CHAPTER 2

CHILD LABOUR IN HAZARDOUS INDUSTRIES, PROFILE OF ANDHRA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ANDHRA OR CIRCAR, RAYALASEEMA AND TELENGANA REGIONS
Andhra Pradesh in terms of geographical distribution is the fifth largest state in the country. The state is divided into 23 districts which are under three geographical regions. Out of a total of 23 districts, 9 districts are included in Circar or Andhra Region. These districts are Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam and Nellore. Rayalaseema region includes 4 districts. These districts are, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Anantapur and Chittoor whereas Telangana region is composed of 10 districts. They are Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Mahabubnagar, Karimnagar, Nalgonda, Warangal, Nizamabad, Medak, Adilabad and Khammam. For administrative purpose, the state is quite a large state. There are 1092 Mandal Praja Parishads, 213 urban areas and towns and over 13 million households. According to the 1991 census, the population of Andhra Pradesh is 66 million, which is 8 percent of the total population of India.

Andhra Pradesh has the dubious distinction of having the highest number of child workers. Out of the 20,644,848 total number of children in the state almost 8.5 percent are child workers, which come to the record number of 13 percent of all child labourers in India.

Child labour in Andhra Pradesh is prevalent especially in the lower classes where children are found in all labour intensive operations like agriculture, trade and establishment, tertiary services and manufacturing.

In agriculture, children participate in sewing, plucking, de-weeding, pressing, pollinating and harvesting. In trade a large number of children are employed in shops, hotels, small or medium establishments. All employed children, children served customers as long as shopkeeper keeps his establishment open. Here children can be found engaged in cleaning, refining or packing jobs.

The tertiary sector children are seen in the most difficult working conditions. Children are attenders and cleaners for lorries and trucks. They work in all garages and
godowns. They are unlicensed coolies in railway stations as wagon yard cleaners, etc. Children are engaged as apprentices in mechanical workshops and latter as mechanic operators. Most road construction activities are done by children and adults together.

In small manufacturing units, household or otherwise, children are performing several aspects of production activity. In Andhra Pradesh children are engaged in various aspects of production activities such as silk weaving, cotton ginning, twisting and reeling, beedi rolling, slate board making, tile manufacturing, bangle making, biscuit manufacturing, agarbathi and candles preparing. Ancillary industrial units producing a wide range of engineering parts and components, leather and welding units also engage children.

"Andhra Pradesh continues to top the list of child labour in the country even according to 1991 census. There are 16, 61, 940 child labour employed in the state in various occupations and establishments as against 1.12 crores of child labour in our country. It means that 14.7 percent of the child labour in our country is found in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Contrary to the common belief that poverty is the direct reason for high incidence of child labour, Andhra Pradesh is topping the list though it is not the poorest state of the country in terms of per capita income and infrastructure, etc. Out of 1.66 crores of child population in the age group of 5-14, only 80 lakh children are attending school, leaving 66 lakh children in the work force. The balance children are nowhere children not finding places in either work force or student community. Many Non-Governmental Organization claim that these children will be doing some work when they are not in schools. Lack of education is very damaging because both individual and social well-being have a direct relationship with literacy, numeracy and intellectual competence.
Table 2.2

Child Labour - District wise as per 1991 Census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Main Workers</th>
<th>Marginal Workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Population</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Srikakulam</td>
<td>52101</td>
<td>25380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vizianagaram</td>
<td>55517</td>
<td>29637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>61450</td>
<td>32710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Godavari</td>
<td>70720</td>
<td>51160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Godavari</td>
<td>77304</td>
<td>45170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krishna</td>
<td>76362</td>
<td>38872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guntur</td>
<td>110715</td>
<td>51010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prakasam</td>
<td>68220</td>
<td>29660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nellore</td>
<td>45563</td>
<td>23713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittoor</td>
<td>56570</td>
<td>29250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuddapah</td>
<td>38382</td>
<td>18990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anantapur</td>
<td>83742</td>
<td>44700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>108012</td>
<td>53387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahabubnagar</td>
<td>119327</td>
<td>60290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rangareddy</td>
<td>49580</td>
<td>27460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td>14370</td>
<td>11610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medak</td>
<td>62090</td>
<td>31000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nizamabad</td>
<td>55103</td>
<td>23630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adilabad</td>
<td>50783</td>
<td>23720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karimnagar</td>
<td>83305</td>
<td>30420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warangal</td>
<td>68210</td>
<td>31090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khammam</td>
<td>61447</td>
<td>30939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nalgonda</td>
<td>68420</td>
<td>33090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1537293</td>
<td>776888</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Andhra Pradesh percentage of child workers in all the districts to the total workers is higher in rural areas than in the urban areas. The concentration of child workers is even more in the relatively less developed districts.

In the rural areas of nine districts Andhra Pradesh the share of child workers to total workers is far higher than the state average. These nine districts are Kurnool, Mahabubnagar, Adilabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Nizamabad, Rangareddy, Warangal and Anantapur. Seven of these districts are in the Telangana Region.

In Andhra Pradesh, out of the nine coastal districts four districts have child workers where average exceed that of the state average. If placed on a rank, the following districts can be placed as follows in terms of urban child workers to total workers: Mahabubnagar (1), Kurnool (2), Karimnagar (3), Nizamabad (4), Cuddapah (5), Prakasam (6), East Godavari (7), West Godavari (8), Krishna (9) and Nalgonda (10).

In the urban areas of the state, it has been experienced that child workers are engaged mostly in the unorganized sector such as hotels, canteens, cafes, shops, motor repairing garages, cycle shops, smitteries (Gold, Silver and iron), stone cutting (different from quarrying), basket making, potteries, coolies, sandal / shoe repair and polishing and small vendors.

