Chapter II

METHODOLOGY
METHODOLOGY:

The present study was conducted in Sri Kalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh. A brief outline of Sri Kalahasti Mandal is illustrated here to identify the sample classes and spread of Agriculture child labour to understand the socio-economic and demographic background of the mandal.

Sri Kalahasti town is the Mandal headquarter is located on the state highway between Tirupati and Nayanadupet town. It is 40 Kms away from Tirupati Town. It is one of the famous temple town the children district.

Sri Kalahasti Mandal covered an area of 420 Kms., there are 67 revenue villages and 46 Panchayats.

Sri Kalahasti Mandal is bounded on the north by Thotambedu Mandal, on the south by K.V.B Puram Mandal on the east by Thottambedu and B.N.Kandriga Mandal and the West by Yerpedu Mandal.

According to 2001 census, the Mandal has a population of 49,295 individuals, comprised of 25083 Males and 24212 females.

According to the 2001 census total literate in the mandal is 16956 individuals of these 9452 are Males, and 7,504, are Females the literacy rate is percent in the Mandal.
Agriculture is the main thrust of the economy. The important crops grown in the mandal are, paddy sugar cane, ground nut, Sajja, and Ragi. Appropriately 85 percent of working population are working in Agriculture. The children also participate in agriculture as agriculture labour and working some specific works i.e., Plantation, Crop Harvesting, Sugar Can Cutting; Pesticide Springing, Ground nut seeding, Grass Cutting, Flower Plucking, Weed Plucking and Gardening.

Irrespective of caste and religion, more than 80 percent of the population including men, women and children are involved in the agriculture labour at low wages. The children were most effected in the agriculture work. Being no more other sources in the area with competition, the workers were exploited and kept at mere subsistence level resulting in object poverty and misery.

The present study is basically an attempt to see how socio-economic constraints determined the lives and fortunes of people working in the Agriculture sector of Sri Kalahasti Mandal.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:

The first International year of the child was celebrated in 1979 and since then working children and problem have been receiving the attention of researchers. This is evident from the abundance of research studies on child labour, seminars and work shops on child labour, despite
the continuous efforts national and international institutions child labour continued to be a major problem of the country.

A large number of child workers working in agriculture sector in are without any legislations protection. Though there are abundance of research studies on the child labour in general but except a few, we sincere efforts have been made so far to study the child workers in Agriculture in particular from sociological angle.

The present study is an attempt to throw light on various dimensions of the phenomenon of child labour from sociological point of view.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF STUDY:

The main aim of the present work is to study the working and living conditions of child workers in Agriculture sector, especially their health status, existing legal protection and welfare provisions, vis-a-vis their implementation perception of parents and employers on child labour, as well as ambitions or life planning and leisure time activities of child workers

The specific objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To sketch the socio-economic conditions, or demographic profile of child labourers.

2. To study the working conditions of child labourers in the agriculture field.
3. To study the ambitions of or life planning and leisure time activities of child workers.

4. To examine the effectiveness of the implementation of various legislative measures in agriculture sector.

5. To know the perception of parents and employers on child labour.

6. To know the low literacy rate to the respondents parents.

HYPOTHESES:

On the beside of the earlier studies personal observations and available reports on child workers, certain hypothesis were framed to be tasted by this study.

These hypotheses are as follows:

1. Sri kalahasti area has been characterized by development in agriculture.

2. Majority of the child workers of the agriculture field belongs to the lower castes and illiterates families.

3. Poverty is the strongest factor for the prevalence and perpetuation of child labour.

4. The working conditions are not favourable to child's normal growth and development.

5. Child labourers are less aware of their future learning's.

6. Most of the child labourers are dropouts.

7. Many working children are interested to continue their work.
8. Working children do have play and others our creational activities in their leisure time.

9. Working children do not have higher ambitions and life planning.

STUDY AREA:

Field Area selected for the study is Sri Kalahasti Mandal of Chittoor District in which 7 Sample Villages(Subbanaidu Kandriga, Ramlinga Puram, A.B.I.I. Palli, Melacchuru, Papana Plii, B.V.Puram, and Gollapalli) were selected. Sri Kalahasti Mandal is a well known agriculturally developed area in chittoor district. Sri Kalahasti is bounded a the north by Thottambedu Mandal East by B.N. Kandriga Mandal West by Yerpedu Mandal and South by K.V.B.Puram Mandal. There are 67 Revenue Villeges in this Mandal the total population of the Mandal is 49,295(2001 census). The density of the population of the mandal is 187 per Sq.K.M.

