Introduction

We are guilty of many errors and many faults, but our worse crime is abandoning the child, neglected the fountain of life. Many of the things we need can wait, the child cannot. Right now is the time his/her bones are being formed, his/her blood is being made and his senses are being developed. To child we cannot answer ‘Tomorrow’. His/her name is ‘Today’ (Mistrale, 1977).

A child feels that this world is ‘my world.’ I must act and organize, not wait and expect. A child thus trained will be a good fellow worker, a friend to all men, and a true partner in the married life. The boy or girl who has been rightly educated will ask himself/herself what can I contribute to my fellows? How can I fit in as a part of the whole?

“Can it really happen”? Unfortunately, most of our houses are being covered into hotels and storehouse of domestic workers and servants. The result is that children are ignored at a time of life when parental and social care is most needed for their well-being. In infancy, they are handed over to traffickers, in childhood to factories and in youth to homes to rot away, overburdened with responsibilities. The phenomenon of millions of child labour in Asia, Africa and Latin America presents a picture of the tragic failure of the society to protect the natural greatest assets.

From the time of the shift from an agricultural and commercial society to an industrialized, one has been among one of the most important developments of modern times. It has modified many social relationships and broken others completely, as the members of an industrial society have been forced to adjust to new way of life. Researchers have examined some of the aspects of social disorganization as they have affected first men and then women in industry.
Introduction

Industrialization has also made a serious impact upon the status and role of children. In many ways the latter are the most vulnerable of all when they leave the shelter of their homes and enter the factory, office, field or City Street.

There are many vulnerable sections in the society. Of the vulnerable sections, however, there are some most vulnerable segments. One of such segment is constituted by child labour. Child labour existed in the past- in the remote past as well. They worked almost in every sphere of economic activities- be it in domestic area or in the world of work outside. Sometimes they worked to supplement family livelihood resources, sometimes for their own survival and sometimes for learning a trade or two. In all cases, the child was directed by force and need. The child’s decision was nowhere in the process of initiation into the world of weak. Hence, child is a weak agency (Sharma, 1993).

As society was constituted by unequals the possed and dispossessed. The child who had to work to supplement or survive belongs to the dispossessed. The dispossessed being economically depended on the owner of means of production lived always in want and deprivation. Such situation had existed in past, perhaps in most ruthless manner, and the conditionalities of the existence and continuation was socio-politically sanctioned by that time (Fyfe, 1999).

Labour effort is the first and prime condition for man’s existence. Labour helped the socio-economic development of human beings and social evolution from the primitive stage of man to the modern civilized society. Without labour, production is inconceivable. It is the principal creator of all the wealth possessed by human society. Labour is a great creative force. Technology improves labour productivity. Child labour is an integral part of labour force, especially in third world countries and enters labour market at tender age. It is liable to sharp exploitation by the owners as a means of production in the poor countries.
Introduction

In the ancient times people all over the world were generally indifferent to the all round development of children. Then the children didn’t get necessary freedom and opportunity for their natural development. Of course attention was paid to their physical development through physical exercise, hard discipline and self-control. Childhood is an important phase of human life. The entire life structure will be based on it. The knowledge of the importance of childhood is necessary for the community. Repression of instinctive desires of children may develop complexes and lead undesirable behavior. The development of child is conditioned both by heredity and environment. A child is a future asset or capital for development of the society. If a society burdened by the work may be physical or mental and overburdened it may be curse for the society (Shandilya and Khan, 2003).

Poverty, illiteracy and population explosion are some of the vital and major pushing factors in sending children to the labour market. More than that India’s unique cultural and traditional background accounts for son-preference and a vital discrimination against girl child. This kind of gender discrimination is more prevalent in India (Singh, B). Enormous supply of labour force means hectic labour market in developing and under developed countries in spite of increased demand generated by the different developmental programmes.

Children under the age of 15 years constitute a substantial portion (40%) of any country. Some time even exceeding more than forty per cent. Child labour constitute the most deprived section of the community forced to earn a pittance or to contribute to family work sacrificing personnel development at prime age for want of opportunity. There is no doubt that the iniquitous and exploitative nature of the economy and socio-economic milieu lead to this harsh reality of child labour. Also it has been noted that the socio-economic milieu determines to a significant extent on the working and living conditions of child laboures. Social
Introduction

scientists have argued that the socio economic parameters like survival strategy, place of origin, caste and religion, the existence of clear nexus between occupational profiles of the parents and child labour, caste and tradition and family sizes are some of the basic anthropological factors embedded in this chronic melody (Mohanty, 2002). The issue of child labour is the major human rights issue and at the same time it is highly an emotional one also. These emotions tend to be coupled with very strong views both on what is the child labour problem and what ought to be done for its elimination. Although the predominance of the child labour has to be quite prevalent among all the developing and under developed countries, it is a global phenomenon which exists in almost all the countries of the world the difference, if any, is of degree only (Shandilya and Khan, 2003).