The word ‘hazardous’ in fact does not appear in any act relate to child labour by which children are prohibit from being employed in certain occupations. There are several acts directly related to child labour occupation and process for instance, Factories Act 1948 (Section 87) Mines Act 1952 (Section 40) Motor Transport Workers Act 1961 (Section 21) and the Merchant Shipping Act 1958 (Section 109). Factories Act 1948 under Section 23 talks of young person and ‘dangerous’ machines. This Act amended in 1987 defines dangerous operation, only some 25 process to be specific, are defined and not occupations.
The following operations when carried on in any factory are declared to be dangerous operations under section 87:

1. Manufacture of aerated water and processes incidental there to;

2. Electrolytic plating or oxidation of metal articles by use of an electrolyte containing chronic acid on other chromium compounds;

3. Manufacture and repairs of electric accumulations;

4. Glass manufacture;

5. Grinding or glazing of metals;

6. Manufacture and treatment of lead and certain compound of lead;

7. Generation of gas from the dangerous petroleum;

8. Cleaning or smoothing of articles by jet of stand, metal shot or grit or other abrasive propelled by a blast of compressed air or stream;

9. Living and tanning of raw hides and skins and processes incidentals thereto;

10. Cellulose spraying;

11. Graphite powdering and incidental processes;

12. Contains lead processes carried on in printing processes and type foundries;

13. Cashew nut manufacturing operations;
14. Manufacture of potting;

15. Chemical work;

16. Compression of oxygen and hydrogen produced by the electrolysis of water;

17. Manufacture of article from refractory materials including manufacture of refractory bricks;

18. Handling and processing of asbestos, manufacture of any article of asbestos and any other process manufacture or otherwise in which asbestos is used in every form;

19. Handling and manipulation of corrosive substance;

20. Manufacture and manipulation of carcinogenic dye intermediates;

21. Process of extracting vegetable oil from oil cakes in solvent extraction plant;

22. Carbon Disulphide plants;

23. Manufacture and manipulation of dangerous pesticides;

24. Manufacture, handling and use of benzene;

25. Manufacture or manipulation of manganese and its compounds.

Article 24 of the Indian Constitution specify that no child below the age of 14 year shall be employed in factories, mines and other dangerous or hazardous occupations. It is thus the aim of this study to find out the number of children employed in dangerous occupations. A selection of industries was made by Labour Department in Andhra
Pradesh which are beedi, Limekilns, Slate and Sericulture are considered to be hazardous and prohibited for children.

Work is defined as participation in any Economically productive activity though it may mean a different thing to different people and most children are involved either directly or indirectly though their involvement are not at the same level of risk. Child labour today is recognized as a major social and economic evil that threatens the present and future of millions of children worldwide.

MINES ACT 1952

Mines Act, 1952 prohibits employment of children below 18 years.

Section 40 prescribes that:

“No child shall be employed in any mine, nor shall any child be allowed to present in any part cast working which is below the ground or in any open cast working in which mining operation is being carried on”.

However, sub section 2 of the section states that apprentices and other trainees above 16 years of age may be allowed to work under proper suspension in a mine or part there of by the manager.

MOTOR TRANSPORT WORKER’S ACT, 1961

Section 21 of the Act States that no child shall be required or allowed to work in any motor transport undertaking.
MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1958

Section 109 of the Merchant Shipping Act states that “no person under 15 of age shall be engaged or carried to seek to work in any capacity in any ship”.

BEEDI AND CIGAR WORKERS (COE) ACT, 1966

Section 24 of the Beedi and Cigar Workers Act, 1966 states that:

“No child shall be required or allowed to work in an industrial premises. Industrial premises is defined under section 2(1) of the Beedi and cigar workers Act as:

“Any place or premises (not being a private dwelling house), including the precincts there of in which or in any part of which any industry or manufacturing process connected with the making of the Beedi or cigar or both is being or is ordinarily carried or with or without the aid of power.

Employment of children in these industrial establishments attract penalty which may extend to two hundred and fifty rupees for first offence and for second and subsequent offence with imprisonment for terms which shall not be less than one hundred rupees or more than five hundred rupees or both (section 33(11)).

ANDHRA PRADESH SHAPES AND ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1988

Section 20 of the Act prescribes that: “No child shall be required or allowed to work in any establishment”.

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UNICEF IN ANDHRA PRADESH

As an organ of the United Nations the UNICEF is committed to the well being of the children. On the 11th of December 1946 UNICEF was created to provide aid to the children in the devastating consequences of Second World War.

The Hyderabad branch of the UNICEF dealing with the State of Andhra Pradesh has done outstanding work in the field of child labour by securing involvement and partnership of various Government Department and Non-Governmental Organization the issue of child labour as well by giving impulse to the programme of elimination of child labour by mobilizing public opinions as well as encouraging involvement of all participants.

The Labour Department has worked in close coordination with UNICEF offices in Hyderabad and conducted several programmes targeting Non-Governmental Organizations, Enforcement Officers, Trade Union Leaders, Judicial Officers and various officers of the developments of the State Government. To specify the activities the following are some of them.

i) A state level workshop organized in March 1994 at Hyderabad on the issue of child involving Non-Governmental Organization, Government Agencies, employer representatives, trade union representatives and other social organizations involved in advocacy on the rights of the child. The workshop proved to be an eye opener for all participants to start working on this neglected issue of child labour.

ii) A workshop was organized with the collaboration of labour Department and Andhra Pradesh Judicial Academy for the Judicial Offices and Enforcement Officers of the labour and Factors Department of the State Government to work on the issue of child labour. It was useful as sensitisation process, occupation wise and industry wise specifically targeting certain areas and establishments.
iii) Seven zonal workshops were also conducted throughout the state of Andhra Pradesh to sensitise the labour and Factories officials, Non-Governmental Organization Trade Unions and media to make the efforts of elimination of child labour in the State to realize the strength and weakness and outsider point of view on the implementation of child labour and also the needs to augment the enforcement activity.

iv) The efforts of UNICEF to bring various Government Department together to tackle the issue of child labour proved successful. Today the Department of Women Development and Child Welfare, Social Welfare and Police are very active on the issue of child labour.

