

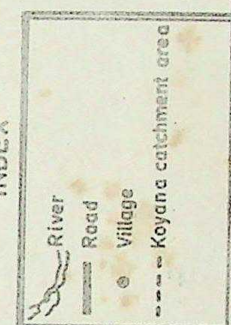
CHAPTER 2

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

1. INTRODUCTION:

The present chapter deals with the methodological plan of the study under consideration, i.e. it deals with the background and description of the project site, objectives of the study, location of the area under study, selection of the resettled village communities, selection of the families from the sampled village communities, techniques of data collection, formulation of interview schedule, pilot study, collection of data with the help of interview schedule, analysis of data and difficulties encountered during the field-work.

2. BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT SITE: There are poor means of communication in the entire Koyana Valley. There are only two bullock-cart roads. One leading from Helvak up the valley to Mahabaleshwar and one from Bamnoli across the river Koyana through Kandati Valley via Ambavli pass into Ratnagiri District. However these roads are not usable during the monsoon. Their chief means of getting from one place to another is walking. They had another contact with the outside world in the form of those who held jobs in the army, in the Bombay Factories and in other cities but had not severed their ties with the valley.



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The large proportion of the population of the Koyana valley was occupied in agriculture. Several occupations depending on the forests were possible for the people, such as Coal-making, the gathering of honey, Shakekai, Hirda etc. But very few people were engaged in any of these and they clustered around Mahabaleshwar. In the rest of the valley fruit and roots, firewood and timber, and perhaps herbs were provided by the forests. But none of these formed sources of extra income for people. The Koyana Hydro-electric project was successfully completed during the 2nd Five Year Plan and it is one of the major projects of its kind in India. The catchment area of the project had displaced 100 villages with almost 30,000 population belonging to almost 10,000 households. According to official statistics, a total of 30,000 acres was submerged, only 4500 acres of this area was under paddy crop, 4500 acres were under other annual crops and 21,000 acres were under shifting cultivation, which means the land was cultivated only once in five to six years. In addition to this 32,000 acres of land was acquired by the Government for the Koyana project. This land was not actually submerged but belonged to people who had moved out of the valley and could no longer cultivate it.

On the whole this valley was very poor, extremely backward which had remained fairly well isolated from the rest of the world. The Government of Maharashtra had made some positive efforts to rehabilitate the displaced people from 100 villages scattered in Sangli, Satara, Ratnagiri, Thana and Kulaba Districts in 1962-63. Their large-scale

total displacement and resettlement had created a number of environmental and socio-economic problems. The first ever survey of their total displacement and rehabilitation was carried out by Iravati Karve and Jai Nimbkar in 1965. It is now more than 25 years since the displacement took place and rehabilitation work began. During the last two and half decades these people have been staying in completely new habitat and with new people.

These displaced people have encountered a number of problems such as land cultivation, occupational mobility, education, migration, housing and compensation. It will be therefore good if a longitudinal study of the same displaced and rehabilitated people is undertaken again after the lapse of almost 25 years period of time. It will certainly help throw some light on the extent to which the displaced people have adapted themselves to the changed environment during the last 25 years and the extent to which they have overcome their socio-economic problems in terms of land cultivation, occupational mobility, education, housing, compensation and adjustment.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY: The present research project aims at understanding environmental and socio-economic problems of displacement and rehabilitation due to the construction of Koyana Dam.

The specific objectives of the project were as follows:

- 1) To see how far the displaced and rehabilitated people have adapted themselves to new environment.

- 2) To see how far they have taken to traditional occupation, i.e. agriculture, and to examine the intra-generational occupational mobility among them over the last twenty five years.
- 3) To examine the impact of displacement over the family during the last twenty five years.
- 4) To examine the impact of displacement on community life in terms of religious, recreational, social, cultural and economic aspects during the last two and half decades.
- 5) To assess the impact of displacement on education of the children of the displaced people.
- 6) To examine the impact of displacement on marriage and kinship of the rehabilitated people.
- 7) To examine the impact of displacement on the pattern of migration even after resettlement among the rehabilitated people.
- 8) To examine the condition of housing, land, roads, water-supply, schools, and other amenities provided to the rehabilitated people by the Govt. of Maharashtra, and
- 9) To see how the funds utilized for the purpose of rehabilitation by the then Govt. of Maharashtra, the time taken for rehabilitation, the personnel and the establishment created for work have been used positively for the betterment of the displaced people.