The existence of child labour is a blot of slur on a modern welfare state, which seeks to promote the all round development of the citizens. Children are the future hope of the nation. They are like buds, which need to be properly nursed and well-taken care. So that they bloom fully and grow in to an able human beings and on the contrary, instead of being sent to schools and properly educated, they are made to work, and these amounts to squeezing the bud before it blooms. It also not only threatens the development of children but of the society as well, since only able children can shape the future of the society. Thus, child labour has become a chronic problem and has deepened into the Indian social fabrics. The problem has changed its venues from public platforms, it has reached the inner circle of legislative, executive and judicial chamber (Bhatty, 1996).

The recent trend in the global system is to evaluate the development of any country, not in terms of their military or economic strength or the splendor of their capital cities and public buildings, but also in terms of human development or the well being of its citizen. Against this backdrop, the existence and perpetuation of
child labour has been one of the main limiting factors in the way of human development in almost all the developing countries including India.

Child labour is also rooted in the traditions and an attitude of the regions where it is practices, as a remnant of the past, a kind of resistance to change. In many societies even though child working in most hazardous sectors cannot be considered as a problem because that kind of societies think that this kind of work is highly essential in child’s normal socialization. Also it is most unfortunate that many elite’s of the community and policy makers, who belong to the upper class have an attitude and beliefs that children of the poor family should prepare for their future from an early age (Ramanthan, 2000).

In every nation, the welfare of the entire community depends on the health and welfare of the child. The child welfare policy should acknowledge the fact that the personality of a human being is built up in the formative years of the child. The physical, social and cultural health of the nation determined by the manner in which the life of the child is shaped in early stages. Child welfare includes the total well being of the child. It not only includes care of the malnourished child, delinquent and the disabled child, but also the development of the normal child’s physical, mental, emotional and social faculties. Immoral society has accepted child labour in different forms and it is common knowledge that children are the wealth of a nation, so no nation can’t ignore the welfare of this human wealth (Usha, 1989).

Progress for children should be a key goal of overall national development, as today’s children are the future citizens of this nation. But we should not forget that, their survival, protection and development is the prerequisite for the overall development of the country. Empowerment of younger generation with knowledge and resource to meet their basic human needs and to grow to their full potential
should be a primary goal of our national development (Tripathy, 2003). As their individual development and social contribution will shape the future of the world, investment in children’s health, emotional development, nutrition and education is the foundation stone for our human resource development.

Child labour has drawn increasing international attention and condemnation since 1970s. During the same period many international Non Government Organisations (NGOs) and other agencies have begun to speak out against the inhuman conditions under which children work in many developing countries. The issue of child labour has generated renewed interest because of the new economic policies formulated in line with the structural adjustment programmes. Developing countries have adopted a strategy to help them to integrate into the global market economy. Hence, the long neglected topic of child labour has suddenly attracted worldwide interest as a subject of research and analysis, particularly regarding the supply and demand sides of the problem. This interest among economists and social scientists began during a transition period in which the incidence of child labour had been declining for more decades among developed countries and increased among third world countries. This pattern may be a source of optimism that signals the spread of science and technology that have little use for child labour and values that endorse the preservation and protection of childhood. Nevertheless, why does child labour remain an issue of intense concern around the world? One reason may be because there is an ongoing worldwide debate on poverty reduction among the vulnerable sections of the society, where large proportions of working children are found. In the same way it is revealed that child labour is viewed as a major hurdle to the overall development of an economy. It is also known that dependence on child labour minimizes the human capital accumulation, which is a prerequisite for development. The early 20th century witnessed the sharp and sudden reduction in
child labour in western industrialized countries. But unfortunately the same period saw the expansion of the problem in the third world (Boyden and Mayers, 1998)

The problem of child labour is the curse for humanity. The problem is concerned with the children whose childhood is lost and they live in poverty. It is the problem of those children who instead of playing and studying bear the responsibility of eradicating poverty of their family, being themselves in the tremendous poverty. The prevalence of child labour is the most striking issue in human resources development now-a-days. Those lovely and innocent children are not only engaged hard and hazardous works but they become prey of sexual abuses too. Actually the most general definition of child labour reads as ‘children working in their age between 5-14 years of age’ (Naresh, 2001).

India is obviously keen to improve its image under international pressure with regard to child labour. The Government asserts that children are forced to work because their parents are poor. Here lies the problem. Child labour keeps children out of school and contributes to the growth of the illiteracy rate of the country. Industrial employers compete with schools for children. Middlemen for the commission generally recruit those school age children. Official policy, in all developed and some developing countries dictates that no employer is permitted to employ child labour and no matter how poor, cannot keep children out of school. Hence they have succeeded in eradicating this problem up to certain extent. The Indian laws prohibit the employment of children in factories. But not in cottage industries, household enterprises, hotels, and mainly in agriculture sectors. But the very recent Act of the central Govt. (10 October 2006) ban children works in few sectors including hotel and domestic. The absence of stricter child labour laws, or the implementation of existing laws or provisions for compulsory education, has meant that a little less than half of India’s children between ages 6-14 are not in schools (Nayem, 1999). Ironically, since independence, the Indian government,
every Government has formed many enquiring commissions and all political parties have/had promised of ending child labour and impairing compulsory education to all children upto 14 years. Yet no improvement. But however, Kerala State is a very good example with respect to the issue of child labour. Though it’s per captia income is not higher than the rest of the country the intensity of the child labour in this state is very low. Because this state is investing more money on primary education. The problem is that India is spending a lower proportion of its Gross National Product (GDP) on education than most of the other developing countries (Basu, 1999).

