CHAPTER - 1

INTRODUCTION
CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

"Bestow the blessings on those little innocent lives bloomed on earth, who have brought the message of joy from heavenly garden." - Rabindranath Tagore

Need For the Study

The problem of child labour has evoked considerable interest in the minds of research scholars as the problem is assuming greater importance in the modern world.

The problems faced by the working children are various. The condition of these children is deplorable. They are deprived of their childhood, health and education, rest and recreations.

Child labour may be considered a fairly complex phenomenon for more reasons than one. In the first instance, child labour is a phenomenon, which is not unique to the third world countries alone but is something that is found in the developed and industrialized countries also.

Secondly, though the problem of child labour appears to be the result of poverty and unemployment, it is a problem more complex than it appears to be at first sight. It is found that several factors contribute to situations favourable to child labour apart from poverty and unemployment such as illiteracy, ignorance of parents, high fertility and population growth etc. The inability of the government to reach the set national goals of universalization
of primary education and eradication of child labour provides strong evidence to the complex nature of the problem. The factors that play an important role in the practice of child labour, therefore, assume great significance.

Moreover, there is no uniform pattern of child labour either in terms of the work pattern or even in terms of the impact or consequences of their work on the personality of the young workers. Most of the research works pertaining to child labour have dealt with the problem of child labour as a general phenomenon. But the causes and effects of child labour vary from one area to the other. Hence the present study is an attempt to trace the causes and consequences of the labour of the boys working in hotels and restaurants in particular.

Very few studies have addressed themselves to seek the actual conditions of the boys working in hotels in particular. It is, therefore, essential to study whether the work of children in hotels is a boon or an evil to them.

Thirdly, there are different types of child labour, which may be categorized as hazardous and non-hazardous. Again some of these activities, though not intrinsically hazardous, are made harmful to the children because of the external factors like uncongenial environment and lack of facilities.

Another reason for the complex nature of this problem is that child labour may be viewed from two different points of view: one as an economic activity and the other as a social evil. Thus an insight or a serious thought on the problems of child labour is the need of the day.
The problem of child labour is also assuming considerable importance as it seems to have a bearing on the problem of adult workers -- their efficiency, productivity and health and also on adult unemployment, with main cause of which the national economy is gravely concerned. Child labour which means no education and training resulting in lower productivity and inefficiency which may be said to be the main cause of poverty. Poverty in turn leads to child labour, thus creating a vicious circle. As has been pointed out by Y.L.N. Reddy, because of the premature apprenticeship of these children before they grow into manhood, many are reduced to good for nothing. The children who are working hard today for a pittance become useless and dependants and thus a burden to the nation. Hence the necessity to comprehend the phenomenon of child labour.

Inspite of many legislations regarding the rights of the child and ban on child labour, the practice of child labour continues unabated. Therefore it is very much needed to find out the real causes that make these children toil.

It is only in the last few years that the problem of child labour has entered public consciousness with some persistence. The debate on this subject was initiated when the Indian government announced its intention in 1985 to introduce fresh legislation to deal with the phenomenon of child labour. Since then an increasing number of prevalent, writing in the press and holding seminars in an attempt to comprehend the problem. However it may be said that only a beginning has been made.
Although the prevalence of child labour is too well known, a comprehensive survey on the causes and conditions of child labour in hotels is lacking. Therefore this study is an attempt to know the causes and conditions of child workers in the hotels of Dharwad city.

The United Nation General Assembly adopted on the 21st December 1976 Resolution 31/169, proclaiming the year 1979 as the International Year of the Child [IYC]. The main objectives of this resolution were to create worldwide consciousness towards promoting the well-being of children and also to draw attention to their special needs and encouraging national action on their behalf, particularly for the less privileged and those who work.

Child welfare is important not only for the child himself but also for the family and for the society. It is the duty of the community in general and the family in particular to see that every child is given an opportunity to grow up to be a responsible member of the society and to see that he is endowed with qualities which will contribute to the country and also, if possible, to the world at large.

Children are universally recognized as the most important asset of any nation and the social and economic development of a community is thus dependent upon the welfare of the children.

A child occupies an important and crucial position in every society, especially in Hindu society. Of course, the very perpetuation and formation of the society itself is enabled through children. The children of today are the citizens of tomorrow. Milton
says, "Child shows the man as morning shows the day." Hence one can never deny the importance of children, through this perspective also.

According to Hindu Philosophy a child is considered to be a gift bestowed by God. A woman without a child is stigmatized in Hindu society as a “barren woman” and a woman’s life’s fulfillment is through her motherhood.

In the traditional Indian society, the desire for at least one son, if not two, in a family is very widespread. There are religious, social and economic reasons for this.

As per the Hindu philosophy, a man can attain Moksha (salvation) by giving birth to a male child who alone has the right to light the funeral pyre of his father. In ancient India “Putrakameshti Yajnya” was performed to get a child. In order to get children, men married many wives leading to the practice of polygamy in our society. Thus since time immemorial a child has been accorded a precious position in society.

The children of poor families are not only not provided with the basic needs of food, clothing and shelter by the parents but they are compelled to toil hard in unhygienic environment, not only for their own survival but also for the survival of their families. They are deprived of their rights to education, health, recreation and care.

12 million children out of the 120 million born in 1978 died before they reached one year due to lack of health and hygienic
conditions and malnutrition, especially, in rural areas, mostly of the developing countries of the world. This fact itself depicts a clear picture of the problems faced by the children. (K.B. Pathak and P.C. Saxena 1979)

Right to life, liberty and security are the basic rights which every man, woman and child must possess. Denial of adequate opportunities for children's development and various forms of discriminations and exploitations to which they are subjected have made the world community review the conditions in which they are brought up and to take up several steps for their protection, well-being and development. These measures are embodied in various declarations and conventions of the United Nations.

In the Universal Declaration of Human rights, the United Nations has proclaimed that childhood is entitled to special care and assistance.

The family as the fundamental group of society and the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members, particularly children, should be afforded the necessary protection and assistance, so that it can fully assume its responsibilities within the community.

The child for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality should grow up in a family environment in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.

The Geneva Declaration of Rights of the Child, 1924 is the first convention adopted by the League of Nations in which rights
to children were considered. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights as adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948 incorporated within it certain basic rights for children. Article 24 of the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights and Article 10 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights deal particularly with the rights of the children. Directly emphasizing the needs for 'Rights of Children' an independent 'Declaration on the Rights of Child' was passed by the United Nations in 1959.

The UN Declarations proclaim principles of child welfare, having application to every social condition, by conferring specific rights to children through social security legislation prohibiting any discrimination. [Raghunath Patnaik 1991]

The Declaration of the Rights of the Child, unanimously adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1959 has mentioned the following rights of the child.

1. A name and nationality: and equal status for every child at birth.
2. Maternal protection and family care:
3. Health care and protection against diseases:
4. Adequate nutrition (with changes in the child’s age) and adequate shelter;
5. Education;
6. Play and recreation;
7. Social protection irrespective of colour, race, language etc;
8. Protection from work for the child, and from exploitation for youth;
9. Special care for physically, mentally or socially handicapped children such as orphans, retarded children etc;
10. Protection from racial religious and other forms of discrimination.

Violating these human rights there are about 250 million children who are labourers all over the world (Child Labour-The World Bank-1998). India has about 5.5 per cent share of it. The government reported that in 1993, 17.4 million Indian children below the age of 15 were in the labour force.

Even far before the declaration of the rights of the child was adopted by League of Nations in 1924 throughout the world, many efforts were being made since long to protect the children against exploitation.

**Child Labour-A World Perspective:**

**Child Labour in England**

As it has been pointed out by J.C. Kulashreshtha (1978), in 1536 the Government of England enacted legislation for the employment of poor children in agriculture or other crafts, between the ages of 5-14 years. Another important law known as Statute of Apprentices was enacted in 1563. The main aim of this law was to give facilities for the training of village artisans and to provide efficiency to agricultural labourers, to fix the rates of wages and also to make a complete industrial code to fulfil the needs of the day. During the reign of Elizabeth in England, in 1601, legislation emphasised on the parents' duty to look after their children. During the seventeenth century in view of achieving profit from the employment of poor children, Thomas Firman opened a
combination of school, factory, wholesale warehouse and retail shops for the children who had attained the age of three and wanted to learn how to read and spin.