4. AREA UNDER STUDY: The Koyana Dam has been located in Satara District of Maharashtra. The correspondence was made to acquire a list of the rehabilitated villages from the office of Rehabilitation Officer at Satara. The list of rehabilitated villages was obtained through the visit of one of our Junior Research Fellows. The list of villages indicated that the rehabilitated villages were located in five districts namely, Satara, Sangli, Kolaba, Thane and Ratnagiri. ^{The Ratnagiri} district was dropped from the survey as there was only one rehabilitated village which had population less than 50.

From the remaining four districts, it was decided to visit and cover each and every village which was rehabilitated due to the construction of Koyana Dam. Moreover there were some villages which were not registered on the Government records and these villages were also included under the survey. The following table shows the number of villages which were covered under the present survey.

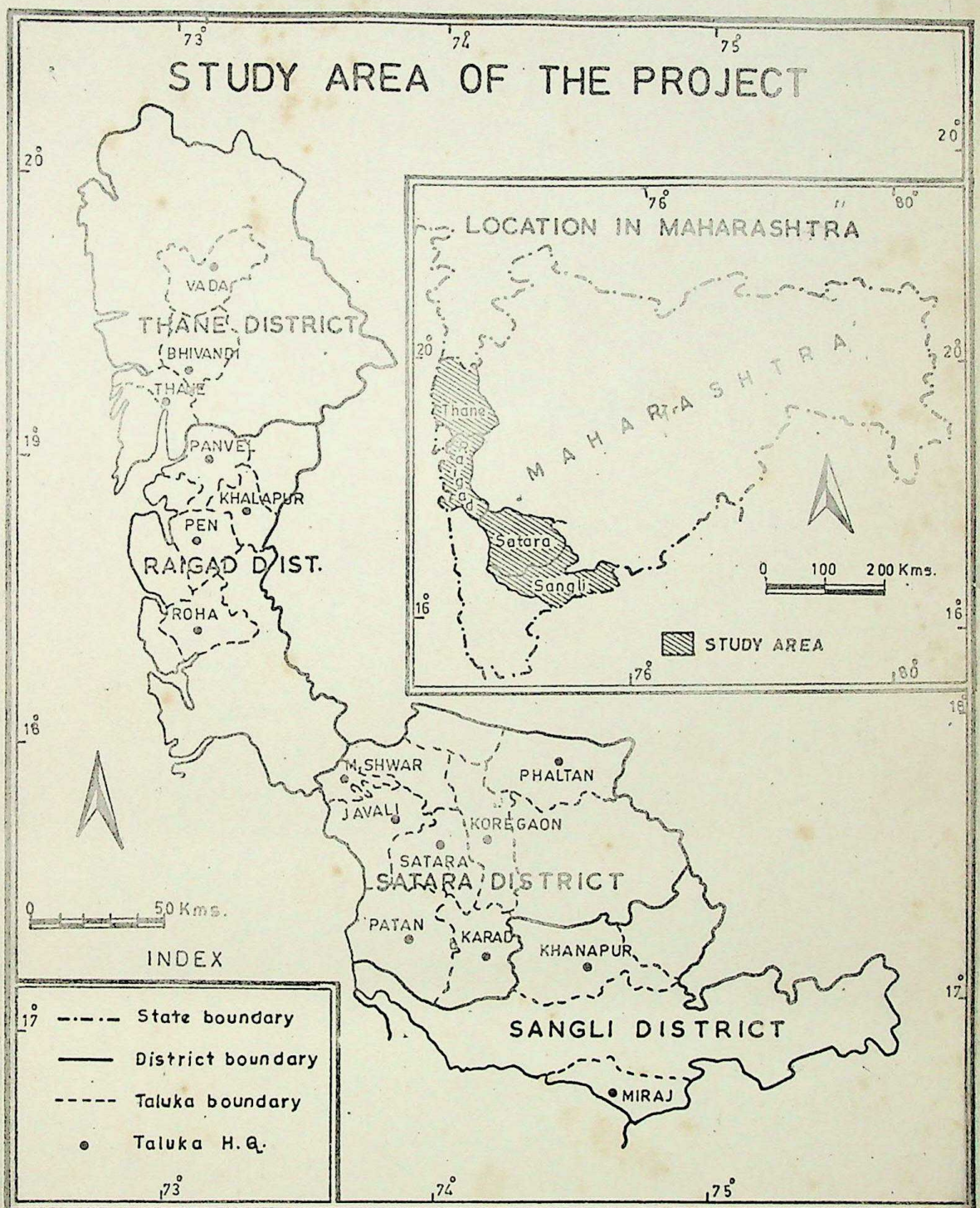


Fig. 2

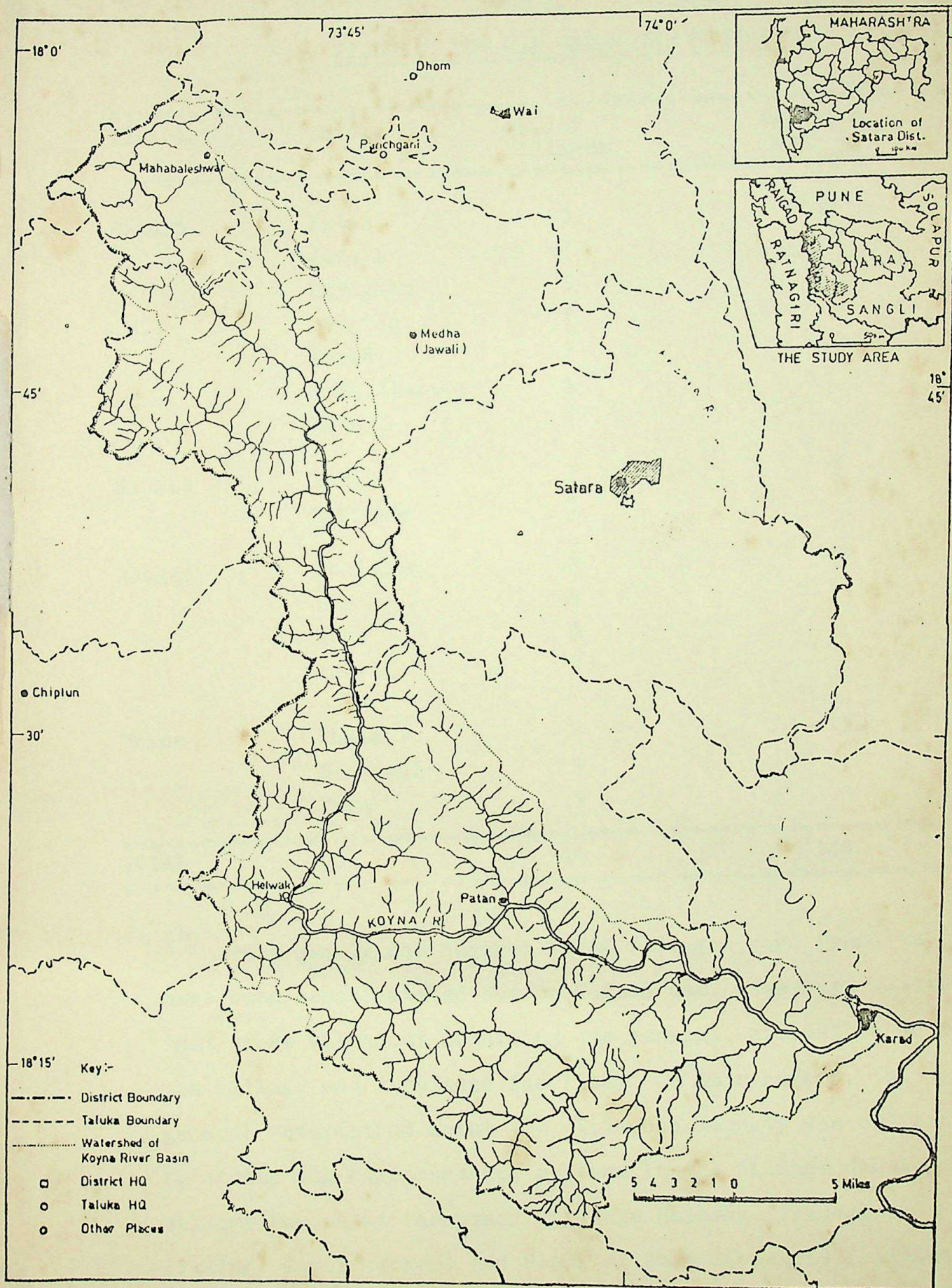


TABLE 2.1

VILLAGES COVERED UNDER THE SURVEY

District	Taluka	No. of Villages	District Total
Satara	Patan	50	111
	Javali	47	
	Koregaon	5	
	Phaltan	1	
	Karad	2	
	Mahableshwar	5	
	Satara	1	
Sangli	Miraj	3	4
	Khanapur	1	
Raigad	Khalapur	9	18
	Pen	3	
	Roha	3	
	Panvel	3	
Thane	Thane	1	13
	Bhivandi	9	
	Vada	3	
TOTAL		146	146