A larger proportion of the money is investing only on higher education. Further western expert opines that a major reason behind the persistence of child labour in India is strong prevalence of caste and class system. Higher castes see in education as a menace to maintain difference among social classes, believe in reinforcing down divisions among people. And this higher caste people may expect better social dealings, respectable place in society and improvement in their living standard (Eggan, 1990). This aspect of socio-anthropological enquire is of vital importance in the present study because it facilitates a socio-anthropological probe into the working of a social system and the functional and unfunctional aspects of various social institutions and sub systems.

**Anthropology of Child Labour**

Children’s lives have been a constant theme in Anthropology. However, in depth studies of their work remain few and have been inspired. It is argued by a critical concern with the neoclassical approach to the value of children. Two main areas of research have elicited anthropologist’s interest: the family context of work and relation among socialization, work and schooling.
One of the leading themes of economic Anthropology has been conceptualization of work and its cultural meanings. The growing number of publications of Anthropology on child labour issue in the underdeveloped countries has raised a renewed interest in the family context of work. Central to some of the notable work has been “how children’s work is constrained by hierarchies based on kinship, age and gender, a constraint that result in its typically urban, flexible and personalized character, rather than a wide spread form of exploitation. Child employment is mostly limited by the free-labour requirement of families that is satisfied by giving children unremunerated and lowly valued tasks” (Cain, 1997).

The reasons why children are more likely than adults to be allotted unpaid work in urban household can be gauged by the work of feminist anthropologists that highlights how ‘ideologies of gender and age interact to constraints, in particular, girls to perform underpaid domestic work’. The valuation of girl’s work is so low that it has been discovered by anthropologists making a concessions choice to include housework and childcare in their definition of work. Girls trained early to accept and internalize the feminine ideals of deviation to the family including the role of caretaker of younger siblings in the family (Prout and James, 1999).

Anthropologist have also uncovered how children’s work plays a cardinal role in the intricate and extensive kinship and pseudo-kinship patterns that are at the core support system in the developing world. While servicing the immediate household is young children’s mandatory task, poor children coming of age may also be sent to work as domestics and apprentices for wealthier kin.

Now we shall see the second anthropological view; socialization, work and school. There is a persistent belief, which finds its origin in the neoclassical approach, that schooling is the best antidote to child labour. Although to some
extent schools and work can co-exist as separate arenas of childhood, schooling is changing the world orientation of both children and parents. Another explanation, inspired by the neoclassical approach of balancing children cost against the returns, is related to what it is generally called ‘intergenerational flow of wealth’. This notion suggest that schooling increase the costs of child rearing while reducing children’s inclination to perform mandatory task for the circle of kin (William, 2001).

The articulation of gender, age and kinship plays a cardinal role in the valuation of poor children’s work and is instrumental in explaining why some work is condemned as unsuitable and some is lauded a salutary. Hierarchies based on gender, age and kinship combine to define children’s mandatory tasks as salutatory work and condemn paid work. By legitimizing children’s obligation to contribute to survival and denying them their right to seek personnel gain, these hierarchies effectively constrain them to a position of inferiority within the family (Burgess, 1979).

Anthropology has sought to explain the apparent inability of the market to avail itself more fully of the vast reservoir of cheep child labour by pointing out that the free labour requirements of poor families are satisfied by giving children lowly valued tasks. Employment is clearly not the only nor the most important way children’s work is exploited: Child work contribution to the family are instrumented to its substance and to the production of goods that reach the market a prices far below their labour value. The moral assumption that “poor children’s socialization should occur through the performance of non-magnetized work exclude this work to economic realm that included child labour; it is as much a part of children explications” (Nineuwenuys, 1996).
Aims and Objectives of the Present Study

The Anthropological investigation of the problem on child labour involves the analysis of social, cultural, economic and political aspects of the issues pertaining to the communities both rural and urban. The social issues may be approached as a multi dimensional approach. Such studies refer to evaluate the different policies and programmes of both Government and other agencies like NGOs. The anthropological study on child labour issue requires analysis of the social facts as well as the social values. Poverty, economical abuses, population explosion, and illiteracy-etc are the major factors, which encourages child labour systems, which has become an institution in urban settings.

The analysis of the problem demands a deeper socio anthropological insight into the century. Old traditional norms and values prevailing among Indian societies, the involvement of children during their early ages in various works as a part of socialisation and acceptance in to the society as a member. As the process of taking person as an acceptable human being in to the society is of anthropological significances. Hence, the major theoretical objective of this proposed research is to find out the social and cultural factors responsible for the issues related to the child labour and to provide a solid background for the further study and discussion. This kind of analysis of the value system leads to the understanding of the conflict between the traditional and modern values accepted by the society.

