CHAPTER – I
INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

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1.1 INTRODUCTION

"We are ending a century that has seen a staggering technological advance and the emergence of a global economy worth nearly $300 trillion. What is equally staggering and wholly obscene is the gulf that now separates those who enjoy the fruits of this progress from those who do not especially the hundreds of million of women and children who are excluded and denied their fundamental rights."

- Carol Bellamy
Head of UNICEF

Children are the most lovely creation of nature. They are universally recognized as the greatest assets of any nation and are also the future of the nation. They are flowers of our national garden. Every child is an asset to the society and the future welfare of the society depends on the welfare of the child. Jawaharlal Nehru once said, "But somehow the fact that ultimately everything depends on the human factor gets rather lost in our thinking of plans and schemes of national development in terms of factories and machinery and general schemes. It is all very important and we must have them, but ultimately of course, it is the human being that counts and if human being counts, well he counts much more as a child than as a grown up."\(^1\)

The term "child labour" is at times used as a synonym for "employed child". In this sense it is co-extensive with any work done by the child for gain. But more commonly than not, the term "child labour" is used in pejorative sense. It suggests something which is hateful and exploitative.\(^2\)
1.2 WHAT IS CHILD?

The child is a clean slate on which parents, teachers, and society write his destiny. The teacher is like the potter who can mould the child's personality as the potter makes pots from clay.

The child is the concern of every right thinking person and institution. Children are not only the most but, at the same time, the future of the country will be by them, the way we shape them.

Childhood is the time of joy and play, of learning and growing. But, for all too many children, the rise they meet of is of another nature, especially for those unfortunate one that have to wither away their innocent childhood on drudgery for the sake of survival.

1.3 WHAT IS CHILD LABOUR?

The term child labour is, at times, used as a synonym for 'employed child' or 'working child'. But a working child is one who subjects himself or herself to work, unpaid or free, instead of being at the school at a tender and formative stage of his or her life. Any adequate conception of child labour begins with the child himself, his nature and his needs both present and future. And every child needs opportunity for growth not only physical but in mind and personality, through all the activities and experiences of childhood. It is found that the employment of children in gainful occupations are dangerous to their health and deny them the opportunities of development. Child labour therefore implies:

1. The child is employed in gainful occupation

2. He is denied of the opportunities of development both physical and mental

3. His employment has negative impact on his development.

4. It will reflect badly on the society.
1.4 WHERE CHILDREN ARE EMPLOYED

There is no employment where children are not employed for a wage or reward. In India employments like carpet weaving, diamond cutting and polishing, zari and embroidery works, mica cutting and splitting, lock making, glass bangles and glass wares, brass wares, match, fire and explosive works, slate and pencil making, cloth dyeing, printing and weaving-handloom and/or power loom, tanning leather and footwear making, soap manufacturing, wool cleaning, dhabas, hotels and restaurants, beedi and agarabatti rolling, cashew processing, construction of roads and buildings, brick making, carpentry, black smithy, rags picking, stone quarrying and cutting, automobile repairing, servicing, petrol pumps, cycle shops, lorry and other vehicles cleaning, brass and aluminum vessels making, wood cutting, basket and mat weaving, cotton picking and ginning, tailoring, picking up float iron and manganese ores, manufacturing of khandasari sugar and jaggery, cattle grazing, agriculture, horticulture and sericulture, silk twisting, domestic services, vending of fruits and vegetables, news paper vending, flower vending, painting, loading and unloading of light goods, coolie work, small and ancillary workshops, petty trades, and so on.

1.5 DEFINITION OF CHILD LABOUR

Child labour the term itself may be used as synonym of "employed child" or "working child". This may be explained as employment of children in gainful occupations or a material contribution to the income of the family.
Child labour implies something different that young people are being exploited or overworked or deprived of their right to health or education or just to childhood.

The Operation Research Group (ORG)³ in India defines a working children as "...... a child falling within the 5-15 age bracket and who is at remunerative work, may be paid or unpaid and busy at any hour of the day within or outside the family

V.V.Giri⁴ defined that the term child labour is commonly interpreted in two different ways: first, as an economic practice and secondly, as a social evil.

Homer Floks⁵, the chairman of the United States of National Child Labour Committee, defined child labour as "any work by children that interferes with their full physical development, their opportunities for desirable minimum of education or their needed recreation".

The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986⁶, defines child as a person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age.

Article 24 of the constitution of India states:⁷ "No child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or engaged in any other hazardous employment".

M.S.Subramanian(1991)⁸ defines child labour thus: "child labour means the employment of children(5 to 14 years of age) in gainful occupations, which are injurious to their physical, mental, moral and social development."
According to Encyclopedia of Social Sciences: every child labourer is a child with all the needs of other children. He needs opportunity for growth not only physical, but in mind and personality, through all the activities and experiences, which properly belong to childhood, when the business of wage earning, or of participation, in self or family support, conflicts directly or indirectly, with the business of growth of education, the social evil of child labour becomes evident.

