CHAPTER III

REVIEW OF LITERATURE
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This chapter emphasis on relevant research studies and reports in the area of child labour.

1 Many studies have shown the existence of the universal phenomenon of child labour in many parts of the world including India. Bouldièr(1971). Galel Ei Din me (1977). Buripkted(1977). Sebastian(1979). Nag_crain(1979). Narian(1980). saw honey(1981). these studies have brought to light the short sighted attitude of parents. the economic constraints which result the child labour and in general identified the wide spread phenomenon of child labour in all of the developing countries.

2 The Hindu 1992 reported that there were nearly one lakh child laboures in the quarry workers. The morbidity rat was found to be 40% higher than for a control group of 200 persons aged between 11 and 18 years. The study also revealed proneness to diseases. Like pharyngities and dermatitis among child workers.

3 Padminisen Gupta (1975) stated that through education is free; few parents can at ford to admit their children to institutions. The lower paid workers who are in great number and the unemployed strive to make the best use of their children and send them early to works. In the beedi industry children between 8 and 12 years were employed and even those between 5 and 6 were often seen.
4. Punekar (1975) pointed out that in rural areas, employment of children as wage paid labourers was mainly to supplement the meager income of chronically poverty stricken rural house holds. During the agricultural season, child labour which is cheaper than adult labour is in demand because of the general labour shortage.

5. Marta (1977) has studied the problem of bonded labour in Medak district of Andhra Pradesh which contained the reference of child mortgage and pledging of children by parents to clear off the debts. Kulshrestha (1978) analysed the plight of child labour in unorganized sectors along with legislative provisions to tackle the problems.

6. A survey on working children in Bombay conducted by the National Institute of public co-operation and child development, NipocD (1978) revealed that the prefer for child labour by many employers is mainly due to the fact that it is cheap, safe and without liability. In urban areas the reasons advocated for child labour are migration, urbanization, industrialization etc. It was found that 40 percent of children started working due to economic compassion's. Other reason were as follows: the child was idle and doing nothing (17.5 percent) had left school (16.3 percent) death disease’s job of the earning member (14.6 percent) and children gave various reasons for
discontinuing studies 33 percent told that they could not meet school. Expenses, 12.4 percent due to death of parents 7.3 percent due to lack of interest in studies or ill treatment of teachers and 12.4 percent due to other reasons. The per capita income increased from Rs.53/- to Rs.69/- when the contribution of children was included in the family income and expenditure, i.e. Rs69/- and Rs.64/-respectively. The distribution of working children in Bombay into occupational categories showed that 17.2 percent were engaged in domestic work, 16.8 percent in arts and crafts [Zari and embroidery work and saree printing]. 15.6 percent in trade and commerce. 14 percent in production [Plastic works, Leather works, Electrical Goods]. 15 percent in repairs and services, 7.1 percent in construction, on an average, a child worked for 8.76 hours per day. About 60 percent worked 6 to 10 hours a day and another 25 percent for more than 10 hours a day. The time interval between leaving home on returning home varied from child to child. Except for 11 percent of children who were away from their homes for 14 to 8 hours, the remaining children were away for more than 8 hours a day in urban Bombay the average monthly earnings of the children came to Rs.40 to 80 children engaged in construction works, arts and crafts production were highest paid, their monthly average wages ranged from Rs: 105/- to
Rs: 110. Those working in house holds and restaurants were the lowest paid in terms of hand cash [Rs.37/- and Rs.31/- respectively on an average] and 62.5 percent of these children received their themselves. In the case of the rest, it was the parent/guardian who received the age.

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

8. A study was done by Amarnath (1975) in his book “Child Labour” aimed at finding out the circumstances that led to take up employment by the children. socio-economic conditions, working conditions and attitudes of children towards their work. The findings are that most of the parents of child labourers were illiterates and they were working as domestic servant’s weaver’s goldsmith etc. The financial difficulties of the house hold was the major reason which formed the children to take up the job at an
early age. Children were considered as the supplementary earners of the family.

9. A study was done by Gnana Kumar - J.B.(1975) on child labour in Coimbatore. He found that poverty and illiteracy of parents stand as the main cause of child labour. In most cases child is expected to share the burden of the family as early as possible. Most of the children like to learn skilled jobs in order to get themselves trained in particular trade so that they may be able to start their own enterprise, tailoring shops, etc.

