriers to change and development (Sinha, 1990, Arumani, 2010). They are also deprived of the special care that would be required for their psychological effects (Nasiruddin et.al., 2009).
1.6.3 Deprivation from Recreational Opportunities

The child labourers are unable to participate in leisure and recreational activities, and, therefore, lose the psychological benefits otherwise needed for them. So, most of them child labourers develop a habit of smoking, and liquor drinking. Some of them also become drugs addicts or spend time in gambling and other such criminal activities. Mishra and Mishra, 2004 in their study reported that the child labourers get very less spare time. But whatever spare time they get, they try to utilize it in the best possible manner. Jeyaranjan (2001) in his study reported many children also pooled their money to hire a vehicle and go for excursions during the weekly holidays. But unfortunately, because of their access to cash, many of them had started drinking at a very early age. Since most of the child labour households had a television at home with a cable connection, many children spent their late evenings before these television sets.

1.6.4 Educational Deprivation

Child labourers are deprived of the educational and vocational facilities otherwise available to the non-working children. Child participation in labour force clearly reduces the potential for schooling and educational development. Children from poor families obviously do not have much access to education as those from wealthier families. Even where educational facilities are available to children, such children can not take sufficient advantages of them because of lack of interest of their parents. The chances of benefitting from education diminish more when they work. Most of the child labourers cannot go to school or are bound to leave the school before time (Shandilya, 2006). So, the childhood is lost because of economic concerns. The education provided in government run schools are irrevalent to contemporary needs and changing economic situations. The formal education that is provided to child labour does not match the needs of the local labour market. Therefore, the child labourers further lose interest and remain deprived of educational opportunities.

1.6.5 Exclusion from Future Employment

A large number of children end up working as domestic workers on low wages and facing unhealthy living conditions. The unrelenting poverty forces the parents to push their children in all forms of hazardous occupations. Child labour is a source of
income for poor families. Some times children are abandoned by their parents or sold
to factory owners. The last two decades have seen tremendous growth of export based
industries and mass production factories utilizing low technologies. They try to
maintain competitive positions through low wages and low labour standards. The
child labourers exactly suit their requirements because of lack of education. Given the
low educational achievement, the possibility for acquiring remunerative jobs becomes
still more remote. Children thus find themselves locked in unskilled, low paying,
unpleasant and unsafe work situations and permanently disadvantaged in the labour
market (ILO, 1983). In India, a majority of children work in industries, such as
cracker making, diamond polishing, glass, brass-ware, carpet weaving, bangle
making, lock making and mica cutting to name a few. Ultimately the poor health
status coupled with lack of education and training, they are deprived of future
employment.

1.6.6 Deprivation from Social Security

The child labourers are not covered by various social security measures, which
operate largely through formal sector employment. Reasons for their exclusion from
these systems include the practical difficulties of collecting contributions from them
and their employers, their unwillingness or inability to pay contributions (especially
when the benefits on offer do not match what they consider to be their most important
needs, in particular for health care) and their distrust of the management of the formal
schemes. Child labour headed families are especially difficult to reach through formal
social protection systems and welfare, particularly because of lack of proper official
identities.

1.7 CAUSES OF CHILD LABOUR

There is neither one cause of child labour nor any single model that adequately
explains the complex phenomenon of child labour. Scholars subscribe to various
models in explaining the determinants and analyzing the causes of or forces behind
the incidence of child labour of varying degrees across time and space.
One accepted model of the 20th century explaining the causes of existence of child labour is Becker’s micro theory of fertility. The model was explained with the help of Hicksian indifference curves, showing that the higher level of the curve on the indifference map, the higher is the fertility and higher might be the incidence of child labour (Becker, 1960). Dinesh, 1988 strongly supported the Becker’s model with quantitative information, according to which child labour is the consequence of large number of siblings in a family fundamentally caused by high fertility of mothers. Mother’s fertility is stated to be high, if it is influenced by parent’s motive to have children mainly to satisfy a) the psychic utility and b) economic utility.

Economic utility which refers to prospective benefit and/or tangible returns expected from children may be sub-categorized as

i) income benefits
ii) work benefit and
iii) security benefit in the old age of parents

This micro fertility theory of child labour can not be accepted as fully valid. Because, it is found that some nuclear or small families too send their children to labour market which shows that the undergoing causes of child labour supply is not necessarily the higher level of fertility of mother. It is the result of macro situation and not of a micro situation in a family.