Karl Marx\(^{10}\) had observed, "The result of buying children and young persons of under age by the capitalist is physical deterioration and moral degradation".

S.W.Woodward\(^{11}\) defines the child labour "employment at too early an age delighted a child's economic prospects, it may be stated as a safe preposition that for every dollar earned by a child under 14 years of age ten-fold will be taken away from it earning capacity in later years".

Madan\(^{12}\), Deputy Director, Ministry of labour stated that "child labour is no longer a medium of economic exploitation but it is necessitated by economic necessity of the parents and in many cases that of the child himself".

### 1.6 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Child labour is an unfortunate product of industrial revolution originated in England and embraced not only other industries in independent countries but also the colonies captured by imperial powers during the period from 1760 to 1860. It is the
story of hundred years which gives us an account of increased wealth, increased productivity with the help of machines, profit-oriented activities of factory owners, migration of poor serfs and artisans from rural areas and hundreds of children who become victims of new capitalist economy. Children used to work 16 hours a day from 5 am to 9 pm. History of child labour in factories during the 19th century gives us dreadful events of their poor conditions, about the serfs in labour market sent by landlords as well as growing richness of the Millioneer Millowners. The condition of working children in England was thus very bad due to poor conditions of parents, unemployment and lack of ideological background. However, later on factory legislation introduced by the liberal leadership regulated working hours for children and women. Many writers and trade union leaders in India have done a great deal in recent years to create public awareness of the wretched conditions in which millions of our poorest children work.\textsuperscript{13}

1.7 CAUSES OF CHILD LABOUR

The problem of child labour is universal problem, but it is more prevalent in underdeveloped countries. On the one hand because of the poverty of masses, they send their children to work, and on the other hand, due to the backward and labour intensive technology in these countries, there is a search for cheap labour which is available in the form of child labour. In the absence of State sponsored schemes for family allowances to enable parents to ensure their children's proper and adequate nutrition, education
and living conditions; the poor parents are forced to send their children to work. On the other hand, the lack of protective child labour legislation and the evasion of existing laws for the protection of child labour keep the child labour going and getting exploited. Besides these causes, sudden death of father, mother or both parents in a poor or low middle class family, big size of family, ill-habituated father spending money on drinking, illegal children and sometimes the child’s desire to work make them work during childhood. Children work because of one or more of these cases.  

1.7.1 Poverty

The most important course of child labour is widespread absolute poverty forces the parents to send their children to seek employment. Disease and other contingencies may need extra money and the employment of children is resorted to as easily accessible method to earn the money.

The problem of child labour is interrelated to the problem of living wage of adult worker. The very inadequacy in wage of adults compels them to send their children to do some work in return of some compensation and employer also takes and benefit of this weakness by providing work to their children on low wages. The report of the International Labour Organization (ILO) also indicated that this problem of child labour is not the problem of itself but it is the problem of the maintenance of child and the living wage of the adult wage earner so that they should maintain their family at adequate standards.
1.7.2 Large Family Size

Large families with comparatively less income cannot have the happy nations in their mind. As a result, they can not give protected and encouraging childhood to their children. If a family is limited and well planned, there will be no scope for sending their children to the labour market and the children can be carefully educated. Illiterate and innocent parents think just contrary to this. Thus, if parents have a small family size, they can provide all facilities to their children which are necessary for their mental, physical and social growth.15

1.7.3 Illiteracy and the Lack of Education

Illiteracy and the lack of education ranks almost as high in the literature. According to myron weiner, a forceful advocate of this position, it is the failure of the education system is India that fuels child labour. Education simply is not available for millions of children. Despite the constitutional undertaking education has not been made compulsory in any state, even at a basic level. There are not enough schools for everyone to go to, nor are there sufficient trained teachers to staff those that do exist. That is part of the problem. In much of India, public primary education cannot be proposed as an alternative to work.

Equally important is the utility and relevance of education, especially to families on the bread-line. If the formal education that is accessible does not lead to employment opportunities, schooling will not emerge as an attractive or viable option to work.
with indirect costs, such as books and transport, not to mention 'the loss' of the child's earnings, education does not come free either. In this situation parents may well decide, if they have a choice, that it is more sensible and certainly more remunerative for children to become bread-winners as soon as they can.16

1.7.4 Economic Factors

The economic factors are the main reasons for child labour. The poor parents sending their children for work in some cases the children are becoming bonded labour. In some cases the families are compelled to migrate their children temporarily to the nearest cities or urban areas of adjoining states to earn the necessary income.17

Sometimes social structure of the society becomes responsible for child labour. The social structure in our country is characterized by caste system. The members of low castes and down trodden communities are supposed to be for the service of the upper castes. Thus, they are deprived of their aspirations.18

1.7.5 Insufficient Protective Legislation

The practice of engaging child labour is an indicator of the backwardness of rules and regulatory measures. India has passed laws for almost all the industries which engage children as labour, specifying their hours, terms and conditions of works, education, wages etc. But, no industry so far strictly adhered to the laws and rules and no administrative machinery has ever undertaken to enforce the same on employers. Poor children get sandwiched in
between the atrocities of both the sides. There is no organizational or institutional set up which can protect them from their miseries.\textsuperscript{19}

1.7.6 Child Labour is Cheap

With the advent of industrialization, the tendency among the employers to have quick and more profits at low costs. Hence, in every country there was no employment of children in large numbers in factories, who were paid very low wages, were subjected to excessive hours to work, and were made to work in terrible conditions.

