Chapter – II
HISTORY OF CHILD LABOUR

An attempt has been made, in this chapter, to examine the historical evolution of child labour and the National & International dimensions of this social evil.

2.1 Child labour prevailed in ancient India even before 321 B.C\(^{18}\). In most cases, it was in the form of slavery. Kautilya, during the regime of the Mauryas” (321 B.C-185) codified some rules towards abolition of child slavery.

Due to sweeping socio-cultural and political changes, the practice of child labour and slavery had a declining trend during the Post-Mauryas' era. Both the institutions of child labour and child slavery were becoming less common among the Hindu society\(^ {19} \).

In the Medieval Period, during the regime of Mughal kings (1200-1700 AD), exploitative child labour practice was most prevalent. It was mainly due to (i) increasing human population pressure, and (ii) recurrence of famines.

Child labour during the British regime (Both East India Company & Great Britain are however, covered at a greater length, in the foregoing paragraphs considering its relevance to today's India.

2.1.1 Child labour in British India (1708 – 1947 AD)

During East India Company regime, following industrial revolution, certain industrial organizations grew in the 18\(^{th}\) and 19\(^{th}\) centuries which

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employed a large number of artisans, specially in weaving, carpentry, silk sectors. The new establishments/organizations replaced earlier family based economy and opened opportunity for wage-paid employment, formation of labour unions, labour markets and new socio-economic order. But prolonged scarcity of food and extreme poverty caused by famines, lack of education and absence of compulsion for child education upto a certain age-limit, large-scale unemployment of adult workers had resulted in introduction of children into labour market.

In the 19th century, employment of children in jute and cotton mills, mines, factories and underground work grew without age bar, working hours and sex considerations. Lack of state regulation regarding wages, working hours, age limit and child employment resulted in limitless abuse and exploitation of workers by their employers. Child labourers were the worst sufferers.

Child labour was an accepted part of the economic and cultural behavior in much of the developing world till the 19th century, and is so to a lesser degree even today.

Children work along with their parents, in both domestic and nondomestic tasks in the agrarian societies without any social taboos, in preparation for their entry into the adult world (Burra, 1986:242). 20

Familism was the dominant sentiment and the family prepared its members for the roles they were expected to play at various stages and in various situations in their lives. The family guaranteed maximum security in all eventualities. In such a scenario, the child learnt adult roles smoothly almost unconsciously through observation and association (Singh, Kaura & Khan, 1980: 2). 21

There was no threshold of occupational entrance, resulting in Singh and his co-workers making the following observation:

The child worked under the direct supervision and guidance of his parents or master craftsman. His work was a form of vocational training. He was meted out a humane and sympathetic treatment and chances of his exploitation were few. Neither the work culture was oppressive nor the work technology hazardous to his well-being. His work did not deprive him of the pre-conditions of his growth; it rather included in him a positive self-image by preparing him to assume adult roles.

In the past, socio-economic development of individuals was largely dictated by their rigid caste structure existing at that time. As Patil (1988) rightly observed:

“Children earlier worked in the family occupations that were determined by the caste system and the work was a part of socialization of the child (p.1).”

The social scenario today, however, is completely different. The forces of industrialization, urbanization and modernization are sweeping every part of the developing world and more so India, and the rural communities are not immune to their influences. Caste restrictions are breaking down, under the impact of democratic polity and social group relations are undergoing radical transformation (Sing et al., 1980: 3). The joint family is disintegrating and it is no longer capable of providing social and economic security. Presently, children are engaged mostly as additional help outside their homes whether it be in houses, agriculture, business or industrial set-up. Their employment is to supplement the family income,

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when the income from the main bread-earners is inadequate to meet the family needs, or to pick up the technical know-how by doing the job so that proficiency could be achieved at an early age. In extreme cases, the death or incapacity of the adult members to earn a living even makes the child’s earning as the only or main source of income for the subsistence of the family (Kapoor, 1985: 178). The industrial revolution in the west made child labour more visible, and like a contagious disease, it spread to those countries also which were under their domain. Many societies developed the opinion “that it was not for the family to support the child rather, it was for the child to support the family”.

Here, it has to be stated that when children are with their parents, they are under their protection and they are not subjected to exploitation and abuse or extreme physical and mental stress which they cannot bear. In contrast, when the child works as an individual by himself particularly in the unorganized sector, he is exposed to inhuman, often hazardous and at times highly exploitative and abusive circumstances.

2.2. The Concept and Definition of Child Labour:

Child labour is one of the oldest phenomenon world over. Yet, it has remained the most neglected phenomenon till the last few decades. Towards the mid-twentieth century, social reformers, jurists began to bring reforms against such neglected and exploited class of human labour considering the tender age of children, who cannot defend themselves against exploitation. Several efforts were parallelly made to define child labour and upto what age group, a person has to be defined as child.

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24 María dela Luz Silva: op cit 166-175.
The search for a definition of child labour is not merely an academic pursuit, but is also a practical need in the context of the efforts being made towards redressing it. The solutions, it may be noted, depend on the understanding of the problem. If the gravity of the problem is underestimated, then the urgency of a solution may not be grasped adequately. If the problem is bloated out of proportion, then a sense of helplessness may follow. That is what seems to be happening with child labour. A proper understanding of the problem and of the socio-economic reality that causes it, can enable one to set in motion the social processes required for solving it.

Now, coming to the definition of child labour, it has to be accepted with all humility that it is very difficult to define child labour in its entirety or even separating its two terms, viz., ‘child’ and ‘labour’.

Maria De la Luz Silva defined a child as “some one who needs adult protection for physical, psychological and intellectual development until able to become independently integrated into the adult world”.

Alian Morice feels the word child can have several limits according to which some of the criteria are biological (puberty), legal (schooling, legislation and labour laws), customs (status in the domestic unit).

Victoria Goddard & Benjamin White have a similar opinion about ‘childhood’. They are of the view that “its definition varies from one society to society and from one time to another, and also according to both classes and gender. Even within India, child has been defined differently from state to state. Even different Acts define a child differently.

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The Acts, which have been formulated to prevent the exploitation of the young, define a child as a person under 16 years in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab., under 18 years in Saurashtra and West Bengal., under 16 years in Telangana but under 14 years in rest of Andhra Pradesh. In the Union Territories, a boy is defined as child if he is under 16 years and a girl if she is under 18 years.28

The Census of India defines work as “participation in any eccentrically productive activity. Such participation may be physical or mental in nature. Work involves not only active work but also effective supervision and direction of work.”29

In the case of children, observes Maria De la Luz Silva, ‘work’ is often on the borderline between work and play, work and vagrance, and work and apprenticeship.30

Alian Morice feels, a definition of work should be related not only to the activity itself but also to its economic and social context, i.e. the exploitative and non-exploitative nature should also be taken into consideration.

“The phenomenon of child labour encompasses both (biologically) juvenile workers doing 'adult' work and (biologically) adults who are still defined in work relations as minors (trainees, apprentices, helpers, etc) and thus subject to various forms of exploitation and loss of autonomy, which 'social 'adults do not face'.”32

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30 Maria De la Luz Silva, op.cit, p.164.
31 Alian Morice, op.cit, p.136.
32 Victoria Goddard and Benjamin White; op.cit., p.468.
Erid Schildkrout has given a possible working definition of children’s work as “any activity done by children, which either contributes to production, gives adults free time, facilitates the work of others, or substitutes for the employment”.  

The United States National Child Labour Committee (1935) defined child labour as “any work by children that interfere with their full physical development, their opportunities for a desirable minimum of education or their needed recreation”.

A child labourer is one who works full time to support either himself/herself or the family and whose work affects directly or indirectly his/her growth and development and deprives him/her of the possibilities of availing of educational opportunities. Mere absence from school would not be adequate to include a child among labourers. In many regions, the school may exist only on paper. As such, a child may be excluded from it not because (s)he is forced to work outside, but(s)he may be assisting the family in its work at home because no school is available there.

According to the Operation Research Group, Baroda, a working child is that child who was enumerated during the survey as a child falling within the 5 to 15 age group and who is at remunerative work, and be paid or unpaid and busy any hour of the day within or outside the family.

Dr. V.V.Giri, the former president of India, distinguished the term child labour in two senses. First, as an economic practice and secondly, as a social evil. The first signifies employment of children in gainful occupation with a view to adding to the income of the family, and the second, a broad aspect which takes into account the dangers to which the children are exposed which means the denial of opportunities for development.

