Anupnagar Fazalpur, Golabadh, Sundra Erstwhile Pootha, Sharegari, Govind Puri, East Reethani, Abdullapur, Jatohi, Palavpuram, Kaliagarhi, Hafizabad Mevla, Multan Nagar, Ajanta Colony, Subhash Nagar, Buddhera Jahidpur, Kasim Pur, Kaseru Baksar, Kashi, Nangla Tashi, Defence Colony, Jagriti Vihar, Brahmampuri East, L-Block Shastri Nagar, Sabun Gaudam, Khadoli, Civil Lines, East Mahaver, Mohan Puri, Shahpeer Gate, Shiv Shakti Nagar, Modi Puram, Jai Devi Nagar, Bhopal Singh Road, Shastri Nagar Scheme No. 7 Sector 3, Tej Garhi, Baghpat Gate, Suraj Kund Road, Jain Nagar, Shastri Nagar Scheme No. 7, Sector-2, Prahlad Nagar, Nangla Batto, Thapar Nagar, Sarai Lal Das, Phool Bagh Colony, Braham Puri West, Purva Eelahi Baksh, Moori Para, Sarai Bahaileem, Madhav Puram Scheme No. 10, Makbara Abbu, Saddik Nagar, Kailashpuri, Khairnagar Gate, Purva Islamabad, Jamma Nagar, Swamipara, Kidwai Nagar, Ismail Nagar, Shyam Nagar West, Purva Faiyaz Ali, Rashid Nagar, Sakoor Nagar, Tarapuri, Shyam Nagar East, Fakrudeen Ali Ahmed Nagar West, Fakrudeen Ali Ahmad Nagar East, Lakhipura, Jakir Hussain North, Jakir Hussain South, Katim Nagar, Manjoor Nagar, South Islamabad. (Source : Amar Ujala, 11th August 2006: 3-5)

CHAPTER-IV
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Meerut is well known city of the Uttar Pradesh State. It is situated between Ganga and Jamuna close to national capital. Meerut has been a centre of varied activities throughout the course of history, with population of 7,53,778 persons according to 1991 census.

Administratively Meerut City is divided into 80 wards by Municipal Corporation. It is not possible to cover entire city and hence we decided to go in for sampling which could be representative of all, that is close approximation of certain characteristics of the target group.

Thus through purposive sampling we have selected 16 wards out of 80 wards. The wards was selected in a manner that there is higher concentration of street children.

These wards are Malyana (1), Medical College (2), Shivlokpuri (3), Shargari (4), Kaliagarhi (5), Ajanta Colony (6), Jagriti Vihar (7), Shiv Shakti Nagar (8), Bhopal Singh Road (9), Shastri Nagar (10), Tej Garhi (11), Suraj Kund Road (12), Thapar Nagar (13), Phool Bagh Colony (14), Jakir Hussain North (15), Jakir Hussain South (16).

These wards were selected in a manner that there as higher concentration of street children. Since street children keep on moving from place to another it would have been very difficult to prepare any sampling principles of random
method. In this way about 200 street children were covered in the study. The places visited by the investigator for locating the street children were railway platforms, bus stand, parking places in the main market, footpaths, tea stalls, hostels, garages etc.

There are several research problems involved in studying street children:

1. Street children are illiterate, poor and homeless and have their own justification for their way of life.
2. They are totally unused to answering questions about kinds of things interview guides are designed.
3. Street children are abused, neglected and abandoned in and by the society so they have very little or no trust in the outsiders.
4. Street children have a rather lackadaisical conception of time and hence feels no compulsion to finish the interviews of co-operative with the interviewer in getting through an interview guides. Finally no document is available about street children anywhere.

METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION: Looking at the subtle nature of the problem - two broad techniques of the study were adopted - qualitative and quantitative. The qualitative technique that was used in the study is case study. The case studies touch on all major phases of the life of the concerned street child viz. socio-economic background, parental background, relation to work conditions and future planning.
One of the quantitative techniques employed was interview with the help of interview guide, through the help of which the primary data was collected on different dimensions of street children’s situation. The interview guides contained question concerning street children’s on background, family background, present conditions, as well as important facts their aspiration and life planning.

**The field Work :**

The field work was divided into three phase:

The first phase was the preparation of philosophical and theoretical ground for the fieldwork through a study of relevant literature. This helped us in a broad formulation of the inquiry.

1. The second phase was a pilot survey observing such children in Meerut City.
2. The final phase began with the collection of data with the help of an interview guide. The answering of interview guide was taken after reestablishing the necessary rapport with the respondents.

The fieldwork started in period of 2004-2006.

**CHAPTER -IV**

**STREET CHILDREN IN MEERUT (A EMPIRICAL STUDY)**