Both UNICEF and State Governmental stand is that “Child Labour is a multi-sectoral issue where cooperation from the labour and the Education Department is required Andhra Pradesh started many schemes. In 1999 the state of Andhra Pradesh was able to withdraw 2,000 children from child labour and in every centre able to arrange special camps for 100 children. Andhra Pradesh is one of the states spending a large amount of Girl Child Protection Scheme 25 Crores every year are spent on the Girl Child Protection Scheme. According to this scheme a small amount of around Rs. 5,000/- is deposited in the name of the Girl Child initially and when she is 18 years old that amount matures into 20,000/-. This amount can be used by her for her higher education or for getting settled into some business. If the girl marries before the age of 18 or if she does not go to school, the amount is not given to her. In a year the Government of Andhra Pradesh over cover-up to 50,000 girls under the scheme13. The Scheme aims to link survival and education of the girl child and sends a message to the parents that long term gain for the girl child has to be preferred than short-term benefits for the parents.

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11 The Economic Times: November 6th, 1998 – Indian National Newspaper, Page 1
INCONSISTENCY BETWEEN THE SHOPS AND ESTABLISHMENT ACT AND CHILD LABOUR PROHIBITION AND REGULATION ACT 1986

Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 regulates employment of child labour in shops and establishments whereas the Andhra Pradesh Shops and Establishments Act 1988 prohibits employment of children. If there is any inconsistency between the State Act and The Central Act, Central Act will prevail over the State Act to the extent of inconsistency in normal circumstances. But in the case of Andhra Pradesh Shops and Establishments Act, 1988 received the assent of the President of India; Article 254 of the constitution which clarifies such inconsistencies is represented below:

Article 254 Inconsistency Between Laws and by Parliament and Law Made by The Legislature of States

If any provision of a law made by the Legislature of a State in very unpleasant to any permission of a law made by parliament which parliament is competent to enact on to any provision of an existing law with respect to one of the matters count in the concurrent list, the subject to the provisions of clause (27 the law made by the legislature of such state or as the case may be the existing law, shall prevail and the law made by the legislature of the state shall, to the extent of the repugnance, be void.

When a law made by the legislature of state with respect to one of the matters enumerated in the concurrent list contains any provision repugnant to the provision of an earlier law made by parliament or an existing law with to that matter, then, the law so made by the legislature of such state, if it has been reserved for the consideration of the President and has receive his assent, prevail in that state.

Provided that nothing in this clause prevent Parliament from enacting at any time any law with respect to the same matter including a law adding to, amending, varying or repeating the law so made by the legislature of the state.
On account of the above Article 254 (2) Regulating Provisions, conditions in child labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act from Sections 6 to 9 and 11 and 13 are not applicable in the State of Andhra Pradesh in so far as Shops and Establishments are concerned and the prohibition prescribed under section 20 of the Shops and Establishments Act would prevail. Therefore, child labour stands prohibited in shops and one should not be misled by the regulatory provisions contained in Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986.

HAZARDOUS INDUSTRIES IN ANDHRA PRADESH

This chapter is focusing on children working in Hazardous Industries in Andhra Pradesh where whole or part of the work in hazardous could be considered prohibited for children. Following are some of the selection of industries which are considered dangerous for children:

a. Beedi Industry
b. Lime Kiln Industry
c. Slate Industry and
d. Sericulture Industry

BEEDI INDUSTRY IN ANDHRA PRADESH

In Andhra Pradesh in most districts beedi making is widely prevalent and is undertaken either in the small and medium industrial units or as family enterprise. It is prevalent in the Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh. These districts are Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Mahabubnagar and Medak.

ADILABAD DISTRICT PROFILE

Adilabad district is bounded in north, east and west by three districts of Maharashtra and on the south by Karimnagar and Nizamabad districts of Andhra Pradesh.
The district’s pollution (20,79,098) accounts for 3.13 percent of the total population of the State. It is the fifth large district with an area of 16,128 sq. kms. which accounts for 5 percent of the total area of the state. It is the second largest district in the Telangana region, next to Mahabubnagar. There are 1748 villages of which, 1581 are inhabited and 167 are uninhabited villages. There are 11 towns.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The district is administrated through five revenue divisions, namely Adilabad, Asifabad, Nirmal, Utnoor and Mancherial consisting a total of 52 mandals. There are 726 Gram Panchayats of which 9 are major and 717 are minor panchayats. As per 1991 census, out of 1581 inhabited villages, 621 (35.5 percent) are small villages with less than 500 population, 786 (45 percent) are medium sized villages with population ranging from 2000 – 4999. The remaining 23 (1.3 percent) are large villages with population from 5000 and above. There are 11 urban areas in the district. Adilabad town has the largest population of 84,255 persons while Sirpur town has the least population of 8,520. The other towns have a population ranging between 9,000 to 70,000. There are 6 Municipalities namely, Adilabad, Nirmal, Bhainsa, Mancherial, Bellampally and Kagaznagar.

POPULATION COMPOSITION AND DISTRIBUTION

The population of the district is 20.79 lakhs. The rural population of 15.98 lakhs accounts for 77 percent of the total, while the urban population is 4.81 lakhs forming 23 percent.

MINERAL RESERVES

Adilabad ranks first in earning revenue from minerals among the districts of Andhra Pradesh. It is well endowed with rich reserves of coal, iron ore, lime kilns, and

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clays. Unlike some other districts in the Telangana region, Adilabad, which is endowed with abundant natural resources has ample scope for the establishment of industries like paper, synthetic, fiber, cement, coal and cotton spinning all in the large scale sector. There are twelve large-scale industries functioning at present in the district. Besides these 795 small scale industries are also functioning. The district has 79 social welfare hostels for Schedule Castes, 44 for Schedule Tribes and 51 for Backward Class. The beneficiaries are 6371 for Scheduled Castes, 5602 for Scheduled Tribes and 3482 for Backward Class. Besides these hostels V Imukit hostels with 52 boarders, two orphanages with 134 boarders and 65 ashram schools with 11,392 boarders are also functioning in the district.