Since 1990, onwards Bangalore City has become the Silicon Valley of India and is considered to be one of the fast growing cites of the country. A lot of multinational companies have invested millions of dollars in different industrial sectors. Social and economic profiles of the city are gradually changing. A lot of people are migrating into the city in search of new jobs. This kind of mobility is supposed to bring out changes in their social status and economic conditions. So,
generating new changes in social relationships of the individual and the society. Hence, the first objective of the present study is to find out the socio economic background of child laboures in the study area.

Now a days the community is very sensitive regarding the working condition of the children in both organised and unorganised sectors. Facilities like wage structure, working atmosphere, and employer’s attitude, child abuses are some of the issues currently being under discussion among the community members. Even International Labour Organisation (ILO) has raised its voice against inhuman working condition in both the sectors. So present study enlighten the working conditions of the children working in both organised and unorganised sectors in the city.

Recently conducted National Household Expenditure Survey (2001) has shown that a considerable number of families are directly or indirectly depending on the income earned by their children. The present study attempts to reveal the exact uses of the income generated through child labour by the respective families.

Current social science research has proved that not only poverty and illiteracy causes child labour. Fear of future unemployment, traditional views on family occupations and teacher’s behavior also play a vital role in perpetuating the child labour. (Patil, 1995). It is also found that number of children is working for the reasons other than poverty related issue. So this present study throws light on the children who are working for some reasons other than poverty.

Child labour has remained both an economic and a social problem in our country for a long time. Legislative and welfare measures taken by Government and various NGOs have proved to be ineffective in fighting with the problem of the child labour. In this regard, it should be recognized that employers’ role is very
Introduction

Crucial because they are the real people who are behind the screen. Researchers have yet to pay adequate attention on this aspect. However, one of the objectives of this study is to find out crucial views of the employers on child labour issue.

The issue of child labour has drawn increasing attention both at the national and international forms. Criticism has been focused on inhuman working condition in both unorganised and organised sectors, the impact of which is observed on physical, mental, social, moral and spiritual health of the children (Weiner, 1991). Since 1990, the ILO is emphasizing to remove children from both unorganised and hazardous sectors as soon as possible. (Boyden, 1997). If so, social scientists research have to concentrate on how community evaluates the risk associated with the employments of the children and age as being appropriate to each kinds of work. So, the objective of the present study also includes to reveal how particularly the community evaluates the risk associated with different types of works and age as being appropriate to each type of work?

Each day, number of children is exposed to dangers that hamper their normal growth and development. They are often victims of gender and communal discrimination, aggression, neglect, cruelty and exploitation. A child being the last major subgroup of the family has drawn the attention of the social scientists with regard to their protection and rights. (Heart, 1991). India is also one of the signatories of the International Convention for Child Rights (CRC). Hence, this is the time to find out the community perception about child labourers, rights of children including how rights of the children can be operationalized within the existing culturally diversified social settings.

Both the Government and NGOs have implemented many developmental programmes to eradicate child labour problem in the society. Community is the target in General. Opinion about success and failure of any programmes of the
same community is of interesting one regarding continue or stop of any particular programme. Hence, one of the objectives of this present study also includes finding out the perception of the community regarding various schemes of both Govt. and NGOs to solve this problem.

Feedback and critical evaluation of success and failure of any policies and programmes will be part and parcel of any policies and programmes. There should be some criteria to evaluate the impact of the programmes on concerned issue. Government and other developmental agencies are running a lot of programmes. Under the light of feedback, these programmes must be reviewed constantly. It is believed that the credibility and success of the programmes depend largely on the sincerity, honesty and integrity of the agencies and personnel’s who are responsible for the implementation of this various programmes. Hence, the present study includes the critical analysis of success and failure of different programmes to solve this problem particularly in Bangalore Urban District.

The present study covers not only the comprehensive study of different aspects of child labour from Anthropological point of view, but also covers the social and economic implications of existing child labour problem on the present society. Therefore this socio-anthropological study is of critical, comprehensive, multi dimensional, multi frontal and suggestive in nature.
The objectives of the proposed research study can be summarized in the following manner

1. To find out the socio-economic background of the child labourer families;
2. To explore the causes and working conditions of the children in both organised and unorganised sectors;
3. To find out reasons other than poverty and how particularly family shares the income of the child labourers;
4. To outline the employer’s perception regarding different faces of child labour issue;
5. To document how community evaluates the risks associated with the nature of the jobs and the age as being appropriate to each kind of work;
6. To examine the local cultural norms regarding childhood and the rights of the children;
7. To elicit the community’s perception about the various schemes of the Government and NGOs to curb child labour problem;
8. To analyze the success and failure of some of the Government and the NGOs policies and programmes to solve child labour problem.