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Kulshrestha\textsuperscript{34} is of the view that “child labour in a restricted sense means the employment of child in gainful occupations which are dangerous to their health and deny them the opportunities of development.

According to Alakh Narayana Sharma\textsuperscript{35} “Child labour means the employment of children in gainful occupations (in industrial as well as non-industrial occupations) which are injurious to their physical, mental, moral and social development.

Singh et al\textsuperscript{36} have held the view “child labour means a working child who is between 6 and 15 years of age; is not attending school during the day, is working under an employer or is learning some trade as an apprentice”.

\textbf{2.3 Legislative Frame Work of Child with special reference to certain Acts:}

A child under the Factories Act, is defined as a person who has not completed the fifteen years of age\textsuperscript{37}.

The precise age which constitutes child has not been laid down with certainty, any where, because of variations in the age of child prescribed under different enactments. Article 24 of the Constitution of India maintains: “No child below the age of 14 years shall be employed to work in any factory or mine or employed in any hazardous employment\textsuperscript{38}”.

\textsuperscript{37} The Factories Act, 1948, Section 2 (c).
\textsuperscript{38} Constitution of India 1950, Article 24.
According to section 3 of the Employment of Children Act, 1938, no child who has not completed his fifteenth year shall be employed or permitted to work in any occupations\textsuperscript{39}.

As far as work is concerned, the Census of the India defines work as “participation in any economically productive activity. Such participation may be physical or mental in nature. Work involves not only active work, but also effective supervision and direction of work\textsuperscript{40}. In the case of children observes Maria De la Luz Silva, ‘work’ is often on the borderline between work and play, work and vagrancy and work and apprenticeship\textsuperscript{41}.”

According to the committee on Child Labour, child labour can broadly be defined as that segment of the child population which participate in work either paid or unpaid\textsuperscript{42}.

\textbf{2.3.1 The Children Pledging of Labour Act, 1933 \textsuperscript{43}}

The main object of this Act is to eradicate the evils arising from the pledging of labour of young children by their parents to the employers in lieu of loans or advances.

Child means, under this Act, a person who has not completed the age of 15 years.

\textbf{2.3.2 The Employment of Children Act, 1938 \textsuperscript{44}}

This Act is also applied to the whole of India. To prevent employment of children in hazardous employment and certain categories of unhealthy occupations, the Act prohibits the employment of children

\textsuperscript{39} Child Labour Act, 1938.
\textsuperscript{40} “Census of India; Provisional Population Totals; Workers and Non-workers”, paper 3 of, Series-1, ‘India’, (1981) p.2.
\textsuperscript{41} Maria de la Luz Silva, op.cit, p.164.
\textsuperscript{43} The Children Pledging of Labour Act, 1933.
\textsuperscript{44} The Employment of Children Act, 1938, Section 3(3).
below 15 years of age in any occupation connected with the transport of passengers, goods or mail by railway, or a port authority within the limits of a port.

The Act also prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 in workshops connected with bidi-making; carpet-weaving; cement manufacture including bagging of cement, cloth printing; dyeing and weaving; manufacture of matches; explosives and fire works; mica cutting and splitting; shellac manufacture; soap manufacture, tanning and wool cleaning. These provisions, however, do not apply to workshops where the work is done by the occupier with the aid of his family only or to any school established, aided or recognised by any state government.

2.3.3 The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 45

The Act prohibits the employment of children under 12 years. An adolescent between 15-18 years cannot be employed for work unless he is certified fit for work by a surgeon.

2.3.4 The Mines Act, 1952 46

This Act also defines child as a person who has not completed his fifteen years. This Act not only prohibits the employment of children in mines, but also prohibits the presence of children in any part of a mine which is below ground or in any open cast in which any mining operation is being carried on.

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45 The Plantation Labour Act, 1951, Section 4(a)
46 The Mines Act, 1952
2.3.5 The Merchant Act, 1958

The Act prohibits the employment of children in any capacity, who are below 15 years of age, on sea-going ships. This Act applied to ships registered in India.

It also prohibits the employment of young persons under 15 as trimmers and stakers except under certain specific conditions.

2.3.6 The Apprentices Act, 1961

The main object of the Act is to provide for the regulation and control of training of apprentices in trades and for matters connected therewith. The Act provides that no person shall be qualified for being engaged as an apprentice or to undergo apprenticeship training in any designated trade unless he is atleast 14 years of age and satisfies such standards of education and physical fitness as may be prescribed. If he is a minor, his guardian is required to enter into a contract of apprenticeship with the employer and it shall be registered with the Apprenticeship Advisor.

2.3.7 The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961

This act applies to the whole of India. It covers every motor transport undertaking employing 5 or more transport workers. This Act also prohibits the employment of children under 15 in any capacity in the motor transport undertakings.

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2.3.8 Bidi and Cigar Works (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966

The Act provides that no child should be required or allowed to work in any industrial premises; the Act defines the child as a person who has not completed his fourteen years of age.

2.3.9 The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

The Act states right in the beginning that its aim is to prohibit the engagement of children in certain employments and to regulate the conditions of work of children in certain other employments.

All rules made in this Act will be in addition to the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948, the Plantations Labour Act, 1951 and Mines Act, 1952.

According to this Act, “Child” means a person who has not completed his fourteen years of age.

From all the above, it is seen that no uniform age is prescribed while defining a child. It is felt that there should be a common definition. A child completes his school (X standard), as per present educational requirements, at the age of 15 years. Since universalization of elementary education is contemplated by the framers of our constitution it would probably be appropriate to define a person below 15 years of age as a child and ban his employment totally. However, if it is a hazardous employment, this ban should be extended up to 18 years of age. In case of females, it should be 18 years, irrespective of where it is hazardous work or not, as they are also prone to sexual exploitation at work spot.

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Besides, there is a need to effectively enforce the laws and ensure that this universalization of school education to children is implemented effectively. This implies that penal laws must be made more rigid and no person should be allowed to escape punishment for violating the provisions.

However, since poverty is the main reason for child labour, economically poor parents must be given necessary loans/other economic supporting assets to prevent them from looking at the child as an Economic Asset, which aspect is covered elsewhere in the thesis.

The right of children to free and compulsory education Act, 2009 (Act 35 of 2009) is the most recent and comprehensive legislation and a blow to child labour, which came into force with effect from 1.4.2010. In view of its importance, this Act is placed in this Thesis as Annexure I. The salient features, provisions, problems in respect of this Act are submitted hereunder, for better comprehension and considering the relevance of this Act in eradicating/mitigating child labour.

The law was enacted on 4 August 2009, got the assent of the President of India on 26 August 2009 and came into effect in the whole of India except the state of Jammu and Kashmir from 1 April 2010.

This is an act to provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years.

It describes the modalities of the provision of free and compulsory education for children between 6 and 14 years in India under Article 21A of the Indian Constitution.
The Act consists of **7 Chapters** and **38 Sections**.

Chapter I – *Preliminary* – Sections 1 to 2
Chapter II – *Right to Free and Compulsory Education* – Sections 3 to 5
Chapter III – *Duties of Appropriate Government, Local Authority and Parents* – Sections 6 to 11
Chapter IV – *Responsibilities of Schools and Teachers* – Sections 12 to 28
Chapter V – *Curriculum and Completion of Elementary Education* – Sections 29 to 30
Chapter VI – *Protection of Right of Children* – Sections 31 to 34
Chapter VII – *Miscellaneous* – Sections 35 to 38

The Schedule to the Act consists of Norms and Standards for a School as required under Sections 19 and 25

Funding for the implementation of the Act would be in the ratio of 65 and 35 between Central and State Governments respectively and a ratio of 90: 10 in respect of North-Eastern States.

**Important Provisions of the Act:**

The following are some of the salient features of the Act.

The Act makes education a fundamental right of every child between the ages 6 to 14 and specifies minimum norms for the schools.

Provision for reservation of 25% seats in private schools for children from disadvantaged and weaker sections.

Prohibits unrecognized schools.
Makes provisions for no capitation fee i.e. donation or contribution or payment other than the fee notified by the school.

No interview for the child or parent for admission into school.

Provides that no child shall be held back, expelled, or required to pass a board examination until the completion of elementary education.

Provision for special training of school drop-outs.

Right to education of persons with disabilities until 18 years of age has also been made a fundamental right.

Provides for establishment of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights and State Commissions.