Another popular theory of child labour is the extreme poverty with high or low fertility (Duraiswamy, 1997). Under such a theory it is argued that the phenomenon of child labour practices is very much determined by the degree of parent’s poverty and the survival strategies of parents (Lieten, 2000 cited in Manimekalai, 2001). In a study of child labourers in Kashmir, Sharma et.al, 1993 noted that 97 percent of children joined carpet weaving industry due to poverty. Thus, poverty has been identified as one of the main determinants of the child labour supply—for, in a non-poor high wage society parents do not send their children to work (Basu & Van, 1998). It is a generally acceptable proposition that poverty is the main reason for which the children are forced to work. Their income is necessary for the survival of their family members and also of themselves (Jain and chand, 1979). Chronic poverty is the
largest factors factor responsible for the prevalence and perpetuation of child labour. Due to poverty ‘parental authority’ is misused. In this context, Marx said: “It was not the misuse of parental authority that created the capitalist exploitation….of children’s labour but on the contrary, it was the capitalist mode of production which by sweeping away the economic basis of parental authority, made its exercise degenerated into a mischievous misuse of power”. There are many who view the problem in this way and link it with exploitative capitalist mode of production and working of capitalist system. It has been opined: “Child labour more truly mirrors the character of the society and polity including the nature of transition, than any other set of indicators.” (Juyal, 1988). Thus, the exploitative capitalist order perpetuates the problem.

A parallel view holds that poverty as the reason for supply of child labour is partly true. ILO (1996) is also of the opinion that poverty combined with traditions, compel the children to follow the footsteps of their parents. But poverty, it is admitted is not the only reason for the existence of child labour (ILO, 1992).

The ‘traditional view’ of the history of child labour reigned almost unchallenged for a long time. In this view, the process of industrialization led to unprecedented use and exploitation of child labour, producing working conditions for children comparable to those of slavery. Children were ultimately rescued from their fate by campaigners on their behalf, and above all the passage of effective child labour laws (Hammond and Hammond, 1919; Hutchins and Harrison, 1926).

Sociologists consider school drop outs as the important reason for existence of child labour. But as regards, the reason of school drop outs, there is a difference opinion between those who argue poverty as the paramount reason and those who attribute the school. According to the National Council for educational research and training (NCERT) the inability of the school system to retain children who have enrolled in the primary level education-“the push out” has been the single greatest reason responsible for the existence of child labour(Weiner,1991). Thus, poverty can not always be argued to the paramount reason of school drop outs and supply of child labour. It is poverty simply a classical defence offered by sociologists till date (Basu and Van, 1998).
Ahmed (1999) has concluded after a quantitative cross country empirical study that child labour is basically associated with inequality in society but not with poverty. Both inequality and poverty in the society have been currently found to be the consequence of capability deprivation- deprivation from quality of being able to do something. And, hence, the latter is a more responsible variable for the existence and continuum supply of child labour (Foster and Sen, 1998).

Choudhary (1997) theorizes that the phenomenon of child labour- both the incidence of child labour and its occupational pattern undergoes a major transformation in the process of structural changes of the economy caused basically by the complex process of economic growth.

The discourse on of child labour can briefly be analyzed in the classical and contemporary political economy perspectives. Karl Marx in Capital (Volume 1, chapter 15, Section-3) outlined a formal model of the cause of child labour. He first noted how, with the rise of new technology, in a particular mechanism, there arose scope for employing those” whose bodily development is incomplete, but whose limbs are all the suppler. The labour of women and children was therefore, the first thing sought by capitalists who used machinery”.