Significance of the Present Study

The findings of the present study will be disseminated to other research groups, the academic community in general and policy makers in particular. Further, the database generated from the study would also be made available to other users to encourage more in depth analysis of other aspects not touched upon by the present research. The findings of the proposed research study would be of useful to India’s programmes working to actualize the ILO’s short-term goal of removing children as soon as possible from the most hazardous forms of work by
providing a clear picture of how community views the hazards of different types of works. The data may be directly relevant to three major user groups;

a) Government, International Agencies and NGOs working for the elimination of child labour

b) Agencies involved in welfare-oriented programmes like nutritional health care and immunization and

c) Agencies and Institutions mainly focused on the universalisation of primary education, developmental and other executive agencies.

Contribution to the Existing Knowledge

While the study on child labour covers a wide range of theoretical and geographic territory, India is standing as the country with the world’s largest child workers population has made it the focus of substantial proportion of the social science literature examining the issues like economic and socio-cultural, aspects. Very little of that work, however, has entailed in-depth Anthropological consideration of the comparative emic perspectives of cultural factors influencing child labour, childhood and child rights (Wind, 2003). This proposed research has built on recent social science efforts to contribute to filling that gap in present understanding of child labour in urban India more particularly in Bangalore Urban District.

Anthropological Significances of the Present Study

The specific study of children in Anthropology has a much-shorted history. Anthropologists have long pointed out the economic significance of children, their role in legitimating marriages and the implied economic contracts at marriage, which assign children to one lineage or another. They have looked at the ways adults have shaped children, both socially in order to make them full person within their comminutes and physically through the use of corporal punishment or
thorough practice designed to teach them bravery or how to cope with without pain without pain (Gill, 1970). They have implicitly acknowledged the importance of age, gender or position in the family, and discussed the ways in which a firstborn child deal with differently from he youngest child (Foretes, 1974). Until recently however, children have been marginal to Anthropological theory, a backdrop to more mainstream concerns of kinship or political organization. Holistic studies of small scale societies such as those pioneered by Malinowski (1922), Radcliffe-Brown (19933) or Firth (1936), inevitably acknowledged children and their role in the family but paid little attention to their economic contributions, their agency or their own understanding of their lives.

Since child labour is a socio-cultural and socioeconomic problem, Malinowski’s concept of Practical Anthropology, i.e., use of Anthropological knowledge to probe into the problem and to stuffiest remedial measures is of very much useful. Generally Anthropologist’s views on culture is an attribute of social life of man. Culture is inseparable from the human behavior. Culture and society are the centrally focused concepts of social and cultural Anthropology. Man being the central concepts on whom the Anthropological studies involve among, the major issues related to the child labour also is an important subject matter of Anthropological studies.

Many researches have shown that of the child labour issue and intensity of the problem is depended upon various social and cultural factors. Since culture is an integrated functional unit of a society, Anthropologist’s tries to find out the nature of the phenomenon, related with the child labour and how this problem is interlocked with the culture (Naidu, 2003).

According to Foster, the Anthropological studies tries to identify the social issues in the following ways: 1 the logical reasoning of the society or the social philosophy of the problem 2 social facts pertaining to the particular social issues
and 3 appropriate research techniques used to get original and reliable field data. Anthropologist generally uses participant observation and interview methods to get first hand informations of the social problems. Field data obtained by using above-mentioned methodologies would be highly useful document in encountering with this kind of social problem.

Anthropologists who are working on developmental programmes have produced adequate theories and research methodologies dealing with the processes of change that are vitally important to policy makers and administrators in charge of the welfare of the weaker sections of the society (Shen, 2001). These theories and research methodologies are potential tools to the planners in identifying the ongoing changes to understand better the community, which is prone to either resist or accept the change in the face of social and technological innovations.

The study on child labour has taken considerable attention in recent times, everywhere in the world and in India also which accounts for a significant proportion of the world’s child labour force. Most of these studies have attempted to give detailed description of the various manifestation of child labour. A few have attempted to understand the underlying forces caused for the persistence of child labour despite of its universal condemnation and the various legislative and administrative measures introduced by the Government to deal with the problem. While some have treated child labour as an evil to be eliminated others have viewed it from the prospective of socio-economic significances of a society at a particular stage of transformation. They try to assert that the very persistence of child labour is an indicative of the crucial role that it plays and consequently it cannot be eradicated by enacting legislation’s.

Hence, it is highly desirable at this stage to study the conditions of child laboures in different urban settings especially after the Globalization. In-depth
Anthropological study has acquired a great relevance to the present day problem emphasizing on, how community evaluates the risks associated with child labour. It is also most important to know the extent to which the people are responsive to the different policies and programmes of both Government and different NGOs. The differences in the mental attitudes and outlooks regarding the causes for the existences of child labour in traditional societies and the modern societies is so important for the social scientists. Also the study demands a deep analysis of the broader framework of community norms regarding childhood as a life phase, the rights of children and the age and gender appropriateness of different types of work.

An in-depth analysis of all these problems is of vital Anthropological significance in the changing social system in the country today. The present study is a unique effort and aims at analyzing the basic issues involved in the problem and at exploring various avenues for further anthropological investigations, economic studies and understanding the problem through inter-disciplinary studies.