CHILD LABOUR IN ADILABAD

Remoteness from Hyderabad is a factor affecting the economic development of the district. The psychological distance is further than the actual. As in other districts child labourers in Adilabad are in economic activities.

LITERACY AND EDUCATION

Only 28 percent of Adilabad population are literate. Literacy in the district increased from 19 percent in 1981 to 27 in 1991. However it is still lower than the state average which increased from 30 percent in 1981 to 33 percent in 1991. Formulae literacy rate of the district is 20.6 percent. According to data released by Directorate of School Education as on 30 September 1994, there are 2482 Primary Schools (1,75,687 students) and 302 Upper Primary Schools (79,041 students). The total number of teachers in the school is 6292. The dropout rate among students of general category is 62.7 percent. Among Schedule Castes it is 73.3 percent and Schedule Tribes it is 70.2 percent.
KARIMNAGAR DISTRICT PROFILE

Karimnagar district was formed in 1906. It is bounded in the north by Adilabad district in the south by Medak and Warangal district, in the east by Warangal and Madhya Pradesh and in the west by Nizamabad district. The total areas of the district are 11,823 sq. kms. The total area under forest is 2,52,000 hectares (19 percent of the total geographical area). As per 1991 census there is 30,37,486 persons living in the districts. The density of population is 257 per sq. km. and 79 percent of the population live in rural areas. For every 1000 males there are 986 females. The district has been divided into 4 revenue divisions with 56 mandals and 1054 revenue village.

MINERALS

The district is part of the Godavari Valley and has great potential for development in agricultural and industrial sectors. Important minerals like coal, iron ore, limestone, pink and gray granite are abundantly available. The major industries located in this district are Singareni Collieries, NTPC, Thermal Station, FCI Unit at Ramagundam and M/s. Kesoram cement.

CHILD LABOUR IN KARIMNAGAR DISTRICT

Children are working in the following activities in Karimnagar district:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Handloom and Weaving Sector</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beedi Making</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Construction Industry</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hostels and Catering Services</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Operations</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Karimnagar has the highest number of children weavers. Karimnagar has admitted children in various activities although only beedi rolling and weaving involving dyeing are listed as hazardous.

**LITERACY AND EDUCATION**

37 percentage of the population are literate in Karimnagar district. The literacy in the Telangana region is 41 percent. Female literacy rate of Karimnagar is 23.37 percent. For Scheduled Caste students there are 98 hostels with an effective strength of 9,580. For Scheduled Tribes there are 15 hostels with strength of 1,223 students. Ashram school hostels are 7 in this district. In the district there are 1,580 working schools under various managements. In these 1,71,323 students were enrolled of which 78,004 (45 percent) are girls. There are 3,714 teachers working in Karimnagar district.

**MAHABUBNAGAR**

The district is bounded by Hyderabad and Nalgonda district in north, Nalgonda and Guntur districts in the East, Kurnool in the south and the Raichur and Gulbarga Districts of Karnataka State in the west. The district is administered through four revenue divisions consisting of 64 mandals. There are 4 Municipalities and 7 towns in this district. As per 1991 census, out of 1571 villages 1501 are inhabited.

**POPULATION**

Out of 30.77 lakhs, male population accounts for 15.6 lakhs. 5.47 lakh persons are Scheduled Castes and 2.27 lakh persons (7 percent) Schedule Tribes. The density of population is 167 persons per sq. km. and the percentage of growth of population is 25.87. The total number of main workers are 47,11,182 of which cultivators are 5,77,485 (12.3 percent) and Agricultural labourers are 6,27,454 (13.3 percent).
INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT IN MAHABUBNAGAR

The number of factories registered under the Factories Act 1948 for the year 1992-93 were 508 (1773 workers). The Beedi Industry is mainly concentrated in Kosgi, Kothakata, Mahabubnagar, Dhanwadu, Chinnachintakunta, Narva, Atmakur and Amarchinta Mandals.

CHILD LABOUR

There are 1,24,617 working children. Most of the children are in beedi making

LITERACY AND EDUCATION

Mahabubnagar occupied the lowest rank in the state in terms of literacy (30 percent). Female Literacy rate is 18.03 percent. There are 1964 primary schools (2,15,661 students) and 436 Upper Primary schools (1,09,932 students) as on 30-09-1994. The total teaching strength in the schools is 6991. The dropout rate among open category is 79 percent and Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes it is 82.3 percent and 89.7 percent respectively.

There are 95 social welfare hostels for Scheduled Castes (9,862 boarders) and 20 for Scheduled Tribes (2164 boarders). Tribal welfare Ashram schools are 112 and the number of boarders is 1125. There are also 61 Government Backward Class hostels with the strength of 5,320. The special nutrition programme centres for tribal in Mahabubnagar district are 80 and the number of beneficiaries 4908.

MEDAK DISTRICT

Medak district is bounded on the north by Nizamabad and Karimnagar districts, in the south by Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy and in the east by parts of Warangal and Nalgonda districts. In the western side it borders with Karnataka. The total area of the
district is 9,699 sq. km. and the total area under forest is 73,000 hectares. The average (normal) rainfall is 870 mm, the Medak district has a population of 2,69,800 as per 1991 census. The density of population is 234 per sq. km. For every 100 male in population there are 970 females. Nearly 86 percent of the population lives in rural areas.

The Medak district consists of 1228 revenue villages with 3 revenue divisions and 45 mandals. The major minerals available in Medak district are quartz and white clay. As per the 1991 census there are 10,51,266 total main workers of which 4,19,894 (18.5 percent) are cultivators and 3,86,929 (17.1 percent) are agriculture labourers.

CHILD LABOUR IN MEDAK

2190 children are working. They are mainly concentrated in beedi and wool industry. Most of these children are not employed directly in the factories but they assist their parents in their houses. As per the district child labour rehabilitation plans all the proposed 80 special schools are to focus on these two activities through voluntary organizations.