Child labour exists not because children are more able workers but because they can be hired for less money. Thus, preference for child labour by many employers is mainly due to the fact that it is cheap, safe and without any problem.

1.7.7 Absence of Scheme for Family Allowance

In India there is conspicuous absence of scheme for family allowance, as can be given to family so that people may maintain an adequate standard and may not be forced to send their children to the labour market. This type of scheme comes under the social security measures which is in practice in many developed countries.

1.8 CONSEQUENCES OF CHILD LABOUR

Physical labour has a tremendous impact on the growth of the child, the socio-psychological studies have portrayed the real magnitude of the problem. Labour has its impact on the physical
development, general health condition and morality of a child. Physical labour and consequent work pressure make the child both weak and timid. This hinders the educational or intellectual development of a child personality and physical labour easily lead a child to become a delinquent in course of time. Therefore, physical labour as a long lasting veil impact on the overall development of the children.

The higher the rate of child employment, the lower is the rate of adult employment. Even in terms of earnings it is observed that the market value of children's labour is even less than half the value for adults. Apart from employment and earnings, child labour is directly related to child health and exerts a negative effect upon it. It seriously interferes with their education and strikes at the very root of normal health and personality development. Also a job situation results in loss of schooling, mental retardation, physical strain and deprivation of avenues for sport and pastime which is so vital to child's normal growth. It may be said that the child labour is economically unsound as it undercuts adult labour, reduces wages and increases adult unemployment in consequences. "Child labour perpetuates poverty—it does not reduce it as it condemns one generation after another to its vicious circle."

1.9 CATEGORIES OF CHILD LABOUR ACTIVITIES IN INDIA

The member of child labour is much more than the officially estimated number. These children are being engaged in various organized and unorganized sectors. Various activity patterns of
children to derive an appropriate typology of children activities. The interactions between child roles and production patterns, the extent and nature of inequality and exploitation and pattern of household and individual behaviour. The major problem in devising a valid typology is the varying nature of social system, prevailing mode of production and other activities. This typology given below considers the most important categories of child activity.

1.9.1 Domestic Work

This includes cleaning, cooking, childcare and other domestic chores undertaken by children in almost every society. This type of work is done by a good percentage of children in rural and urban areas in all countries. Of course, the hours of work vary, which may be 1 to 7 hours per day in rural areas and 7 to 12 hours per day in urban areas, which again vary according to age and sex.

1.9.2 Non-Domestic and Non-Monetary Work

This category of work includes a major form of child activity in subsistence economy, which includes farm work and tasks as gathering, hunting etc. In agrarian economies, children spend a great deal of time in such activities, particularly those that are highly time intensive such as tending livestock, protecting crops from animals, weeding and other tasks associated with subsistence production.
The category of activity may be sub-divided for example, distinction between work contributing to production for market which is very difficult. A difference according to the exploitative mechanism involved is also, desirable that the child may be working for himself or herself for or with parents, for kin (e.g., treated as a faster child), or for strangers, the implications being difficult in each case. The survey conducted by different ILO sponsored groups says that the percentage of boys in more in farm work than the girls and the hours of work vary according to age groups.

Children make similar contribution to household production in non-agrarian environment. Urban household production, particularly in trade and services, but also in artisan manufacturing and the like, provides ample scope for time intensive work which may be indirectly highly productive engaging a large number of child labour. Of course, the artisan skills are passed from one generation to the next through the gradual incorporation of the child in the adult activity.

1.9.3 Tied and Bonded Labour

Feudal and semi-feudal modes of exploitation impose labour services of various kinds of peasants and other lower class groups. Various forms of rent extract feudal relations of production. Supported by use of extra economic power, without necessarily separating the direct producers from the means of production, and the term semi-feudal refers to production relations in whom the direct producers are exploited through wage labour as well as through feudal rent involving extra economic coercion.
Children are often induced to work in the process in which activities concerned often form a part of obligations to landlord, which children having to contribute a specified amount of work as part of a peasant family’s feudal rent. Children are working as unpaid household servants for the landlords, usually for some minimum boarding and lodging. Another common practice in India is the engagement of children as workers in part-payment of a debt. Indeed, intergenerational bonded labour virtually for life by the age of 8 years, a recently documented by a national survey in the country. This is commonly prevailing in the tribal districts.

