CHAPTER – 6
MAJOR FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

In this study an attempt is made to understand and interpret the actual living and working conditions, health of pourakarmikas in Bangalore city in Karnataka. It looked particularly at the living and working conditions of pourakarmikas their economic status and educational status, constitutional rights, etc. The empirical findings obtained from a field survey and available secondary sources were used to find out the actual scenario regarding pourakarmikas situation in Karnataka in general and in Bangalore city in particular. This chapter is the last chapter of the thesis and it includes major findings of the study, conclusion of the study and some recommendations for possible immediate and long-term solutions.

6.1 MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

First chapter presents introduction, review of literature, discussion on the research methodology that is used to collect qualitative and quantitative data for the study. Research design, sources of data collection, sampling procedure, techniques/instruments of data collection, reliability, and method of data analysis, Outline of the study, hence there are no conclusions in this chapter.

Majority i.e., 62.33% of the respondents were doing Sweeping work, 16.66 % of the respondents have been doing the occupation of Disposal of house/Cattle waste, 4.33 % of the respondents were cleaning Latrines, 3.66% of the respondents were Cleaning Drainages, 3.66 % of the respondents were Cleaning Septic Tank, and rest of 9.33% respondents doing All the above.

It is found that the majority i.e., 35.67% of the respondents have more than 11-20 Years of Experience, 31.33% of the respondents have 21-30 Years of Experience. Then the 20 % of the respondents have opined that they have more than 1-10 Years of Experience, rest of 13% respondents are having a 31
and above years experience. So form this is clears that majority of the respondents fall into the experience between 11 years to 30 years.

It is found from that the majority i.e., nearly 91% of the respondents are not aware of the laws regarding the prohibition of manual scavenging. And only i.e., 9% of the respondents are aware of their law.

It is found that the 80.33% respondents have been found dissatisfied with their nature of work or conditions of work.

It is found that 184 (61.33%) of the respondents of the family members were in manual scavenging the main reason behind are family social status, profession and job opportunities, it was probed that the main reason was hereditary.

Distribution of family member’s occupation of respondents it is found that the occupation among the manual scavengers has been briefly distributed in the table which has a complex of job distribution scoring 29% among the 300 respondents family members are contract pourakarmikas.

It is found that the majority i.e., 80.67% of the respondents are not using safety cloths while doing a work.

Based on this opinion the researcher raised a question with regard to respondent's opinion to wear safety cloths while scavenging. The table describes that majority i.e., 35.66% of the respondents felt that it was unsafe while at work and 34.67% felt that it was moderately safe and remaining of the 29.67% feel that it was safe.

It is found that, 173 (57.67%) were used Government bus, 50 (16.66 %) respondents were come on foot, 32 (10.67%) respondents commuted bicycle, and 36 (12%) of the respondents were using other modes of travel, and rest 9 (3%) of the respondents used own vehicles like motorcycles or other means for travelling, to reaching their work place.

The average distance between working area and respondent’s home for the highest number of respondents 84 (28 per cent) among total respondents is more than 12 kms.
It is found that among the 300 respondents, only 36 of them i.e., 12% took bath and 120 (40%) of them did not do so because of the tiredness they had from the work.

the data reveals that out of total respondents 27 percent of the employees working come under the age group of 41-50 and 14 percent fall in the age group of 20-30 & 51& above.

Among the 100 percent, 53 percent represents the male population and remaining 47 percent represents female.

The educational background of the pourakarmikas working in the limits of BBMP in Bangalore city reveals that 8 percent have completed their middle school, 32.67 percent have completed primary education, 38 percent are illiterates, only 0.33 percent have completed graduation and the data reveals that no person have approached or attempted to proceed for higher education.

Majority of them i.e., 63.33% of the respondents were married, where as 17.66% of the respondents were unmarried, 16.67% of the respondents were Widow/Widower, 0.66% of the respondents were divorced and the rest of 1.67% were separated.

While analyzing their religious background of the pourakarmikas belongs to Hindu which alone constitutes for 82%, 12.33% of the respondents were Christians, 3.33% of the respondents were Muslims, and the rest 2.33% has been taken over by some other religion.

