



Socio-economic situation of Children in Kurnool District of Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract

The 2011 Indian census found that overall, there are 940 girls for every 1,000 boys. The figures are shocking, if it is further disaggregated at the sub-district level. The problem of the child starts even before they take birth. The tiredness of their suffering makes their work invisible. Significantly, all these children could join schools due to their own daring battles for their freedom and dignity. It needed only a ray of hope and an honest appeal, for thousands of children to assert their rights. They had their own ingenious devices of protest. Many kids, stopped talking, threw tantrums and cries, sulked and did all that they could to get out of work and into schools. There is necessity for an exclusive study of rights of the child in India in view of diversified socio-economic, where child in India are targets of criticism and victimization. Therefore, this study makes all the differences and the innovative idea of dealing with the rights of the child in human rights perspective because it would explore the current problem pertaining to them.

Scope and Limitations of the Study

The researcher undertakes to study the various rights relating to the child, comprises various international and national laws for the protection of the child. Thus, the research problem relating to the rights of the child is both empirical and doctrinaire study. The researcher keeping in view the time, space and limitations has confined the scope of study only to the rights of the child with reference to Kurnool District. Thus, research has been confined the scope of the problem to handle it the best results.

Objectives of the Study

The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To study the socio, economic, and human rights of the child;
2. To study and analyze the rights of the child and their parents' responsibility in upbringing their children in Kurnool District of Andhra Pradesh;
3. To offer appropriate suggestions to protect, promote and sustain human rights of the child.

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses are formulated:

1. The factors of socio-economic, and literacy is responsible for the protection of the human rights of the child.
2. The rights of the child are violated due to illiteracy and poverty and the parents are responsible to take reasonable care to protect child and their upholding.

Methodology

In this research work the researcher decided to collect both primary and secondary data by way of empirical study in Kurnool District of Andhra Pradesh.

Primary Data

Primary data is collected from the respondents by the number using personal interview and schedule. The respondents for this study are children and their parents. The respondents of this study are children in Kurnool district. There are three revenue divisions in Kurnool district. They are Kurnool, Nandyal and Adoni. Kurnool District consists of 54 Mandals divided into three revenue divisions having huge population of children. Therefore, the researcher restricted to collect the data by way of random sampling method, selecting three mandals of the Nandyal revenue division.

Selected Mandals in Adoni revenue division

In each village, the child in the age group of 6-14 years is identified and the data are collected from 150 child respondents from the selected villages. Also, the data is collected from their parents to draw valid conclusions.

S. No	Mandal	Villages	No of samples
1	Nandyal	Madire	25
		Pedda Thumbalam	25
2	Mahanandi	Kadimetla	25
		Kotekal	25
3	Rudravaram	Madhavaram	25
		Rampuram	25
Total			150

Secondary Data

Secondary data were also collected from the following sources such as books, brochures, pamphlets, review dairies, websites, newspapers, journals, national and international publications on girl children.

Data Analysis

After the data has been collected, the responses were tabulated and analysed. Descriptive statistics were used in the analysis of data. The data has been presented in tabular, diagrammatic and textual forms.

Kurnool district child Population

The city of Kurnool is the headquarters of the district. It has a population of 4,053,463 of which 28.35% were urban as of 2011. It occupies 10th and 2nd place in terms of area in Largest Districts of India and Andhra Pradesh respectively, accounting for 17,658 square kilometres (6,818 sq mi) and 53rd place in terms of Population in India.

The present study utilized Percentage Analysis to analyse and interpret the collected data. The analysis is presented here as per the major determinants on Right to Education Act.

Table 1: Age group of children

Age group (yrs)	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
6-8	8	16	8	15	6	12	22	14.8
9-10	13	26	19	38	17	34	49	32.6
11-12	14	28	13	26	12	23	39	26
13-14	15	30	10	20	15	30	40	26.6
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-Square	$\chi^2 = 6.637$ d.f. = 6, p=0.2340, Table value=12.59 (Not Significant)							

Table -1 From the age Cross-tabulation Table-1, it can be seen that the percentage of age groups are -14.8% (6-8 yrs), 32.6% (9-10 yrs), 26% (11-12 yrs), 26.6% (13-14 yrs) and there is no significance in it. However, girl child population in the three mandals has no variation and more or less the percentage is similar in nature. The population of the girl child in the age group of 9 to 10 is high and it is 32.56%.

Table 2: Religion of children

Caste	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Hindu	37	74	39	78	41	82	117	78
Christian	6	12	5	10	4	8	15	10
Muslim	7	14	6	12	5	10	18	12
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-Square	$\chi^2 = 12.825$ d.f. = 4, p=0.001, Table value=9.49							

Table - 2 of the study deals with religion of the population in Kurnool district. It can be seen that the populator of Hindus arc 74%, 78% and 82% in Nandyal, Mahanandi and Rudravaram rural respectively, the population of Christians are 12%, 10% and 8% respectively and the population of Muslims is 14%, 12% and 10% respectively in the three mandals. In the total population of the district- Hindus are 78%, Christians are 10%, and Muslims are 12%.