CHILD LABOUR IN BEEDI

In Siddipet, Dubbal, Ramayampet mandals, there are several beedi making units. Four large beedi companies are located in these mandals, Desai, Ochapa, Thakur and Vani Navashakti. In Siddipet mandal there are several villages where almost all families including children are engaged in beedi making. In Dubbal town 90 percent of the Padmashali (weavers) are in beedi making, as weaving does not pay any more. Among girls 99.8 percent and among boys 99.5 percent are beedi rolling. Among all beedi child workers 60 percent are girls and 31 percent boys.
LITERACY AND EDUCATION IN MEDAK

In Medak 32.4 percent of the population are literate. This rate is far lower than that of Andhra Pradesh (45.11 percent) and India (52.11 percent). It is lower than even Telangana regional average of 41.29 percent. There are 1.8 lakh females out of 6.1 lakh literate population. There are 84 hostels for scheduled caste students with an effective strength of 1361 students besides 2 ashram school hostels. As on 30-09-1993, there are 1380 schools (Central, State, Aided and Private) with an enrollment of 1,61,702 students. Total teacher strength is 3,104.

NIZAMABAD DISTRICT

Nizamabad is a small district in the Telangana area of Andhra Pradesh and has geographical area of 7956 sq. kms. There are 923 villages of which 866 are inhabited. The total population of the district are per the 1991 census is 20.36 lakhs, accounting for 3.1 percent of the state population. The important rivers in the districts are Godavari and its tributary Manjeera. Nizamabad has a tropical climate with an annual normal rainfall of 1088 mm and important soils are black and chalk. The district is not rich in minerals and is mainly agro based. It is relatively an advanced district in the Telangana area. Paddy, Sugarcane, Maize, Turmeric, Jowar, Cotton, Sunflower and Pulses are predominantly grown. In Nizamabad district there are two major and three medium irrigation projects.

The district has three revenue divisions Nizamabad, Kamareddy and Bodhan and they are divided into 36 mandals. In Nizamabad 80 percent of the population in the district is rural and the density of the population in the district is 255 persons per sq. km. For every 1000 males there are 1017 females. The Scheduled Castes constitute 15 percent and Scheduled Tribes 6 percent of the population.

This literary rate in the district which was 34 percent as per the 1991 census has gone upto more than 60 percent in the year 1992 on account of successful implementation of total literary programme.
The district administration admitted that Nizamabad is one of the major beedi manufacturing areas in the state and it is estimated that there are about 4 lakhs of beedi workers in the district and out of them 2.20 lakhs have been issued identity/provident fund cards.

EDUCATION AND LITERACY IN NIZAMABAD DISTRICT

Nizamabad's literacy rate as per 1991 census is 34.18 percent while female literacy rate is 21.35 percent. There are 1201 schools and 3949 teachers. The number of male workers is almost negligible in comparison with the number of female workers.

LIME KILNS INDUSTRY IN ANDHRA PRADESH

The concentration of Lime Kilns is in Kurnool. The area extend westward and southward from Kurnool town. All along the national highway No. 7 and the state highway towards Adone, there are several lime quarries, which burn limestone in huge kilns purify and extract lime. The cleared lime is then loaded on trucks and sold off. There are a few limekilns in Nalgonda and parts of Warangal. But in terms of number it is Kurnool which has to be reckoned with.

KURNOOL DISTRICT

Kurnool district is bounded on the south by Cuddapah and Anantapur, on the west by Karnataka and on the east by Prakasam district. The area is 17,658 sq. km., population 29,73,024. The rural population accounts for 22.09 lakhs (74.2 percent) and the urban population for 7.63 lakhs (25.85 percent). For every 1000 males in population there are 953 women and the district comprises of 3 revenue divisions. 54 revenue mandals, 53 mandal parishads, 821 gram panchayats and 918 revenue villages. Eighteen percent of the geographical area of the district is forested.
MINERAL ASSETS

Kurnool possesses enormous deposits of lime stone suitable for cement manufacture. Apart from this, important minerals of economic value in the district are barytes, yellow shale, steatite, etc. Limestone occurs in Kallur, Onvakal, Dhone, Peapully, Panyam, Banaganpally, Owak, Godivemla and Kalimirigundla mandals with an annual exploitation of 6.27 lakh tones. The annual output of the other minerals in the district is 1.56 lakh tones.

Mandal Wise Mineral Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Mandal</th>
<th>Mineral Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>Silica, sand, road metal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Kallur</td>
<td>Limestone slates, Barytes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Onvakal</td>
<td>Limestone slates, silica sands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Gundur</td>
<td>Febfer</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Dhone</td>
<td>Limestone, Mosaic Chips, Dolomite, Supentine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Peapully</td>
<td>White Shale, white clay and steatite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Bethamcherla</td>
<td>Limestone Slabs, steatite, barytes and yellow ochers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Krishnagiri</td>
<td>Steatite Granite</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Veldunthy</td>
<td>Iron ore, Limestone slabs, steatites</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Nandikotkur</td>
<td>Limestone slabs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Adivemula</td>
<td>Lime Barytes, White Shale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Mandal</td>
<td>Mineral Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Panyam</td>
<td>Limestone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Koilkunntla</td>
<td>Limestone slabs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Kolimigundla</td>
<td>Limestone slabs, Owk Limestone slabs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Adoni</td>
<td>Pink Granite, Road Metal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Alur</td>
<td>Granite, Road Metal and Quartz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Peddakadubai</td>
<td>Granite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Yemmiganur</td>
<td>Granite</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE

There are 889 factories working under the Factories Act with 24,841 adult workers. Small scale industries are 228 with a total of 821 workers. There are 14 household industries in which 1,978 persons are employed. The total number of workers is 13,40,980. Agricultural labourers constitute 49.5 percent and cultivators 24.7 percent.