Provisions for improvement of school infrastructure, teacher-student ratio and faculty.

This Act, in view of its elaborate provisions for combating child labour & favoring child education is a very important step in the right direction by India.

2.4 Extent / Magnitude of Child Labour:

Being a global problem with an astounding magnitude, the ILO called child labour a scourge caused by poverty, the exodus from the country-side, and negative social and cultural attitudes.

The latest estimates of the International Labour Organisation Report published in Geneva in 1988 ("Study" 52, 1989: 9) gives a sorrowful picture of how child labour menace is increasing. As per the
report, it is found that at least 100 million children and perhaps double that number, are at work in the world, some as young as eight, doing appalling jobs for a pittance.

Since child labour is in most countries a clandestine activity, it is difficult to obtain precise figures. The statistical figures are sometimes under-estimated. Conflicting views are expressed by different International organizations dealing with child labour on this aspect.

As early as 1979, it was estimated that child labour could be around 50 millions in the world (Mendelievich, 1979). The estimates of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights (Bouhdiba, 1981:470) puts the figure at 145 millions.

In Pakistan, carpet makers employ 1.5 million children, many of whom are below the age of 6 years and who work 11 to 12 hours a day. In Italy, 8 to 18 percent of the victims of industrial accidents are children of age 8 or under. There are one million Mexican children who are employed as seasonal workers in the United States and there are instances of 4 year-old children accompanying their parents to the fields to help in their work (Bouhdiba, 1981: 479). Child labour is widespread in South Asia with 29 million working children, followed by Africa with 10 million, East Asia 9 million, Latin America 3 million and about one million are reported in the more developed market economy regions (Government of India, 1978: 1763).

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52 Study: “100 million kids at work in sweat shops” Indian Express (1989 June 9) Page: 9
Before it was almost wiped out in the developed countries, child labour is believed to have made significations to the industrial revolution in the late 19th century. The reports of the Anti-Slavery Society suggest that it still persists in a few countries like Spain and Italy and the Third World Countries, a finding that supports the hypothesis that poverty and inequality are closely associated with child labour (Ramesh, 1988: 240).

According to the world Bank Report, more than 55 million children are working in various fields including 40 million working in Asia alone (Rajan and Parasuraman, 1986:7). Recently the Chinese Government has announced tough measures to crack down on the growing use of child labour throughout the country. A circular was issued to all organisations and departments not to employ under-age workers. Those who defy the regulations face a fine of 3000 to 5000 Yuan ($ 800 to $ 1359) for every child worker employed.

The enterprises or employers who continued to employ under-aged workers despite the imposition of fines, will be forced to close down the enterprise. They will also be punished according to law (“Measures”, 1988: 5).

2.4.1 Indian Context

Child labour, like in other countries, is a ‘harsh’ reality in India. Despite the provision of restrictive labour laws, the practice continues unabated because exploitation of child labour is advantageous to employers and an economic compulsion to parents of child workers. Instead of being in school, child labourers work under adverse conditions that stifle their 

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58 "Measures against child labour in India" Indian Express. (1988, November 18)
59 Child labour, like in other countries, is a harsh reality
physical and mental faculties. It is reported that 55 percent of the children are compelled by their parents to work and another 31 percent do so on their own (Krishna Kumari, 1985: 40). India is said to have the largest number of working children in the world. Various estimates (International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, 1986: 3-14) suggest that the number of working children in the world are about 50 to 55 million of which about 16.5 million are in India. These figures were compiled from a variety of sources, including reports from United Nations and Labour Organisations. These figures are under-estimates, as many children work clandestinely making the compilation of data difficult. Child labour statistics in India indicate that the menace is increasing in spite of legal restraints. Census data indicate that during 1961-71, the number of child workers declined from 14.4 million to 10.8 million, whereas during 1981 the number has gone up to 13.6 million. These fluctuations put forth a challenge to policy makers concerned with the problem of child labour.

**According to ILO estimates**, the number of children under 15 counted as being economically active in the world at the beginning of 1980 was around 50 million, Asia’s share being 38 million. India contributed to about a third of Asia’s child labour and fourth of the world’s working children.

The number of working children in the age group 5 to 14 years was around 16.3 million (Gita, 1986: 31).

Children form a sizable percentage of the population in India. According to 1981 census, the child population in the age group of 5 to 14 years was 179 million of which 93 million were males and 86 million

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62 International Labour Office “minimum age for admission to employment” (convention 138) Geneva Author. (1973)  
females (Government of India, 1981)\textsuperscript{64}. It also showed 11.2 million children in the 5 to 14 years age group were main workers (7.4 million boys and 3.8 million girls) and another 2.4 million, marginal workers (0.7 million boys and 1.7 million girls) making a total of 13.6 million child workers.

The All India Survey of working Children conducted by the Operation Research Group for the Labour Department, Government of India, in 1980 estimated that there were 43.7 million workers of whom 2.3 million were wage earners or paid labourers and one-sixth of them belonged to a tender age ("Labour Force", 1985: 7 \textsuperscript{65}).

India has about 400 districts covered under 22 States and 9 Union Territories. Economic and social inequalities not only prevail among the States and union Territories but also among the districts in any given State or Union Territory. With the existing disparities in social and economic development, child labour rate is expected to vary among the districts.

The incidence of child labour is highest in Andhra Pradesh where it accounts for about 9.03 percent of total labour force, and 3.7 percent of the total population in the State. In fact, Andhra Pradesh alone accounted for 15.2 percent of the total child workers in the country followed by Madhya Pradesh where child labour constituted 7.27 percent of the total labour force and 2.7 percent approximately of the total population in the State. In Orissa, the proportion of child labour to total workers was placed at 7.18 percent, Rajasthan 7.29 percent, Karnataka 7.94 percent. Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli are

\textsuperscript{64} Census of India (Part II-special Report and tables based on 5 percent sample data) New Delhi: Ministry of Home Affairs. (1981)

also other States and Union Territories where proportions of child labour are higher than the national average.

**Gita’s study (1986: 31)**

reveals that out of 180 million total workers in the country, 148 million, i.e., 82.2 percent are in rural areas and the rest in urban areas. The participation of children in the labour force in the age group of 10-14 years is very high: 28.9 percent for males and 20.0 percent for females.

At a South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) meet (1988) on the **Girl-child**, it was pointed out that age-wise, girls entered the work force earlier than boys and the actual percentage of working girls has increased fourfold from 1971 to 1981 (**Nirmala, 1988:14**). It also emphasized that the girls shoulder double the burden of domestic duties and outside employment and are probably the most exploited among working children.

With regard to Andhra Pradesh, **the study conducted by Naidu (1985: 75)** in the villages of Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh showed that child labour is significantly higher among girls than boys in both the age groups. According to the report of the committee of Experts on Unemployment Estimates (**Government of India, 1976: 46**), the participation of children in the labour force in the age group of 0-14 years was as high as 28.9 percent in males and 20 percent in females.

It is often said that if child labour is eliminated from the labour market, some 15 to 20 million adult unemployed would be able to find jobs on standard wages. The above argument, however, is basically untenable for the simple reason that children often work harder and for longer hours and for less money than an adult and are not involved in

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political or union activity which wastes millions of man-hours all over the country (Tara Ali Baig, 1979: 100).

From the above, it is clear that child labour assumed unimaginable magnitude and is causing havoc globally. To have a better comprehension of this issue, the magnitude of child labour is presented on the basis of certain statistics collected by the researcher, as under:-

2.5.1 Magnitude of the Problem:

2.5.1.1 General data pertaining to worldwide status of children:

- 28 Million children die from easy curable diseases each year
- 17 million children die from malnutrition and starvation each year
- 1/3 of the world population is malnourished
- 20% of the world has no access to safe water at all
- 40% have no sanitation
- 10 million children are involved in the sex industry
- 100 million children are on the streets
- 200 million child labourers
- 1.4 million children under the age of 15 are living with HIV

In Africa these statistics are much higher, as most countries in this continent are the poorest countries in the world.

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2.5.1.2 Africa Statistics

19,000 children die daily from easily curable diseases

80 per cent of children under the age of 15 living with HIV are children living in Africa.

It is estimated that children comprise 17% of Africa's labour force. 25% of children between the ages of 10 and 14 are involved in labour. Senegal government estimates between 50 and 100 thousand children are street beggars.

21% of Kenya's children are not attending school.

It is estimated that as many as 130,000 street children exist daily in Nairobi.