Table 3: Caste of children

Age group(yrs)	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
OC	27	54	31	62	32	64	90	60
BC	14	28	11	22	9	18	34	22.7
SC	8	16	7	14	8	16	23	15.3
ST	1	2	1	2	1	2	3	2
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-Square	$\chi^2 = 78.59$ d.f. = 6, p=0.001, Table value=12.59							

Table - 3 shows the caste wise population of the girl children of the district in the three mandals. It has been categorized as OC, BC, SC and St and the data collected has been tabulated madal-wise and percentage is derived, The Christians and Muslims population has been categorized as BC and OC respectively. The population of OC, BC, SC and ST are tabulated and the total percentage is 60%, 22.7%, 15.3% and 2% respectively. The highest population of the district is OCs.

Table 4: Mother Tongue of children

Mother Tongue	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Telugu	35	70	35	70	38	76	108	72
Kannada	6	12	6	12	2	4	14	9.3
Urdu	4	8	4	8	6	12	14	9.3
Others	5	10	5	10	4	8	14	9.4
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-Square	$\chi^2 = 34.82$ d.f. = 6, p=0.001, Table value=12.59							

Table - 4 shows the mother tongue of the respondents in the district. The percentage in each of the three mandals are – Telugu speaking is 70%,70% and 76%; Kannada speaking 12%,12% and 4%; Urdu Speaking is 8%, 8% and 12% respectively in Nandyal, Mahanandi and Rudravaram Mandals. The total percentage of Telugu, Kannada and Urdu speaking in the district are 72%, 9.3% and 9.3% in Nandyal, Mahanandi and Rudravaram Mandals respectively. There is significance at 5 percentage level in the speaking of the mother tongue in the district. It is observed that Telugu speaking population in the district is 72% which it is maximum of the district population.

Table - 5: Girl Children – Causes for not having Freedom to Education

Causes for not having Freedom to Education	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Poverty	5	10	5	10	8	16	18	36
Domestic Works	5	10	6	12	3	6	14	9.3
Having Freedom to Education	40	80	39	78	39	78	118	78.7
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-Square	$\chi^2 = 3.782$ d.f. = 4, p=0.270, Table value=9.49							

Table -5 deals with the causes for not having freedom to education of the girl children at the district level. There are 36% of the children are dropped out due to poverty and 9.3 % of the girl children are dropped out of the schools due to domestic works.

Table 6: Children Education

Girl Children Education	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Illiterate	1	2	3	5	1	2	5	3
Primary	14	28	15	30	13	26	42	28
Upper Primary	35	70	32	65	36	72	103	69
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-Square	$\chi^2 = 3.143$ d.f. = 4, p=0.285, Table value=9.49							

Table - 6 shows the education of the girl children at the district level. The different levels of education of girl children are – 3% are illiterate, 28% are educated up to Primary level, 69 % are educated up to Upper Primary level. However, there is no significance in the level of their education.

Table 7: Working as Child Labor

Working as Child labor	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Yes	7	15	8	16	4	8	19	13
No	43	85	42	84	46	92	131	87
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-Square	$\chi^2 = 7.82$ d.f. = 2, p=0.0385, Table value=5.99							

Table - 7 deals with the working of girl children as laborers at the district level. There are 13% of the respondents working as laborers in their childhood. There is significance at 5 Percent level in the working of the girl children at the district level.

Table 8: Causes for working at Dangerous Environment

Causes for working at Dangerous Environment	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Poverty	2	4	0	0	0	0	2	1.33
More children	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0.67
Not working at Dangerous Environment	47	94	50	100	50	100	147	98.6
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100

Table - 8 deals with the causes for working in the dangerous environment by the girl child in the district level. There are 1.33% of them are due to Poverty and 0.67% is due to a greater number of children in the family.

Table 9: Children – Nutrition Food

Nutrition Food	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Yes	46	92	47	94	47	94	140	93.34
No	4	8	3	6	3	6	10	6.66
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-Square	$\chi^2 = 3.625$ d.f. = 2, p=0.286, Table value=5.99							

Table – 9 shows the data pertaining to girl children who can afford to take nutritious food at the district level. There are 93.34% of the respondent are responded that they are able to take nutritious food and 6.66% of the respondents are not able to take nutritious food at the district level.