10. Padmnussen gupta (1976) reported that in 1972 the average daily employment of children in plantations in Assam, West Bengal and South India was 39956 which was 5.2 percent of the total labour force in those years. In 1975, the totally daily wages varied from Rs1.57 to Rs1.75 plus other strings of benefits. In plantations, children were allowed to be employees from the age of 12 on wards; they are employed up to 40 hours per week as compared to 54 hours of adults. But the wages paid to children were about half that paid to adults, though children worked for much more than ½ the time of adults.

According to Cain (1977), by age 12 the average male child has become a net produce, by age 15, he has compensated for his
cumulative consumption and by age 22, he has repaid the investment in himself and one sister.

11. Tineda (1980) found in a Peru study that children in single parent households were most likely to be in the labour force and that for and given age, the birth order of children strongly influenced the probability of being economically active, the first child having the highest probability.

12. A study conducted by Srikanth (1979) on women and children in two places of Karnataka revealed that majority of the children were participating in the work. Because of this the child earners had less education. This was because of the compulsion made by the parents on children in rural areas, between participating in work and going for school during the peak and lean periods of the season. The investigator suggested that an in vocational content to make education relevant to the rural context should be emphasized to combat the situation.

13. “Born to Work” child labour in India published by Neera Bura (1987) is based on first hand field investigations carried out in the brassware gem polishing, lock making and glass factories. Utilizing data collected under adverse and even hostile conditions, in defiance of the mafia - like organizations that shield industries
exploiting child labour from the gaze of the outside world. Neera Burra describes the working conditions of these children. It emerges that a large number of children as young as five or six years work through the night under great health and safety hazards. Work place trauma which stunts the growth of these children both physically and mentally is identified and discussed.

14 Madam. (1994) in his study stated that by age 12, the average male child has become a net producer, by age 15, he has compensated for his cumulative consumption and by age 22, he has repaid investment in himself.

15 Sahoo's study (1995) illuminates the factors and conditions of child labour in two advanced villages under changing agrarian production process.

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

17 The study of child labour in state - stone factories / mines of Markapur was carried out by a seven member team headed by Rathnam Naidu et. Al. (1992) as a part of National Study. In brief this study concludes that the prevention of child labour in
Markapur region is due to the specific role of the familial economy and in slate mining/manufacturing.

18 A state-wise analysis of child labour participation in India done by Naidu (1981) aimed at analyzing the inter-state variations in child labour interims of sex, residence and sectoral distribution and identifying the demographic and socio-economic factors associated with economic activity rates of children. The study revealed that the proportions of child workers were higher for males than for females. Different states in India vary from 2 percent in Kerala to 14.25 percent in Andhra Pradesh.

19 A committee on child labour (1979) appointed by the Ministry of labour, Govt of India examined various dimensions of child labour in different occupations. The study revealed that the incidence of child labour was highest in Andhra Pradesh where it accounted for about 9.0 percent of the total labour force, 9.2 percent of the male child populations and 3.7 percent of the total population of state in 1971. The Child labour was more prevalent in rural areas than in urban areas. A higher percentage of children (5.31) percent in rural area were workers where as this ratio in urban areas was only 1.82 percent. The participation of child labour force in the age-group
of 10 - 14 years was very high (28.9 percent) for males as compared to females (20 percent).

20. The region-wise analysis of the census figures (1981) for child labour shows that in the rural areas of Rayalaseema and Telangana the proportion of child workers to total workers is more when compared to coastal Andhra but in the urban areas the proportion of child workers to total workers is observed to be least in Telangana. More or less a similar phenomenon is observed in the case of both male and female child workers in the rural areas as well as in the urban areas.

Basically apart from district-wise classification the state of Andhra Pradesh can be divided into 3 major sectors based on relative wealth production. Those areas are coastal areas, Rayalaseema and Telangana. From an objective point of view coastal areas are better off and Rayalaseema and Telangana are more or less at the same economic and cultural level. Here culture does not mean way of living but the availability of conditions which help to reduce child labour and provide amenities for the development of the child.

A further classification can be made of the issue from urban and rural point of view. One of the chief factors that contributions
of children is not given due importance against the over all labour
of the region. In this Telangana tops the list in the contribution of
child labour in rural areas which is around 10.42 followed by the
Rayalaseema which is around 8.81 percent and finally the coastal
areas by 7.75 percent. In the same manner in urban areas
Rayalaseema takes the first place of 4.27 percent favoured by
coastal areas 3.58 percent and Telangana 2.96 percent. It is
interesting to observe that the contribution of child labour in rural
areas is more in Telangana regions while it is more in the urban
areas of Rayalaseema region.