There are an estimated 200,000 orphans in Rwanda as a result of the recent civil war.

Of the children that die under age of five:

In Kenya 35% die of aids

In Namibia 48% die of aids

In South Africa 50% die of aids

In Zimbabwe 50% die of aids

In Botswana 64% die of aids
2.5.1.3 The world as ten children

It is said that if the whole human race is reduced to 10 children sitting around a table:

3 would have plates that are heaped so high that they will never possibly finish what is there.

2 will just about manage to live by scavenging what is thrown away by the three.

3 will be permanently hungry

2 will die, one of dysentery and one of pneumonia.

This shows how children are suffering globally at a tender age. These statistics are projected only with a view to see that the readers would become sensitive to the sufferings of the child and to the cause of children.

Now, coming to the exploitation of child labour in particular, relevant statistics are furnished below to show the magnitude of the problem and the gravity of the situation:

2.5.1.2 The global picture of child labour

“246 million children are child labourers.

73 million working children are less than 10 years old.

There are 2.5 million working children in the developed countries, and another 2.5 million in Eastern European countries.

Every year, 22,000 children die in work-related accidents.

71 www.worldhunger.org
The largest number – 127 million working children are aged 14 and under are in the Asia-Pacific region.

Over half a billion children are struggling to survive on under $1 per day (Poverty Reduction Begins with Children, UNICEF, 2000)

250,000 children and young people are infected with HIV/AIDS every month (State of the World’s Children, UNICEF, 2000)

It is estimated that 25 million children will have Lost one or both parents to AIDS by 2010 (Children on the Brink 2002, USAID, UNICEF, UNAIDS)

130 million children lack access to education (State of the World’s Children, UNICEF, 1999)

8.4 million children are trapped in slavery, trafficking, debt bondage, prostitution, pornography and other illicit activities (Facts on Child Labour, International Labour Organization, 2003)

300,000 young people under 18 are exploited as child solders (UN Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, 2003)

30,000 children die each day from preventable diseases

1.2 million of these children have been trafficked.

Among all of the world’s working children, most are in the informal sector, where they do not have legal or regulatory protection:

70% are in agriculture, commercial hunting and fishing or forestry;
8% are in manufacturing.

8% are in wholesale and retail trade, restaurants and hotels.

7% are in community, social and personal service, such as domestic work.

7% are in other activities.

2.5.2 Studies showing the various forms of exploitation of children:

A number of studies revealed that the child labourers are exploited in various ways. The main external force pulling children towards child labour is rooted in employers desire to maximize profits. These children are often exploited to the maximum as it is very difficult to detect and keep a record of the number of children employed and where they are employed. “Reportedly, about 20 percent of the child labour forced into work at Calcutta, does not get any cash remuneration. They work for about twelve to eighteen hours against a provision of food only. About 5 percent of the child labour force earns Rs.21/- to Rs.30/- per month and the highest income earned by the children ranges between Rs.75 and Rs.100 per month.”

Children work in handicrafts, metal ware, bidi-rolling, hotels, dhabas and other small scale enterprises which are notorious exploiters of child workers. Children in the above mentioned occupations suffer in the form of poor wages, poor working conditions and hazardous work environment.

According to Dube, in rural areas when a boy reaches the age of 10, he is expected to know how to handle a wooden plough, reap the harvest, cut

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and bring the fuel from the forest, and sell and purchase articles in the market. Similarly, a girl of that age is expected to be proficient, in weeding paddy fields, harvesting, cooking meals, fetching water, taking care of her youngsters, sweeping and washing the house, etc. A tribal boy begins taking the cattle out for grazing by the time he is 6-7 years old. He also participates in the food gathering activities and learns how to hunt animals and catch fish. By the time children are 12-14 years old, they acquire the capability of doing most of the work that is done by adults.

According to the Labour Bureau’s Report, children are entrusted with the light work in plantations of tea or coffee, such as weeding, manuring, care of nurseries, harvesting, plucking of tea leaves and picking coffee, etc. In beedi Industry, they roll the beedies and assist the adult workers. In hand-loom and carpet weaving, children help the weavers by working in the middle of the loom. In the glass bangle industry, children are employed for doing light duties in the process of manufacturing bangles or assisting the adult workers as helpers. In factories, they are usually employed for packing, pasting, labeling, etc. They also work in mica factories, wood and cork, furniture and fixtures, printing, publishing and allied trades, leather and leather products, rubber and rubber products, machinery, transport equipment and personal services like laundries, dyeing and cleaning.

The vested interest in child labour would become much more apparent if one were to study the working conditions of children and the high profits involved. It was noticed in the study of match and firework industries, that the smallest industrialist in the area made a minimum profit of Rs.72,000 per year and the bigger ones, several times that amount. To ensure these high profits, the 1,00,000 laborers’, 45,000 of whom are children, work for

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12 hours a day. Children receive Rs.2 to 5 while adults are paid Rs.7 to 12 hour day. Since many children live far way from the factory, they have to get up as early as 2.30 am and they reach home only after sunset. The few families that control this industry ensure that the families of the child labourers do not have any bargaining power and that many adults lose their jobs and that child labour in continued.

The study conducted by Burra with respect to Rag picking, an intrinsically hazardous occupation, shows that the labourers are involved in the work rummaging through garbage bins in search of broken pieces of metal, glass and paper which are then sold for recycling. Being in constant contact with waste material, skin diseases such as scabies etc., are caused to them. This is in addition to injuries caused by broken glass.

Studies on beedi workers have also shown high incidence of tuberculosis, asthma, allergy and continuous cold because of the fumes. Obviously, many of these diseases affect both adults and children. But their effect on the growth of children is much greater than that on the adults. Moreover, malnutrition, anaemia, hard labour, fatigue and inadequate sleep make children more susceptible to infections, diseases than adults.

In glass factories that employ a large number of children, the temperatures in the oven ranges from 700°C to 1800°C. Children have to work just outside these ovens. Apart from the high temperature, they are also exposed to Kerosene fumes. Medical persons in the area state that the lungs of most child labour in this area are affected within four to six years of their beginning to work. Factory owners employ children for

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this type of work mainly because of the speed with which they can move, carry trays with molten glass and glass bangles 79.

Strenuous and unduly prolonged work implies a cut in play and schooling, two important components of childhood which lead to a balanced personality. It is true of both self-employed as well as wage earning children who grow up prematurely in misery. Instead of leading a carefree existence in an atmosphere of study, companionship and play during what should be the happiest days of their lives, they lead the life of misery 80.

It is said “Labour in case of the child, especially, is harmful because the energy that should have been spent on the nurturing of his latent powers is consumed for purpose of his survival. Child labour, thus, assumes the character of a social problem in as much as it hinders, arrests or distorts the natural growth processes and prevents the child from attaining his full blown manhood”81.

Premature hard labour by children not only reduces their physical vigour and energy, but also aggravates defects and ailments in them e.g., throat and lung infections, cardiac weakness, nervous problems and so on. It has been said that the child labour is “economically unsound, psychologically disastrous and physically as well as morally dangerous and harmful 82.

These studies go to show how children are exploited globally by making them work for longer hours, even in hazardous tasks besides paying less to them.

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79 Ibid
82 Ibid, p.9
2.5.3 Types of Exploitation of Child Labour:

2.5.3.1 Excessive hours of work and low wages:

This is one way of exploitation of children. They are made to work longer with lesser wages. An official survey conducted by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India covering the factories employing children found that in 44 out of 50 cases, daily working hours of children varies between six to eight as against the four and a half hours prescribed under the Factories Act 1948. But as we have already discussed earlier, the number of working hours is in most cases, much longer and the nature of work got done is hazardous and also strenuous.

2.5.3.2 Hazardous work and unsafe working conditions:

This is one form of exploitation of working children. They are made to do hazardous works, most of which are prohibited under law. Study by ILO revealed that children were made to undertake more hazardous tasks such as creeping under the moving parts of dangerous machines to clean them, holding welding parts together without any protection: or ‘dirty work’ such as cleaning with solvents, cleaning sewers; or gluing leather and foot wear products etc.\(^{83}\)

2.5.3.3 Physical Abuse and other Psychological Problems:

Children in some work situations are exposed to physical and mental abuse. Many employers indulge in harsh practices such as beating and starvation. Where children are separated from their parents and live with adult fellow workers in hotel employment studies have

revealed that they were subjected to other forms of exploitation, including sexual exploitation. The problem of sexual exploitation was observed to be more rampant on girl children, who worked in domestic duties, as revealed by certain studies. The effects of all these, together or separately, on the physical and mental development of the working child can be far-reaching and often irreversible.