ONGOING PROGRAMME

In Kurnool the number of Government social welfare hostels are 95 (as on 31.02.92) and this total strength is 8,463 persons. The backward class welfare hostels are 65 with 4,755 boarders in them. There are 10 Scheduled Tribes hostels with a total of 940 residents and 8 ashram Christian premetric students were awarded scholarship under social and tribal welfare programmes in the district during 1993-94. For working women and child welfare this district has one vocational training centres two welfare braches, two crètting training centres, eight crèche centres, eight balwadi centres, three mobile crèches, two women and child welfare centres, three children homes, one working women’s hostel, one state home (women and child workers), ten general (5 percent revenue nursery schools and four 5% general revenue dress making centres.

Under weaker action programmes 10,782 houses were completed in 1993-94. 94,34,747 landless poor received 1,03,269.42 acres of land in 1993-94. It is claimed by the district administration that poverty alleviation programmes have reached 1.15 lakh household so far in the Kurnool district. It also claim that 1.32 lakh families still remain poorest of the poor with an annual income of below Rs. 6,000/-. Thus 41 percent of the population continues to live below poverty line.

CHILD LABOUR

Kurnool district which fall in the semi arid region of Rayalaseema zone of Andhra Pradesh is having very high incidence of child labour. As per 1981 figures 1,13,630
children are recorded as workers. The percentage of child workers to total workers in rural areas is 10.92 percent (1981) in Kurnool district which is highest in the state. Even in the urban areas the percentage of child workers to total workers is 5.40 which is again second highest in the state. These children are working in various activities. Some children are working in hazardous occupations. There are around 2,000 children who are working in lime kilns alone.

There are around 50,000 children engaged in the hazardous occupation in Kurnool district. Most of the children work 6-8 houses per day. Many of these children suffer from lung diseases, injuries, skin diseases and malnourishment. In some cases the children have some physically handicapped due to occupational hazard. A part from these hardships, the child labourers in Kurnool district, as compared to many other districts, are paid poorly in comparison to their adult counterparts. These children are deprived of basic human rights and law of natural and social justice.

LITERARY AND EDUCATION IN KURNOOL DISTRICT

In Kurnool district 39.8 percent of the population are literates. The literacy rate of the district is far lower than Andhra Pradesh (45.11 percent) and all India (52.11 percent) average particularly among women. The district has total of 2,172 primary schools consisting of 6,224 teachers and 3,62,390 students as on 30-9-1994. Of these nearly 11.5 have no building. Another 35.2 percent have single room buildings. Schools with double rooms’ account for 40.28 percent. Only 23.92 percent of all schools in the district are multi-room schools.

In Yemmiganur mandal more than 50 percent of the primary schools have no buildings. Nearly 48 percent schools have 2 teachers and 18.8 percent have only single teachers. The gross enrolment ratio for the district stands at 78 percent (Boys 88 percent and girls 68 percent). The rate of retention among scheduled castes is 12.5 percent and among scheduled tribes it is 44 percent. Non-formal education (NFE) centres is 1,053 covering 22.5 percent of scheduled castes children and 2 percent Scheduled Tribes.
children besides covering 75 percent children in the open category. 55 percent of all boys and 45 percent of girls are covered.

REHABILITATION – THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION’S PLAN

Kurnool is one of the 100 districts where the Union Government’s scheme for the rehabilitation of the child labour in hazardous occupation will be implementing. The Union Government’s scheme envisages rehabilitation of 10,000 such child labourers in the next three years. 200 special schools would be started which, apart from giving the usual lessons, will have vocational education for the older children, so that they could become self-reliant sooner or later. The brighter areas will be taken into residential schools.

Enquires reveal that one of the reasons for the large scale child labour in Palukar and 30 other places was that mine owners or lessers were only too willing to advance money of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 20,000 to the parents as well as clothes to the children during festival and money to go to cinema every week. Without any guarantee that the children come to work or not. This is the case with children in limekilns also.

The children suffer from vitamin ‘A’ deficiency, protein, protein malnutrition, eye defects, anemia and occasionally malaria fever. Palukas has the higher endemic incidence of malaria in Asia.

Poverty is the root cause of child labour. As regards poverty alienation, the district administration has over the years implemented several programmes through IRDP, DWCRA, SC and BC corporation etc.

Thus child labour is a result of complete social economic process where children have to earn wages to enable their families to survive. The social value in the area get conditioned this and final justification for its existence. Main roots of this problem can be traced to poverty and lack of sufficient employment opportunities in the area. Efforts to
eradicate poverty are being made for the past so many years. There are countless programmes and schemes under implementation.

**SLATE INDUSTRY IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

Slate mines and quarries in Prakasam District were constituted in 1970, extending over to Markapur division from Kurnool district, Kundukur division from Nellore district and Ongole division from Guntur district. The district is bounded in East by the Bay of Bengal on the south by Nellore and Cuddapah districts, the west by Kurnool district and on the north by Guntur and Mahabubnagar districts.

The district spreads in an area of 17,626 km. It accounts for 6.41 percent of the total area of the state and is ranked 4th in size. The district has 102 km of coastline spreading over 10 mandals. The district has 26 percent of forest area. Prakasam district is divided into their revenue division with 56 mandals. There are 1093 villages in Prakasam district of which 1058 are revenue villages and the remaining 35 are forest villages. There are 958 Gram Panchayats. Besides this, four municipalities are in the district viz., Chirala, Ongole, Markapur and Kandular.

**POPULATION**

The total population of Prakasam district as per 1991 census is 27.5 lakhs. It accounts for 4.5 percent of the total population of the State. The female population of the district is 13.59 lakhs which accounts for 49.2 percent of the district population. The urban population of the district is 4.54 percent lakhs forming 16.45 percent of the district population. The rural population of the district is 25 lakhs which accounts for 83.5 percent of the district population. The Scheduled Castes population in the district is 5.53 lakhs which works out to 20 percent of the district population and 5 percent of the State Scheduled Castes population. The Scheduled Tribes population of the district is 0.99 lakhs which forms about 3.58 percent of the district population and 2.35 percent of the State Scheduled Tribes population. The increase in the population during the decennium
ending 1991 over 1981 was 18.44 per cent in the district as against 22.11 percent of the state. The density of population is 161 (per sq. m) as against the state density of 242 sq. km.