In most cases the nature of contract between the exploiting group and the family induced to provide the children’s labour makes it difficult to assess the full extent of the practice. In our country the Children (pledging of labour) Act was passed as early as 1933 and amended in 1950 and 1953. Under its regulations parents and guardians were forbidden from pledging their children’s labour in return for any payment or benefit. Although there is Bonded Labour (abolition) Act to totally abolish the system. It is still in backward areas of our country.

1.9.4 Wage Labour

This is a major type of activity for children, in the modern industrialised economies. This is quite distinct from those working as a part of family labour force.

Wage employment of the youngest children typically involves work as part of family group as agricultural field labour, where the whole family work group is hired. Similar patterns of work group
are found in building works, digging works etc. This category also involves manual work in construction works. Industries, brick making, bidi and cigar industries etc. Also, wage labourers are engaged as domestic servants. The employers and relations in homes and industries are paying them low wages engaging them as assistants in industries and shops see the exploitation of children.

It would be easier to know the level of exploitation by separating the wage labourers by those paid on piece-rate basis or share cropping basis from time rate workers, wage earning involving the training content and those involving no such content, "regular" employment distinguished from irregular, causal work and those in permanent or potentially permanent jobs. Categories including illegal wage employment should also be identified.

These child wage labourers are more frequent in smaller than in the larger industries, because the latter can less easily ignore the legal restrictions. Also they are more common in artisan industries, where they work more efficiently than their adult counterparts for their sharp eyesight, clean and hardwork etc.

Wide spread system of apprenticeship contracts engages child workers in different occupations. Children often seek such employment as a means of labour market entry, which is very common in India in almost every locality. There are little more than disguised wage labour with the disadvantage of little or no bargaining power, pitifully low wages frequently lack of freedom to take other work.
1.10 REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A study of child labour conducted by George (1975) in the city of Madras that nearly 3/4th of the child workers started employment to supplement family income, 23 per cent were forced to take up employment on account of the death of their fathers and 17 percent of them began employment on the insistence of their parents. It was found that 83 percent of the child workers received monthly wages below Rs.60/- while another 16% received wages in the range of Rs.60/- to Rs.70/- and only 1% was paid above Rs.80/-.

Srikanthan et al.(1978) have studied child work participation in the integrated development of a command area. Their investigation shows that for the younger generation males aged 5 to 19 years, the percentage literate were much higher for dependents than for earners in the three study groups used. This suggests that early work participation perhaps prevents attendance at school and leads to more illiteracy. Similar differences were observed for girls. Again, compared to the older generation, the younger generation had less literacy among earners and more literacy among dependents. This indicates the competition between work participation and schooling so that, among dependents, youths are more literate then adults of the same sex, where as among earners, the contrary is true. The relationship between education and work participation of children is similar. These differentials tend to confirm the competing demands made on children by work participation and schooling, both on boys and girls, and especially among poorer families.
Singh and Pothen (1982) argue that millions of children live in the slums and they are unfortunate victims of exploitation. They consider slums as the cancer of urban community. Children who manage to survive often turn out to be social misfits and deviants.

Joyal (1985) has examined the inhuman exploitation inflicted upon child labourers. He has observed that "child labourers rescued in the famous bilwaria incident bore visible marks of physical torture, such as branding with that iron, bruises and lath blows. They were severely beaten with iron rods if they were slow at work, made mistakes in weaving, asked for adequate food or even if they went to ease themselves without the master's permission. At night, they were all locked up in small rooms. This happened to them daily, but once they were caught in the act of escaping, their feet were tied together and they were slung upside down from the branch of a tree and then to 'properly' drive the lesson home, they were branded with hot irons.

Kanbargi and Kulkarni (1985) have observed that age and gender constrain the quantum and nature of the gainful and domestic activities of children. While boys aged 15 to 7 years work, on the average, for about 2 hours a day, by 12 to 14 years they work for 5 hours a day. Boys put in more time tending livestock and working on the family farm or enterprise. Girls work for longer hours in very different activities from boys, such as in food preparation and domestic chores. The daily time spent at school and in school-related activities does not increase appreciably with
age for school going children but the proportion of children at school declines sharply with age. This is reflected in the apparent decline, with age, of daily time spent on schooling among all children.

With an increase in the size of land owned or livestock held, child work participation appears to increase, especially among labour-hiring families. The higher the father’s level of education, the more likely are children to attend school. Scheduled caste families have the lowest school attendance rate for children whereas higher castes have higher rates. There are regional differences in child labour participation and the schooling of children.