The researcher has gone through understand the caste of the scavenger. The study revealed that caste was the significant factor for such hard and dirty work to be performed, it can be seen from the above statistics that majority of workforce was from the marginalized section of the society and other forward castes were not performing such duties. Hence the complete workforce i.e., 82.34% belonged to SCs, and 7% i.e., 21 of them belonged to STs, 3.33%, belonged general caste and rest of the 7.33% i.e., of them belonged to other backward castes.
The researcher intends to get the data for understanding the sub caste that is involving foremost to this profession. Hence, the researcher has undergone through Interview schedule and collected the data. According to the data 68.33% of the respondents are belong to Madiga caste, and rest of the 11.66% of the respondents are belong to Holeyas and 18.33% of the respondents are belongs to Bhovis, rest of the 1.67% of the respondents are belong other castes. This data shown that Majority of the respondents are belong to Madiga caste.

The researcher intends to get data for understanding the mother tongue of the respondents, some of the migrants are from the neighboring states of Karnataka such as the Andhra Pradesh and Tamilnadu who have settled for 6 to 8 decades back and have learnt and different languages as the table shows that majority speak Telugu in this area which constitute of about 62%, 21.33% of the respondents speaks Tamil, 11.33% of the respondents speaks Kannada, 4.33% of the respondents were speaks Urdu, rest of the 0.67% were speaks other languages.

The majority of the respondents i.e., 62.33% of the respondents having a joint family, rest of 37.67% of the respondents having a nuclear family So, it is concluded that the majority of the respondents were belonging Joint family.

The size of the family has been found as 7–9 (30.33 %) members in majority of family high, 1–3 (33.67%), size of family 4-6 (28%), and rest of family size of 10 above i.e., 8%.

Average monthly income of pourakarmikas has can be seen, scavengers having monthly salary starting from Rs. 5000 to 7000 constituted 21% a large amount of the respondents i.e., 45.67% of the respondents earns monthly salary in the range of Rs 8000 to 9000. 17% earn 10,000 to 12,000, those earning above Rs. 12000 are 16.33%.

More respondents have been found dissatisfied wages and status compare to other working persons, only 31 of the 300 are satisfied and 89% of them are not satisfied in their earnings.
Regarding monthly expenditure of respondent’s families, it was found that the main item of expenditure on which most of these families expend their monthly income has been found food followed by drugs and clothing, drinking of alcohol.

Regarding type of savings, 31% of them have their financial transactions and savings through the local chit funds, many have not banking knowledge and Life insurance and 27.67% have been saving through the post offices and the other 26.33% save through other investments through lending to family members and relations.

Regarding savings, the average amount for family has been Rs. 1000 to 2500 per month as discussed earlier the scavengers due to family commitments have very less money to save and only 129 of them save from 100-300 Rs in week or a month. This can again be the reason of less salary they earn and more expenses.

Regarding health problems, It is clear from table that the profession of scavenging is disease prone and the scavengers suffer from many health hazards for which majority of them suffer from skin and allergic problems. The profession being exposed to bacteria’s and viruses, pollutions, which has led to permanent diseases and skin problems especially among the women leading to gynecologic problems, back pains, joint pains recurring again and again etc. which are not able to cure with small medical expenses, hence the diseases such as asthma and cancer are common among the Pourakarmikas.

It is found that literacy status of the respondents families i.e., 89% of the respondents families are illiterates and only 11% of them have got basic education and the same has made no difference in their respective families. Some of the problems of not getting the basic education are due to their poor background and family history of illiterates.

It is found that the scavengers are little aware of any scholarships and are not using any scholarships given by the government and again the
scavengers are not been made aware of the government and this is lack of any advertisements and information.

Basic facilities such as housing is the economic status which is clear from the table that only 87 of the 300 respondents have their own houses with a land or site provided by the government, 31.33% of the respondents living in rented house, 29.67% of the respondents were living in corporation quarters, rest of i.e., 10% other accommodations provided with family and friends. More over many of them live in poor conditions of wall and roof and sometimes prone to serious disasters.