INDUSTRY

Prakasam district is endowed with colour and black granite, iron ore, manganese, silica sand, barytes and slate. There are 1,419 factories registered under Factories Act with an employment strength of 41,057. The number of small scale industries started in 1993-94 are 101 (1083 employment). There are also 1916 cottage industries in which 3357 workers are engaged. Slate industry is found in Kandular, Donakonda, Tarlupadu, Markapur, Tripurantakam and Giddalur Mandalas.

The number of workers in the district is 13.42 lakhs forming 46 percent of the total population of the district and 4.48 percent of the State population. As per 1981 census there are about 84,298 child labour in Prakasam district.

SOCIAL WELFARE

There are 115 Scheduled Castes hostels with a total of 9145 students, 4 residential schools with a total of 1680 students, 22 Scheduled Tribes welfare hostels with 3090 students and 15 ashram schools with 1817 students. The Backward Class hostels are 75 with 5762 students and ashram schools for Backward Class are 7 with 385 students in them.

There are 1020 women and child welfare centres such as women welfare branches, balwadi centres, which centre, children home, women welfare centre, mobile crèches, craft training centres and regional training centres, integrated child development scheme (ICDA) blocks and anganwadi centre are also for the welfare of the people of the Prakasam district.
At present there are 20 schools out of which 8 are housed in a residential study complex at Rayavaram village 7 km away from Markapur town. The rest of the 12 schools have 50 children each and function as midday meal centres in Buddapalli, Thamalacheruvu, Ketagudip, Gogula Dinne, S.W. Colony, Srirangapuram, Vemulakota, Peda-yachavaram, Moddulappli, Anantavaram, Ganugapenta and Kalujuwarapadu village. The proposed special schools are 4 midday meal centres at Kanigiri (100 each) and 6 midday meal centres of 50 children each.

**LITERACY AND EDUCATION IN PRAKASAM DISTRICT**

There are 2844 primary and upper primary schools (as on 30.09.94) having teaching strength of 6350 and 362626 students. The dropout rates for 1993-94 are 76.71 for open general category, 81.84 for Scheduled Castes and 88.12 Scheduled Tribes students. In Markapur Mandal, there are 69 schools comprising of 224 teachers and 12187 students. The literacy rate of the district as per 1991 census is 40.3 percent which is lower than the state literacy rate of 44.09 percent.

In Prakasam district alternative sources of income are almost nil as land barren and there are no rains or irrigation facilities. Industries irrespective of size also deal with state related activities.

Markapur mandal has most of the state manufacturing cutting or processing units. Due to mechanization of certain process there are less number of children in these units now. This is mainly because the product “slate” today is catering to different market. In fact, the products in the quarries have in them slightly coloured slates – red – streak of yellow – which are not good of writing but are machine cut, polished and sold off as fashionable wall covers. Slate is now exported as “wall – tile.” Machines are used in such units as they achieve better precision in cutting with less wastage, machine polishing is also uniform and quick.
CHILD LABOUR IN PRAKASAM DISTRICT

In Markapur mandal there is a greater degree of awareness among parents, employers and community elders about the evils of child labour. There are more children coming to the National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) camps in Prakasam now. Assist (India) Project in Markapur Mandal has been working since 1988 in rehabilitating child labourers. The school admit not only child labourers but also mainstream children.

In spite of Assist’s activities there are still many children working in slate industry. In Markapur town there are at least 200 families with children in slate industry. In Vemulakunta and Sivaramapuram village most families have at least one child in slate industry. In Peddayacharan village at least 50 families are totally dependent on slate industry.

There are still many children working in polishing, smoothing and even cutting of slates. Markapur, Talupadu and Kanakanamitla mandals are noted child labour concentrated centres.

HEALTH HAZARDS IN THE SLATE MINES AND QUARRIES IN PRAKASAM DISTRICT

Children working in stone quarries in Prakasam district suffer from serious ailments. Tuberculosis, Pneumoconiosis. Silicosis and dust allergy are common diseases affecting the general public in the 4 mandal of Markapur, Talupadu, Kanakanamitla and Donakonda.

Child worker have chronic bronchitis, cough and other respiratory problems. Besides the products of mines and quarries, bad working environment, unhygienic conditions, over crowding and malnutrition add to the health problems among slate workers especially children involved in manufacturing process like colouring raw slate.
cleaning enamel slates in acid. Moreover, 70 per cent of the population in the area are affected by a severe deficiency vitamin ‘B’ complex.

The Children work in the factories during the whole day and in the slate mines from 6.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. as the climate does not permit them to work in the afternoons. They live in villages near the work sites. The working environment is extremely poor, often over crowded and poor ventilated air with no drinking water facility.

The Government Schools in the area are situated in villages which is close to the places of employment and the children have the tendency to go to the school and at the same time work in the slate industries leading to poor attendance in the schools and high dropout rates.

SERICULTURE INDUSTRY IN ANDHRA PRADESH

Anantapur traditionally has been the centre for silk industry in Andhra Pradesh. The industry has traditionally been family based and therefore mostly small in scale. With the encouragement given by the Government for women’s cooperatives and through other self-employment generation schemes the industry has come out of homes to workshops. However, sizable portion of the industry is still run from homes.

In such an atmosphere, children in families are the first to be drawn to work primarily because families do not wish to hire a labourer in the child’s place. Parents feel that engaging their own children serves two purposes. Keeping in mind the size of the activity engaging one or two of his children cuts down the cost. The other reason is that children getting early into the trade mature even during late adolescence as competent workers capable of managing an unit by themselves.
ANANTAPUR DISTRICT IN ANDHRA PRADESH

Anantapur was formed in 1882. It is one of the older and big district in the state. It lies in the extreme south and west and Cuddapah in the east. Important towns in the district are Hindupur, Dharmavaram, Penugonda, Guntakal, Anantapur and Rayadurg. The district is divided into three revenue divisions and sixty three mandals. Anantapur district is famous for its silk industry and fruit gardens.