A study on “Development of informal sector and child labour: A case study of Surat” (1986) was developed by Umesh Chandra Sahoo. This study makes a modest attempt to find out the magnitude of child labour in industries of Surat at Gujarat state. He also finds out that the socio-economic structure is the main factor, which promotes increasing involvement of child labour force. It may also be concluded from his study that the small families do not sent their children for work because of the ability of the adults to support the family and in case of the larger family situation cannot be explained simply by demographic facts. There are many other factors that are responsible for involvement of children in work force. Caste system is one of them. In this study it is find out that in Surat the socio-economic and educational level of the families of the migrant child workers is relatively better than
the depressed castes and classes constituting the majority of rural working class population. In this study attention is given only on social aspects that are mainly responsible for increase in number of child laboures. However, besides social aspects, there are many other aspects that are equally important for children, which are completely ignored by the author.

According to a report published in the Indian Express (August 3rd, 1986) a comprehensive bill to ban employment of children in certain occupations and to regulate their conditions of work is areas where they are permitted was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August 1986 by the Minister of State for Labour, Mr. P.A. Sangma, According to the child labour (prohibition and Regulation) bill, 1986 “child” means a person who has not completed his or her 14th year. The bill provides that no child shall be employed in any of the occupations connected with transport of passengers, goods or mails by railway, cinder picking, clearing of ash pit or building operation is the railway premises. Child labour is also proposed to be barred in catering establishments at railway stations, involving the movement of a vendor of the establishment from one platform to another or in and out of a moving train. The bill also seeks to prohibit the employment of children in ports, any workshop, which carries as the process of bidi making, carpet weaving, cement manufacture, cloth printing, dying, weaving, wool cleaning, building and construction industry. A child labour technical advisory committee will advise the Government on addition or deletion in the list of occupations and processes mentioned in the bill. The bill provides that no child shall be
permitted to work between 7.00 pm and 8.00 am. No child shall be permitted or required to work on overtime. The period of work of a child shall be so arranged that inclusive of internal for rest it shall not be spread over more than six hours. The interval for rest will be at least one hour. The employer has to maintain a register about the children employed is to be made available for inspection any time. The contravention of the provisions of the bill shall be punishable with imprisonment not less than 3 months and which may extend to one year or with a fine of up to Rs.10,000/- or both. Subsequent contraventions will be punishable with 6 months imprisonment mandatory and it could be expected for two years.

Kamala Srinivasan (1990) found in a study that children employed as bidi works in Kalahasti in Chittoor District showed that labour laws meant to protect the interest of the child were openly contravened. All children worked for more than 12 hours a day and medical facilities were seldom available.

Panicker and Nangia(1992) has examined on the living conditions of working and street children of Delhi. The study reveals that migration comprises more than two-thirds of working children. They have migrated mainly from the nearly Hindi speaking areas of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh etc. The share of other states is not much. A few of the children have came from as flat as Tamil Nadu and same children have come from across the border from Bangladesh, Tibet and Pakistan where the political disturbances have forced than to migrate.
Panday's (1993) analysis on the street children of Kanpur examines the nature and extent of the problems of the street children and the familiar milieu they are enmeshed in, assess their basic and esoteric needs deprivation, locate their existing services and make policy and research suggestions.

Varma and Jain (1995) have focused the role of all India Trade Union Congress (AITUC), The centre of Indian Trade Union (CITU) and the Hindu Mazdoor Sabha (HMS) in eradicating child labour in some specific trades.

A state level convention on child labour was organised by a non-governmental organization named campaign against child labour (CACL), Orissa at Bhubaneswar (1995) contains in its study the socio-economic perspectives of working children in Orissa. Apart from this the study also explains some strategies to eradicate child labour and to improve the role of trade unions and the role of teachers. It also discussed the child labour in tribal area and the need of primary education as a means to eradicate child labour in tribal areas, but before preparing strategies to eradicate a problem, the first step is to find out the causes responsible for that problem which is completely ignored in this study.

In a report on "working children in Andhra" brought out by the Indian Council for children welfare (1996). It was made clear that the occupational profile of working children in Andhra Pradesh revealed that the large number of children were engaged in work and they constituted 30 percent of the total number of
working children. About 60 percent were working as Maids. 20 percent as domestic and non-domestic workers and 10 percent as productive workers.

Anjana Maitra Sinha’s study on (1996)35 “Plight of the Girl Child in India” states that the gross enrolment ratio of boys at the primary level is much higher than that of girls in school and it is estimated at 55.5 per cent at the primary stage and 77.7 per cent at the middle school stage. This is because girls start helping their mothers in domestic chores at a very early age.

Ananthapadmanabhan(1996)36 Labouring lives(Article)states that “Children are also employed in the most hazardous occupations. They work under humiliating environment without having any freedom to express the torture they undergo and in fact that are deprived to their childhood”.

Shibani Das Gupta(1997)37 “Child in his study on labour in India and the World” states that the child labour in India was increasing in urban areas and decreasing in rural areas, although the absolute numbers of child labourers in rural areas is higher than in urban areas.