The urban areas in India are characterized by a strong concentration of urban population, the emergence of slums and the urban poor. While migrating to urban centres, the migrants bring with them a number of children. In order to survive and raise their level of earnings/income they seek employment for the children in a variety of activities of the economy. The child labour, which faces restrictions to entry in the formal sector activities, is comparatively more easily absorbed in the informal sector activities which are out side the purview of the legal restrictions (Gaur, 2005). Tripathy’s study also revealed that child labour originates from the flow of labourers or labour mobility towards districts or states or outside where industry and employment are expanding. Though migrant streams are varied in dimensions, the principal current of modern migration all over the world is towards urban areas. Shukla and Shukla (1993) pointed out that, there were certain factors which enabled
children to seek employment in the informal sector in comparison to the formal sector. These related to: absence of any statutory minimum age requirement, easy entry, less competition among job seekers, absence of any minimum requirement of education or training, easy nature of work, provision of food, shelter and clothing in the city by the employer and absence of any minimum wage requirement as well as easy entry and easy exit. He had also mentioned that four types of children are found engaged in the informal sector. Those children belonging to poor families undertake jobs to supplement their parent’s income, children who have none to support them, children who are sent to urban areas by their parents in rural areas for earning a living and children who run away from their families. Sekar (2004) had conducted a study on child labour in urban informal sector in Noida and it reiterates the fact that the perpetuation of child labour is inextricably linked to the slow pace of poverty reduction. Intersection of poverty with other forms of disadvantages such as caste, gender, ability among others complicate its effects on the incidence of child labour. The study revealed that 97 percent of the households with rag picking children are migrants and almost all the households migrated after 1980, when the city was being constructed. Poverty and unemployment have been reported as the most common reasons for migration. The study also revealed that the living conditions of the rag pickers were extremely poor with hardly any basic amenities. Most of them lived in dilapidated structures made of cheap building material with temporary ceilings which were highly vulnerable to the vagaries of weather.

In most of the cases, employers prefer children to adults, as children are more active, agile, and quick and feel less tired than adults in certain tasks. They are also more amenable to discipline and control. They can be coaxed, admonished, pulled up and punished for defaults without jeopardizing relations or generating hostile and revengeful reactions. They provide very flexible workforce that can be employed or laid off without difficulty under their non contractual recruitment arrangements. Socially, their status as workers is not recognized and their work is seen as temporary and marginal (Nongia, 1987). The reasons stated in the Report of the Committee on Child Labour (1980) for employer’s preference for children in work are: “less age and status conscious, lesser affliction by feeling of guilt and shame, no hesitation to do
non-status, even demeaning jobs, activeness, agility and quickness and lesser feeling of tiredness, greater discipline and control, less expensive to maintain, superior adaptive qualities, lack of organization; moral consideration of employers to help and to provide succor to destitute or for saken children and acquisition of fitness through initiation in the early age. The National Commission on Labour (1969) has also pointed out that “quite often it is the feeling of sympathy rather than the desire to exploit which weighs with employers in employing child workers.” Dak (2002) pointed out that Most of the employers have vested interests in employing child labour. Child labour is cheap children work at lower wages for long hours without grumbling. Children are easy to be exploited, honest and hardworking and at the same time docile and meek workforce. Managing children is easier than managing adults. Children are found to be better suited for certain types of jobs. The greed for profit and stiff competition for markets in the developed countries encourage employers to use child labour for economic advantage. It is argued that if children who earn meager sums were taken out of employment, there would be no downward swing in the socio economic status of the family. The only downswing would be the profit margin of the employers.

Conceiving the advantages of employment of children, the parents feel that the job disciplines the child, terminates his dependency, protects him against the infection of delinquent culture, and provides some moments of privacy to parents and so on. The parents are so much overwhelmed by the visibility of these gains that they would forego the exploitation of the child (Nangia, 1987).

The National Commission on Labour (1969) has also pointed out that “quite often it is the feeling of sympathy rather than the desire to exploit which weighs with employers in employing child workers.”

The roots of the problem lie in the exploitative systems prevailing not only at the national level but also at the international level. At the national level the lopsided development process in the background of socio-economic structure results in marginalization of the poor, who are left with no option but use child labour as a survival strategy. And at the international level the need for foreign exchange, on the
one hand, and stiff competition for markets in the developed world, on the other, encourage the producers of export industries in the third world to use cheap and vulnerable child labour. Also, powerful multi national corporations use child labour directly or indirectly, to minimize cost of production and to maximize profits (Indira et al, 1991). The foreign exchange earning aspect has been very well brought out in the article by Mahendra Lama on Tea industry, Neera Burra on lock industry in Aligarh, Manju Gupta on carpet industry. All these industries are export- industries where cheap child labour is used for minimization of production cost and maximization of profits (Singh and Mohanthy, 1993). Child labour is intimately linked to the pace and pattern of economic growth, the structure of the economy, the prevalence of poverty, the inadequacies in social infrastructure and protection, the functioning of the labour market, population growth and dynamics, cultural factors and attitudes, etc. The existence of child labour is a manifestation of inadequate and improper socio-economic development and the problem cannot be effectively addressed in isolation from the broader context of the development process (Tabatabai, 2003).