William III empowered the Board of Trade to make enquiry into the conditions of poor children in the year 1697. A resolution was passed by the magistrate in Manchester in 1784 to attract attention towards the evil. A Board of Health was set up in Manchester in 1795 to investigate the conditions of children working in factories.

The main provisions of "The Health and Morals of Apprentices Act" introduced on December 2, 1802, were: the apprentices in cotton and woollen mills were not allowed to work at night and they were required to work only for 12 hours a day. The children up to the age of nine years were not allowed to work in factories.

The Act of 1831 limited the work of persons below the age of 18 to 12 hours on weekdays and 9 hours on Sundays. The Act also prohibited young persons under 21 years to work in the night.

The Factory Act of 1833 provided for the appointment of four factory inspectors. The Mines Regulation Act of 1842 prohibited the employment of women and girls under-ground and the employment of boys less than 10 years in the pits. Ten-hours-a-day law was passed in 1847.
In 1867 two Acts were passed which extended the application of Factories Act to a number of industries and the workshops. The Regulation Act made a distinction between factory and workshop.

In Britain through certain legislations, state protection was given to the individuals employed in gainful occupations and measures were taken to regulate the conditions of labour in hazardous trades.

A consolidated Act of all the existing laws came into force on July 1, 1938 known as Factories Act of 1937. This Act fixed the working hours for women and young persons at nine hours per day and forty-eight hours per week.

Many other Acts were passed in England as follows:

The Education Act in 1944, Coal Nationalization Act of 1946, the Factories Act of 1948, the Shop Act of 1950, the Mines Quarries Act of 1954, the Factories Act of 1961, the Children and Young Persons' Act 1963 etc are some of the acts passed in England to protect the children against exploitation.

Child Labour in America

In colonial America the indenture was laid down by the country to support dependent children and to guarantee that such
children would not become dependent adults because of the lack of sufficient knowledge or habits to earn the means of subsistence. The employers took advantage of this situation and exploited the children as a means of cheap labour.

As there were no educational facilities in factories where children were employed, the state took steps to control child labour. In 1836, Massachusetts passed a law, which made school attendance of three months in the preceding year a compulsory pre-condition for permission to employ children below 15. In 1842 the maximum hours of work for children in cotton and woollen mills was fixed. In 1860, many states had passed legislation that prohibited the employment of children below 10 or 12 in all types of factories.

Gradually social reformers and labour unionists aroused public attention against the evils of child labour.

By the last decade of the 19th century, greater protection to children was given by legislation in the northern states. In 1891, Illinois prohibited the employment of children below 14 in mines. Such prohibition was extended to factories in 1893.

The White House Conference on the care of dependent children, 1909, influenced the Congress, to pass the Children Bureau Bill in 1912.

The first federal child labour law was passed in 1916 as a result of activities of National Child Labour Committee.
Another law named as the Revenue Act of 1919 was passed by the Congress to protect the children from exploitation in industries in 1919. This Act provided that an industry where children were employed in violation of the standard established by the 1916 Act would pay a tax of 10 per cent of annual net profit of that industry. During the two years, considerable progress was made in the direction of alleviating the evils of child labour.

In 1936, the Department of Labour administered the Walsh Healey Public Contract Act, which forbade the employment of boys under 16 and girls under 18 of age of United States on contracts which were of more than $10,000 value.

By the amendments in 1949 of Fair Labour Standards Act, the children who were permitted by the school law to work in agriculture during school time, were protected by the minimum wage, overtime prohibitions and child labour qualification of the Act. Children were permitted to work in agriculture only when the school session was closed.

Child labour bulletin 101, under the title 'A Guide to Child Labour Provision to Fair Labour Standards Act', published by the United States Department of Labour in 1971, provides that at 16 years of age young persons may be employed in any occupation other than on agricultural occupation declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labour.

18 years minimum age for employment in non-agricultural occupation and 16 years minimum age for employment in agricultural occupation declared hazardous by the Secretary of
Labour at any time and for employment in agriculture during the hours schools are in session in the district where the minor lives, while working.

Employment of 14 and 15 years old youth is limited to certain occupations outside school hours only and under specified conditions of work as set forth in Child Labour Regulation No.3.

A list of occupations in which 14 and 15 years old minors may be employed and may not be employed was given.

**Child Labour in Union of Socialist Republic**

The Soviet State has also taken various steps to protect its women and children.

Article 129 of the Code of Labour Laws of USSR prohibited the employment of women and young persons under 18 years in hazardous work. In 1932 hazardous works were listed by the National Code of Labour laws.

The other rules passed to protect the children are:

1. The employment of children below 16 is prohibited, but children below 15 years can be taken for educational work with the permission of a Trade Union.
2. The young person under 18 can be employed after a medical checkup.
3. The maximum hours of work fixed for children from 15 to 16 years of age are 4 hours a day and for young persons between 16 to 18 years are 6 hours a day.

4. One-month holiday (not less than 24 working days) is to be given to the young persons under 18 years. As a general rule summer holidays are also provided for children. (J. C. Kulashreshtha – 1978)

In India the first protective legislation for child labour was enacted as early as 1881 which provided some protection to the children firstly by forbidding employment of children under 7 years of age in factories and also in two separate factories on the same day. Secondly, by limiting their working hours to 9 hours a day and thirdly, by making it compulsory that four holidays in a month and rest intervals also are given to them. In addition the Act made provisions for safety such as fencing of dangerous machines.

The 1891 Act extended the lower age of child labourer from 7 to 9 years for children and the working hours were reduced from 9 to 7 hours per day. Night work for children was prohibited.

The Mines Act of 1901 prohibited the employment of children under 12 years of age. This Act empowered the Chief Inspector of Mines to prohibit the employment of children wherever he felt that the employment conditions were dangerous to children's health and safety.

Again there was a reduction in the hours of work of children in factories to 6 hours a day according to the Factories Act of
1911. The Act also provided that all child workers should possess a certificate of age and fitness for employment.

The children under 12 years were prohibited to enter the labour market by the Indian Factories Act, 1922. Even the working hours were fixed to 6 hours a day with an interval of half an hour for the children. This Act was amended in 1923.

In 1931 The Indian Factories Act of 1911 was amended which imposed certain penalties on the parents and guardians for allowing their children to work in two separate factories on the same day.

Again, in 1931 The Indian Ports (Amendment) Act prescribed a minimum age of 12 years for the employment of children in the handling of goods in ports.

The Royal Commission in 1931 recommended that children under 15 should not be allowed to work as an adult without a certificate of physical fitness. It also recommended the fixation of maximum working hours for children at 5 hours a day. It further recommended to limit the spread over for children at seven and half-hours and to prohibit work by children between 7p.m. and 5.30a.m.

The Tea District Emigrant Labour Act of 1933 prescribed that no child under 16 years shall be employed and immigrated to the districts unless accompanied by his parents or adult relatives on whom the child is dependent.
The Children (Pledging of Labour) Act 1933 was passed in February 1933 according to which pledging of children's labour was a criminal offence.

The Employment of Children Act 1938 prohibits the employment of children below the age of 15 in any occupation connected with the transport of passengers, goods or mails by railway or in any occupation involving the handling of goods within the limits of any port regulated by the Indian Port Act.

By the amendment of 1939, children under 12 are prohibited to work in workshops connected with beedi making, carpet weaving, cement manufacturing, cloth printing, dyeing and weaving, manufacturers of matches, explosives and fire works, mica cutting and splitting, shellac manufacture, soap manufacture, tanning and wool cleaning.

Though many amendments took place in the Factories Act, till 1947 they were of least use in eliminating the evil of child labour (J C Kulashreshtha – 1978)

After independence India has been declared as a ‘welfare state and various legal provisions for the welfare of different sections of the people in India including children have been provided.

The article 15(3) of the Constitution of India, enables the state to make special provisions for children and women. Article 24 of the Indian Constitutions provides that “no child below the age of fourteen years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or
employed in any hazardous employment". Clauses (e) and (f) of Article 39 provide that the state shall direct its policy towards selecting "that children are given opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity and that childhood and youth are protected against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment".

Article 45 provides that "the state shall endeavour to provide within a period of 10 years from the commencement of the constitution the free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14 years."