It has been found that most of the houses in their areas the source of water for the labour force in provided with public taps and some of them use their own tap provided by the BWSSB with metered costs.

The experiences of untouchability have been very crucial among the pourakarmikas which can be seen in the above table. In the study of 300 respondents 78% of them have been experienced different forms of discriminations, which may in their everyday routine of work from the superiors and the upper caste people whom they come across them. Many of them have been not allowed to walk or go around in some areas and also some houses dominated by the upper castes.

It has been found that the habitual status of the pourakarmikas have not been satisfactory in their behavioral patterns for which many of them have regular habit of drinking, smoking, chewing pan, chewing betel nuts and pan masala. Many of the labourers are regular gamblers who end up bankcurrepsy. Many of the pourakarmiakas are not aware of such circumstances of practices and the government also doesn’t make them aware or give them any rehabilitation hence this people are prone to mouth cancer and liver cancer.

It has been found that only 29.67% they were aware and members of some labour unions and organizations, majority of the 70.33% they were not aware of any such organizations and labour unions. This is due to lack of political empowerment and participation among the labour force and lack of
interest in such activities hence the pourakarmikas are not empowered through any organizations which are government sponsored or private.

It has been found that the pourakarmikas are poorly equipped with any information of training rehabilitation of health, hygiene, education etc; there are lacks of rehabilitation centers in order to reform or provide psychological counseling to the pourakarmikas.

72% of them are not aware any rehabilitation and training programmes conducted by the government sponsored NGO’s or any other programmes hence it is clear that these scavengers have been not civilized about their social and economic status which has led to more degradation of their status in health and education.

It has been found that around 90.33% of the respondents are not aware and were not the beneficiaries of the BBMP due to lack of information and awareness. The pourakarmikas have diverse themselves from the programmes and policies which is due to lack of interest and awareness. Majority of them due to illiteracy did not seek any information in the respective offices about the programmes and policies for rehabilitation of scavengers.

It has been found that the working conditions of the pourakarmikas are grave and dangerous many of them have lost their life’s working in the manhole which has led to Sevier health hazards. In the above table it is clear that 83% of them have the opinion that it is highly dangerous and have rejected to work underground drainage.

The present study reveals that there are around 12,000 contract pourakarmikas among which the research was conducted on who are government employees (Permanent Pourakarmikas) not a contract labourers due to the rehabilitation which is provided only for the pourakarmikas who under the regular government employees. Hence many of them were aware of the exploitation faced by the contract pourakarmikas in the hands of contractors. It is true from the table that 98.33% were aware that the contract Pourakarmikas were manually exploited by the contractors who are the private
tendered individuals maintained by government. The exploitation is in the form of long hours of work, heavy work, not paying salary in time and not providing safety measure and equipments. Hence the study revealed that the government pourakarmikas was aware of the contract laborer and their highly dangerous working conditions prone to many diseases health problems and economic exploitations.

It is found that programmes and Policies for with particulars reference to pourakarmikas. In this chapter, it is mentioned that Indian Constitution abolished all kinds of social discrimination, injustice, exploitation, etc, National Schemes of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and Their Dependents, Barve Committee (1949), Backward classes commission (1953), Protection of Civil Right Act (1955); The Scavenging Conditions Enquiry Committee (1960), The Committee of Customary Rights to Scavenging (1969), The Committee on Improvement of Living and Working Conditions of Sweepers and Scavengers (1976), The Task Force for Tackling the Problems of Scavengers (Planning Commission, Government of India) 1990-91, Draft Report of the Impact of Scheme of Training and Rehabilitation on Socio-economic Improvement of Scavengers in Rajasthan (Sponsored by Government of India, Planning Commission) 2006-07, Ministry of Home Affairs, HUDCO, WHO, UNICEF and some other National & International organizations efforts. Harizan Sevak Sangh, Safai Vidyalaya, Gandhi Smarak Nidhi Sulabh International and some others non-government efforts.