The reasons of child labour are divided into three main groups as stated by Anker (1996) as follows.

(A) **Awareness and innocence**
   a. More docile and less troublesome
   b. Greater willingness to do repetitive, monotonous work,
   c. More trustworthy and innocent, so less likely to steal.
   d. Less absenteeism
   e. Don not form trade union.

(B) **Tradition**
   a. Tradition of hiring child labour by employers.
   b. Traditional occupations have children working along with their parents
   c. Social role of employer to provide jobs to families in the community
d. Employers need labourers. Children are available and ask for jobs, so they hire child labourers.

(C) Physical Characteristics

a. Better health (as young)

b. Nimble fingers (traditional scholars used to call it supple fingers)

Vidyasagar and Kumarbabu (2002) had presented three distinct stages in the evolution of the institution of child labour with regard to India. These are:

A. As far as the traditional Indian context was concerned, formal education had been the prerogative of certain communities in the upper layers of the society in the historical past. As per the hierarchy-based division of labour and inheritance of occupations, the children of peasants, artisans and other service communities were made apprentices in their family occupations, be it crafts or agriculture. It was considered part of the socialization process for the children. So, the problem of child labour was persisted.

B. It is after the industrial revolution in Europe and its gradual impact on the colonies that factory-type units started springing up during the British period. Factories required cheap and plentiful labour. Employment of children as labourers began because they were cheap, docile and uncomplaining. The factory owners could hence minimize costs and maximize profits. Along with modern factory type production, employment of children also emerged in petty commodity production that went to cater to the growing urban demand. Thus along with modern factories, manufacturing also developed in informal sector which could be termed as traditional informal sector (through agriculture remains to be one of the biggest traditional informal sector till date). In this phase, employment of children began, both in organized factory sector as well in the traditional informal manufacturing sector.

C. From the seventies, as an impact of a strong labour movement which has been fighting for the rights of the workers and the resultant national legislation for regulation of labour standards, there has been a process of decentralization of production from the organized sectors to informal sector, where the labour
standards remain low and regulation is the least. This process has got intensified in the “new economic regime” where the liberation of the economy and linkage to the global markets are the key principles. In the present era, big factories are breaking into small units and the operations are spatially divided. Given the income and poverty levels of the people, ground for employment of children in large scale has been generated and is next only to agriculture sector.

1.8 ESTIMATES OF CHILD LABOUR- GLOBAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL

As per the latest estimates of ILO in 2004, out of an estimated 317 million children in the age group of 5 to 17 years who are globally engaged in some form of economic activity, 218 million fall within the strict definition of child labour. Out of these, 126 million children engaged in hazardous occupations. In other words, more than 2/3rd of the child labourers are still engaged in hazardous form of child labour.

Table 1.2: Global estimate of child labour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group (years)</th>
<th>Economically active</th>
<th>Child labour</th>
<th>In Hazardous occupations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-17</td>
<td>317 million</td>
<td>218 million</td>
<td>126 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-14</td>
<td>190.7 million</td>
<td>165.8 million</td>
<td>74.4 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ILO, 2004

Out of the estimated 190.7 million economically active children in the age group of 5-14 years in the world, the Asia-Pacific region harbors the largest number of child labourers. In Sub-Saharan Africa and in Latin America, these figures are 49.3 million and 5.7 million respectively.

Table 1.3: Region Wise distribution of children in the age group of 5-14 years by their economic activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Magnitude</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>122.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>49.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and Carribean</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other region</td>
<td>13.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Estimates of child labour for different countries depend on the consideration of age that has been set for inclusion in the category. This consideration of age is different in different nations. As a result more or less children get included or excluded in the estimates. As mentioned earlier in India children below 14 years gainfully engaged physically or mentally in any occupation either in agriculture or in industry, are called child labour. The minimum age considered for child labour is 12 years in Egypt, 14 years in Philippines and Hong Kong and 13 years in Malaysia. In Peru, this age is 14 years in agriculture sector, 15 years for industry, and 16 years for ocean fishing and 18 years for working in ports. ILO in its minimum age (industrial) conference (1919) has determined 12 to 13 years for light works and 18 years for hard and dangerous works.