2.5.3.4 Safety and Health:

The effects of poor and unsafe working conditions on child workers can be direct and visible. These take the form of fatal accidents or accidents that result in deformities. The vulnerability of the children is increased by the high incidence of malnutrition and undernourishment. When children are required to perform heavy work activities that use up scarce reserve of energy, an imbalance arises between their energy needs and supply, thereby weakening them further, making them less resistant to diseases. Child workers employed in mechanical and automobile repair workshops and small foundries work in crowded, poorly ventilated, polluted and noisy surroundings. In many small scale industries they work with machinery, tools and equipment designed for use by adult workers. Hence, in such employments the risks of accidents is increased when they are not trained in the methods of handling those machines and equipment and are not provided with safety devices.

“Excessive noise leads to hearing loss; excessively hot, damp or dusty conditions are also likely to create a milieu which favours the transmission of communicable diseases such as tuberculosis. Some diseases – such as rheumatic fever-may have longlasting effects on the cardio-vascular system. Gastro intestinal diseases thrive and spread in the absence of potable water and toilet facilities. Prolonged exposure to

85 Ibid
chemical or toxic substances such as lead, mercury and benzene can also have serious consequences.\textsuperscript{86}

The above mentioned types of child exploitation are only illustrious and not exhaustive. Unless they are handled firmly, the golden future of the children would be spoiled for no fault of theirs.

While employing child labour, some of the employees are seeing the economic value of child as a cheap and abundant asset while some of the parents are looking at their children as family income supplementing assets. Therefore, to analyse this aspect, the research gathered information from certain studies conducted by scholars on this aspect and the same is presented in the next few paragraphs.

2.5.4 Economic Value of Children:

The problem of child labour is mainly economic and various studies have proved that generally parents put their children to work in order to supplement their meager family income. Child labour can be reduced through population education because it is an established fact that child labourers are generally drawn from larger families (Jain, 1983)\textsuperscript{86}.

The findings of the study of Valssoff (1979: 415-428)\textsuperscript{87} underline the fact that children make a very small contribution to economic activity in a country like India. It is further found that economic value-orientation alone does not suffice to account for child labour in a rural agricultural community. India is economically poor but produces a relatively larger number of children. This is so because the perspective costs of bringing up children are low for parents (Dandekar, 1979: 219)\textsuperscript{88}.

\textsuperscript{86} Ibid
\textsuperscript{87} Valssoff, N: “Labour Demand and Economic utility of children: A case study in rural India” Population studied 33 (3) (1979) pp 415-428
\textsuperscript{88} Dandekar,K: “Do Parents count it as an Economic contribution” Demographic and Socio-Economic aspects of the child labour in India Bombay: Himalaya Publications (1979)
In an Alarcon study, conducted in Lima, it was found that 78 percent of the children reported to have contributed some portion of their earnings to meeting family expenses (Myers, 1989: 327). It was stated by Leibenstein and Harvey (1957) that the economic necessity of child labour diminished with the increase in the economic status of the family. Thus in destitution and poverty, even the smallest economic contribution made by a child is worth a pretty penny and hence Schultz (1973: 2-13) is probably right when he said that the children are “in a very important sense, the poor man’s capital”.

Survival being the highest value in the case of the poor, child labour does not carry any stigma or stink about it. The income accruing from child labour may be meagre and only supplementary in character but it plays a very crucial role in saving the family from hunger and starvation. This supplementary income rescues the family from the stranglehold of the money-lender and the sinister designs of anti-social elements (Singh et al., 1980: 10). Children may do the same amount of work or even more but cost less than adults in terms of wages and maintenance.

A study conducted by Sinha (1985) on child labour in Calcutta revealed that 12 percent of the children in the sample earn between Rs.10/- to 15/-, 18 percent between Rs.22/- to 50/- and another 18 percent above Rs.50/- but not exceeding Rs.100/- per month. The terms of service do not include increments, extra allowances, etc. There are no promotions for them. If they want to go up in life, they have to change their job from time to time.

In another study conducted in Calcutta by the Institute of Psychological and Educational Research (1985) on a sample of approximately 2000 child workers, it was found that a child worker was paid about 10 percent of what an adult would get for the same job. According to the Report, “the employer paying a child Rs.10/- to Rs.20/- admits that he would have to pay Rs.100/- to Rs.150/- if he had appointed an adult worker in his place. The difference between the rates of payment made to the child workers and the adult workers for doing the same job is 10 times at the highest and 5 times at the lowest, the difference gradually becoming less as the general rate of payment rises higher and higher.

This shows the anomaly with regard to wage structure. Several scholars advocated for redressing this anomaly. However, the researcher opines that child labour should be totally banned and rigidly enforced and consequently redressal of anomaly does not arise. Until that time, minimum wages act and other child protective legislation must be enforced rigidly.

However, the researcher is aware of the magnitude of this menace and therefore, as a systematic approach to handling this problem, he feels that it is first appropriate to analyse the available data of child labour, viz., rural-urban sectors, organized/unorganized sectors, national data, state data and district data i.e., from macro to micro level and then attack the child labour problem where its concentration is high.

2.5.4.1 Child labour in Rural – Urban Sectors:

In all developing countries, it is commonly noticed that as soon as children reach the age of 8 or 9, they begin to help in a wide variety of works in both rural and urban areas. It is generally accepted that poverty is the main reason for putting children to work. Their income is essential

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for the subsistence of the family and themselves. The effect of poverty is most severe and adverse on growing children. A report of Government of India,

1979⁹³ estimated that 55 percent of children in rural areas and 45 percent in urban areas fall below the subsistence level. An infant and childhood mortality survey (1978)⁹⁴ reveals that 54 percent of the rural and 27 percent of the urban population had a per capita monthly expenditure of Rs.50/- or less. In other words, a majority of the people in the country are living below the poverty line.

It is evident as further revealed by different Censuses that child labour was more prevalent in rural areas compared to urban areas. According to the Census of India (Government of India, 1981: 2-3, 6-9, 24-27)⁹⁵, out of a total work force of 24 millions, 197 millions, i.e., 80.7 percent were in rural areas and the rest, i.e., 19.3 percent were in urban areas. Amongst the working children of 13.6 million, nearly 12.55 million, i.e. 92.3 percent were in rural areas and 1.05 million i.e., 7.7 percent in urban areas.

However, with the increased mechanisation in agriculture sector and with a desire to earn a little more of wages per day, there is a migration from rural areas to urban areas, in which children are the worst affected.

The urban explosion of today’s Third World is nothing less than the evolution of a society during its structural transformation from an agrarian to an industrial-service economy (Rogers et al., 1982: 468)⁹⁶. Most scholars assert that urban expansion is a part of the natural transition

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⁹³ Report of the Economic on Child Labour, New Delhi, Ministry of Labour (1979)  
⁹⁴ Survey on infant and childhood mortality, New Delhi, Ministry of home affairs (1978)  
from a traditional agrarian society to a modern industrial nation (Joseph, 1977). However, much of the debate revolves round theories of modernisation, urban bias and economic dependency (York, 1987:224).

In a study conducted on 73 children working in restaurants at the Matunga Labour Camp situated in a portion of Dharavi slum at Bombay, it was revealed that many working children are migrant children with parents at native place, and their employers are said to have least interest in their health and other needs. Separation from family is a traumatic experience for a child. This may lead to home sickness in the child. The influence of the peer-group culture is seen more clearly on migrant children without families than on children who stay with their parents. Frequent migration of parents seems to encourage early employment of children.

A study conducted by Sinha (1985) in Calcutta reveals that families of agricultural labour owning only a small piece of land or absolutely nothing at all migrate to cities in large numbers. According to his study, children from agrarian background formed 25 percent of child labour. Sixty percent of child labour is from families of agricultural labourers, and Muslim children constituted 6 percent. Over 52 percent of the working population among children is drawn from the higher castes, with the remaining 48 percent belonging to the Scheduled castes and other lower castes. Insanitary, unhygienic conditions and low wages are so typical of urban child labour that this group attracted the attention of policy-makers to a greater extent than the rural child labour. A survey conducted by the Madras School of Social Work (George, 1978) reveals that 23 percent of the children employed in urban areas do so because of the death of the adult bread-winner in the family.