The achievement of goal on liberation of pourakarmikas to be also calls for development of their living conditions by their dependents who are potential scavengers. Efforts made so far are more symbolic than real and scavengers continue to live wretched life even today. True that a number of committees appoint by the Central Government and the State Governments have examined, from time to time, the living and working conditions of scavengers and have made several important recommendations. Sadly, these
recommendations have either not been followed or follow up measures, where taken, have not made any significant on the problem.

6.2 SUGGESTIONS

1. Since the problem of scavenging is basically social and deep rooted, it should be viewed in totality countering with the help of different experts, adopting a Single Window system for all the problems related to education, training, housing, vocational guidance, entrepreneurship, development, sports, health discriminations and atrocities etc.

2. The entire development problems of scavengers may be put under the control and coordination of the National Commission for Pourakarmikas with required necessary executive powers so that it can take necessary action timely. The National Commission for pourakarmikas should work as an entry–point for all the problems related to the scavengers.

3. All the agencies dealing with the different aspects of the scavengers should be brought under the umbrella of the National Commission for Pourakarmikas, which can coordinate and help, in the implementation of the developmental programmes. The Commission may also be provided with executive powers to avoid delay in implementation.

4. Treat individual scavenger as a unit of service and extend the services to all the scavengers whether they are doing any scavenging work or not but traditionally belong to the scavenging household.

5. The schemes, which are meant for the scavengers, should be available always on request both in written and verbally including Internet free of cost.

6. As the individual scavengers and their communities are the male decision makers, they should be helped to get organized with the help of the professionally trained Social workers. The services should be provided through the cooperatives of the scavengers. All the needy should form cooperatives with the help of social workers. The government in the localities in which the concentration of the
scavengers is more should puts the professionally trained Social workers on regular basis. The social workers at the grass root level should coordinate and use the services of all the experts required for the development of the scavengers and report to the Managing Director of the SC/ST Finance and Development Corporation.

7. The SC and ST Finance Development Corporation should now take up the left out survey work of identification, as it is in contact with the scavengers or give it to the committed relevant organizations.

8. Motivational and counseling programs should be taken up in various fields’ right from the early age in the field of education, employment, health and hygiene etc. The professionally trained social workers should also be taken up, similarly coordinate number of many other developmental schemes, and keep account of it. Before providing training to the scavengers, see to it that the aptitudes of the scavengers match the trades selected. This can be done with the help of trained vocational counselors. The relevant University teaching departments may also be involved. Only potential training institutes should be involved in training the scavengers and rehabilitating in the alternative occupations successfully. A memorandum of understanding may also be signed by the government with the reputed and potential private sector at both national and international levels for taking up the complex task of training and rehabilitation of the scavengers. The training grant should be flexible to suit the living cost of the working scavenger and the cost of the training programmes.

9. Before providing financial assistance to the scavengers make sure that the aptitudes match the type of trades selected and there is adequate forward (marketing) and backward (training,) linkages.

10. The information related to the scavengers, schemes of development, progress made etc should be computerized and made available to all concerned such as beneficiaries, planners, legislators, academicians,
journalists etc who are interested in the welfare of the scavengers, at various levels.

11. The SC and ST finance and Development Corporation should itself come forward for total training, finance, marketing etc with good networking with other organizations concerned. As the Banks have not shown significant role, they should not be involved.

12. Loan at concessional rate of interest may be advanced after forming of the self-help groups by the beneficiaries wherever possible by the SCDC’s themselves without involvement of the Banks and make available all the information on the net for the transparent functioning. The financial assistance should not have any limit as long as the project proposal is feasible and viable.

13. The Managers and the Assistant Managers at the district level should be trained and they may also be sent to other states where successful experiments, are made. They should also be encouraged to take part in the seminars and workshops etc held at various places on the development of the weaker sections. They should be made accountable for the qualitative process and target oriented results. In India under various hosing schemes housings for the poor are provided but normally without toilet facilities in rural areas. Toilet facilities are made mandatory.

14. Update the figures of scavengers at national level.

15. Construction of toilets should be made obligatory including all the housing schemes meant for rural or urban, poor, or rich.