India continues to host the largest number of child labourer in the world today. According to 2011 Census, 12.6 million children in the age group of 5 to 14 are employed in our country. This accounts for 11% of the workforce of India. If we examine the trend from 1971 onwards, the phenomenon of child labour has shown an increasing trend. As can be seen in the period from 1981 to 1991 the child labour figure was seen as declining. Economic liberalisation commenced in 1991 which may be the reason for the increase of child labourers in India. The following table gives a comparative picture of the child labour estimates in our country over the different census period.

**Table 1.4: Child labour in India over different censuses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of child labour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>10,753,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>13,640,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>11,285,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>12,591,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>12,626,505</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.9 SITUATION OF CHILD LABOUR IN THE ERA OF GLOBALIZATION

After the introduction of globalization era in India, private investment began to flow through foreign direct investments. Multinational corporations are free to establish factories and can sell their products anywhere in the globalized world. The shrinkage of public sector and expansion of private sector economic activities has increased child labour (Das, 2011). Economic activities seem to move from formal sector to informal sector. The flourishing of informal sector has intensified child labour in the developing countries particularly in India. The informalisation of many production activities in the wake of privatization is also associated with outsourcing of job to home based working units employing family labour. Children of the poor families are therefore prone to be engaged in such work. Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act does not apply to this home based work for children. Many of the processing jobs have been shifted to family based units. This out sourcing have substantially reduced production costs and increased the profits of the enterprises. These enterprises use child labour for production and processing of their products by employing child labour.

According to Census, 2001 there were about 12.7 million economically active children in the age group of 5-14 years. The number was 11.3 million during 1991 census, thus showing an increase in the number of child labourers. The Census data shows that there is a substantial increase in marginal workers in every category of worker irrespective of sex and residence. Despite the number of main workers declining from 9.08 million in 1991 to 5.78 million in 2001 and 4.9 million in 2011 census, the total number of children in the workforce increased. A large part of the increase in marginal workers, which increased from 2.2 million in 1991 to 6.89 million in 2001 showed decreasing trend in 2011 i.e. 5.85 million. The trends between 1991 and 2001 of declining main child workers along with increasing marginal workers may indicate the changing nature of work done by the children. This is also to be seen in the context of decelerating employment growth in general in the economy during the last decade. There is a broad decline in the incidence of child labour in the southern and western Indian states and UTs between 1991 and 2001. However; there has been an increasing trend in eastern and north Indian states and UTs.
Table 1.5: State /UT showing % increase in the incidence of child labour during 2001 as compared to 1991

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State /UT</th>
<th>% Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>24.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>41.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mizoram</td>
<td>60.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
<td>102.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>32.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>49.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>61.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>131.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meghalaya</td>
<td>55.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andaman &amp; Nicobar</td>
<td>54.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>60.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagaland</td>
<td>178.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>90.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>53.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manipur</td>
<td>74.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikkim</td>
<td>193.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source-NCPCR, 2007)

The census data, 2001 shows that only around 20% of the child workers are engaged on farms in agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing and the figure is 27% in 2011 census. There is a sharp decline in this proportion compared to 1991 where around 42% of child labour force was engaged on farms in agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing. Thus, there is a movement of child labour force from farm to non-farm activities. Nearly 48% of the child labour force in the age group of 5-14 in 2001 census is involved in manufacturing both household based and non –household based occupations. Remaining child labour force is involved in service sector operations including construction, trade and domestic service-mostly in the informal sectors of the economy. This partly explains the increase in child labour force in north and East Indian states where the household industries and service sector is growing (NCPCR, 2007). There are some indications that child labour in export production, such as the carpet industry, has increased since liberalization, as reported by Joseph Gathia of the Centre of Concern for Child Labour (Vivekananda, 1996 cited in Hensman, 2001). The 2011 census reported that 40% of the child labour work force are involved in manufacturing both household and non-household occupations which is declined if compared to the 2011 census. This may be due to the increasing role played by the government, media, and civil society organizations.
1.10 CHILD LABOUR: DELHI CONTEXT