An Investigation was made by Radhakrishna(1997)38 in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh on the exploitation of child labour in the traditional carpet weaving industry. The Mirzapur carpet is a prized possession in any household and it has been a traditional cottage industry. It was found that 2 years ago the industry had received summons from the court the maltreatment
of a group of migrant child labourers from Palaman district in Bihar was highlighted in the press. The Commission found that 72.5 per cent of the children surveyed villages in Palaman and 41 per cent of the total weavers surveyed in Uttar Pradesh were under 14 years. Among the children 48 per cent received only food and no wages and the rest between Rs.1 to Rs.5 per day Medical facilities were seldom available and the loom sheds were generally congested. The children cramped as they in pit looms, often developed skin diseases.

As it was reported in "Economic and Political Weekly", on the situation of children in match industry of Sivakasi, Smitha Kothari(1997) has extensively quoted the UNICEF area development report and has remarked that most studies on child labour have focused on the economic factors leading to employment of children and that the recommendations have stopped at stressing the need for improvement of working conditions, payment of better wages, provision of facilities for schooling and strict enforcement of applicable laws of the member involved in the preparation of UNICEF report, feels that there is need to understand the wider implication of child labour, its employment, exploitation and its impact on child survival and health, not only in the match industry but also in other industries such as carpet making, embroidery, explosives, mining and various other units.

A report on workshop of District Collectors and district heads entitled "Towards elimination of child labour"(1998) by National Resource center as child labour, V.V Giri National Labour Institute,
Noida highlights about the special schools, awareness generation as monitoring and evaluation for eliminating child labourers. It also discussed about the constitutional policy, legal protection and international programmers. Finally, it discussed about financial assistance to the organizations working for the child labourers. No doubt the study cover many important aspects but the major aspects like causes and effects of working of children etc are completely ignored in this study.

A book entitled "policy and programme for the Rehabilitation of working children and manual for the implementation of National Child labour projects" published by Govt. of India, Ministry of Labour, New Delhi (1998)⁴¹. The study explains a number of protective Measures such as legal, constitutional and national. The study discusses the Supreme Court judgment on child labour, National Child Labour Projects (1987) and also the child labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 and the rules. However, the above study only discussed about legal matters, the polices and programmes designed for working children. But only designing policy, programmes and measures are of no meaning if these are not implemented properly. Therefore, it is important to discuss how to implement the measures that are completely ignored in these studies.

A study entitled on "Elimination of Child Labour a Social Mission" presented by Dr. L. Mishra,⁴² in a workshop organized by Nabakrishan Choudhury Center for Development Studies, Bhuvaneswar (1999). In this study emphasis has been given only
to the education of the working children and also about some plans and projects prepared for them. Some additional strategies have also developed for the smooth and successful operation of these projects. However education is not the only problem of the working children.

A study undertaken by Baharal Islam Laskar (2000) mainly focused that around 80 percent of the child labourers in the lock industry of Aligarh are Muslims. The Aligarh lock industry is mainly a small scale industry, where manual labour and hard work is predominant. It is one of the biggest industries of the country employing 70,000-80,000 workers and earning crores of foreign exchange.

The lock industry in Aligarh is both organized and unorganized sectors upto March 31, 1994 there were 938 registered lock industries employing 5,590 workers. According to an estimate double this number are in unregistered small scale and cottage level units.

In Aligarh, poor section of muslims who are not able to manage job or livelihood elsewhere join degrading, subhuman task in the hazardous and low paying process of lock making. The health of child labourers are shaped and impinged upon by the social co-ordinates such as (1) The class from which these children are drawn within a community, and their living conditions including the public health facilities they have access to; (ii) The history and structure of the industry, and the nature of work and wages for child labourers, and (iii) The process within the industry
where children are employed and their exposure to hazardous working conditions (without protective measures). Children suffer more from work in hazardous conditions, which obviously invites strong radical political interventions.

Pratibha Goyal\(^4^4\) has focused to gauge the incidence of child labour in sports goods industry in Jalandhar(2004), and to profile child labour in Jalandhar's sports goods industry and assess its socio-economic impact.

About 1000 workers were found in the selected households out of which 96 were children. Thus, 9.6 per cent of the total labour engaged in football stitching was found to be child labour. Out of these children 70-83 per cent were boys and 29.16 per cent were girls. All these children were working at their residence outside the factory premises. 89.42 per cent of the child labourers belonged to Punjab. The families of migrants from Bihar (10.42 per cent) and Haryana, Rajasthan and Nepal (4.16 per cent) find that football stitching is better as compared to other kinds of hard labour and enables the workers make good dihari (daily wage).

To reduce the supply of child labour, massive health care and family planning programmes are needed to reduce family size NGOs, exporters and foreign importers should come forward to solve the global problem of child labour. Any programme towards elimination of child labour should not be launched in a mere adhoc piece meal fashion, but should be based on deep concern felt by all and a commitment to concerted efforts.
G.K. Lieten (2005)\textsuperscript{45} studied that child labour should be treated as one concept rather than as two separate words which combine in the same way as adult labour or female labour combine. It is not all work done by children, but it is specific work done by children in a specific context with a specific duration and with a specific potentially harmful impact. It is a concept which looks at the working activity of an underaged person from the specific interests of the child rather than from the point of view of economic accounting. Such a usage of child labour as one concept rather than as two words would include certain activities which until now generally have not been included in the statistics, and would exclude Many activities which now are included. The magnitude of child labour eventually may remain of the same order, but underlying phenomena will differ.