In 1951 the Plantation Labour Act was passed. It prohibits work in plantations by children below the age of 12 years and every adolescent (between 15 and 18 years) is required to obtain a certificate of fitness from a certifying surgeon. For a child below the age of 14 years night work is prohibited.

According to the Mines Act 1952, employment of children below 15 years is non-permitted in a mine. Secondly, young persons between the age of 16 and 18 years are permitted to work underground in mines provided they have a medical certificate from a certifying surgeon saying that they are fit for any work of an adult.

The Merchant Shipping Act 1958 prohibits the employment of any child below the age of 15 years in a ship except- (a) in a school ship in accordance with the prescribed conditions. (b) In a ship in which all persons employed are members of one family. (c) In a home-trade ship of less than 200 tons gross or (d) where such
persons are to be employed on nominal wages and will be in charge of his father or other adult near male relative.

Child Labour (Prohibitions and Regulations) Bill 1986 prohibits the engagement of children in certain employments and to regulate the conditions of work of children in certain other employments.

There is an urgent need for India to make serious efforts to stamp out child labour in hazardous industries like sports, carpet weaving etc. with the emergence of the Harkin Bill in the USA and similar legislations in Europe, designed to restrict imports of goods made with child labour. Indian carpets are mainly exported to Germany and USA. An independent certification and inspection system 'RUGMARK' to ensure that Indian carpets exported are child-labour free, has been developed by the UNISEF (Dr.L.N. Mittal- Social Welfare, June 1997)

Despite all these legislations, India today has a significantly large number of child labourers in non-hazardous, as well as hazardous occupations.

India today has 100 to 200 million children working in various fields. It is said that in rural India almost all the children who are not going to school are working children.

The Concept (Terminology) of Child Labour

The term 'Child Labour' does not lend itself to easy definition, as it does not exhibit a homogenous pattern of activities
and homogenous pattern of effects. Children are engaged in a variety of activities which cannot be categorised under a single head and the implications of which vary from one to the other area. Thus there are situations where a distinction is made between hazardous and non-hazardous occupations. Further a distinction can be made between the activities which are not harmful to the adults but harmful to the children and the activities which are harmful to both. Hence in the first instance, it is essential to answer the question ‘who is a child’?

Concern for Working Children (CWC), a Bangalore based group, defines a child labourer as "a person who has not completed his or her fifteenth year of age and is working with or without wages or income on a part-time or full time basis".

The age of children has been fixed from time to time. Child has been defined as a person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age according to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986. The definition of child in Minimum Wages Act 1948, Plantations Labour Act 1951, Merchant Shipping Act 1958 and Motor Transport Workers Act 1961 was amended and the age factor was brought on par with the age as accepted under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986, the statutory definitions of the child labour from the total labour force.

The term “Child Labour” generally refers to any economic activity performed by a person under the age of fifteen. Not all work performed by children is detrimental or exploitative. Child labour does not usually refer to “light work” after school or legitimate apprenticeship opportunities. Nor does it refer to young people
helping out in the family business or on the family farm. Rather, the “Child Labour” concerns generally employment that prevents effective school attendance and which is often performed under conditions hazardous to the physical and mental health of the child.

International standards provide guidelines on the minimum age for employment, allowing for exceptions based on the conditions of work. ILO Convention 138 on the Minimum Age for Employment, adopted in 1973, states: “The minimum age should not be less than the age of compulsory schooling and, in any case, shall not be less than 15 years” Convention 138 allows countries whose economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed to initially specify a minimum age of 14 years and reduce from 13 years to 12 years the minimum age for light work.

Convention 138 defines “light work” as that which is not likely to harm the child’s health or development or prejudice her/his attendance at school. Convention 138 also prohibits any child under the age of 18 from undertaking dangerous work that is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of young persons.

Partly due to the focus on the child labour issue in the last few years, there have been further discussions about more clearly defining what constitutes “exploitative” child labour that violates the human rights of a child and for which a strong international consensus exists for immediate abolition. The ILO has begun the effort to adopt a new standard as the abolition of the most “intolerable forms” of child labour by 1999.
The provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 make the employment of children below 14 years of age prohibitory in certain specified hazardous occupations. These occupation include, among others, rail and road transport, bidi (cigarette) making, the manufacturing of shellae, matches, cement, soap, explosive and fireworks, mica cutting and splitting, building and construction works, factories, plantations and merchant shipping, which are considered hazardous for health and development of children.

The term child labour is at times used as a synonym for 'employed child' or 'working child'. In this sense it is co-extensive with any work alone by a child for gain. But more commonly than not, the term 'child labour' is used in a perjorative sense. It suggests something, which is hateful and exploitative. (J.C.Kulashreshtha 1978)

Homer Folks (The Chairman of United States National Child Labour Committee) defines child labour as "any work by children that interferes with their full physical development, their opportunities for a desirable minimum of education or their needed recreation" (Indira Kulkarni 1993 or J.C.Kulashreshtha 1978)

International Encyclopaedia of Social Sciences (1959) defines child labour thus: "when the business of wages earning or of participation in self or family support conflicts directly or indirectly with the business of growth and education the result is child labour". The function of work in childhood is primarily developmental and not economic.
Two things are involved in child labour. One is that the worker is in the growing stage and his / her growth or development is hindered by his / her work.

Radhakrashna Panda, in his article Migrant Child Labour in Orissa, defined child labour as follows. “The exertion of either body or mind undertaken partially or wholly by children aging below 14 years, with a view to getting some monetary remuneration is called child labour”.

I.S.Singh (1992) says, “The term ‘child labour’ is commonly interpreted in two different ways. Firstly as an economic practice and secondly as a social evil. In the first context, it signifies employment of children in gainful occupations with a view to adding to the labour income of the family. It is in the second context that the child labour is more generally used. In assessing the nature and the context of social evil, it is necessary to take into account the character of the job in which the children are engaged, the danger to which they are exposed, and the opportunities of development which they have been denied”.


In the opinion of economists, broadly speaking, any work, whether manual or mental which is undertaken for a monetary consideration is "labour".

22
According to Marshall, labour may be defined as “any exertion of mind or body undergone partly or wholly with a view to some good other than the pleasure derived directly from the work.”

The terms ‘labourers’, ‘workers’ and ‘workman’ ‘employee’ are however, practically synonymous in the discussion on labour problems, meaning thereby wage labour, which may be defined as workers who do not have any other adequate source of livelihood except the sale of their labour. (That is capacity to work either physically or mentally in return for which they get wages).

Ivy George in her book Child Labour and Child Work has made a distinction between work and labour. She is of the opinion that “children should be allowed to work, not labour, in environments and conditions conducive to their growth and development”.

Ivy George says, “work is a process intrinsic to life at all levels, be it plant, animal or human. Since living organism are not self-contained, from the very moment of their existence they engage in interactions and exchanges with the larger world around them. Any process aimed at bridging the gap between needs originating in an organism and resources in the organism and resources in the organism environment satisfying those needs may be termed “work”. Therefore work is a natural process: work insures survival and to cease to work is to cease to live.

“Labour” according to Ivy George:

“When individuals are engaged in the production process; not primarily to meet their physiological and psychological needs,
but to meet profit-motivated needs of the employer, the process they are engaged in, may be called "labour". Work becomes labour when the individual capacity to produce a surplus beyond the value of her means of existence is capitalized upon by the employer. Labour devices the producer an opportunity for self-direction and control".

Child labour has many faces. Many children are employed in hazardous work, many others are bonded labourers who toil hard to repay the debts incurred by their parents and who are alienated from their parents during their childhood itself.

Child labour in a restricted sense means the employment of a person below 14 years of age in gainful occupations, which are dangerous to their health and deny them opportunities of development. Thus generally child labour involves four things: one is that the child is below fourteen years of age. Secondly, he/she is gainfully employed and thirdly, the work to which he/she is exposed is harmful to his/her health and lastly it denies to him/her the opportunities of development.
METHODOLOGY

Objectives

Most of the children working in hotels and restaurants are migrants who have left their native places and their families and now living in the hotels and restaurants where they work. These children who are entitled to enjoy all the rights and privileges of staying with their parents are compelled to stay away from them and live in unknown places with unknown persons. Parental love and affections have very important implications on the development of the personality of every individual. Hence, it is intended to take up an in-depth study of the impact that this enstrangement of parents and children would have on the personality development of the children.