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Participation of children at work

The economic value of children can also be obtained from their participation rate at work. For this purpose, the child labour participation rate (CLPR) in the age-group of 5 to 14 years obtained from five consecutive censuses is analysed below:

Table 1: Distribution of Child Labour Participation Rate in percentage in India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Census years</th>
<th>Males Rural</th>
<th>Males Urban</th>
<th>Females Rural</th>
<th>Females Urban</th>
<th>Overall CLPR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>16.61</td>
<td>5.42</td>
<td>12.29</td>
<td>2.45</td>
<td>12.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>11.40</td>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>7.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>9.20</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>5.30</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>4.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>9.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>8.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


As seen from the above table the overall child labour participation rate in India was observed to be 7.13 percent in 1971 as against 12.9 percent in 1961, whereas it was 4.20 percent in 1981. In 1991, it was 9.9 percent while it was 8.7 in 2001. The lowest percentage in 1981 could be probably due to the favourable impact of various development schemes launched by the Govt. in this period. The subsequent increase in Child Labour participation rate is a matter of concern and must be addressed effectively, with immediate effect.

The state-wise, overall work participation rates indicate that Kerala has got the lowest rate of participation in 1971 (1.93 percent) as well as in 1981 (0.90 percent), whereas Andhra Pradesh had the highest of all the states, i.e. in 1971 (14.05 percent) while in 1981, it was (9.64 percent) (Census Commissioner and Registrar General, 1981). Andhra Pradesh,
Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka show a fairly high incidence of child labour, which is alarming.

The above data including the observations of studies presented earlier makes one wonder why despite meager earnings of children, they are still used as economic assets. Therefore, in Chapter–III, detailed discussion is made into the causes of child labour which shows that apart from economic reasons, several other reasons also contribute to the perpetuation of child labour, though economic reason is the main.

A further effort is made in the next few paragraphs to see the distribution of child labour in rural and urban sectors by gathering the census data for Andhra Pradesh which registered high incidence of child labour, for the year 1991 by the researcher. The details are presented in the following Table and subsequent paragraphs:

**Table – 2: Child Workers in India as per 1991 Census showing the Distribution of Child Labour Participation Rate by percentage in Andhra Pradesh**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Andhra Pradesh</th>
<th>Main</th>
<th>Marginal</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>6,89,053</td>
<td>27,761</td>
<td>7,16,814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>7,16,469</td>
<td>91,616</td>
<td>8,08,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>14,05,522 (92.2)</td>
<td>1,19,377 (7.8)</td>
<td>15,24,899 (100.0)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Urban          |          |          |             |
| Male           | 87,835   | 1,853    | 89,688      |
| Female         | 43,936   | 3,417    | 47,353      |
| Total          | 1,31,771 (96.2) | 5,270 (3.8) | 1,37,041 (100.0) |

| Total          | 15,37,293 (92.5) | 1,24,647 (7.5) | 16,61,940 (100.0) |
The above table reveals that child labour is very high in Andhra Pradesh. On comparison with the statistics of our country, it reveals that out of the total child labour in India, 14.7% percent is in the State of Andhra Pradesh only. Of the total 16,61,940 child workers in the state, 91.7 percent work in rural areas, and the rest 8.3 percent belong to urban labour force. While 51.5 percent of the total child workers in the state are girls, the remaining 48.5 percent are boys. The domination of girls is more pronounced in rural areas, whereas boys dominate girls in urban pockets. Also, we can notice another fact that 92.5 percent of the total child workers in the state are the main workers, whereas the rest 7.5 percent are the marginal workers.

The statistics further show that Child Labourers in both India and Andhra Pradesh mostly hail from rural sector and if this sector is successfully addressed, then majority of this problem would be solved.

2.5.4.2 Organised – Unorganised Sectors:

Over the years, there has been a slight decline in the employment of children in the organised sector of industries because of enactment and implementation of child labour laws. The National Commission on Labour (Government of India, 1969: 386) 102 in its report made the following comment:

Our evidence reveals that employment of children is almost non-existent in organised industries. It persists in varying degrees in the unorganised sector such as small plantations, restaurants and hotels, cotton ginning and weaving, carpet weaving, stone breaking, brickkiln, handicrafts and road building.
The Labour Bureau’s study (Government of India, 1954) also showed that the child labour had comparatively eased in industries but persists in small industries and cottage industries such as match manufacturing, cashew nut processing, beedi making, etc., and that uncertified or false age certificates are used.

It has been observed by certain other studies stated below that the ban in child labour in certain sectors did not lead to elimination of child labour but only resulted in migration to other sectors. It has been remarked: “ironically enough, the ban on child labour in the organised sector has only worsened the plight of child workers by pushing them to the unorganised one where open violations of factory rules and regulations seldom come to light, partly because of the children’s dire need to acquiesce in it and partly because of collusion between the inspecting staff and the employers (“Editorial”, 1986: 7)

The problem of child labour may shift from sector to sector but does not disappear under legal prohibition. Thus, the legal suppression of child labour in the organised sector has practically banished it from that sector but paradoxically has led to its entrenchment in the unorganised sector, and it may crystallize more extensively in the self-employed sector (Singh et al., 1980: 17).

As rightly stated by Singh et al., the unorganized and self-employment sectors account for a large number of child Labour, where, countless number of children work as domestic servants, helpers in hotels, restaurants, repair shops, construction sites engaged in breaking stones, wayside tea shops, hawkers, vendors, newspaper and milk distributors, porters, shoe-shine boys, sweepers and scavengers,

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rag-pickers, casual labourers, workers in small workshops and establishments and in loading and unloading goods, and a score of other such odd jobs.

**Punekar (1977)** observes that the problem of child labour in the unorganized sector cannot be controlled by merely enacting legislation because of the scattered nature of the employment and there is a need for a rational and active government policy towards this sector.

On the other hand, it was observed that children can be hired readily by most of the employers in the unorganized and informal sectors because they are cheaper and perhaps equally productive compared to adult workers (Patil 1988: 80). This probably accounts for large number of children working in unorganised sector. However, a wide observation is made by Weiner, 1991. He stated that, the problem of child labour cannot be rooted out since its origin and existence is centered around poverty. It can be only regulated (Weiner, 1991). Children need to be protected at any cost and failing to do so amounts to negligence on the part of the family, society, and the nation as well.

In this connection, the researcher would like to supplement that nothing is an impossibility. Child labour being a complex problem requires a long time and a multi-pronged, integrated approach for elimination. Just as in case of organised sector, child labour certainly can also be eliminated in the unorganised sector, though the task is difficult. This aspect is covered, at length in the later parts of this thesis by the researcher.

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To have a better comprehension of this complex problem, the data pertaining to category-wise study of child labour, obtained from the census data, 1981, in respect of Andhra Pradesh is presented hereunder:

**Work Participation Rate of Children in Andhra Pradesh—1981**  
(Table–3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage of Child Workers</th>
<th>Child Workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cultivators</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>404540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Agricultural Labourers</td>
<td>54.0</td>
<td>947134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Livestock, Forestry, fishing etc</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>143874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mining &amp; Quarrying</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>4397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing, Repairs etc</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>148845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>11084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Trade and Commerce</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>38041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Transport, Storage, Communications</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>4514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>51760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>1754189</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An analysis of the data relating to the distribution of child labour of the state in 9 major industrial categories reveal that a majority of 54.0 percent of the child labourers are agricultural labourers, 23.0 percent are in cultivation, 8.2 percent are in the Livestock, Forestry and Fishing (allied sector to agriculture). It is therefore, imperative that if child labour has to be eradicated, the first step that has to be taken in Andhra Pradesh is to tackle **agriculture and allied sectors**.

The same situation existed when the data for the year 1991 was generated from censes of India & analysed. It is presented here under for the sake of clarity:
Work Participation Rate (percentage of Child workers) in Andhra Pradesh – 1991, Category-Wise

(Table–4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SL NO</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>Urban</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Cultivators</td>
<td>19.60</td>
<td>22.18</td>
<td>16.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Agricultural Labourers</td>
<td>59.39</td>
<td>52.50</td>
<td>66.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Household Industry</td>
<td>4.07</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>6.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Other Services</td>
<td>16.94</td>
<td>23.49</td>
<td>10.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Census of India – Economic Tables – 1991

The data presented in the table reveals that child workers were concentrated mostly in agriculture and allied sectors. As seen from analysis of data contained in the source referred above, that out of every hundred male child workers in Andhra Pradesh, 22.18 % are engaged in Cultivation and 52.50 % in Agricultural Labour, altogether comprising of 74.68 % which is very high. Similarly, out of every 100 female child workers in Andhra Pradesh, 16.96% are engaged in Cultivation and 66.43% in Agricultural Labour, altogether accounting for 83.39%, which is even higher than that of males.