They throw different types of work as different degrees of deprivation into one basket, which may be useful for advocacy purposes but which my not serve as a guideline for policy priorities. It is hence mandatory to put more emphasis on detailed studies and extrapolate the results as a wider canvas.

In the case of child labour which we have documented more often than not the very survival of the families was at state, and unless the community and the state take on the responsibility and deal with these cases, from a human rights or form a child rights, perspective, child labour will remain with us. That should not be allowed to happen:
Dr. S. Vijayakumar and Dr. N. Namasivayan\textsuperscript{46} in their study examined the socio-economic factors influencing child to work in Hotel industry in Madurai city, Tamilnadu(2005). It is found that majority of the parents of child labour have completed 40 years of age. It is ascertained that parents who have more number of female children send their male child for employment in Hotel Industry.

Further ascertained that the main occupation of the father of child labours is coolie, similarly mothers are working as a domestic servant in residential area as well as in agricultural sector as a labour. It is further ascertained that most of the parents of child labour are illiterate in nature.

They have studied that, children without mother and those who have got stepmother are forced to send the children to seek employment in hotel industry. It is evident the size of family member larger, greater is the degree of child labour.

G.K.Lieten – (2006)\textsuperscript{47} in his found that abolition of child labour in developed countries has taken one century to bear friction. In most developing countries a change for the better has taken place in relatively short period of time. Governments have become aware of the importance of resolving the social question with an eye to economic development, national integration and social development in general. Policies have been put in place and there is considerable development in, for example, increasing literacy, reducing child mortality and limiting birth rates. Laws have been adopted and international treaties and conventions have
been ratified. An increasing number of people seem to be sufficiently aware that labour is a bad option for childhood and large number of organization and movements, national and international are actively paving the road for new policies and new practice.

It nevertheless seems that efforts to abolish child labour are faltering and that, in combination with the commitment to reach the millennium development goals on universal education before 2015, efforts shall have to be undertaken on a war footing.

A book entitled “Exploitation of Child labour in Tribal India” has been written by S.K.Tripatyi in which he explains the conditions and exploitation of tribal working children. In addition to this, he discussed about government polices and also suggests some measures for the tribal working children. The study has given importance to the exploitation of tribal child labourers only. However, no solution or measure to this problem has not been discussed anywhere in their study.

Lakshmi Davi in her study examined It was found that children in the chiken industry did a better work than the adults and were also paid less. Lack of educational facilities in the areas studied is one of the major causes of child labour. The study revealed that 44% of fathers and 100% of mothers were completely illiterate. Only 6% of the fathers had received formal education.
The unorganized nature of child labour had led to their increasing exploitation since they are not able to organize themselves into trade unique to fight for their rights.

Sylvain and John Knowles\textsuperscript{50} argue "Why the Child Labour Illegal(2007)" the emergence of laws restricting child labour or imposing mandatory education that is consistent with the fact that poor parents tend to oppose such laws. We find that if altruistic parents are unable to commit to educating their children, child-labor laws can increase the welfare of higher-income parents in an ex ante sense. On the basis of an empirical analysis of Latin-American household surveys, we demonstrate that per capita income in the country of residence has the predicted effect on child labor supply, even after controlling for other household characteristics.

V. Ambumani and S. Ganesan\textsuperscript{51} in their study is exploratory in nature and has been conducted with particular reference to socio-economic conditions of child labourers in hotel industry(2007). The proportion of child labourers to total force is 42 percent and the average monthly income range between Rs.160 and Rs.215 besides food and shelter. 74 percent of the child labourers are in the age group of 10-15 years. After completion of their elementary school education, they leave their home for job. In case of 56 percent of the boys, both parents are alive and hence orphange could not be the reason for child labour.
Insufficient food followed by domestic quarreling and hard work are the prominent reasons for taking up job. More than 60 percent of the boys expressed desire to study if facilities are given. Thus lack of facilities for education could also be a valid reason for child labour.

Relatives happened to be the dominant mode of getting employment and the prospects of becoming server is the single most dominant feature of these young boys.

1.11 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In Andhra Pradesh, Tirupati-Tirumala is a fast growing city along with its population from rural areas, business men, tourist and pilgrims from inside and outside the state as well as from different countries. Tirupati is a very fast growing city with IT, BPO and Health industries coming. It is a major boom for real estate. Tirupati is also emerging into a major educational, recreational, tourist and a commercial city. As regards population, Tirupati is one of the largest city in Andhra Pradesh as both the residential and floating population increase day by day, in turn it creates various business activities to net out the needs of the people, among these business units, hotel industry is very popular and a fast growing industry. There are five categories of hotels, Star Hotels, Medium Size Hotels, Small Size Hotels, Dhabas and Tea Bunks.