This study is an attempt to investigate some of the major issues relating to the causes for these children to get employed at a tender age instead of getting educated and trained, the factors which can be considered contingent for the choice of such a lifestyle, the factors that force their parents to send their children to work, conditions under which these children are toiling, the consequences of their employment on their personality development and on their future life etc.

The present study has the following objectives:

1. To study the profile of working children and the conditions that force these children to join hotel service. The study intends to know the socio-economic conditions of the families of these
children. Also to know whether these children work to support themselves or they work to support their families, too.

2. Government of India has made primary education free and compulsory. The children below fourteen years are supposed to be in schools and on the play-ground for a considerable period. But many children are working as hotel boys in our country. Therefore the study is intended to explore the factors which compel these children to work. These factors may be poverty, ignorance, negligence and sometimes absence of parents and even the factors like lack of interest of the children in studies, lack of necessary infrastructure, lack of faith in the existing educational system etc.

3. There are many activities (occupation) which are harmful to the physical and mental health of children. Therefore the present study intends to examine the employment and working conditions and the health hazards of the child labourers so as to identify the areas of exploitation, if any, in the case of hotel boys.

4. The study also intends to explore the emotional set up of the working children. The children are supposed to be under the care, control, protection and affection of their parents and other members in the family. But these children have left their parents and families to go to the places of work. Therefore, the study intends to investigate the feelings and the emotional set-up of the hotel boys.
Hypotheses

1. Poverty and child labour are directly related.
2. There is a positive correlation between illiteracy of the parents and child labour.
3. Lack of education among children and child labour have direct relation.
4. Family size and child labour are directly related.
5. Lack of emotional attachment on the part of parent /parents may result in child labour.

Area of Enquiry (Coverage and Scope of Study)

No single study can cover all the problems of child labour in all its dimensions. Keeping in view the various constraints such as time, duration, finance and manpower, the present study is confined to only one area of child labour, that is, children working in hotels and restaurants of Dharwad city.

Though child labour is persistent more in rural areas (93%) the researcher has chosen the child labourers in hotels and restaurants in urban areas because the problems of children working in hotels in urban areas are different from those of the children working in rural areas.

A child is defined as a person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age according to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 and hence the researcher restricts her study to the boys below 14 years of age only.
Dharwad District (NEW).
Thus in this study a child labourer is one who is below the age of fourteen who is working in big, medium or small hotels under an employer either as a fulltime or as a part-time worker for wages or for no wages who is not attending the school regularly during the day.

The present study relates to 176 children working in hotels, in Dharwad city. In these hotels no girls are working and therefore the study is restricted only to male children. Girls are not employed in these hotels because parents think it is risky to employ and send girls for such jobs. The employers are also not interested in hiring girls for these jobs.

The Universe

Dharwad City is built on a range of several hills and is very often described as a hill station. The climate of this city is pleasant. It is 384 kilo meters away from Bangalore the State capital. Dharwad is the administrative center of Dharwad Taluk and Dharwad District.

For administrative purposes and for proper development, Dharwad and its neighbouring city Hubli, which is at a distance of about 18 kilometers were brought under a single Municipal Corporation by an Act of the State legislature in March 1962. This is the only city of this kind in Karnataka State and it is the third largest city of the state according to 1991 census.

The area of Hubli Dharwad twin cities is 182.30 sq. kilometers. It is inclusive of thirteen villages of Dharwad Taluk
completely and four villages of Dharwad Taluk partially and fourteen villages of Hubli Taluk partially. In 1979 it had 3,79,166 people and now the population has increased to more than five lakhs. Pune-Bangalore highway No.4 and Pune-Bangalore railway line pass through the city.

Dharwad city was chosen as the locale for study for the following reasons: i) This city is the head quarters of Dharwad district ii) It is an important educational centre and as such it has attracted a large number of students from different corners of the country. Therefore a number of hotels are situated in this city. The market area being the heart of the city most of the big and small hotels are concentrated here and, therefore, the market area of Dharwad city has been chosen as the ideal universe for this study.

Tools and Techniques

This study is an attempt to give a sociological analysis of child labourers.

In the sociological investigations the interview is accepted as a reliable field technique for the collection of data. The present investigations are based on primary data. The requisite data are collected through the interview method, within the premises of hotels so that the researcher could get more information regarding various aspects of the conditions of the work place and other activities of the respondents, which are of vital importance in this study.
As most of the respondents were unable to read and write and were too young to answer open-ended questions, closed-ended questions were structured.

The interview schedule was in the regional language, that is, Kannada. Though some respondents had other than Kannada as their mother-tongue, almost all of them could communicate well in Kannada except 8-10 respondents who were migrants from neighbouring states with other regional languages. The researcher could communicate with those respondents in Hindi, Marathi and Urdu.

The schedule is structured in such a way as to cover all the important aspects concerned with the causes, conditions and consequences of a child’s employment in the hotel. The main schedule had five sections in which both the quantitative and qualitative questions were incorporated. The sections are:

The Schedule

1. Profile of the working Children

The first section includes questions relating to the profile of the boys including their age, native place, caste, religion, educational status, family size, family type etc.

2. Educational status

Under this section are questions aimed at collecting information regarding the educational status of the subject and of his parents and other members of the family.
3. Economic condition

In the third section, relevant questions pertaining to the issues relating to the parents' occupation, numbers of working members of the family, family income, family property, family savings and indebtedness, level of satisfaction regarding the basic needs at home, its impact on the child’s behavior etc are incorporated.

4. Emotional set-up

Under this head relevant questions pertaining to the issues relating to the emotional set-up of the family, which deals with the behavior of father, mother, brothers and their mutual relationships etc. are included.

5. Work and working conditions

The fifth section contains questions regarding the working conditions of the boys such as food, clothing, shelters, health and recreational conditions, the treatment given by the employer, co-workers and the customers, the salary he gets and the money he spends for himself and for his family (his contribution to his family) his aspirations for the future and so on.

Pilot Study: (Reliability Test of Schedule)

The schedule was pre-tested on twenty boys working in hotels situated in non-sample area. The pilot study proved useful as the interview schedule was modified and standardized and a few
more questions were included on the basis of the experience gathered during the pilot study.

Field Work (Data Collection and Analysis)

The present study is concerned with the burning problem of child labour, which is considered a social evil. Child labour in many areas has been legally restricted. Awareness regarding this problem is created everywhere in recent years. Moreover a survey on child labour in Dharwad district was conducted by the government in the month of May 1997, that is just three months before the researcher started her field work, and many hotel owners were heavily penalized (Rs. 20,000-30,000 or so). Hence there was the refusal and non-cooperation of the hotel owners for the researcher to interview the child-workers. Hence the researcher had to find out persons who could convince the employers that the researcher was in no way concerned with the government and could take the responsibility of any risk of penalty or punishment. The researcher had also to convince that the information would be utilized for no purpose other than that of research and it would be treated as strictly confidential. Only after the assurance did the owners not only allow but also extend special co-operation to the researcher to interview the boys and to collect information about them. Thus creating confidence was the most challenging and difficult task for the researcher.

Moreover most of the managers of the hotels were not ready to spare the boys, who were busy, to get interviewed during working hours. Therefore the researcher had to find out the holidays of the hotels. Even on these days the researcher had to
contact the respondents before they left the hotel to enjoy their holidays. These boys got up late on the holidays and were eager to go out to enjoy their holidays as soon as possible. Hence the researcher had to establish a personal rapport with them to retain them to get interviewed.

It was found that interviewing the boys during holidays was desirable because the respondents were in relaxed moods and freely expressed their opinions in the absence of the owner and manager.

Some of the respondents who were away from home and family members and had no opportunity to share their views, with anyone, were very much eager to share their inner feelings with the researcher. Some of them who were too young and innocent and sentimental took an opportunity to explain their miserable stories, with the researcher in whom, it seems they found motherly love and affection.

Inspite of many visits and letters to the labour office, the researcher could not get authentic information regarding the number of child workers in Dharwad City and in the hotels of this city.

The list and address of all the hotels of Dharwad City was obtained from the Corporation office. The total number of hotels in Dharwad city was 219 and out them 61 hotels that is 27.85 % hotels were situated in the main market area. The researcher visited all the sixty-one hotels. There were altogether 187 child labourers who were interviewed.
But the researcher could collect full information about 176 boys only, that is, 11 boys were left out for the following reasons. Six boys were totally in-communicable and in the case of five other boys though the manager of the hotel in which the boys worked permitted the researcher to interview the boys, when he came to know that the boys came in the child labour category snatched away the questionnaires for the fear of being hauled up.