SAMPLING:

The present study is based on a micro devel survey of sample holds house having child labours. They are drawn from seven villages in Sri Kalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh. A sample consisting of 200 child labour's was selected by employing simple
random sampling method. They belonged to the age group of 8 - 16 years. The sample comprised 131 male and 69 female child labourers.

TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES:

The investigator prepared an interview schedule to collect the necessary information from the child labourers at the agriculture field. Interview method was used in order to establish a better understanding between the interviewer and the informants. The interview schedule included various aspects of child labourer's such as their family and economic background, education, future aspirations, nature of work and working conditions, houses of work, recreational interest and family relationships etc. The schedule was prepared in English to collect necessary data. Care was taken to see that the information gathered was valid and reliable.

COLLECTION OF DATA:

Relevant data were collected for two months from July to August, 2003. The investigator visited the agriculture field area on working days and obtained the land owner's permission before the schedule was administered to the working children. Necessary information was collected by interviewing the child labourers talking in Telugu. Each child worker was interviewed separately to avoid the interference of others. Effort was made to establish good rapport with child by conducting the interview a informal way. Besides collecting data from
200 child labourers; ten individual cases were selected for an in depth understanding of their problems and conditions.

By visiting the work place and by observation, the investigator was able to get a good understanding of the type of work the children performed and their working conditions.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS:

The data was pooled and were formulated into tables and later percentages were calculated. The tabulated data were interpreted and necessary conclusions were drawn.

LIMITATIONS OF STUDY:

1. Due to paucity of time, the study was limited some agriculture field area and a sample of 200 child labourers:

2. The selected child labourers were between 10 years and 16 years.

3. Parents were also not to excluded from the study in order to know more about the relationship of child labourers with them.

BODY OF THE WORK:

The entire study in divided into five chapters. The first chapter deals with the introduction. It includes definition of child and child labour, origin, child labour populations in India and Andhra Pradesh, Research in child labour and development, statement of the problem, type of work at the agriculture field, the purpose of the study, aims and objectives and Hypothesis. Second chapter deals with the Methodology
comprising Area of study, sample, tools & Techniques, collection of data, statistical analysis, limitations of the study. Body of the work and village background. Third chapter deals with the Review of Literature. Fourth chapter comprises result and discussions. The fifth chapter child labour legislation and Sixth chapter includes Summary and conclusions. The major findings of the study and suggestions for further research have been provided in this chapter.

VILLAGE BACKGROUND:

The village Papanapalli is located in Sri Kalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District. Which is at a distance of 35 Kms from Sri Kalahasti town in the North West direction, a well known piligrim centre of Hindus. Papanapalli village consists of 177 houses and has population of 704 comprising different castes. The village has our Government elementary school, one Rama Temple. For higher educations they go to Sri Kalahasti or Venkatagiri Town. Venkatagiri is the nearest educational centre. 75 percent of the peoples are illiterates.

The other villages which are near to Papanapalli are Brahman Palli, 2Kms to west Pallempeta 2.5 Kms to East. B.V.Puram 1Kms to South. Ramanujapalli 2.5Kms to North. The village has 700 acres of Agriculture land towards both sides of the villages.
CASTE COMPOSITION:

The population of the village comprises of castes like Mala(22 families), Balija(13 families) Kapu(9 families), Vaddera(35 families), Yadava(60 families), Mutharasi(15 families) Vammee Kapu(21 families), Rajatha(2 families), Mangli(2 families). The Harijans are located on the outskirts of the village. All families belonged to Hindu Religion only. There were no Christians and Muslims.

MELACHURU:

The village Malacchuru is located in Sri Kalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District. It is far away from Sri Kalahasti town at a distance of 40 Kms. West direction Malacchuru Village consists of 168 houses and has a population of 742 comprising only two castes, i.e., Scheduled Tribes(68 families) and Kamsali (2 families). The village has one Government elementary School. For higher education they came to Sri Kalahasti or Venkatagiri. Venkatagiri is a nearest educational centre. 70 percent of the peoples are illiterates.

B.V.PURAM:

The village B.V.Puram is located in Sri Kalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District. It is far away 35 Kms. From Sri Kalahasti town in the north west direction. B.V.Puram village consists of 192 households and has population of 719 comprising different castes. The village has two
government Schools one is U.P.School, another is Elementary School. One Rama temple and another is village goddess like Ankkamma. For higher education they came to Pallam Pet for Secondary education or Sri Kalahasti Venkatagiri centres 65 percent of the peoples are illiterates.