The overall analysis also shows that cultivators and Agricultural Labourers account for 78.99%. Therefore, this data also confirms to the earlier observation given for 1981 that Agricultural & allied sector child labour if tackled effectively & rehabilitated would almost wipe out about 80% of the Child Labour problem in the state.

After the analysis of child labour, category-wise and urban- rural sector wise, as above, there is a need to study the state-wide distribution
of child labour so that greater focus can be given to such States, where there are large number of child labourers. Therefore, the data pertaining to various States and Union territories in India is obtained from the census data and presented hereunder:


(Table – 5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>1,627,492</td>
<td>1,951,312</td>
<td>1661940</td>
<td>1363339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Assam</td>
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<td>**</td>
<td>327598</td>
<td>351416</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1,059,359</td>
<td>1,101,764</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Gujarat</td>
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<td>616,913</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>71,384</td>
<td>99,624</td>
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<td>Jammu and Kashmir</td>
<td>70,489</td>
<td>258,437</td>
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<td>702,293</td>
<td>452394</td>
<td>377594</td>
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<td>Punjab</td>
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<td>216,939</td>
<td>142868</td>
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<tr>
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<td>8,561</td>
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<td>16457</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>Workers</td>
<td>Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Tamilnadu</td>
<td>713,305</td>
<td>975,055</td>
<td>578889</td>
<td>418801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>17,490</td>
<td>24,204</td>
<td>16478</td>
<td>21756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>1,326,726</td>
<td>1,434,675</td>
<td>1410086</td>
<td>1927997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>511,443</td>
<td>605,263</td>
<td>711691</td>
<td>857087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Andaman &amp; Nikobar Island</td>
<td>572</td>
<td>1,309</td>
<td>1265</td>
<td>1960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
<td>17,925</td>
<td>17,950</td>
<td>12395</td>
<td>18482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>1,986</td>
<td>1870</td>
<td>3779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Dadra &amp; Nagar Haveli</td>
<td>3,102</td>
<td>3,615</td>
<td>4416</td>
<td>4274</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>25,717</td>
<td>27351</td>
<td>41899</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Daman and Diu</td>
<td>7,391</td>
<td>9,378</td>
<td>941</td>
<td>729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>4656</td>
<td>4138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Lakshadweep</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Mizoram</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>6,314</td>
<td>16411</td>
<td>26265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Pondicherry</td>
<td>3,725</td>
<td>3,606</td>
<td>2680</td>
<td>1904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>10,753,985</td>
<td>13,640,870</td>
<td>11,285,349</td>
<td>12,666,377</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Includes figures of Mizo district also which then formed part of Assam.
** Census could not be conducted.
*** Census figures of 1971 in respect of Mizoram included under Assam.
(NB: Figures for 1991 & 2001 relates to workers of age group 5-14 years).
_ Data not available.

As can be seen from the above table, Andhra Pradesh accounts for the highest number of child labourers in the country, till 1991 which is a very alarming feature for the state. However, there is a marginal improvement in 2001 when child labour decreased from 1661940 in 1991 to 1363339 in Andhra Pradesh in 2001. The lower child labour rate in kerala in both censes 1991 & 2001 could be probably due to high literacy.
rate in that state and also probable special focus given by the Government to this problem.

Another observation of significance is that the total child labourers have decreased from 1981 to 1991. Though there is a marginal increase in 2001 over 1991, it is lesser than 1981 census data, which shows that the efforts made by Government, the civil society, the press, etc., have yielded desired results, though the achievements may not be at the required pace owing to the complexity of the problem.

The above table also shows that the magnitude of child labour problem varies from place to place within the state as well and therefore, a region specific approach is required to combat this problem. Besides, it has to be seen why child labour is low in certain states (Kerala, for example) and whether such a situation can be replicated in other regions as well.

After projecting the child labor problem, **Globally, Nationally and State-wise**, now, the **Micro-Level Analysis** with district level data is attempted by the researcher. Accordingly, the district-wise information for Andhra Pradesh is obtained from the census data and placed below as Table – 6:
## District-wise Main-workers among Children in Andhra Pradesh as per Census 1991 (Table–6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name of the District</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Srikakulam</td>
<td>37608</td>
<td>3.69</td>
<td>28409</td>
<td>3.87</td>
<td>66017</td>
<td>3.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Vizianagaram</td>
<td>33301</td>
<td>3.27</td>
<td>24537</td>
<td>3.34</td>
<td>57838</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Visakhapatnam</td>
<td>42,835</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>28172</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>71007</td>
<td>4.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>East-Godavari</td>
<td>70038</td>
<td>6.88</td>
<td>19890</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>29928</td>
<td>5.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>West-Godavari</td>
<td>58213</td>
<td>5.72</td>
<td>30090</td>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>88303</td>
<td>5.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Krishna</td>
<td>48723</td>
<td>4.78</td>
<td>33438</td>
<td>4.55</td>
<td>82161</td>
<td>4.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Guntur</td>
<td>57792</td>
<td>5.67</td>
<td>53358</td>
<td>7.26</td>
<td>111150</td>
<td>6.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Prakasam</td>
<td>36164</td>
<td>3.55</td>
<td>38232</td>
<td>5.22</td>
<td>74396</td>
<td>4.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Nellore</td>
<td>31273</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>21785</td>
<td>2.96</td>
<td>53058</td>
<td>3.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
<td>415,947</td>
<td>40.83</td>
<td>277911</td>
<td>37.85</td>
<td>633858</td>
<td>39.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Chittore</td>
<td>45432</td>
<td>4.46</td>
<td>33162</td>
<td>4.52</td>
<td>78594</td>
<td>4.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Cuddappa</td>
<td>32568</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>27195</td>
<td>3.71</td>
<td>59763</td>
<td>3.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Anantapur</td>
<td>50405</td>
<td>4.95</td>
<td>39031</td>
<td>5.32</td>
<td>89436</td>
<td>5.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Kurnool</td>
<td>57749</td>
<td>5.596</td>
<td>49179</td>
<td>6.69</td>
<td>159929</td>
<td>6.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
<td>186154</td>
<td>18.206</td>
<td>148567</td>
<td>20.24</td>
<td>387722</td>
<td>19.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.No.</td>
<td>Name of the District</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Mahaboobnagar</td>
<td>68417</td>
<td>6.72</td>
<td>44511</td>
<td>6.06</td>
<td>112928</td>
<td>6.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Rangareddy</td>
<td>35032</td>
<td>3.414</td>
<td>19774</td>
<td>2.69</td>
<td>54806</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Hyderabad (T.C.S)</td>
<td>11882</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>2228</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>14110</td>
<td>0.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Medak</td>
<td>40241</td>
<td>3.95</td>
<td>25995</td>
<td>3.54</td>
<td>66236</td>
<td>3.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>Nizamabad</td>
<td>35416</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>36887</td>
<td>5.02</td>
<td>72303</td>
<td>4.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Adilabad</td>
<td>35992</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>27003</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>69995</td>
<td>3.65</td>
</tr>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>Karimnagar</td>
<td>53426</td>
<td>5.28</td>
<td>56450</td>
<td>7.69</td>
<td>109876</td>
<td>6.27</td>
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<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Warangal</td>
<td>47576</td>
<td>4.67</td>
<td>35163</td>
<td>4.79</td>
<td>82739</td>
<td>4.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>Khammam</td>
<td>37328</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>28313</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>65641</td>
<td>3.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>Nalgonda</td>
<td>50845</td>
<td>4.99</td>
<td>31511</td>
<td>4.29</td>
<td>82356</td>
<td>4.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>416155</strong></td>
<td><strong>40.964</strong></td>
<td><strong>307835</strong></td>
<td><strong>41.91</strong></td>
<td><strong>730990</strong></td>
<td><strong>41.36</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,18,257</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,34,313</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,52,570</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The above table provides the information about the percentage distribution of main workers among children in all the 23 districts of the state as per 1981 census. A simple observation reveals that while 41.4 percent of the main workers among children are in the 10 districts of Telangana, 39.6 percent are in the 9 districts of coastal region of the state and the rest 19.0 percent are in the 4 districts of Rayalaseema. The same table also reveals the fact that child workers are mainly concentrated in Guntur, East Godavari and West Godavari districts of coastal region, Kurnool and Anantapur districts of Rayalaseema and Mahabubnagar and Karimnagar districts of Telangana region. Therefore, District specific approach Plans prepared and implemented by Government to mitigate child labour problem should first aim at these 7 Districts where the concentration of child labour is more. This type of macro to micro analysis of this problem is thus helpful in identifying specific places where concentration is required to eliminate/mitigate child labour.