But for these solitary exceptions all the owners / managers extended full co-operation in getting the information about their boys.

**Historical Background and Review of Literature**

For a clear understanding of the present day problem of child labour – its magnitude and dimensions- it is necessary to peep into the historical background of this problem, as the problem has a long history.

Today the issue of child labour is gaining more and more attention though the phenomenon has a fairly long history. Some studies show that since time immemorial children have been employed in guilds and in trade occupations in both domestic, and non-domestic, in the agrarian as well as in the cottage industry sectors of India. In these societies their work place was an extension of the home and the work relationships were informal, work for the children was neither hazardous nor difficult. Actually it was training under congenial conditions.
In the past children were involved in one or the other work within the family surroundings. Then the child's interest was well protected. The work then was a game rather than a burden to the child and a means to fulfil his curiosity. There was direct satisfaction for the child. Children learnt the work gradually and unconsciously through observation and imitation and that was the education needed at that time for making his career. There was no oppression and no exploitation and that was why children could learn the work easily.

Imitation is an inherent quality of every child. The child imitated the activities of parents, elders and other members around. The work done by the mother, aunts, sister's etc, such as fetching water, cooking was imbibed easily. The work done by father, uncle and brothers etc, would be carpentry, goldsmithy, pot-making and a variety of such other activities. They were imitated by the children. The child, through imitation, learnt these activities and thus began the socialization process and development of the child.

The work done by the children based on humane and sympathetic treatment was not measured in terms of money but the reward for their work was appreciation, glorification and encouragement which would bring them happiness and an eagerness to work more. Thus their work was conducive to the healthy development of their personality.

Ivy George in her book *Child Labour and Child Work* (1990) has rightly pointed out the distinctions between work and labour. She opines that children should be allowed to work, not labour, in
environment and conditions conducive to their growth and development.

The tendency to work is inherent in man. But as Karl Marx has recognized it, if man works under in-human conditions he is deprived of human qualities and capitalistic working conditions lead to the alienation of man, which is the prime obstacle in the way of achievement. Alienation, according to him, is the separation of man from the fruit of his labour.

Karl Marx is of the opinion that the notion of alienation is not only with regard to the end-products, but also with regard to the process of production and in the productive activity itself. "According to Karl Marx alienation consists in the fact that the work is external to the worker, that is not a part of his nature, that consequently he does not fulfil himself in his work but denies himself, has a feeling of misery, not of well being, does not develop freely the mental and physical energy, but is physically exhausted and mentally debased. The worker, therefore feels himself at home only during his leisure, where as, at work he feels homeless. His work is not voluntary but imposed, forced labour. It is not the satisfaction of a need but only a means for satisfying other needs. Its alien character is clearly shown by the fact that as soon as there is no physical or other compulsion, it is avoided like the plague. Finally, the alienated character of the work for the worker appears in the fact that it is not his work but work for some one else, that in work he does not belong to himself but to other persons." (Nisbet R.A. 1966).
Marx deals with alienation in work as much as he had earlier dealt with religion. Alienation consists of the individual letting something of himself go outside of himself, thus to become an external influence or authority. The tyranny imposed by capitalism is the objectified tyranny of something that rightfully belongs within the worker. Just as in religion the spontaneous action of human fantasy of the brain and heart, reacts independently, that is, as an alien activity of gods or devils, upon the individual. So the activity of the worker is not his spontaneous activity. It is another's activity and a loss of his own spontaneity. There is no better and more succinct statement of what Marx meant by alienation than the following "The object produced by labour, its product, now stands opposed to it as an alien being, as a power independent of the producer. The product of the labour is a labour, which has been embodied in a thing, and turned into a physical thing; this product is an objectification of labour. This performance of work is at the same time its objectification. This performance appears in the sphere of political economy, as a vitiation of the worker, objectification as a loss and as servitude to the object and appropriation as alienation. (Nisbet R.A. 1966).

Thus, as pointed out by Karl Marx, when adult workers themselves have become a source of exploitation in the capitalist economy, it is no wonder that child labour is much more exploited, doubly so, not only by the capitalist but often times by the parents of the children themselves.

Rapid growth of industrialization has brought about radical changes in the employment pattern. It is viewed that "the child as
a wage earner is purely a phenomenon of industrialization and modernization.” (Patil 1998)

In modern capitalism, the capitalist owns the means of production and the workers depend upon them for work. Capitalists aim at making maximum profit and neglect the wellbeing of the workers. They try to exploit through low wages, maximum hours of work and therefore employ women and children who are available for work (comparatively) at low wages due to poverty. Now the work is external to the worker and it is not a part of his nature. Thus the work is not for his satisfaction but it is the means to fulfil some other needs.

With the advent of modern industrialization and as a result of urbanisation the village workers migrated from rural to urban areas in search of jobs for their living. And their children were forced to work for a pittance to save their families from wreck. These children are the means of profit for those who employ them.

Employers prefer child workers who work for long hours sincerely for lower wages. Child labour is cheaper and less bothersome compared to adult labour. In most of the cases there is no liability on the part of the employer to give any service benefit such as provident fund, gratuity, leave, promotion and increment etc. More over these children can be removed from the work any time the employer desires without any problem. Thus the child workers are doubly exploited.

In his theory of 'surplus value' Karl Marx has pointed out that the value of the labour by a worker is much greater than the
value of wages he gets from the employer. The worker works for twelve hours but gets the wages worth the labour of four to six hours only. This surplus value is not given to the worker but it goes to the employer as profit.

B.R. Patil (1988) opines that the child as a wage labourer is purely a phenomenon of industrialization and modernization. As viewed by the National Commission on labour (1969) the employment of children is more an economic problem than anything else.

Children today are compelled to work in unhygienic and harmful conditions and the work technology today is hazardous to their well-being. They work for ten to twelve hours a day and even more, without suitable reward. Out of ten crores of children working in the unorganized sector in India, more than twenty lakhs are in hazardous industries like carpet weaving, glass works, match and fire works, chemical industries etc. An analysis of the census figures of 1961, 1971 and 1981 reveals that the extent of child labour has gone up not only in absolute figures but also in its share in hazardous occupation. It has risen from 3.1 lakh in 1961 to 3.7 in 1971 and then to 6.71 lakh in 1981.

Review of Literature

The present study is focused on the problem of child labour and its various dimensions. At the outset it aims at finding out the factors responsible for the prevalence of child labour to a greater extent and the causes and consequences of work and working conditions on the children working in hotels and restaurants in
urban India. Most of these children are migrants and are living away from parents and their family members for meager wages.

This study intends to probe into the conditions which force these children to work at an early age, when these children are supposed to be in schools or on playgrounds. There may be a simple cause or many causes like poverty, illiteracy, death of parents, lack of interest in studies, lack of emotional security etc.

The present study also aims to know how far these children are happy with their life style or how far their work affects their health and personality.

In the light of these objectives, a review of literature pertaining to the problems of child labour is given below.

Many studies have been undertaken on the problems of child labour during the 19th and 20th centuries, as the onset of industrialization and urbanization have brought about a change in the attitude of the employers as well as the parents towards children.

A few studies which are available regarding the prevalence of child labour in ancient and Vedic period have made a mention of child labour in guilds and in trade occupations, both domestic and non-domestic, in the agricultural as well as cottage industry sectors in India (Anand K.Dubey 1989)

It has been pointed out by J.C.Kulashreshtha in his book Child Labour in India (1978) that Manu Smrithi of the Vedic
period reveals the fact that education was necessary for the children. The fathers and the mothers were punished by the communities if they did not send their boys and girls to the hermitage of a Guru or University after their attaining the age of eight years. He further opined that in ancient India child labour existed in the form of slaves. The children of less than eight years were purchased as slaves like articles of trade for doing low and dishonourable work. Children of slaves took birth as slaves, lived and died as slaves unless the master liked to release them from slavery.

Musafir Singh, V.D.Kaura and S. A. Khan in their book Working Children in Bombay-a Study (1980) wrote, "Child Labour is not a new phenomenon to our age. It has existed in one form or the other in all historical periods, what is new, however, is its perception as a social problem. The conversion of a social or non-social situation into a social problem is occasioned by a value change among the legitimizing groups of society".