**Research Methodology**

It is obvious from the objectives of study presented above that the present socio- anthropological study is concerned with the analysis of the problem from the different prospectives. A deeper Anthropological insight into the problems demand much more concentration on various social issues of the related problems concerned with child labour. The whole study has been divided into two parts. The first part deals with **objective** aspects like family size, family income, education, and occupations-etc. The second part deals with **subjective** issues like attitudes, community perceptions, employers views, risks involved, evaluation of Government and NGOs programmes and social acceptance-etc.
Introduction

So for this kind of research, neither descriptive nor diagnostic study is appropriate; rather an exploratory study is to be designed for conducting the study covering the multi-dimensional objectives of the proposed study. For the preparation of an exploratory study design, the present study was to be implemented in the study areas to be selected for conducting field study in order to collect information from both child labour and non-child laboured families. The study also aims at the analysis of the factors and forces obstructing the implementation of both Government and NGOs policies and programmes in Bangalore Urban District (City).

The major target of this study on households is having different socio economic background. So the researcher is supposed to carefully choose the samples, that is the unit of study, the ‘household or a family’. Hence, the researcher contacted some child labour related NGOs working since last few years in the Bangalore City. These NGOs served as a secondary sources for the researcher. Few of these NGOs are keep doing some good work like running special residential schools, alternative income generation programmes for former child labour families and awareness campaign etc. With the help of some of these NGOs and the Department of Labour, Government of Karnataka, the researcher first choosed seven layouts in the Bangalore City for the study. Next researcher decided to avail some reliable and first hand informations and ground realties of all the seven-layouts of the city through his own network apart from the informations supplied by the NGOs and others. Finally five (5) layouts of the city were selected to draw the samples to conduct the present research study. These areas were; 1 Vivekanada Nager 2 Ashok Nager 3 Kalyana Giri layout 4 Ragavendra Nager and 5 Lingarajapura. All these layouts come under the jurisdiction of Bangalore City Corporation (BCC). Before choosing the five layouts for the present study, the socio economic background of the layouts, concentration of child labourers, poverty and developmental index of the areas,
local resources etc with the help of existing literatures available in Bangalore City Corporation, Slum Developmental Board and other Departments of the concerned Ministry of the Government were intensively examined.

The next step was to select the samples for the actual study. Here every sources for a possible interview need not be actual sample. The present study has concentrated not on any separate individuals, but the households. Since the present study was a multi dimensional covering different prospectives and nature of the child labour problem, the number of house holds having all such charactersticts features which fulfills the objectives of the study were quite large. And it was not theoretically possible to cover all these samples from all the five layouts of the city. Hence, the Census method of data collection was better suited in this case. So the researcher decided to choose representative samples, having all essential features in a relative proportion. A careful attention has been given to the adequacy to the size of the samples.

The present research study has been concentrated on the children who are working in any one of the following five major occupations for the source of the informations: -

1 Garage 2 Hotel 3 Construction work 4 Factory work and 5 Domestic sector

Since the proposed research study was to be conducted in an urban city like Bangalore each and every sample would be of different from each other in many respects. The area selected for the drawing of the samples was also different in many respects like poverty, development index, population composition, fundamental facilities, nature of adjoining areas, and the distance from the heart of the city etc from the residential ares of the information’s. Since the units of the study are heterogeneous and complex in social structure, it was decided to select the units from different socioeconomic background, educational, cultural,
traditional, religions, caste, and occupation of the informants for drawing more representative samples for the study.

The suitable samples are the next step of the researcher to be fixed the size or strength of the proposed study. The proper size of the sample depends on several things like the heterogeneity of the population, population subgroups that the researcher would like to deal with for the analysis, how accurate the researcher wants the sample statistics (parameter) to be and the size of the phenomenon that the researcher is trying to detect and the duration of the time available for the researcher (Bernard, 1999). Finally, to maintain uniformity of the study, it was decided to drawing equal number of samples from all the five identified subdivisions where the large numbers of children found employed.

In a survey research like this, it was decided to select households (Units) from each cluster (Community), rather than studying many households in a few randomly chosen communities. It was also kept in the view to give adequacy for the sample size. Sample size of the large scale, may lead to the complexity of the dependent and independent variables and it would be a real problem in giving more reliable results from the study. So the researcher decided to select a moderate size of the samples giving adequate importance to different variables.

Keeping all these factors in mind the researcher finally decided to take-up total 500 samples selected from all five layouts. I.e. 100 families from each layouts. The present study covers 250 working boys and 250 working girls from the above mentioned five different layouts giving adequate representation for all five selected occupations. In special cases, researcher had used ‘weighted stratified sample’ technique also. Families have been choosed based on diversity of occupation and other areas of interest (e.g. household economic situation, the presence of other children attending school and working parents).
The next task before the researcher was to fix specific criterias to select the households. Samples have been recruited from the a) households having at least one child who is working in either organised or unorganised sectors, below the age of 14 years of age, full-time and not attending school; b) households with a minimum of one child who is still attending school but working at the high end of part-time (>25 hrs. /wk.).