Though the organized and unorganized hotel industry provides employment in many, irrespective of age limit, the present study is oriented with the employment of child labour in the registered and unregistered hotel industry in Tirupati-Tirumala of Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh.
1.12 OBJECTIVES

1. To study the size, growth and magnitude of the child labourers engaged in the hotel industry in Tirupati and Tirumala and their socio economic conditions.

2. To examine nature, composition and characteristics of child labourers and the factors responsible for their emergence in Tirupati and Tirumala.

3. To analyse their working conditions, income, expenditure and savings pattern.

4. To discuss the problems encountered by child labourers.

1.13 HYPOTHESES

1. Poor economic conditions are the main reason, which forces the children to enter into the work.

2. Many child labourers are interested to continue their studies.

3. Child labourers are made to work for more hours and may be underpaid for their work.

4. Child labourers are unhappy about their condition, their work and working conditions. Most of them are exploited.

1.14 IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

A number of studies have come into existence in view of the enormity of the problem. Some are descriptive and normative, some specific and analytical and some empirical. The present study is
different and unique in the sense it provides us not merely
glimpses of their working conditions but their attitudes, behaviour,
views and perceptions on various problems that confront them. It
is in this context the study assumes importance and significance.
Further, the study will be of immense field of enquiry to the social
scientists and activities and policy makers in a way that it will
make them realize the gravity of the problem and take necessary
steps and measures to mitigate the grievances of the child
labourers in the country.

1.15 METHODOLOGY

The study is undertaken both by primary and secondary
sources of data and information. For secondary sources of data
and information more reliance is placed on available standard
literature comprising referred journals, official records, published
books, etc. But primary sources of data and information have been
collected by using a structured interview schedule through field
survey, Stratified purposive sampling method has been used for
the collection of data of Tirupati and Tirumala. Of the five
categories of prevailing hotels, namely Star, Medium Sized, Small
Sized, Dhaba's and Tea Bunks, Star hotels have been exempted
because as it was found no child labour in them. From the
remaining hotels primary data have been collected through well
drafted interview schedule. A sample of 250 respondents has been
collected from Tirupati and Tirumala.
An elaborate interview schedule has been prepared to collect the necessary information from the child labourers at the hotels. The interview method was selected in order to establish a better understanding between the interviewer and the informants. The interview schedule comprising 50 questions including various aspects of child labourers such as their family and economic background, education, future aspirations, nature of work and working conditions, hours of work etc. Care was taken to see that the information gathered was valid and reliable. The data is collected for the period of 2006-07.

Several visits were made to the hotels in which child labour is visible and obtained the employer’s permission before the schedule was administered to the working children. Each child worker was interviewed separately to avoid the interference of others. Efforts were made to establish good rapport with the children by conducting the interview in a very informal way. Besides collecting data, 250 child labourers were selected for an in-depth understanding of their problems and conditions.

By making frequent visits to the different types of hotels many observations were made on the daily routine and the pathetic living conditions of the poor child labourers. The dialogues and interview with many of them revealed the urgency to eradicate the problem and provide the necessary solutions.

1.16 TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

The data were pooled and formulated into tables and later percentages and chi-square statistical tools were calculated. The tabulated data were interpreted and necessary conclusions were drawn.
1.17 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

To collect accurate data about the child labour of the Thirupati-Tirumala is indeed an extremely difficult exercise. Children do not live in an organized willing place and may even shift regularly their place of normal living. Again at the time of interview, it has been found that the child labourers, their parents and also the employers didn’t want to give answer to all the questions asked to them. Again, they also hesitate to give actual information. Many of the children were afraid of their employer because they don’t want to loose their jobs and fear of punishment was also there. Employers were also hesitating to co-operate because some of them know that engaging child labour is punishable under law. But some parents were taking interest only because they thought that some financial help might be granted for their children by government or any other source. In spite of these limitations proper care has been taken to elicit information from all types of respondents.

1.18 PLAN OF THE THESIS

The thesis is organized into five chapters as detailed below:

The first chapter deals with the causes and consequences of child labour along with a latest review on literature and methodology.

The second chapter analyses with magnitude of child labour in India, Andhra Pradesh and Chittoor. It also furnishes information on National Child Labour Projects (NCLP’s), Child
Labour Laws, Supreme Court Judgments on Child Labour, Role of NGO's; in Eliminating Child Labour, and Indo-Us Dol (Indus Project).

The third chapter provides a brief profile of Tirupati and Tirumala.

The fourth chapter deals with dimensions of child labour – an empirical study, working hours, wages, health conditions, educational details, and their family details.

The last chapter highlights with findings, suggestions and conclusions.
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