The practice of child labour has drawn the attention of many sociologists during the 19th and 20th centuries. Today the problem needs urgent attention of the experts in this field, the administrators and policy-makers. It has become a global issue today.

The problem of child labour is not only restricted to the third world countries, but is also prevalent in the west. But significantly high proportion of child workers are prevalent in the less developed countries. Surprisingly enough, until recently these child labourers did not receive much attention. Only after U.N.O's declaration of
1979 as the ‘International Year of the Child’ (I.Y.C) many scholars and researchers have taken up studies and activists and voluntary organizations have tried to bring awareness about the magnitude and evil effects of this practice through seminars, workshops and media and so on. It has now been viewed as a national problem.

Many legislations to protect the child workers have been enacted in England, America, USSR, India and some other countries from time to time. J.C.Kulashreshtha says, “In 1889 Mrs. Florence Kelley, a socialist, had presented a paper on the evils of child labour. She pointed out how child employment posed a problem and it had become a social evil.”

In May 1903, Florence Kelley and Jane Adams read a paper on destitute children at the annual meeting of National Conference of Charities and Corrections held in Atlanta, Georgia. At the same meeting Murphy read a paper on “Child Labour as a National Problem”. Florence Kelley’s book Some Ethical Gains Through Legislation published in 1905 showed some facts relating to child labour and considered the plan for a Commission for children.


There after several authors have expressed concern with the area of the causes for child labour, causes for the preference by the employers for child labour, the treatment given to the children, the impact on the health and development of the children, etc.
The study of child labour in rural societies and the relationship of child labour with existing high fertility in the third world countries has been undertaken during the last three decades.

The empirical investigations conducted in rural areas of the developing countries by Mamadani (1972), Cain (1977) and the study of Nag, White and Peet are the valuable contributions in the field of child labour in rural areas.

A study undertaken by Mamadani (1972) in rural Punjab in India makes it clear that children perform a variety of tasks which are beneficial to parents and that is why the poor people in villages wish to have more children and do not accept the family planning measures.

In 1977 Cain did similar investigation in Char-Gopalpur village of Bangladesh. The data presented by him showed that both boys and girls work for long hours and there is a significant economic contribution by these children. Further the study pointed out the prevalence of high fertility and large number of children.

The findings of the study undertaken by Nag, White and Peet (1978) on the basis of their research conducted in two villages of Java (Indonesia) and Nepal are similar to those discussed above. They have found out that the economic contribution of children to the household was substantial. This study noticed age-wise variations in the work inputs of children.
There is an attempt to analyze the activities of children according to sex, age and education by Caldwell (1977). The data collected by Caldwell in Nigeria showed that children perform a number of activities at an early age of 5 years only. Whereas the study of Madigan (1977) in Philippines disclosed the fact that the activities such as carrying message and making small purchases etc are undertaken by the children of even less than 5 years.

Peek's (1978) study in two cities of the less developed countries analysed the influence of socio-economic factors on the extent of children's contribution to household income. The data show that birth rate, value of children and socio-economic factors are inter-linked.

The views of Nadkurni (1976) are similar to those of Mamadani. The survey conducted on census basis on six villages of Maharashtra showed that among the small landowners and agricultural labourers child labour rate is high.

The views of Vlasoff are contradictory to those of the above studies. The observations of Vlasoff (1979) in a village in Maharashtra, by revealed low rate of children's work participations.


In this book eight contributors have applied their research experience to the areas like the magnitude of child labour, child labour as an economic problem, demographic and social
dimensions of child labour, child labour in the area of agriculture, relationship between child labour and fertility and the impact of child labour on education and fertility. This volume is a significant contribution on child labour. It throws light on the extent, nature and implications of child labour; greater trust is on the problem of child labour in rural areas. Further the contributors have made an attempt to find out the causes and consequences of this phenomenon. An in-depth inquiry of the correlation between the high fertility levels and the economic benefits of child labor is also made. It has been pointed out that the incidence of child labour is the result of the socio-economic and cultural factors and is the cause for the two major problems of high fertility and low educational level in developing countries.

B.R.Patil in his book Working Children In Urban India, (1988) has defined the concept of child labour and has discussed the magnitude of the problem. He has tried to analyse the various causal factors for this problem and after a thorough study he concludes that the economic compulsions are the strong reasons forcing a large number (46%) of the child workers to seek wage labour and for remaining child workers, it is the concern of parents to see their children employed before they grow old. Whatever the reason, one fact stands out that these children are subjected to different kinds of exploitation.

Further, Patil has not only dealt in detail, with the legislations concerning child labour, enacted in India, but has also suggested some ways to improve the conditions of child workers, like providing protection from exploitation, education and training, health care and nutrition, career planning etc, disclosing the harsh
reality that child labour cannot be easily eradicated as long as low incomes, high dependency ratios and limited socio-economic opportunities prevail in the society.

In the book Child Labour in Glass Industry G.P.Mishra and P.N.Pande (1996) have proved that child labour persists to a large extent despite having many laws prohibiting child labour, in the light of natural justice and human rights.

This book is based on a study of child labour in a glass industry of Ferozabad of Uttar Pradesh. The authors have tried to find out answer to the questions: 'why the parents send their children to work? How the employers exploit these children? How it affects the child's health and development? What is the attitude of the working children and how far the government efforts have been effective in curbing the child labour? and so on.

The study is based on a survey of 500 children employed in units of a glass manufacturing industry and the 500 households of these working children.

The structured questionnaire schedules were used to collect the information. However interview and participant observation methods were also used to collect relevant information from employers, governmental officials and other relevant functionaries.

An overall finding of the study shows that child labour is being perpetuated due to the given socio-economic situation and the specific nature of production in the industry.
In conclusion, it has been pointed out that socio-economic factors and the nature of work in this industry are the factors leading to increased child labour. The authors have also given some suggestions to curb this child labour.

The article Child Work, Schooling and Fertility in Rural Karnataka, India by Ramesh Kanbargi and P.M. Kulkarni”, (1984) has clearly exhibited the extent and nature of work done by children. In this study they have examined the interrelation between child labour, child schooling and fertility. According to this study, children work, on an average, for about four hours a day and their work contribution increases with age. A significant negative relationship between child labour and child schooling is observed in this study. Further the authors conclude that the age of child and the presence of the number of younger siblings at home also determine child labour. Though direct relationship between child labour and fertility was not found, a negative effect of schooling on fertility and also a positive effect of child labour on fertility was found. In conclusion the analysis suggests that a reduction in the incidence of child labour and an increasing child schooling would lead to a decline in fertility. They have also pointed out that there is a positive relation between the father’s education where as the negative effect of rainfall on child labour.

This analysis finally leads to specific policy prescriptions to reduce child labour. The authors have given suggestions to adopt a policy in the villages for better water and fuel facilities, clean and ready-cooked food grains, arrangements of community tending of animals etc in which children waste much of their time instead of attending schools. The authors have also pointed out the need for
making the schools in rural areas more attractive. They considered the direct banning of child labour as impractical. The schooling of children shows a positive impact on the contraceptive practice of parents (negative impact on fertility). Therefore schools should be made more attractive to encourage children to attend schools, which results in a reduction in the incidence of child labour.

In his book *Child Labour in India* (1992) I.S. Singh has analysed the incidence of child labour, socio-economic background of the child labourers, types of services and areas where there is concentration of child labour and the age group of children so employed.

The objectives of this study were to find out proper location for ten centres to be opened in Ahmadabad city under the child labour welfare scheme, to get some insight about the child labourers socio-economic background and thirdly to know the availability and willingness of children to attend the centre and also to know their mental capacity in order to prepare the curricula.

The sample of this study consisted of 200 children working in restaurants/hotels (55) lorries (52), garages (47) and doing household chores (46). The purposive sampling was followed for selection of children working in these services. (In addition an I.Q. test on 50 school going children within the age range of 8 to 14 years was administrated). For this study a structured questionnaire was framed. A performance test known as Alexander's Pass Along Test was administrated on the children individually in order to measure their I.Q.
The conclusions drawn on the basis of this data are similar to the conclusions drawn by B.R. Patil (1988). The data presented in this study indicate that economic compulsion is the main cause for child labour; child labourers work for long hours and the living conditions are not conducive to good health.