16. The training programme for the scavengers should be increase as suggested by the respondents.

17. In order to liberate scavengers from unclean occupation, it is necessary that they have requisite skills in alternative occupations. Scavengers lack such skills and arrangement for training has been made where they are
provided skills in alternative occupations. The respondents were, therefore, asked if they are aware of such an arrangement.

18. Setting up of a counseling centre at the training institute or Municipality

Provision of marketing outlets, increase in the amount of grants loans, and greater coverage of scavengers by grants and loans.

19. The number of respondents offering these suggestions tended to increase with the level of urbanization. In other words, these measures were favored more by city dwellers than by those from towns and villages and the differences among them were also found significant.

20. The working conditions of the Sweepers and Scavengers, which constitute the most vulnerable section of people of Scheduled Castes, continue to remain poor. The practice of carrying head loads of night soil though tried to remove but prevalent in some areas. This practice not only creates insanitation in the areas but is also one of the main reasons for continuation in the practice of untouchability. Most of them are living under unhygienic condition where sanitation is improper this should be avoided.

21. Women's associations in Karnataka can bring a sea-change by imitating the model of Andhra Pradesh and Haryana if they work in a mission-oriented manner. What they lack is the basic orientation for the same. Non-government agencies can play a vital role in developing missionary zeal in them to take up this cause.

22. Propaganda against drinking should include women as it affects them most. They are responsible for running the family and upbringing of their children with meager income. Addiction to alcohol spoils the future of women and children and eventually it ruins the family.

23. The Municipality should encourage the formation of a club for its staff. Some experiments of this sort have proved beneficial. This can be extended to their residential locality also by making a community hall with television facility for their family members.
24. It is of utmost importance to keep in touch with the families of habitual takers of alcohol. Though drunkards offer hard resistance to persuasion, social workers must not give up. Both government and the NGOs can coordinate their activities in this direction. Although many NGOs are working in this field, the coverage of scavengers under their programme is very low. Therefore, an effort should be made to cover maximum number of scavengers under their programme.

25. A number of committees had been set up by the State and Central Government to examine the problem of scavengers and give suggestions for their training and rehabilitation. National Safai Karmachari Commission for welfare of scavengers was set up in the year 2003. The basic objectives of this Commission are to submit its recommendations to the State Government. But it is still not functioning properly. To provide facilities and to remove inequality and dissimilarities in opportunities in this segment of Society there is a need of professional social work intervention.

26. A beginning was made during 5th Five-Year Plan by introducing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the conversion of dry latrines into water borne, but with very inadequate funds. During 5th Five Year Plan a new scheme of "Liberation of Scavengers" was introduced with the twin objectives of converting all the existing dry latrines into water borne latrines in the towns and rehabilitations of unemployed scavengers in the alternative employment/occupations simultaneously, with suitable training for diversification wherever necessary. Special groups and vulnerable groups among SCs such as scavengers, tanners, weavers, fishermen, flayers and leather men etc. need to be given more attention and due priority, as they are still most backward among SCs.

27. The Government, both at the Center and in State, is deeply concerned and conscious about their problems and has taken suitable measures not only to relieve them from these unclean occupations, but also to ensure
that they lead an honorable life in the society and do not fall in this trap again. They are being benefited through income generating family oriented schemes in such a way that they are not only made free but are also rehabilitated.

28. The nodal agency should be responsible for planning and implementing various income generating schemes for these groups of persons is the Directorate of Municipality administration, Bangalore & Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Corporation under the guidelines and instructions issued by the Government of India and the State Government. The conversion work is done by the Directorate of Local Bodies.

29. The state should take the initiative of bringing the yearly reports of the statistics of the pourakarmikas in the municipal limits and all over the state.

30. There should be a separate budget for the development of the pourakarmikas and their children.

31. Many of the pourakarmikas are shelter less and homeless and have been denied a place to live and hence the state government have to make an immediate study of the status of the pourakarmikas and provide them housing facilities and other basic amenities.

32. Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Corporation should be separately administered from the SC/ST Corporation. Like the national Safai karmacharis commission in the National level, a parallel organization in the state level should be established and the organization should be administered in the name of I.P.D.Salappa.

33. The I.P.D.Salappa report of the 1974 have to be completely implemented, as so far only 32 suggestions have been implements, hence the complete report have to be implemented.

34. As I.P.D.Salappa is considered to be the voice of the pourakarmikas, there should scholarships and awards rewarded every year in the
Educational institutions and other professional courses for the children’s of the pourakarmikas.

35. Transport facilities should be provide for the pourakarmikas who work far from their home and they should be picked up and dropped at their homes.

36. The High court of Karnataka had issued an order to appoint 4000 order should be permanent pourakarmikas, so far the state Government has not implemented, the high court order should be implemented immediately and appoint them for the welfare of the pourakarmikas.

37. A political representative from the families’ members of the pourakarmikas should be nominated to the upper house in the Parliament and the Legislatures in the states in India.

38. There should be a positive propaganda which makes the pourakarmikas more aware of the programmes and policies and programmes through the banners and media advertisements and other forms of propaganda.

39. All the workers who are involved in the sanitary, sewerage workers, contract/Permanent, Safai karmacharis, and other unclean working labourers should be equally considered under the same profession without any discrimination in the nature of the work.

40. There should be an amendment made in the Indian constitution which can bring them in the constitutional status which can bring them under an extra reservation.

41. Finally the state government should come up with affirmative actions for the complete development of the pourakarmikas in the state.
6.3 CONCLUSION:

From the foregoing discussion, based on both primary and secondary data, it can be concluded that the rehabilitation programme though has made a positive impact on the scavengers; the progress in rehabilitation is very slow. Karnataka, which is 14th largest state in identifying the number of facilities belonging to the scavenger, stands first in receiving the grant from the government of India, 11th in imparting training and 13th in rehabilitation up to 2001. It must also be noted that the socio-economic status of the scavengers living in Madhya Pradesh is far better than the scavengers living in Karnataka. But, there is similarity among the scavengers of both the states so far their occupations; attitudes and values are concerned regarding their standard of living. Pourakarmikas remain marginalized in the Indian society, today despite the constitutional provisions which directed the state to promote their educational and economic interests. They remained marginalized because their communities are still predominantly employed to carry out the country's basic sanitary services. Lacking the necessary literacy skills to take advantage of government reservations in education employment of scavengers have not been able to participate in the job mobility associated with living in a rapidly growing urban environment. While these economic and social problems are shared by other scheduled castes, it is the unclean and polluting nature of their sanitary work that marginalizes scavengers. The nature of their employment causes even other Untouchables to discriminate against them.

This situation continues today because scavengers have not been able to apply enough political pressure on the three levels of government to ensure that they sustained an interest in improving their living and working conditions. Scavengers lack effective political representation and influence as they are a minority group amongst the scheduled castes. Since independence some attempts have been made by the government to abolish untouchability and the discrimination that it causes. These are mainly centered on the passing of progressive legislation such as the Untouchability (Offences) Act.
But such measures have been largely ineffective as shown by the annual reports of the commissioner for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The Commissioner's efforts have also proved to be inadequate because it has been understaffed and under sourced and thus unable to play the "watchdog" role envisaged for it in the constitution. In 60’s and 70’s a whole chapter in the annual reports was frequently devoted to the comments and recommendations on centrally funded programmes devised to improve the living and working conditions of scavengers. But these comments and recommendations went unheeded. This was true of the report of the scavenging conditions enquiry committee as well. The response of local government to centrally funded schemes for purchase of wheelbarrows was either a misuse of funds or apathy towards the entire scheme. In 80s and 90s governments have changed the focus to the abolition of scavenging as in occupation rather than attempts to improve the socio-economic conditions of scavengers and sweepers. But the scenario has merely repeated itself. Pronouncements have been made by Prime Ministers that scavenging will be abolished by a specific date but they are failed to detail how all the dry latrines will be replaced. This is a critical decision because dry latrines are the very source of scavenging. Adequate attention has not been paid as to how scavengers will be "liberated" from manually removing night soil. There is a lack of information about the actual number of people involved in the occupation, considering their low levels of literacy.