146 Thus nearly one hundred fifty villages were found to have been rehabilitated due to Koyana dam. The next question that arose was about obtaining the general information about the village and displaced families. In this regard, the general information about the village community was collected by contacting different key persons in the village namely, Village Panchayat Sarapanch, Village Headman, Gram-sevak (Village level worker) and Heads of some displaced families.

Secondly, the specific information about displacement and rehabilitation was collected by contacting displaced families with the help of interview schedule.

In every village the master list of rehabilitated families was prepared. This list served as a sampling frame. After arranging it alphabetically, every 10th family from the list was selected, contacted and interviewed. The following table shows the total number of rehabilitated families and the total number of families selected for interview under the present survey.

TABLE 2.2

UNIVERSE AND SAMPLE FAMILIES

District	Total Number of families	Number of families Interviewed.
Satara	5429	543
Sangli	180	18
Raigad	377	38
Thane	164	16
TOTAL	6150	615

Thus out of the total of 6150 families from four districts 615 families (i.e. 10 percent) were finally selected for interview. The sample size (615 families) was thought small enough to be productive of valid statistical results and large enough to be manageable and feasible in terms of the funds available at our disposal. In short, the sample size

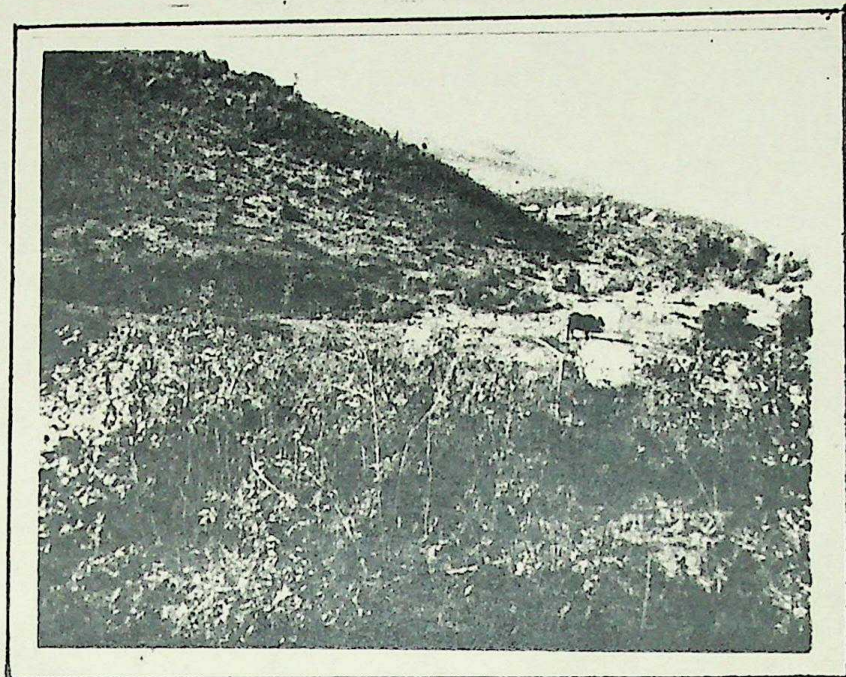
was representative as it was found to be widely scattered. For the analytical purpose the classification of families at the district level was found to be unsuitable as geographically these showed different peculiarities. There were different problems in catchment, plain and Konkan zones due to different environmental background. Therefore on the basis of the geographical location of the village, three zones were prepared, such as the plain zone (Satara and Sangli Districts, the number of families interviewed was 270), the catchment zone (Satara district, the number of families interviewed was 291), and the Konkan zone (Raigad and Thane districts the number of families interviewed was 54). Thus the data collected from the displaced families have been grouped into three zones and it is analysed in terms of zones.

5. INTERVIEW SCHEDULE: The interview schedule was prepared in Marathi. The responses were noted down in Marathi by the fellows.