The study of I.S. Singh also indicates that most of the children do not do risky work, do not have any health problems caused by work, they are covered by accident compensations. These child labourers seem to have fairly good relations with their employers and they seem satisfied with their job and salary.

Jinesh Chandra Kulashreshtha in his book entitled Child Labour in India (1978) has attempted not only to analyse the problem of child labour but also to suggest measures of eradication of this problem. He has dealt with the concept, nature and magnitude of the same. While exploring the causes of child labour the author found that poverty and unemployment of adult bread earners, absence of scheme for family allowance, large family, cheap labour and the absence of provisions for compulsory education, illiteracy and ignorance of parents were the main causes.

The author has also discussed about the protective legislations in different countries of the world like England, America, USSR and India. The shortage of public funds, the difficulty of administration and enforcement and poverty are considered as the main obstacles in the way of abolition of child labour in developing countries. J.C. Kulashreshtha has suggested to strengthening the administrative machinery, in addition to
establishment of night classes, making curricula and school environment attractive, adjustment in school timings and vacations, providing adequate health services for children at schools. The provision of family planning, provision of living wage for adult wage earners, awareness among parents are thought to be the best ways to abolish child labour.

The book entitled Economic Activities of Children written by B.M.Dinesh (1988) is about the dimensions, causes and the consequences of economic activities of children in the villages of India.

This study is mainly based on primary data gathered from three villages of Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka State and secondary data have also been used. Simple random sampling technique was used to select households for the survey. The sample size was 100 households in each village.

This is an attempt to study the magnitude, intensity, place of work and nature of activities performed by these children and also the wages earned by them. It has also attempted to study the compatibility and competitiveness of work and schooling of children and also the causes of child work participation in rural areas. The causes hypothesized by the author are poverty, caste, tradition, size of the family, labour scarcity, wage rates, illiteracy, schooling facility, neighborhood etc. There is an attempt to highlight the impact of child work participation on the child, the family and on the community.
The study is also intended to understand parents' perceptions regarding the economic contribution of children. The author opines that high fertility is one of the consequences of child labour. According to B.M. Dinesh, child labour leads to the adult unemployment problem.

B.K. Sharma and Vishwa Mittar's book *Child Labour and Urban Informal Sector* (1990) is a study of child labourers in the informal sector in Patiala city. It is an important work in the area of enquiry regarding the impact of employment of children in informal sectors. In this study, the authors have tried to examine the socio-economic conditions of the children working in manufacturing, construction, trade including hotels and restaurants, community social and personal services, and repair services. There is also an effort to examine conditions of work place, the causes for these children to work and the contributions of the working children to their family income and even the attitude of the children towards school and work.

The analysis in this volume has been organized in seven chapters. The first chapter introduces the problem and in the second there is an analysis of urban informal sector and its origin. The third chapter deals with the profile of the working children. Chapter four explains the nature of employment, working conditions, their payments and the attitudes of these children towards their job. Chapter five focuses on migrant child labour within and outside the state and also the causes for their migration. The economic conditions of the households of these working children have been brought to light in the sixth chapter and at the end in the seventh chapter the authors conclude that
child labour is found more in informal sector, because of the preference of the employers for child labour which is considered as the source of cheap labour and quick profit. B.K.Sharma and Vishwa Mittar's study also lends support to the view that unemployment, poverty and indebtedness of the households of the child labourers, are the main factors leading to child labour.

The low level of literacy of adult members of the children employed was an important cause for their placement in the informal sector activities such as rickshaw-pulling, bangle-selling, petty trades, rag-collections and repair works etc.

Though the wages of these children was less than the legal minimum fixed for an adolescent worker, their earning helped to raise the per capita income of their families. A negative correlation between adult earning members in a household and proportion of working children in that family has been noted in this study.

An important remark made by these authors is that mere prohibition of child labour cannot solve the problem unless the economic condition of the families of child labourers is improved.

The authors have suggested the enactment of comprehensive legislation of free and compulsory schooling for working children.

A detailed study of the problems of working children, the factors which compel these children to get employed at an early age is found in Musafir Singh, V.D.Kaura, and S.A.Khan's book 'Working Children in Bombay-A Study' (1980). The authors have rightly pointed out that child labour is economically unsound,
psychologically disastrous and physically as well as morally dangerous and harmful.

In this study a sample of 300 children was drawn on the basis of regular interval. Among them 211 children were employed under some owner and the remaining 89 were self-employed. Of these 211 children, 58 were in the production unit, 17 in trade and commerce, 15 in arts and crafts, 30 in services and repairs, 21 in construction work, 45 in domestic work and 8 worked in hotel or restaurants.

The authors have stressed upon the factors like chronic poverty, adult unemployment and low wages of adults, employer's preference for children to adults as the reasons for the prevalence of child labour in the country.

There is a discussion about the various laws relating to working children and about the non-implementation of them in the country. They have also given some suggestions for ameliorating child labour.

The book The Rehabilitation of Child Labour in India edited by R.N. Pati (1990) is the outcome of National Seminar on the role of N.G.O's in rehabilitation of child labourers. This volume consists of twenty-three articles through which thirty-three contributors have shared their views on the issues pertaining to child labourers in various socio-economic settings.

The first part of this volume is focused on the ethical issues relating to rehabilitation of child labour. In the ten articles of part
two, there is an attempt to identify the major issues for rehabilitation of child labour. The existing policies and welfare programmes relating to child labour have also been examined in this part. Moreover, there is a discussion about the involvement of N.G.Os in rehabilitation of child labour at the end of this volume.

The first article "Child labour: A Socio-Legal Approach" written by Lalitendu Jagatdeb, Kahnu Charan Dhir and Kshirodendu Jagatdeb has its main thrust upon the economic benefits of child labour, the health hazards in various industries and the child labour legislations. In conclusion they opined that in the absence of considerable improvement in the economic conditions of child labourers families, it would be unrealistic to think of the total abolition of child labour in the country.

The contribution of Ivy George's Child Labour and Child Work (1990) merits consideration. There is a unique approach to the problem. Often the terms 'work' and 'labour' have been used synonymously and interchangeably. But Ivy George has made a clear-cut distinction between these two terms. She has rightly said that children should be allowed to work in environments and conditions, which foster their growth and development but should not be allowed to labour.

She conducted a study in a south Indian village called Channallipath to examine the exploitative nature of handloom cotton and silk weaving industries.

Community living, participant observation, interviews and case studies are the tools used for research in this study.
families and 22 child workers of the age group 8-14 in the village were covered. Also officials / personnel working in Community institutions like local schools, health centre, co-operative society were interviewed. In addition store merchants and other persons influential in the creation and maintenance of social policies concerned to children were also interviewed.

Ivy George has expressed the view that the participation of children in work has been beneficial to their physical, psychological, social and intellectual growth. Proper co-ordination of learning (education) and work has been an accepted social process.

She has stressed the importance and benefit of work for the children who otherwise might have turned into deviants. Therefore the author has suggested the transformation of labour settings to work settings and for this she has suggested that there is the need for an appropriate change in the existing educational system to suit urban and rural situations.

Based on the conceptual distinction between work and labour, Ivy George supported the view that the problem of child labour could not be eradicated at the present economic conditions, and the working conditions should be improved.

The study “A psycho-social study of Rag picker children” made by Mehnaz M. Ansari in 1989 in the walled city of Delhi (Research report-yojana 1983) was based on the sample of 35 rag pickers selected from the 'rag market' of the city. The study was intended to examine the family structure and living conditions of
rag-picker children. It also investigated the self-perception of these children and their perception of their jobs. In conclusion the researcher has given some suggestions for rag pickers' education.

An important finding of Mehnaz Ansari that socially disadvantaged children are more concerned with the present and have a vague and indefinite notion about the future is in concurrence with the findings of Duran (1950), Terrel, Durkin and Weisley (1959) Reisman (1952) Cameron and Storm (1965) and Spence (1971) and Ushasree (1980) who said that socially disadvantaged pupils have difficulty in working towards distant goals and economically disadvantaged children are present-oriented.

The article "Wages of Child Labour" is the outcome of a study conducted by Dr. G. Krishnamurthy and Smt. T. Jyotirani (Yojana oct 1983) to examine the pattern of wages of children employed in small restaurants in the context of the minimum wages prescribed by the state government.