It shows that as far as rural areas are concerned the facilities
for betterment of children condition is less in Telangana, but it is
better than the other two urban areas. In Rayalaseema child labour
in urban areas more seeing the employment potential for child
labour or that there is no much difference in rural and urban areas
in the facilities available for the up liftment of child. It is equally
in to resting to observe that in coastal areas the employment of
child labour is least in rural areas showing a change and growth of
urbanization. Relative awareness, affordability in urban areas is
more. It takes second place (3.58 Percent) that showing the
growing industrialization and commercial developments is having
its impact on employing children who can be paid low wages and
can be easily exploited. The irony is that the urban area of coastal region is supposed to have more social awareness but the child labour is also equally high.

The same problem can be looked at from the gender aspect and it can be observed that the contribution of female children is more in Telangana region (by 13.64%) thus implying female child receives lesser attention than male ones.

In the urban area of Telangana the contribution of female children is 6.76 percent thus taking a second place compared to Rayalaseema which is around 7.79 percent. In coastal areas, both in rural and urban, the contribution of female children is less (9.89 percent, 5.75 percent respectively). It shows that female children are given some what better treatment in coastal areas compared to other areas.

21. Smitha Tiwari (1988) carried out a study on 20 rural his abjurers from the village of near by Madras. The children were working either as agricultural labourers or workers in a quarry.

22. Sudha (1987) carried out a study on 60 rural child labourers from the village of Bangalore District. The children were working either as agricultural labourers or work in a quarry.

23. Sheela Barse (1986) in her another study observed that thousands of boys between the ages of 6 and 16 were working in Multi crore
glass industry of Firozabad in Agra district of Uttar Pradesh. A
light assessment showed that about 40 percent of labourers at work
were children and they worked near or more around gigantic
furnaces containing mounds of boiling glass under dangerous
conditions.

24. It was reported by a special correspondent in the Hindu (May 4,
1986) there were nearly 4,500 child labourers in the vast match –
fire works enclave of Sivakasi, Sattur and Venbakottai blocks in
the Kamaraj District in Tamil Nadu. According to the survey, 200
children were working in match factories in Sivakasi. The
morbidity rate for them was found to be 16.9 percent higher than
for a control group of 200 persons aged between 11 and 18 years.
The study also revealed proneness to diseases like Pharyngitis and
dramatititis among child workers.

25. As it was reported in Economic and political weekly on the
situation of children match industry of Sivakasi, Smita Kothari
(1997) has extensively quoted the UNICEF area development
report and has remarked that most studies on child labour have
focussed on the economic factors leading to employment of better
wages, provision of facilities for schooling and strict enforcement
of applicable laws. As one 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 impacts 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.

26. A study conducted by sahir dasgupta (1979) in Dalingkota Tea estate of Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal revealed that children under 15 years constituted 50.2 percent of the total population of 130.5 out of this 36.68 percent were employed as child labourers (age group 6 – 15 years) i.e. 127 child workers among whom 51 boys and 76 girls. Only 49 out of 346 children were school giving. In this area birth rate is high due to the motivation of parents employing their off springs, i.e. more off springs got more economic incentives (out of 227 families, 198 consist of 4 – 9 members) 81% of children were engaged in jobs due to economic & scarcity. Monthly income of about ½ of the large families feel with in the range of Rs.351/- and Rs.450/- i.e. per capita income was below Rs.70/-. Therefore, parents sold their off spring for labour only to get relieved from the pain of starvation (64 percent reported that their parents create pressure to sell their labour) 49 percent of children were suffering from diseases. As there were no recreational facilities in the area, 9 percent of the total number of child labourers enjoyed film shows; secondly, loitering was the
only sorts of post time pleasure. Girls were severally engaged in house hold work.

27. Uma Joshi (1982) in her book “Neglected Children pointed out that there were nearly hundred million children working in various units. It was also reported that the number and harshness of their exploitation has been steadily on the rise. A comprehensive child labour bill dealing with various welfares aspects of working children has been drawn up by the Government in the ministry of labour during the year 1986. The bill covers health, education and vocational training of children. The bill seals to project children from exploitation, by attempting to ensure regular houses, proper wages and to help them to develop their character through compulsory education. She has also reported that in urban areas large number of children works as domestic servants, as helpers in hotels, workers in building constructions, News paper sellers, coolies, loaders and so on. Nearly 87% of the child labourers are engaged in packing, pasting, labeling, and the like while they work in other occupations like tea garden beedi rolling carpet weaving etc.