Perhaps, it is indicative of the lack of interest by the state that the most substantial work today to "liberate" scavengers is being carried out by one of the few non-government organizations concerned about their welfare such as Sulabh International. Since it appears highly improbable that the inadequacies of India's sanitation systems will be rectified in the near future, given of the huge cost and the logistics of the problem, the likelihood of scavenging as a profession disappearing is remote. The prospect of changing social attitudes to scavenging, which is seen as "unclean and polluting" also appears distant. It
appears that the only way in which scavengers can be brought forward from the margins of Indian society is by providing them with the skills to take advantage of government reservations in education and employment.

This is something that the state can do. But unfortunately, scavengers do not have the necessary political representation or support from the non-government sector to be able to apply enough pressure to ensure that such reservations are implemented. Therefore, it is concluded that the best hope that scavengers have of lessening their marginalization resides with the slowly-increasing political awareness of the younger members of their communities. The problem is not merely economic but social and political. It is a social problem in the terms of not changing their lifestyle they are doing by generation to generation. The immobility of the community to another occupation causes huge lose to the community in particular and society in general. The hazardous working conditions are also the important problem and solution should also include considerations improvement of socio-economic conditions. In view of the present working conditions of sanitary workers the situation leads us to suggest that it is high time to make them importance of their labor right and withdraw the contract system. Their political awareness has also to be improved in order to make them aware of their rights so that they may grab their claims from the system, the government should immediately take step to provide protective gears, issue ESI cards and health cards. The conditions of sanitary workers are extremely miserable and betterment of this unfortunate section is one of the prime needs when compared with the average income of the people the earning of the sanitary workers to local bodies and municipalities may not be low but those who are working as contract employ the situation is pathetic and the immediate steps should be take to increase their salary up to Rs.1,0000-15000/- p.m.

The sanitary workers have not been able to apply enough political pressure on the three levels of government to ensure that they sustained an interest in improving their living and working conditions. Sanitary workers
lack effective political representation and influence as they are a minority group amongst the scheduled castes. The above discussion clearly depicts the conditions in which the scavengers dwelling in. Here the role of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike is considered to be a partial fulfillment of the existing social backwardness of the pourakarmikas. Here one cannot out rightly rule out the policies and programmes brought down by the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike to be hurdles for development. Sometimes the plans and the programmes are themselves posses’ impractical procedures otherwise, even if the programmes and policies well planned; their execution becomes tougher with existing mechanism and authorities.

It is hoped that at least in coming day’s authorities and the government will take some measures in uplifting the lives of those people who are reasons behind cleanliness of the society. I personally come from the same society we discussed so far, hope that this community acquires equal social status which is much awaited progress. I mean to say out society essentially a traditional society which is looking for westernization definitely requires to inculcate professional characteristic to march towards a developed nation.

Though the title stresses much on the role of the BBMP in rehabilitation of pourakarmikas, when the research progressed it is felt that the research must look in to the details of socio-economic conditions and the related problems of scavengers. Thus this thesis said to be a file of detailed documentation of pourakarmikas in wholest sense rather than a file of programmes and policies of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike. Yet the role of BBMP is not neglected totally but the details of all the programmes and policies are considered to be the background for understanding of the existing scenario of scavengers. The policies and programmes initiated by Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike are discussed and co-related where ever they are necessary in the discussion of conditions of pourakarmikas.

Finally there is a little possibility of sanitary workers establishing political alliances because of their isolation from other low caste groups. Since it
appears highly improbable that the inadequacies of India's sanitation systems will be rectified in the near future, given of the huge costs and the logistics of the problem, the likelihood of sanitary workers, as a profession disappearing is remote.

The prospect of changing social attitudes to scavenging, which is seen as unclean and polluting, also appears distant. It appears that the only way in which sanitary workers can be brought forward from the margins of Indian society is by providing them skills to take advantage of government reservations in education and employment. This is something that the state can do.