Caste composition:

The population of the village composes of castes like: Mala(54 families) Yadava(43 families), Balija(25 families) Kapu(16 families), Vanney Kapu(23 families), Mutharasi(9 families) Rajaka(3 families) Mangali(1 family) Vaddera(11 families) Kammari(4 families). The Harijans are located on the out skirts of the village all families belonged to Hindu Religions. They were to Christians and Muslims.

Gollapalli:

The Village Gollapalli is located in Sri Kalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District wich is far away 35 Kms from Sri Kalahasti town in the North West direction. Golleppalli Village consists of 177 houses and has population of 648 comprising different castes. The village have one Government U.P.School. and one Rama Temple. For higher education they came to Sri Kalahasti or Venkatagiri centres. 65 percent of the peoples are lliterate
Caste composition:

The population of the village composes of castes like. Mala(25 families), Yanadi(50 families), Yadava(52 families), Balija(21 families), Kapu(7 families), Gandla(2 families), Rajaka(2 families).

S.N.Kandriga

The Village S.N.Kandriga is located in Srikalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District. It is nearly 10 kms from Srikalahasti town in south west direction. S.N.Kandriga village consists of 332 houses and has population 1730 comprising different castes. The village has one government Elementary school. One Pandu Rangaswamy temple, one village goddess like Ankamma temple and another is Nagulameeraswamy. For higher education they come to Srikalahasti centre. 50 percent of the peoples are illiterates.

Caste composition:

The population of the village composes of castes like. Yadava(80 families), Kapu(6 families), Vanney Kapu(92 families), Ediga(5 families), Yanadi(15 families), Madiga(5 families), Rajaka(5 families), Mangali(1 family). The Harijans are located on the out skirts of the village all families belonged to Hindu Religions. They were to Christians and Muslims.
Ramalingapuram:

The village Ramalingapuram located in Srikalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District. Which is nearly 10kms away from Srikalahasti town in the south direction. Ramalingapuram village consists of 195 houses and has population of 661 comprising different castes. The village has one government elementary school. One Puttalamma temple. For higher education they come to Srikalahasti town 35 percent of the peoples are illiterates.

Caste composition:

The population of the village composes of castes like. Mala(40 families) Yadava(42 families), Yanadi (28 families), Balija(21 families), Kamsali (2families). Kummmari (7 families) Kapu(8 families), Vanney Kapu(35 families), Muslims (12 families). The Harijans and Yanadis are located on the out skirts of the village. They were no Christians.

A.B.T.Palli:

The village A.B.T.Palli located in Srikalahasti Mandal in Chittoor District. Which is nearly 15kms away from Srikalahasti town in the south direction. A.B.T.Palli consists of 123 houses and has population of 468 comprising different castes. The village has one government elementary school. One Matamma temple and another one is Rama
temple. For higher education they come to Srikalahasti town 75 percent of the peoples are illiterates.

Caste Composition:

The population of the village composes of castes like Kapu (3 families), Balija (5 families), Yadava (9 families), Mutharasi (3 families), Vanney kapu (5 families), Madiga (45 families), Mala (15 families), Yanadi (38 families).

Plan of the Villages:

The villages were not properly planned. Most of the houses have thatched houses. i.e., 67.50 percent, remaining 32.50 percent had pucca houses.

Temperature and Rainfall:

The period from the middle of November to the middle of February is the coolest (Winter) part of the year. In December when the mean temperature is lowest, the daily maximum is 25.3°C and the night maximum is 18.4°C. In April and the highest day temperature touches about 40°C.

The annual rainfall in the district is 825.5 mm. The period from August to November is the rainy season in the district.
**Croping Pattern:**

The main occupation of the villages is Agriculture. They cultivate different types of crops. The main agricultural crops produced in the villages are Paddy, Groundnut, Sajja, Ragi and Sugarcane.

**Transport and Communication Facilities:**

The villages have transport and communication facilities. It has a village panchayat consisting of one Sarpanch and one Upa - Sarpanch and Panchayat members. It looks after welfare of people of the village. The people have facilities like tap water, Post office, Public Telephone etc. The villages is however properly liked by road. People have to come to the Srikalahasti for recreation like Cinemas, Dramas, and Shopping etc.

**Occupation:**

Most of the people's occupation in the villages is agriculture a few of them are employees and a few members are practicing handicrafts like wood carving, Caving, Pellery etc. A few of them are educated majority of them illiterates.