POPULATION

Anantapur district has a population of 31,83,814 of which 76.5 percent live in rural areas. Males constitute 51 percent and female 49 percent. Persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes account for 14 percent and 3.5 percent respectively. The decenial growth rate of population (1981 – 91) is 25 percent. Hindus account for 70 percent and Christians, Muslims, Jains and Sikhs together constitute the rest of the population. In this district, 43 percent of the total population are main workers. 15 percent cultivators and 17 percent agricultural labourers and other workers constitute 11 percent. The marginal workers comprise 3 percent of the total population. As per 1981 census, there are approximately 98,800 child labour in the district.

INDUSTRY

Sericulture is a major industry in Anantapur district. Silk produces from all over the state and material to Dharmavaram, which is second only to Kanchipuram as a trading centre for raw silk and as a manufacturing centre for silk. There are 475 factories registered under Factories Act and 13,561 employees working in them.

CHILD LABOUR IN ANANTAPUR DISTRICT

Anantapur District has high incidence of child labour. As per 1981 census, 98,800 children are recorded as workers. In the base line survey recently conducted by the
district administration there are 1,02,205 child labourers in both hazardous and non-
hazardous area including agriculture. The district administration estimates that 40,235
children are working in hazardous activities. Survey conducted by the district labour
officials underlines high incidence of child labour in silk reeling, sarees printing, stone
polishing, granite quarries, beedi making, cement industry; handloom industry; ready-
made dress industry and construction activity.

The district administration has came up with a rehabilitation programme whereby
2000 working children would be withdrawn from work and sent to schools. “Bala
Karmika Vikasa” a service society for identification and elimination of child labour is
formed in the district. They plan to set up special residential schools to be run by non-
governmental organization.

Very meaningful and an important aspect of Anantapur district’s plan is the
convergence of services whereby at the mandal level there is greater interdepartmental
approach at planning, monitoring, execution and suspension. This will ensure that there is
no interdepartmental oversight or over lap.

The district administration is taking a family specific rather than child specific
approach to the problem of child labour. Recognizing that poverty is one of the main
cause for child labour. The project plan of this district is drafted and executed in such a
way that each adult member of the family has some source of income and this is to be
achieved through tying up with one or more poverty alienation programmes. like
Integrated Rural Development Programmes, Scheduled Castes/Backward Classes Action
Plan.

The district administration has geared up itself to release revolving funds under
Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) to Podupulakshmi
groups in which mothers of working children are members to enable them to have access
to the same. Moreover, the administration has agreed to provide each identified child
labour family a white ration card so that their basic food materials like oil, rice, dhal and sugar are provided subsidized.

"The literacy rate in Anantapur District is 42 percent. Female literacy rate 27.61 percent. There are 2,749 Primary Schools, with student 56,444 and 915 teachers (as on 30.09.94). The dropout rate among open general category is 75 percent and among Scheduled Castes students and Scheduled Tribes students is 85 percent and 83 percent respectively."^{14}

Monsoon being unfavourable in Anantapur district several farmers took to mulberry cultivation. This unfavourable agricultural condition puts the families under pressure to search for sources of additional income. This together with poor educational infrastructure left no options but to send the child to work. Conditions are similar in Hindupur, while several families are ready to recognize the value of education, it is expensive for them to afford. The rehabilitation centres are being located at Anantapur, Hindupur, Kadiri, Kalyanadurg, Rayadurg and Dharmavaram.

The state of Andhra Pradesh is topping the list of child labour in the country. Most of the child workers employed in rural areas are in hazardous occupations, like beedi industries, kilns, slate industries, granites, sericulture, lace making, jute handicrafts and bangles. Child workers are also found in variety of agricultural occupations throughout the state. The practice of keeping children in debt bondage also prevails in rural areas. A child labour survey was conducted in April and May 1997 in all the districts of Andhra Pradesh state under the over all supervision and control of the district collectors as per the directions of the Supreme Court. During the survey 7769 child labour in hazardous occupations and 39,000 child workers in non-hazardous occupation are identified.

^{14} Centre for Public Policy Studies: Child Labour in hazardous industries in Andhra Pradesh. Department of Labour, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh with UNICEF collaboration, 1995, Pages 24-25, 29-33, 37-38, 42-47 & 50-56
The result of the survey indicate that there are 232 boys and 1546 girls in the age group of 10-15 years and 711 boys and 5280 girls are in the age group of 11-14 years in hazardous occupations. 3013 children are illiterates and balance 456 children are illiterates. 6553 children are found to have earned wages upto Rs. 500/- per month and 1216 children found to have received more than Rs. 500/- per month, working 4 to 6 hours in the case of 2411 children and above 6 hours in the case of 5358 children. Duration of employment is less than one year in the case of 2855 children and more than one year in case of 4914 children.

The result of the survey in non-hazardous occupations indicate that there are 9376 boys and 2967 girls in the age group of 5-10 years in hazardous occupations and 21584 boys and 5073 girls in the age group 11-14 years in non-hazardous occupations. Thus giving the percentage of illiterate children working in non-hazardous occupation at 49.03 percent. Out of the total number of children employed in non-hazardous occupations 39000 children are found to have earned wages upto Rs. 500/- per month. Working hours are 4 – 6 hours in the cases of 10,686 children and above six hours in the case of 28,314 children. Duration of employment is less than one year in the case of 28,283 children and more than one year in case of 10,717 children.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh is one of the few states to respond to the call of the Central Government to formulate the projects for Child Labour in some concentrated areas. Out of the 76 districts in the country covered under the National Child Labour Programmes, 20 districts in the state are included. In all the 20 districts out of 23 districts in the states, the National Child Labour Project Programmes are successfully granted and several programmes have been launched to tackle the problem of child labour.