The researcher also obtained the information relating to work participation rate of children for year 2007 in respect of Andhra Pradesh from the Project Director, National Child Labour Project, Hyderabad.
Work Participation Rate of Children (Percentage of Child Workers) in
the Age group of 9-13 years in Andhra Pradesh in 2007
(Table 7)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#.</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total %</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Male %</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Female %</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Shops</td>
<td>7.38</td>
<td>14178</td>
<td>50.02</td>
<td>7092</td>
<td>49.98</td>
<td>7086</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Hotels</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>3374</td>
<td>51.30</td>
<td>1731</td>
<td>48.70</td>
<td>1643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Agriculture Labour</td>
<td>24.28</td>
<td>46614</td>
<td>41.96</td>
<td>19562</td>
<td>58.04</td>
<td>27052</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Household Work</td>
<td>37.34</td>
<td>71714</td>
<td>38.05</td>
<td>27290</td>
<td>61.95</td>
<td>44424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Factories</td>
<td>2.98</td>
<td>5726</td>
<td>50.64</td>
<td>2900</td>
<td>49.36</td>
<td>2826</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Mines</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>1179</td>
<td>50.55</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>49.45</td>
<td>583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Construction Works</td>
<td>1.34</td>
<td>2567</td>
<td>69.77</td>
<td>1791</td>
<td>30.23</td>
<td>776</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Begging</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>975</td>
<td>52.61</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>47.39</td>
<td>462</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Others</td>
<td>23.80</td>
<td>45706</td>
<td>49.15</td>
<td>22467</td>
<td>50.85</td>
<td>22562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>192033</td>
<td>43.72</td>
<td>83942</td>
<td>56.28</td>
<td>107414</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data pertaining to Work Participation Rate of Children in Andhra Pradesh presented in the above table is analyzed. It revealed that during the year 2007, maximum number of children is engaged in Household work constituting 37.34%, followed by Agriculture Labour with 24.28%. These two sectors alone constitute 61.62% of the total work participation of children in Andhra Pradesh. The data further revealed that the children’s work participation in Factories, Mines and Construction sectors considered to be “hazardous in nature” constitutes 2.98%, 0.62% and 1.34% only, which is a significant positive feature in terms of diminishing rate of child engagement in those sectors when compared to non-hazardous sectors – Agriculture labour and household works. A disturbing feature revealed by the data is that, 0.50% of the work participation rate of children had been categorized under “Begging”.

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When the gender wise data in the above table is analyzed, it was observed that in the total children’s work participation rate, the percentage of female children is more than that of male children (Female- 56.28%; Male- 43.72%) and this aspect reveals the social perception on girl child, which needs to be redressed. The data further revealed that in the major non-hazardous sectors – Agriculture Labour, female children rate of participation (58.04%) is more when compared to male children (41.96%). On the other hand in “Construction works” category, male children’s rate of participation (69.77%) is more than female children (30.23%). At the same time, the data further revealed that there is not much difference in work participation rate of both male and female children in the categories of Factories and Mines (Male- 50.64%; Female-49.36% in Factories) and (Male-50.55%; Female-49.45% in Mines). The data further revealed that even in “Others” category also, there is not much difference in rate of participation of both male and female children (Male- 49.15%; Female-50.85 %).

While the above data is for children in the age group of 9 to 13 years, in respect of much younger children in the group of 6 to below 9 years, the work participation rate is as furnished below;
Work Participation Rate by percentage of Children in the Age group of 6 to below 9 years in Andhra Pradesh – 2007

(Table 8)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total %</th>
<th>Male No.</th>
<th>Female No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Shops</td>
<td>12.84</td>
<td>6595</td>
<td>3231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Hotels</td>
<td>1.54</td>
<td>796</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Agriculture Labour</td>
<td>13.93</td>
<td>7158</td>
<td>3851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Household Work</td>
<td>24.12</td>
<td>12387</td>
<td>7093</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Factories</td>
<td>1.32</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Mines</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Construction Works</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Begging</td>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Others</td>
<td>44.19</td>
<td>22693</td>
<td>11081</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td></td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>51356</td>
<td>26508</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The data pertaining to Work Participation Rate of Children in Andhra Pradesh presented in the above table is analyzed and it revealed that during the year 2007, maximum number of children in the age group of 6 to below 9 years are engaged in Household work constituting 24.12%, followed by Agriculture Labour with 13.93% and Shops with 12.84%. These three sectors together constitute 50.89% of the total work participation of children in Andhra Pradesh. The data further revealed that the children’s work participation in Factories, Mines and Construction sectors considered to be “hazardous in nature” constituted 1.32%, 0.44% and 0.52% only, which is a significant positive feature in terms of diminishing rate of child engagement in those sectors when compared to non-hazardous sectors – Shops, Agriculture labour and household works. A disturbing
feature revealed by the data is that, 1.10% of the work participation rate of children had to be categorized under “Begging”.

When the gender wise data in the above table is analyzed, it is observed that of the total children’s work participation rate, the percentage of female children is more than that of male children (Female- 51.62%; Male- 48.38%) and this aspect also reveals the need for change in social perception on girl child. The data further reveals that in the major non-hazardous sectors – Hotels, Agriculture Labour and Household work – female children rate of participation is more when compared to male children i.e., female children constitute 51.51%, 53.80% and 57.26% respectively. On the other hand in “Construction works” category, male children’s rate of participation is more than female children – male Children (52.80%), female children (47.20%). At the same time, the data further revealed that there is no much difference in work participation rate of both male and female children in the category of Factories (Male- 50.22%; Female-49.78%). The data further reveals that even in “Others” category also, there is not much difference in the rate of participation of both male and female children (Male-51.16%; Female-48.84%).

This data shows that percentage of children in begging is higher in the category of children in the category of 6- below 9 years when compared with 9-13 years. Understandably, younger children are being employed for begging in a large proportion as it evokes a greater sympathy. In absolute numbers, the total number of child Labour in the age group of 9-13 years (192033) is much higher compared to 6 to below 9 years children (51356).
Having seen the work participation rate of children, it is pertinent to analyse how many have been mainstreamed. These particulars were also obtained from Project Director, National Child Labour Project, Hyderabad and presented in Table 10.

**Statement showing particulars of children mainstreamed from 1995-96 to 2008-09**

(Table 9)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No.</th>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Targeted Children</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1995-1996</td>
<td>8600</td>
<td>10620</td>
<td>123.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>8600</td>
<td>12979</td>
<td>150.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>1997-1998</td>
<td>8600</td>
<td>14431</td>
<td>167.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>1998-1999</td>
<td>8600</td>
<td>16673</td>
<td>193.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>8600</td>
<td>30754</td>
<td>357.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>8600</td>
<td>35795</td>
<td>416.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>8600</td>
<td>43219</td>
<td>502.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>8352</td>
<td>238.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>1208</td>
<td>34.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>2203</td>
<td>62.94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>2005-2006</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>5978</td>
<td>170.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>3772</td>
<td>107.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>2007-2008</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>6805</td>
<td>194.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>2008-2009</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>18.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>84700</td>
<td>193439</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The analysis of data in the above table revealed that, there is continuous incremental achievement of total children mainstreamed from the years 1995-96 to 2000-01 and the rate of increment in terms of achievement is highly significant during the year 2001-02 with 503%. The data further revealed that the children targeted for mainstreaming was reduced from 8600 to 3500 from the year 2002-03.
onwards. It is observed that from 1995-96 to 2008-09, during the years 2003-04, 2004-05, and 2008-09 the set targets were not achieved. There is a need to achieve the targets in toto, by making special efforts as Child Labour is an important social evil faced by the society, in the recent times, and it has to be eradicated totally. However, for this purpose, there is a need to understand the causes & consequences of child labour.

Therefore, in the next chapter, a detailed coverage is made to show the causes, consequences and review of literature on child labour, within India and outside the country.