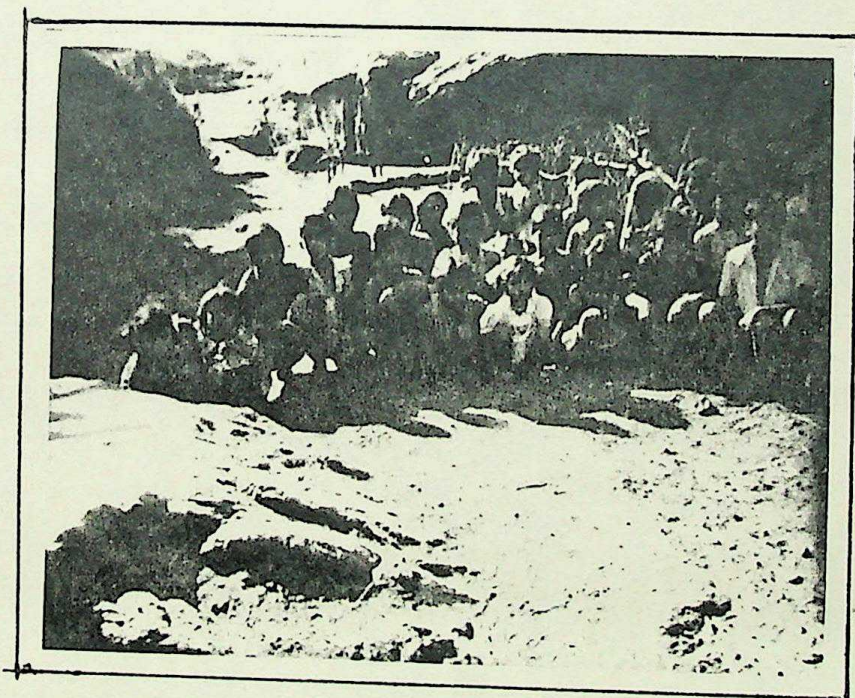
The questions that were included in the interview schedule were mainly on the topics like, Background factors, occupational details, income and expenditure, loans and indebtedness, land and its cultivation, compensation, Balutedari system, migration, marriage and kinship relations, educational facilities, adaptation to new environment, community living, entertainment, facilities provided by the government, fund utilization for rehabilitation and the problems being faced by the families due to displacement and rehabilitation.

6. PILOT STUDY: With the help of draft interview-schedule, the pilot study was conducted in three rehabilitated villages. With the help of draft interview schedule, small sample was covered in these villages. The reliability, logical consistency of questions and subsections were taken into consideration. On the basis of the experiences gained from the pilot study, necessary changes were made in the interview schedule by reformulating some new questions and by subtracting some old ones and then the interview schedule was finalized.
7. DATA COLLECTION: The information from the Head of the families was collected with the assistance of interview schedule. The three Junior Research Fellows appointed on this project visited these villages and interviewed the Heads of families. The Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator personally supervised the field-work. Alongwith taking interviews, the fellows also observed the general environment and actual condition of the village and villagers.

The data collection was done in four districts of Maharashtra. The work started in February, 1985 and it was continued upto February, 1987. The work was suspended during the rainy-season due to heavy rains in the catchment area. The work was carried on by selecting some central places as halting spots from where the fellows were able to visit the villages around. These halting spots were Koyananagar, Patan, Tapola, Mahableshwar, Khopoli, Mahalunge, Panavel and Sargli.



VILLAGE GAUADOSHI-KARUTI,
TAL. PEN.



CHILDREN IN GAUADOSHI-KARUTI,
TAL. PEN.

The fellows travelled by bus, launch and at times on foot to the villages in all the zones and collected the data. Each and every village was visited by the fellows and their general observations about the villages were also recorded.

8. DIFFICULTIES IN FIELD-WORK: The fellows appointed on the project had to travel to the distant villages from their halting spots during the data-collection. The S.T. Bus facilities were available at some villages, whereas they had to take a launch for other villages. In the catchment area, after getting down from the launches, they had to climb hilly areas in order to reach the villages. In plain areas also, wherever bus transportation was not available they had to travel on foot to reach the villages.
9. PRESENTATION OF DATA: As noted earlier the collected data were grouped into three zones as plain, catchment and konkan. The data are analysed and presented in the following chapters on the basis of information received from interview-schedules and the observations made by the Junior Research Fellows and the Principal and Co-Investigators.