Table 10: Children – Type of Diseases

Type of Diseases	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
TB	0	0	1	0.5	1	0.5	2	1.33
Malaria	4	7	2	4	4	8	10	6.67
Typhoid	6	12	8	16	5	11	19	12.67
Not suffering from disease	40	81	39	79	40	80	119	79.33
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-square	$\chi^2 = 5.25$ d.f. = 6, p=0.618, Table value=12.59							

Table - 10 shows the types of diseases suffering by the girl children at the district level. it is 1% due to TB, 6% is due to Malaria and 13% is due to Typhoid girl children are suffering at district level.

Table 11: Girl Children –Child Marriages

Child Marriages	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Yes								
No	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100

Table -11 Shows the number of girl children who were married before attaining the marriageable age at the district. it is observed that 100% of them were not married before attaining the marriageable age.

Table 12: Parents – Causes for not sending child to school

Causes for not sending Girl child to school	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Financial Status of Family	2	5	1	1	1	2	4	4
Disliked by Girl	3	6	2	4	2	3	7	4
School is far away from the village	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
More children	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	1

in the family								
Sending their girl to school	44	88	46	93	46	92	136	91
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100
Chi-Square	$\chi^2 = 28.85$ d.f. = 6, p=0.002, Table value=12.59							

Table -12 shows the causes for not sending the girl children to school by their parents. They are 4.0% due to poor financial status of their family, 4.0% are due to disliking of the girl children, 0% are due to the school is far away from the village and 1% are due to a greater number of children in their family. The Chi-Square value is 12.59 and there is significance at 5 percent level.

Table 13: Providing healthy Environment to Children at Home

Working as Child labourer	Mandal		Mandal		Mandal		Total	%
	Nandyal	%	Mahanandi	%	Rudravaram	%		
Yes	50	100	50	100	50	100	100	100
No	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	50	100	50	100	50	100	150	100

Table - 13 shows providing healthy environment to children at home at the district level. After the analysis of the data, it has been observed that 100% are taking care of their children's health care at home.

Conclusions

It is concluded that a child must avail social and economic equalities. With reference to cultural rights of a child must have a right to recreation, leisure and participate in cultural and artistic activities. Further refugee children must have a special protection the machinery regarding child's welfare must see and preserve the right to education.

Exploitation of girl children has been constitutively posing serious threat to the state. It could be stated in the right perspective that although there had been lack of serious efforts on the part of the state, which mainly includes the legislature and the administrative machinery under its control but it could not be justified at all the say that no successive efforts have been made in this regard. The girl children signify eternal optimum in the human beings and always provide the potential for human development. If the children are better equipped with a broader output society will feel happy with them neglecting the children means loss to society as whole.

The following are the findings of the study:

1. The study found that in spite of the existence of international and national legal instruments in protecting women and child rights, yet there is gross violation of the said rights.
2. The study revealed that the causes of violations of Child Rights are poverty, lack of awareness regarding child rights and illiteracy. A significant finding is that the common type of violations of child rights is child labour. Most of the children are seen working in coal mines, households, agricultural lands, shops and street.

a) The study reveals that the girl children's rights are not only constrained by a uniform set of patriarchal norms but are also shaped and molded by several family, social, economic and political factors.

b) Institutional character of patriarchal and joint family systems provided little scope for the self-improvement of girl child status in strictly.

c) Culture, religion, tradition and social restrictions suppressed the self-development of girl child.

d) Historical reasons such as constant invasion and foreign rule in India and imposition of colonial laws retarded girl child's progress and secluded them from the outside world.

e) The contemporaneous juristic orientations, legislative principle and societal attitudes apparently accord wide spectrum of immunities, privileges and rights to girl child.

f) Indian society and Government's are male-dominated giving little scope for girl's empowerment.

g) Lack of education, ignorance, deep rooted false notions, superstitions, emotional and economic dependence and a tendency to promote male dominance make girl child submissive and slavish.

h) Fear of reporting on the grounds of personal safety and security is a great hindrance to ventilate her suppressed grievances.

i) The executive and other social agencies are not effectively enforcing the laws such relating to education, health, safety of girl child.

Suggestions

Suggestions on improving child rights in Meghalaya are as follows:

1. Awareness programme on child's rights must be given to rural as well as urban areas.
2. Proper checking on a regular basis must be conducted by the government to check child labour.
3. Strict implementation of labour laws.
4. The government should provide scholarship in schools to students who come from a very poor family background.
5. Right to Education for children must be properly implemented.
6. The government and NGOs must collaborate together to protect and promote women's rights.
7. Timings for Primary schools in rural areas must not start too early so as to give chance for poor children to attend school as some of them are found to be attending their small siblings at home while their parents go to the field to work.
8. Drop out students should be sought out by the government so as to re-engage them back.
9. Free education schemes must be provided for the underprivileged families.

Girl children are the blooming flowers of the garden of our society. Therefore, it is everyone's responsibility to protect these flowers from the flight effects of excessive exposure to heat, cold and rain. They should be put on the right track always, as they are the seed of future national growth.

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