On the basis of the primary data collected by interviewing 28 child workers and 20 employees from 20 small restaurants in Warangal city, through a structured questionnaire, the authors have concluded that child labour is widely prevalent in small restaurants and not in star hotels. These children were engaged to clean the tables and vessels, to procure water (72%), to provide door to door service (32%). These children worked as many hours as adults or even more. In this study, the employers justified the lower wages of these children saying that the nature of work assigned to them was relatively light and did not demand any skill,
experience and education. Further the researchers found that that the wage structure bore no direct relationship to the turn-over but was greatly influenced by the capital employed. It was also found that the main reasons for child labour were unwillingness of adults to do the job done by children and the low wages that were paid to the child labourers.

It is clear from this study that about 80% of the employees received less than the statutory minimum and the wages were in cash as well as in kind. In spite of the miserable working conditions, long hours of work (8 to 10 hours), lack of holidays and meagre wages, the children sought such jobs for the fulfilment of the basic requirement of food and shelter in the hotels.

Child Labour in India: Issues and Policy Options edited by S.N. Tripathy (1996) is a collection of twelve articles written by different authors who have focused on the problems of children, street children, girl children, migrant children, delinquent children and the children working in agarbatti industries, brick kiln industries and the like. Most of them are based on secondary data and aim at bringing awareness of the problems, among the public and the abolition of child labour.

S. K. Tripathy's paper 'Child Labour: An Introspection' has pointed out the health hazards faced by the children working in beedi, glass, handloom, gem and diamond-cutting industries, construction works, stone and slate quarries etc. He has also discussed in detail the child rights at the international level and the constitutional safeguards and legal measures for protection of
child labour in India. Moreover, some suggestions towards the eradication of child labour have also been given by S. K. Tripathy.

In the article entitled 'Child Labour: Dimensions in India: an Appraisal' Umesh Chandra Sahoo observes that there is a double alienation today in the case of child workers, that is, separation from the system of production and expulsion from the family. In his opinion, socio-economic backwardness, illiteracy, unemployment, demographic expansion and above all the government apathy are the most important causative factors for the employment of children.

Radhakrishna Pande has studied about the problems and causes of 155 migrant child labourers of brick kiln manufacturing units. He has stressed upon the factors like natural calamities, poverty, existence of larger tribal belt in India and also the failure of government policy to provide employment avenues as the causes for migrant child labour. He has also found out the exploitative emergence of these child workers through long hours of work and many diseases. Further he has found out a positive correlation between their level of income and migration.

There is the description of the tragedy of the innocent children working in various hazardous industries in the paper of Avaya Kesari Parichha Patnaik. The author opines that poverty being the main cause of child labour, complete eradication of child labour is only an utopian idea.
I. S. Singh’s paper is focused on the problems of children toiling in agarbatti industry in Ahemedabad city. Punekar’s article is a study of street children in the cities of Gujarat.

Neera Burra, in her article “Health Hazards’ (1988), has pointed out the magnitude of child labour in hazardous occupations in the country. She has also illustrated the harsh conditions of work of children and the fatal diseases acquired by the children working in glass, beedi, carpet weaving, brassware, slate-making, balloon-making and chemical industries and the like.

The examples quoted by Neera Burra give us a clear picture of the vulnerability of children in India. She opines that some occupations are intrinsically harmful and some others are made harmful because of lack of proper provisions. Thus in totality all the work children are engaged in are pernicious.

The authors K. Kumar and Punam Rani of the book *Offences against Children: Socio-legal Perspectives* (1996) have attempted to highlight the fact that the exploitation of children who are important assets of the nation, affects the society as a whole. These authors consider poverty and inability of parents to provide education as the main cause for the parents to compel their wards to work. The “Conventions of the Rights of Child” as adopted by the U. N. General Assembly in 1989 Nov 20 have been put forth at the end of the book. There is also a detailed discussion of how far goals have been achieved and how far they have yet to be achieved.

N.S.Krishnakumari’s study of slum child labourers in Bangalore city (1985) is a detailed study of three categories of
households—child labour households, school going households and dropout households. The author has attempted to measure and analyze the activities of children by sex, age, and education in her book *Child Labour in Bangalore city- A report*. In her study she has observed that though the average age of children employed was twelve years even six to eight years children were exploited. Of the fifteen major occupations in which children were engaged some were female dominated and some others were male dominated, depending upon the nature of work. The author in this study has tried to measure the exploitation of children on the basis of the extent of child labour and the age, at which these children started working.

From the findings of the analysis Krishnakumari concludes that the heads of child labour households are dominated by the aged, many of them widows migrated from rural areas and with low earnings. 19% of the income, in case of child labour households, comes from the children.

The book *Demographic and Socio-economic Aspects of the Child in India* edited by K.Shrinivasan, P.C.Saxena and Tara Kanitkar (1979) covers a wide variety of topics in three sections namely demographic and economic aspects of the child, health and nutritional status of the child and social aspects of the child. In all, 39 papers are there in this volume. About six chapters in the first section deal mainly with the economic aspects of the child. Ms. A.Sebastian in her article “Child Migrants and Child Migrant Labour” has attempted to study the extent and types of migrants in greater Bombay as well as in rural and urban areas of Maharashtra and Haryana, on the basis of the 1971 census. A
general observation was that whenever the total number of migrants was high, the proportions of migrant child labour were also high. She concluded that the maximum number of migrant children were employed by affluent families and small hotels and restaurants.

In another chapter of the same volume, entitled "Occupational Pattern of Children in Rural Uttar Pradesh" Ms. Nirmal Sawhney has discussed the extent of child employment in rural areas and has found out a link between occupational and educational status of the father and working status of children. Her study shows that prevalence of child labour in the age group 5-14 years is quite high. Higher proportions of Muslim children were employed resulting in no schooling of these children. Illiteracy was higher among working children. The occupational status of a child was influenced by the educational and economic status of the father.

In the chapter entitled "Child Labour: Do Parents count it as an Economic Contribution" of the same volume there is an examination of the contribution of child workers to the parents' and to the country's economy. The author of this article Ms.K.Dandekar, is of the opinion that the proportion of children in the labour force is relatively low in India (at the macro level) because of the lack of employment opportunities and as parents in India do not wish to send their children to work at an early age which is harmful to their health and hinders their education. However on the basis of several studies the author concludes that the utility of child to the poor is much more than their cost to
them. On the other hand, to the rich the cost of child is probably much higher than their utility.

Ms. Sumati Kulkarni (1979) in her paper “Economic Value of Children” has examined the cost and benefits from children on the basis of available data. Earlier studies on the cost of children have been reviewed and an attempt has also been made to give an estimate on the basis of the latest available data of National Sample Survey. An analysis has been made regarding the wages and the work opportunities for children in agricultural sector. There is a discussion on the data on economic contribution of child labourers in Bombay slums. The article makes it clear that it cannot be accepted that in India the actual benefits from children are substantial and that the economic value of children is positive and high.

Exploration of the working conditions and the helplessness of the children working in carpet weaving units of U. P., glass industries in Ferozabad, mach industries in Tamil Nadu etc is the main purpose of the paper “Child Worker in Industries--Implication for Education” written by J. Gathia (1990). The author opines that this phenomena is increasing in number and it is high time to take action against it and education can be a potent weapon to combat the evil of child labour. The latter half of this paper suggests ways and means of taking up education of the children working in industries.

The contribution of Usha S. Naidu (1990) is mainly restricted to the analysis of living conditions of working children in greater Bombay. The information is based on some personal contacts with
some voluntary organizations such as Seva Niketan, Prerana, Vatsalya, Construction Workers project and Steel Workers Project etc and also on the information collected by Naidu and Parashuraman in one of their studies. In this study it was found that most of the children wanted vocational skill-oriented education which would provide them upward mobility. A few of them expressed the desire to learn conversational English. Most of the children expressed the desire to study even while they were working. They were positively opposed to give up their job for the purpose of study. Therefore the author has suggested to adopt measures to provide meaningful education to these groups of children.

In Nalini Juneja's contribution "Strategies for Reaching and Teaching Working Children" there is an overall assessment of the planning and management strategies being adopted for different groups of working children. This assessment is based on a study of the working of ten government as well as voluntary organizations.