Since there is no complete census in Bangalore City regarding child labour, the investigator decided to follow the *purposive sampling method* of household selection. This type of purposive sampling method is justified in this kind of research topic as the nature of the universe is based on three vital grounds: 1 Information rich samples producing context-specific insights and understanding which serve the research objectives in a better way 2 absence of complete Census on child labour which could have been served as a sampling frame for random sampling and the hidden nature of some common type of child labour in a big metro city like Bangalore. Since, the most vulnerable section of the society, the street children come under the child labour frame, many social scientist have observed that the carefully designed purposive sampling for gathering representative data will be of much useful. (Ennew, 2000).

Purposive or judgement sampling is one of the sampling methods in social science research. These kinds of sampling methods will be used when the research doesn’t have any idea about the Census data. In purposive sampling the researcher himself decides to what exactly he/she would like to have. This is somewhat like quota sampling, except that there is no overall sampling design that tells the researcher about how many of each type of informant is essential for the research study. The study researcher decided to follow 1 Survey method 2
Participant observation 3 Interview 4 Case study method and 5 Focus group type of data collection techniques.

**Survey method:** It is one of the most reliable and common method used in social science researches. It is most effective in dealing with such a prolonged social problem over the year like child labour. There are three methods for collecting survey questionnaires data such as 1 personnel, face-to-face interviews 2 self-administrated questionnaires and telephone interview. Personal, face-to-face interview will be administered when informants are illiterates, aged etc. In this type of techniques part of the interview can consist of open-ended questions; another part may require the using of visual aids. Perhaps, this is particularly a useful technique if a researcher wants to ask really sensitive questions in a face-to-face interview. Through the “survey method quantitative analysis of such data is made and the anthropologists often detect underlying social and cultural regularities and obtain statistical measures in explaining the observed social process” (Barnard, 1999).

**Participant observation:** It is the foundation of social Anthropology. Fieldwork generally involves two significant and different roles 1 that of participating observer and 2 that of observing participant. By far and large most anthropological researches are based on the first, role, that is *participating observer*. It involves getting close to people and making them feel comfortable enough with the presence of the new researcher so that the researcher can observe and record informations about their life styles. The purpose of observation method is to perceive the nature and extent of significant interrelated elements within complex social phenomenon, cultural and traditional patterns of human beings (Young, 1989).
The usage of this method is completely depending on the objectives of the study and degree of cooperation from the informant’s side. In case of the present study on child labour issue the investigator has extensively used this method in collecting the necessary informations. Researcher further used this technique to watch the nature of children’s works closely during the fieldwork and social and cultural pattern of the studied samples.

**Scheduled Questionnaires:** This method is a vital method in any social science research technique. Questionnaires are part and parcel of any research fieldwork. A questionnaire is a collection of relevant (usually open-ended) questions to elicit data or response on various aspects of the problem. Here questions are administered to the selected informants and their responses are obtained. It is more useful to collect relevant data from the selected informants who happened to be chosen people among the entire population.

**Interview method:** It can be termed as mother of all the research methodologies, and it is the most popular used method for data collection in anthropological researches. An interview is an oral type of questionnaire in which the informants are personally contacted and interviewed to elicit the exact nature of the problems faced by the informants and the social factors which compels them to accept such works in the forced economic and social situations. Basically, there are many types of interview methods, like, individual and group interview, formal and informal interview, interview with scheduled and unscheduled, short term and long term interview, diagnostic and treatment interview method.

Based on the research objectives, the researcher wanted to get data from five authentic resources viz. **parents of child labours, children’s employer’s, child labours, other community members and social workers.** To collect data from the concerned working children the interview method and the participatory
observation method were extensively employed during the fieldwork to collect necessary informations. The participatory observation method gave first-hand and crucial information of various risks involved in their respective occupations.

**Nature of the Present Study**

The present study has been conducted having the following four components

1. **Household survey**
2. **Community norms study**
3. **Institutional ethnography.**
4. **Case studies** of selected families. Household survey had been conducted with the help a structured questionnaires and interview.

**a) Household survey:**

The household survey has been found to be of the most effective tool for investigating the child labour phenomenon in all its facets. The household survey portion of the proposed research has covered 500 households having children involved in paid works. Survey on child labour issue has been carried out with scheduled questionnaires covering the following subject matters;

1. **who are the working children,**? Reason for working, age, educational background migration, sectors in which they are engaged, reasons for selection of that sector, nature of exploitations-etc.

2. **Affect of family structure, roll of the kin’s,** composition of the family, cultural concept of child labour, concept on childhood, child rights, perception of the parents regarding risk involved, traditional work pattern, and concept of socialization.

3. **On different aspects like financial commitments, power and decision making process with in the family,** beneficiaries in the family, and money utilized for the exact purposes.
Introduction

4 Working hours, working conditions, child abuse, wage structure, type of the task allotted to the child and the degree of responsibility, risk involved behavior and relation with the employer’s.