The child labourers are spread throughout the National Capital Territory of Delhi. There are nearly 4 lakh child workers in Delhi, who comprise about 18% of the child population of the National Capital Territory of Delhi. Out of them about 30,000 work in the 5,000 registered and 25,000 unregistered tea shop and dhabas, about 20,000 work in scooter and car repair shops, and approximately 30,000 children are working as shop assistants and about 40,000 work as labourers (agriculture, construction and coolies etc.) and nearly 1,00,000 work as the domestic servants (full time/ part time) (Panicker and Nongia, 2002). As per the census of india, the child labourers in Delhi shows increasing trend.

Table 1.6: Workers aged 5-14 years between 1971 -2001 Censuses in Delhi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Child Labour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>17120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>25717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>27351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>41899</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.10.1 Major Areas of Concentrating of Child Labour in Delhi

(a) Interstate Bus Terminus and its surrounding areas.

The ISBT and its surrounding areas is one of the major areas of concentration of child labour. The children in this area are employed as vendors, porters, shoes-shining boys, shop assistants, sellers of ready made garments, service boys in tea stalls etc.

(b) Trans Yamuna Area

The Trans Yamuna area is an area of major concentration of child labour. The children in this area are engaged in construction work, rag picking, garage work and work as domestic servants and as service boys in tea stalls and dhabas and apprentices in the tailoring shops etc.
(c) **The Railway Station Area**

Child labourers are found at all the three railway stations in Delhi, New Delhi Railway Station, Old Delhi Railway Station and Nizammudin Railway Station. Children in these areas are mostly working in tea shops, dhabas, as vendors, shoe-polishers, porters and rag pickers.

(d) **Jama Masjid and Surrounding Areas**

Many children surrounding Jama Masjid like Chandi Chowk are engaged as helpers in the shops, small workshops, as rag pickers etc. nearly an equal number of children are engaged in the manufacturing processes, like electro-plating, book binding, metal carving etc.

(e) **Daryaganj and Surrounding Areas**

The areas surrounding Daryaganj like Asaf Ali Road and Ramlila ground, a large number of children are employed in various activities like rickshaw pulling, working in garages, and selling newspaper etc.

(f) **Connaught Place**

A large number of children are found working in Connaught Place which is known in Delhi as one of the busiest commercial place. A number of children are found working here as vendors, selling glasses, flowers, garlands and also engaged as shoe-shining boys.

(g) **Karol Bagh**

Karol Bagh, which is one of the busy markets in Delhi, provides employment to a large number of children. They are mostly self-employed as vendors, selling eatables, cold drinking water, cosmetics, handkerchief etc. Some are found working in shops, tea stalls, dhabas, and garages etc.

Besides that, a large number of children in Delhi are found working in zari industry, leather industry, lock industry, and jewellery sector etc. A majority of the children
working in zari industry are found in Seelampur, Ghonda, Nurelai, Gautam Puri, Chowanbengar, Kureji, Kalian Bagh (Trilokpuri), Sangam Vihar, Khanpur extension, Kotla Mubarakpur, Sarai Kale Khan, Mehruki, Nizammudin Basti, Uttam Nagar and Janakpuri. In leather industry, a large number of children work in Sadar Bazar (Hanuman Gali), Paharganj. In lock industry, child labourers are found in Sakur Ki Dandi (Near Ramlila Ground), LNJP Colony, etc. In jewellery sector, child labourers are found in Darayaganj, Karolbagh and other localities. A large number of rag pickers are found in Chilagown (Near Mayur Vihar), Yamuna Pusta (both sides of ITO bridge), Seelampur, Badarpur, Mitapur, Jaitpur, and C-Block of Jahangir Puri. There are also organized rag picking in Kalyan Baas, Mitapur etc. Child labourers are found working in Subzi Market in Azadpur Mandi, as well as in Okhla Mandi. A large number of child labourers are working at motor garages in Indira Market, Trilokpuri. In Dhaba/tea stalls, children are found working in North Delhi, Kashmere Gate, Jama Masjid and ITO areas.