5 Mortality, specific illness, undernourishment, mental risk to the children, juvenile activities and legal provisions.

b) Community Norms Study

Part of this study’s goals involves a comparative evaluation of community norms regarding child labour. Hence, subjects including community leaders, teachers, politicians, employers, university students, and other elite’s of the society have been interviewed. They have been drawn from the communities –at-large in which child laboures live. The first session was conducted to elicit cultural perceptions of work, health, and child rights and to classify and rank different forms of risky work according to gender suitability and age appropriateness. The second part of community norms study had dissect sessions for working and non working children of different ages and was covered a breadth of topics including the relative advantages and disadvantages of different work options, education, health, and life aspirations. All focus group interviews have been taped, transcribed and analyzed using appropriate advanced softwares.

c) Selected Households Case Studies.

The third component of this research study is in-depth case studies among selected families. Here the researcher had used the same questionnaires used in survey method with slight changes so as to get an intensive picture of the family with little changes so as to get an intensive picture of the family.

d) Institutional Ethnography

The major aim behind this methodology was to understand the child labour issue from the perspectives of the local NGOs, Bangalore City Corporation, and
Department of Labour Government of Karnataka and selected executive agencies of the Bangalore City success and failure the group has experienced with its interventions.

It is also important to mention here that the informations collected from the household heads and the children themselves would reveal a list of establishments where the children work. To meet them with establishments proved to be difficult, since the researcher could not meet the children at the time of household survey and enquire. More than that some household members were reluctant to reveal the correct addresses of the places where their children are working. So a list of directory of the establishments could not be complied on the basis of the informations furnished by the respective household members. Further, many employers tried to hide out the real facts that they have employed children or not. If they at all admit to it, they provide only partial informations to the researcher. Since street children are not represented in household survey researcher followed a purposive approach to talk with those children.

**Recording of Data**

Some data have been initially recorded on cassette Tapes (interviews, focus group) and latter transcribed, translated and typed. Other field notes have been recorded in notebooks and important data have been stored on floppy diskettes. A survey questionnaires administered to the subject groups have been initially recorded on paper with the data latter transferred to a database and stored on a hard-drive and CD-R. Some data have also have been stored as photos.

**Analysis of Data**

Proper analysis of the data collected leads to the proper understanding of social relations of the issues. The final validity of any research is completely
depended on the methods used to analyze the field data. Now a days, new advanced softwares are readily available which are highly useful in analyzing the field data and it has to be selected according to the need of the research design and data collected for the specific study.

The **qualitative data** generated from the survey, interviews and focus groups were thematically coded in the *NUD*IST database software and were indexed to identify dominant themes and to link those themes with specific research questions. The actual data which cannot be predicted with certainty, include the parents concept on socialization, risks with children work, community perception on child labour, child rights, opinion on various programmes implemented by both Governmental agencies and the NGOs. Index trees were prepared to delineate relationship between themes.

The **quantitative data** has been analyzed using SPSS software. The thematically indexed discourse from various interviews, case studies and focus groups were converted into an extended set of dummy variables and entered into the *SPSS* database. It is of most useful because, it could allow the perceptions of the different groups supplying various data to be compared along a spectrum of variables and to be tested for the hypotheses related with the research objectives (Qualitative Research and Solution, 1999).

In the present research study **Crosstabs Test** and **Chi-square Test** of SPPS have been extensively used;

**Crosstabs Procedure (Contingency coefficient analysis)**

The Crosstabs procedure forms two-way and multiway tables and provides a variety of tests and measures of association for two-way tables. The structure of
the table and whether categories are ordered determine what test or measure to use.

Crosstabs’ statistics and measures of association are computed for two-way tables only. If you specify a row, a column, and a layer factor (control variable), the Crosstabs procedure forms one panel of associated statistics and measures for each value of the layer factor (or a combination of values for two or more control variables). For example, if GENDER is a layer factor for a table of MARRIED (yes, no) against LIFE (is life exciting, routine, or dull), the results for a two-way table for the females are computed separately from those for the males and printed as panels following one another.

Chi-square test is a devise to test the significance of the difference between observed distribution and the excepted distribution. It is an index to measure the extent and significance of the different between the observed and expected frequencies.

Chi square ($\chi^2$) is the summation of the squared deviation each observed frequency (O) from the respective expected frequency (E) devised by the expected frequency.

\[ \chi^2 = \frac{\sum (O-E)^2}{E} \]

If the difference (deviation) between O and E are greater chi-square will be greater, and vice verse. If there is no difference between O and E, the $X^2$ will be zero (Barnard, 1999).
Delimitations of the Study

Some of the difficulties faced in studying the situation of child laboures can be highlighted as follows.

1) Inadequacy and insufficient of available data. The present data available may not only insufficient but also inadequate to providing a more or less accurate description of the situation of child laboures in the Bangalore Urban District. The Census, NSS and other data are not adequate to capture the complexities of variations and similarities in the situation of children across various Class, Caste, Varnas, Religion and Ethnic groups for various unavoidable reasons. As a result the generalizations arrived at by using the available data may not applicable to all social categories of child laboures families.

2) Other problems are associated with the theoretical content derived by applying divergent prospective (I, e Marxist, and socialist, postmodern) to the study and analysis of situation of the children at the micro and macro levels.